

STEVE STARK TO BE HONORED AT THE HELP GROUP'S TEDDY BEAR BALL

Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at The Beverly Hilton

The Help Group is pleased to announce that Steve Stark, President of Television Production & Development of Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios, will be the recipient of its 2019 *Help Humanitarian Award* in recognition of his spirit of philanthropy and commitment to giving back. As a proud father to Callie and Cady, Steve understands how important it is to create pathways and opportunities for all young people.

The 21st Annual Teddy Bear Ball will take place on Tuesday, March 19th at The Beverly Hilton Hotel International Ballroom.

Steve is a talented industry veteran with an extraordinary track record in the field of television. As President of Television Production & Development at Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios, he is responsible for all aspects of television and content development and production for network, cable and digital outlets. Metro Goldwyn Mayer Television currently features numerous award-winning scripted and unscripted series, including *The Handmaid's Tale* on Hulu; *Fargo* on FX; *Vikings* on HISTORY; *The Voice* on NBC; *Shark Tank* on ABC and *Survivor* on CBS.



Steve Stark
President, Television Production & Development
Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios

Steve joined Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios from Steve Stark Productions, where he served as President and Executive Producer, leading the company to an overall deal with NBC/Universal Television. Prior to helping Stark Productions, he served as President of Kelsey Grammer's Grammnet Productions for seven years. While at Grammnet, Steve was an Executive Producer on CBS's long-running series *Medium*, starring Oscar-winner Patricia Arquette, and The CW's *The Game*. He has previously held the positions of Executive Vice President of Development at Columbia Tri-Star Television, and as Senior Vice President of Current Programming at Paramount Network Television. He entered the television business through his work on the hit variety television show *Star Search*.

(Continued on Page 3)

KEYES FOR KIDS TEDDY BEAR GOLF CLASSIC



Keyes for Kids Teddy Bear Golf Classic honors (L-R) David Lehman & Peter Weidman

SUMMIT 2018



Dr. Barbara Firestone and NBC4's Daniella Guzman present *Champion for Children Award* to Sherri Shepherd

STEM³ ACADEMY'S INNOVATION FAIR



STEM³ Academy's 3rd Annual Very Special Innovation Fair Draws Big Crowd

MUSIC FOR AUTISM CONCERT



Featuring a selection of Broadway tunes and pop songs

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A MESSAGE
TO OUR FRIENDS

We are pleased to share this winter edition of HelpLine with you.

With our annual Teddy Bear Ball right around the corner, we are delighted to announce that Steve Stark, President of Television Production & Development of Metro Goldwyn Mayer Studios, will be our *Help Humanitarian Award* honoree.

This edition highlights our Keyes for Kids Golf Classic honoring David Lehman and Peter A. Weidman – truly a record-breaking success. Our annual Summit on Autism, Learning Disabilities and ADHD featuring 30 of our nation’s leading experts provided a thought-provoking experience for all who attended.

We kicked off the fall with an unforgettable Music for Autism concert with cast members from the highly acclaimed touring company of the Tony-nominated musical *Waitress*.

The Help Group’s Holiday Carnival brought the spirit of the season to 1,100 children and families – our heartfelt thanks to the staff and volunteers who made the day so special. This January, our student athletes had a fantastic day participating in a Special Olympics Unified Field Day hosted by The Buckley School.

We are so grateful for your friendship and commitment to the children.

Gary H. Carmona ~ Dr. Barbara Firestone

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STEVE STARK TO BE HONORED AT THE HELP GROUP’S TEDDY BEAR BALL (CONT'D)



Steve Stark

A lauded industry executive, Steve is the recipient of the Entertainment Industries Council Special Commendation, a Genesis Award, The Prism Award, The Golden Reel Award, and an Imagen Awards nomination.



The Teddy Bear Ball is attended by hundreds of entertainment and community leaders and features special performances by The Help Group choir. This time-honored tradition celebrates the beauty and potential of the children whose lives are touched by the spirit of giving that is at the heart of Teddy Bear Ball.

For sponsorships, reservations and additional event information, please contact Julie Hirschberg at 818.799.5212, or visit our website at www.thehelpgroup.org.

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The Help Group's 27th Annual Keyes for Kids Teddy Bear Golf Classic and Lockton Insurance Awards reception honoring David Lehman and Peter Weidman was held on October 1st at the Valencia Country Club. The event was truly an unforgettable, record-breaking success.

The Help Group presented its *Help Fore Children Humanitarian Award* to David Lehman, Global Head of Estate Finance in the Investment Banking Division at Goldman Sachs, and Peter Weidman, Partner at Goldman Sachs Group, Merchant Banking Division, for their commitment to building brighter futures for young people with special needs.

This year's Co-Chairs included Jay Borzi, Senior Managing Director of Eastdil Secured; John Brady, Managing Director & Portfolio Manager for Oaktree Capital; Victor Coleman, Chairman & CEO, Hudson Pacific Properties, and 2002 Golf Honoree; Warren de Haan, Founder & Managing Partner, Acore Capital, and 2016 Golf Honoree; Jonathan Firestone, Managing Director, Eastdil Secured; Michael Rosenfeld Hackman, Founder & CEO, Hackman Capital; Jonathan Klein, Managing Director at Fortress Investment Group; Michael May, Senior Managing Director at Cantor Fitzgerald and 2015 Golf honoree; Michael , Founder & CEO of Woodridge Capital Partners and 2011 Golf honoree; Jesse Sharf, Partner in the Century City office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher and Co-Chair of the firm's Real Estate Department and 2009 Golf honoree; Judd Swarzman, Judd Swarzman & Associates; Howard Tenenbaum, Vice President of Keyes Automotive Group; Michael Van Konyenburg, President, Eastdil Secured and 2006 Golf honoree, and Jeffrey Worthe, President, Worthe Real Estate.

During the opening remarks Gary H. Carmona, Help Group Board Chair, and Dr. Barbara Firestone, Help Group President & CEO, thanked all of the chairs, donors and friends who so generously support the event. Dr. Firestone remarked, "Today, we are thrilled to salute David and Peter with our 2018 *Help Fore Children Humanitarian Award* for being such champions for the children of The Help Group."

Once again, Golf Co-Chair Jesse Sharf shared his thoughts about The Help Group. "I've visited The Help Group and seen firsthand how the children benefit immensely from their various schools and programs. So it's why I'm always here to lend a hand. It's truly a terrific organization known for its leadership in the field and its innovative approaches that give young people every opportunity to achieve success," remarked Jesse.

Dr. Firestone welcomed The Help Group's Choir to the stage, who performed "Can't Stop The Feeling" and "Ain't No Mountain



1. David Lehman, Jonathan Firestone, Dr. Barbara Firestone, Peter Weidman 2. Jonathan Firestone, Dr. Barbara Firestone, David Lehman 3. John Winther, Tyler Rothenberg, Russ Allegrette, Tom Wagner 4. Michael May, Thoreen, Steve Jaffe, Alex Vouvalides 5. Warren de Haan, Jeff Friedman 6. Mark Lamas, Erik Firestone, David Lehman 7. Peter Smith, Peter Gordon, James Muhlfeld, Darren Tangen 8. Jonathan Firestone, David Lehman, Michael Van Konyenburg, Warren de Haan 9. Gary H. Carmona 10. Jonathan Firestone 11. Jesse Sharf 12. Peter Weidman, Michael May, Jonathan Firestone, David Lehman, Michael Van Konyenburg, Warren de Haan 13. Michael Hackman 14. Michael Hackman, Michael Rosenberg 15. Special Guest Student Speaker, Evelyn & Dr. Susan Berman 16. The Help Group Choir, Peter Weidman, David Lehman

High Enough," accompanied by Tommy Reeves on the piano and led by Choir Director Charlotte Bashner.

Michael Hackman, Golf Classic Co-Chair and auctioneer extraordinaire, joined the stage to lead the always fun and lively auction of trips, classrooms and teddy bears – paired with a copy of Dr. Firestone and Dr. Richard Ehrlich's book *Faces of Promise: Looking Beyond Autism* – for the Dr. Adam Opportunity Fund.

Auction items were graciously donated by AJ Capital Partners, Jeff Worthe of Worthe Real Estate Group, Keyes Automotive Group and Ohana Real Estate Investors. Dr. Susan Berman, Help Group COO, introduced student speaker, Evelyn, a brave and resilient young woman who will benefit from the Opportunity Fund.

Golf Classic Chair, Jonathan Firestone welcomed David and Peter to the stage to salute them for their humanitarian spirit and commitment to the children.

"The Help Group has had the privilege to honor so many amazing individuals and it is with a great sense of pride and admiration that we honor, David Lehman and Peter Weidman. When I called to ask them to accept these honors they did not hesitate for a moment. They said they were happy to help, and were proud to carry the banner for the kids – as all of our past honorees have done. Like everyone here, they know how critical the work of The Help Group is. And, as parents they know how important it is to give every child the opportunity to succeed," said Jonathan.

In his acceptance remarks, Peter shared, "On behalf of David and myself, and the entire Goldman Sachs team, thank you to everyone who contributed and made this event such a success. What The Help Group does day in and day out for these amazing kids is so special."

Dr. Firestone thanked David and Peter for their incredibly generous support for our young people, and announced the naming of the new Innovation Lab in honor of the Lehman and Weidman families at The Help Group's Westview School of Arts & Technology for students with social, emotional and learning challenges.

Our heartfelt appreciation to David Lehman and Peter Weidman, Keyes Automotive Group, Lockton insurance, our golf chairs, sponsors and donors for making the 27th annual Golf Classic an absolute hole-in-one for our kids!

The Help Group’s 22nd annual Summit convened leading experts at the forefront of their fields in autism, ADHD and learning disabilities. Offering thought-provoking presentations and new insights and trends in basic and applied research and evidence-based practices, the Summit brought together more than 500 professionals and parents on Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20 at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

Dr. Barbara Firestone kicked off the Summit by welcoming guests, acknowledging this year’s distinguished group of presenters, and highlighting The Help Group’s innovative university partnerships. Dr. Firestone served as chair of this year’s conference along with co-chairs Dr. Peter C. Whybrow, UCLA Semel Institute Director, and Dr. Robert M. Bilder, UCLA Semel Institute Chief of Medical Psychology-Neuropsychology & Tennenbaum Center Director.

NBC4’s co-anchor of “Today in L.A” and award winning broadcast journalist, Daniella Guzman, served as luncheon host this year. With warmth and spirit, Daniella spoke of the importance of The Help Group’s Summit and its extraordinary program.

Dr. Firestone acknowledged Major Sponsor First 5 California for their generous support over the years, and expressed The Help Group’s gratitude to NBC4, LA Parent and The Mighty for their media sponsorships.

Daniella Guzman and Dr. Firestone presented The Help Group’s *Champion For Children Award* to celebrated actress and television personality Sherri Shepherd in appreciation of her commitment to young people with disabilities, and her generous support of The Help Group’s Summit View School.

“Knowing the heartache and joy of raising a child with special needs, Sherri has been dedicated to spreading awareness in support of young people with disabilities and differences and their families,” said Dr. Firestone.



1. Dr. Barbara Firestone, Dr. Susan Bookheimer, Dr. Bob Bilder 2. Dr. Tom Brown and guest 3. Dr. Jeffrey Gilger 4. Dr. Pat Levitt, Dr. Barbara Firestone, Dr. Louis Vismara 5. Dr. Peter Mundy 6. Dr. Barbara Firestone, Sherri Shepherd, Daniella Guzman 7. Dr. Lauren Lindstrom 8. Dr. Grace Baranek 9. Jamiann Collins-Lopez, Ron Epstein, Elena Epstein, Sarah Porath, Dr. Barbara Firestone 10. Dr. Elizabeth Laugeson 11. Dr. Catherine Mogil 12. Dr. Jeffrey Wood 13. Dr. Meghan Miller 14. Dr. Douglas Vanderbilt 15. Dr. Ellis Crasnow, Dr. Amy Griffith, Angel Miles Nash, Clare Baek 22. Dr. Sabrina Schuck 23. Dr. Charlotte DiStefano, Pamela Clark 24. Dr. Oren Boxer 25. Dr. Michael Solis 26. Rachel Madel 16. Dr. Sarah Powell 17. Dr. Nicole Sparapani 18. Dr. Marian Williams 19. Dr. Pantea Hannauer 20. Dr. Benjamin Schneider 21. Dr. Adel Najowski

“Sherri is a woman of strength and conviction with a heart that knows no bounds when it comes to kids.”

In her acceptance remarks, Sherri said, “As a parent, we want our children to be equipped to go forward in life, to be productive members of society, and to always be compassionate. I know that at Summit View School, the teachers instill those qualities and more. I am so grateful for The Help Group and for Summit View.”

The Summit featured 26 sessions, including keynote presentations from Dr. Pat Levitt on “Addressing Gastrointestinal Disturbances and Other Co-occurring Medical Conditions for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder”; Dr. Thomas Brown on “Understanding and Supporting Children and Teens with ADHD and Asperger Syndrome” on Friday and “How ADHD Impairs Motivation in Some Situations, But Not Others” on Saturday; Dr. Peter Mundy on “The Continuum of Learning Difficulties for Young People On The Spectrum”; Dr. Jeffrey Gilger on “Four-Thought Provoking Questions About Dyslexia” and Dr. Susan Bookheimer on “Sensory Over-Responsivity and the Brain in Autism.”

One clinician who attended the Summit remarked, “Excellent presentations and topics. Excellent Speakers presenting on current research, trends and a variety of topics.” And another attendee shared, “I’ve been attending the Summit for several years now, and it’s always a very valuable experience. As a parent and professional, I appreciate that you offer seminars on the family perspective.”

Our thanks to the incredible group of Summit presenters for providing such a rich, informative experience for everyone who attended.

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MUSIC FOR AUTISM CONCERT DELIGHTS HELP GROUP STUDENTS



During the first week of the new school year, on Thursday, August 23, The Help Group hosted a Music for Autism Concert at its Sherman Oaks campus. The concert featured Musical Director, Ryan Cantwell, of the touring company of "Waitress" accompanied by performers from its multi-talented cast. In 2014, Ryan performed at The Help Group for the Music for Autism concert series with the touring company of the Broadway hit musical Pippin.

Dr. Barbara Firestone kicked off the event by welcoming everyone to the concert and thanking Music for Autism, Ryan Cantwell, and the performers for bringing the joy of music to the children.

Ryan welcomed to the stage cast members Desi Oakley, Kyra Kennedy, Emily Koch, Jim Hogan, Rheäume Crenshaw, Grace Stockdale, Lexi Bodick and percussionist Elena Bonomo. Students and faculty from The Help Group's Bridgeport and Village Glen schools danced and sang along to a host of Broadway songs. Some of the numbers included in the concert were "Opening Up" from Waitress; "Let It Go" from Frozen and "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" from The Wizard of Oz. And, in a touching moment, a student joined the performers to sing "For Good" – a moving song about friendship from the hit musical Wicked.

"It was so fulfilling to see how music can have such a wonderful effect on young people's lives," said Desi Oakley, the lead in the touring company production of Waitress.

Another performer, Grace Stockdale, remarked, "How extraordinary – to be able to bring people together with music, passion, and love. It was absolutely an honor to perform today."

The concert ended with a rousing reprise of "Opening Up" during the "percussion time" section of the concert. Students and faculty formed a conga line, danced and shook tambourines to the beat of the song. Fun was had by all!

"Ryan Cantwell and the ensemble made such an impactful and unforgettable connection with the children. It was wonderful to see our young people engaged in the magic of music. What an uplifting and incredible day," said Dr. Barbara Firestone.

Our heartfelt thanks to Music for Autism, Ryan and the performers, for making this such a special day for the children.



1. (L-R) Lexi Bodick, Elena Bonomo, Desi Oakley, Jim Hogan, Ryan Cantwell, Kyra Kennedy, Emily Koch, Grace Stockdale, Rheäume Crenshaw, Dr. Barbara Firestone, Help Group President & CEO, with Help Group students. 2. Kyra Kennedy and Emily Koch Sing "For Good" With a Help Group Student 3. (L-R) Help Group Student, Ryan Cantwell 4. Dr. Barbara Firestone, Help Group Students 5. Help Group Students Dancing

STEM³ ACADEMY'S 3RD ANNUAL VERY SPECIAL INNOVATION FAIR DRAWS BIG CROWD



The Help Group's STEM³ Academy, the first school in the nation to provide a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum to students with special needs, held its third annual Very Special Innovation Fair on September 23, 2018. The free event was a family-friendly celebration of talent, imagination, and discovery from young STEM enthusiasts, as well as some of the region's innovative companies. The event drew in a big crowd with more than 700 people in attendance.

The Innovation Fair was hosted by STEM³ Academy, a pioneering school operated by The Help Group that serves K-12 students who are passionate about STEM topics and benefit from more individualized educational instruction due to social and learning differences. Campuses are located in Valley Glen and Culver City, California.

According to Dr. Susan Berman, Help Group COO, "We're excited to continue the tradition of bringing the Very Special Innovation Fair to the community. By providing tools and programming tied to STEM for children

and teens, The Help Group is playing a vital role in fostering creativity, curiosity, and a new generation of innovators."

Inspired in part by the Maker Movement, the event featured over 30 interactive activities and companies, including: Microsoft; Northrop Grumman; Raytheon; DroneBase; California Science Center; California Highway Patrol; and many more. Attendees had the chance to learn more about rocketry, robotics, drones, 3D printing, virtual reality and more. There was also food, contests, and giveaways.

Dr. Ellis Crasnow, Director of STEM³ Academy and STEM Education at The Help Group said, "STEM concepts surround us in everyday life. Getting children excited about STEM can make a world of difference as they move through elementary school and into middle school, high school and college. Our goal at STEM³ Academy and with the Very Special Innovation Fair is to help nurture those natural talents early on."

1. (L-R) Dr. Ellis Crasnow, Director, STEM³ Academy and STEM Education at The Help Group, Dr. Barbara Firestone, Help Group President & CEO, Dr. Jason Bolton, Vice President of Programs at The Help Group, Dr. Susan Berman, Help Group COO, Dianne Flannery, Senior Director of Design & Strategy at The Help Group

THE HELP GROUP BRIGHTENS THE SEASON FOR 1,100 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AT ITS ANNUAL HOLIDAY CARNIVAL



On Saturday, December 8th The Help Group hosted its Holiday Carnival to make the season extra bright for 1,100 children and families served by The Help Group's Family-Centered Support Programs, Mental Health & Clinical Programs and Residential Services.

The Sherman Oaks campus was transformed into a winter wonderland where families could enjoy various games, rides, food, arts and crafts, face painting, a petting zoo and a time-honored visit with Santa Claus.

As is tradition, longtime Help Group supporter Hasbro donated hundreds of toys and games to the carnival, ensuring that every child could take a wrapped present home. Young people from The Help Group's Kids Like Me club I.a. TEEN program for young people with autism and other challenges helped to pass out gifts to all the children. The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf® were on hand again this year to serve holiday beverages.

"We are so grateful to Hasbro, The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf® and the 150 volunteers and staff who made the Holiday Carnival truly an unforgettable day for children and families served by The Help Group," said Dr. Barbara Firestone, Help Group President & CEO.



1. Dr. Barbara Firestone and Carnival Attendees 2. (L-R) Gary H. Carmona, Help Group Board Chair, Dr. Susan Berman, Help Group COO 3. (L-R) Mike Berk, affiliate Board Member, Susan Berk, Help Group Board Member, Barry N. Nagoshiner, Help Group Board Vice Chair & CFO

A WINNING DAY FOR THE HELP GROUP'S BRIDGEPORT STUDENTS AT THE BUCKLEY SCHOOL



On Monday, February 28th, eighty students from The Help Group's Bridgeport School and over seventy students from The Buckley School participated in a Special Olympics Unified Field Day event hosted by The Buckley School.

At the top of the day, Help Group student athletes were warmly and enthusiastically greeted by Buckley School students, faculty and staff when they arrived on campus. Students cheered energetically, held welcoming signs and clapped – forming a "tunnel of love" for the Bridgeport students to enter through during the Opening Ceremony. Every student was wearing a bracelet inscribed with the theme of the day: Play Unified. Live Unified.

Throughout the event, the students from both schools played various sports together like basketball, soccer, kickball, and participated in fun-filled activities like learning a dance routine and working collaboratively on an art collage. With the goal to make the day-long event truly unified, students from each school's leadership council met prior to the big day to plan and coordinate so all activities would be student-driven and student-led.

"Today's Special Olympics Unified Field Day event was truly remarkable. Help Group students and their Buckley School peers exemplified leadership, and demonstrated what they'd learned throughout the day to one another. Their exchange was so valuable," said Pamela Clark, Director of Autism Schools at The Help Group.

This is the first time that Help Group student athletes have visited The Buckley School through the School Partnership Program with Special Olympics. The Help Group continues to collaborate with local schools in an effort to unify students with and without specials needs through sports and school activities. The School Partnership Program operates under the principle that playing together creates greater pathways to friendship and understanding for all young people.

Our heartfelt thanks to The Buckley School's Abi Basch, Upper School Director of Service and 6-12 Experiential Learning Coordinator and Buckley School's administration, faculty, coaches and students for hosting such a wonderful event; to Christina Aulicino, Coordinator, Sports & Programs, Special Olympics Southern California, Los Angeles & San Gabriel Valley Regions, and to Help Group Staff, Faculty and Coaches. We are most grateful to everyone involved for creating such opportunities for students to thrive!



1. (L-R) Abi Basch, Upper School Director of Service and 6-12 Experiential Learning Coordinator, Buckley School, and Buckley School's administration, Lisa Rozati, Director Special Projects, The Help Group, Christina Aulicino, Coordinator, Sports & Programs, Special Olympics Southern California

STUDENTS THRIVE IN THE HELP GROUP'S KIDS LIKE ME PROGRAMS



The Help Group's Kids Like Me programs have so much to offer students with special needs and families in our community.

Over the holiday break, Kids Like Me held their Winter Camp session – one of many camp sessions held throughout the year. The theme of this Winter Camp session was “Marvel,” and students created art projects focused on Marvel super hero movies. For example, several students created their version of “Thor’s Hammer” from the recent film Thor: Ragnarok.

Students had the opportunity to work on their social skills through a curriculum that included cooking classes and helping out in the campus garden. During break time, they were able to utilize sensory rooms to relax and decompress.

To cap off a fun and productive Winter Camp session, Kids Like Me hosted a Marvel-themed party filled with video games, activities like an obstacle course, and refreshments. A wonderful time was had by all!

“The Winter Camp session provides much needed structure and a safe atmosphere for kids with special needs. It’s a place where they can be themselves, and transition more seamlessly back into school from the holiday break,” said Nicole Webb, Kids Like Me Program Director.

The Help Group's Kids Like Me also offers a variety of other programs besides camps, like after- school enrichment classes and Parent-to-Parent support groups – a new program that offers the parents of kids on the spectrum a safe space and a strong sense of community.

Some of the after school enrichment classes offered during the upcoming Winter 2019 session include film making, therapeutic riding, cooking club, and social skills groups. Students can also take part in the highly acclaimed, award-winning theater arts program, The Miracle Project, and stay active at the sensory-safe kid’s gym, We Rock The Spectrum in Studio City.

Kids Like Me after school enrichment classes offer a unique setting where the ratio of student to staff is small, and the adaptive curriculum is tailored to students across the spectrum.

A parent whose child recently attended Kids Like Me after school classes remarked, “My child has been attending the Kids Like Me after school program at The Help Group for about a year. I absolutely love this program and wish it were year-round. For parents where time or access may be an issue, this program fills the gap so that our kids can still participate in activities that they may not usually get the chance to due to their ability. In addition to the awesome variety of classes, the staff is outstanding. Your kids are well taken care of after school until you arrive to pick them up. My son benefits from each class and being exposed to something new. It opens his mind in so many ways and he’s so happy every time I pick him up. I would highly recommend this program to any parent.”



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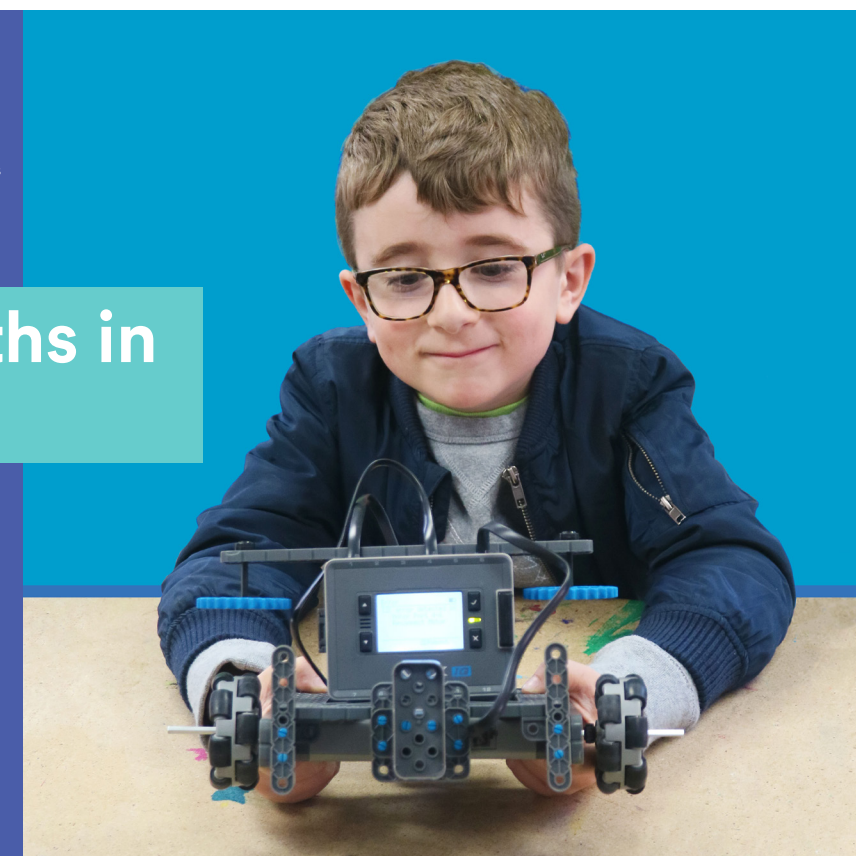


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**Summit View
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**Westview School of
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**North Hills
Prep**

**Our Newest School
STEM³ Academy**

Founded in 1975, The Help Group is the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit of its kind in the United States serving children, adolescents and young adults with special needs related to autism spectrum disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, developmental delays and emotional challenges.

The Help Group's nine specialized day schools offer pre-K through high school programs for more than 1,600 students. Its broad range of mental health and therapy services and residential programs extend its reach to more than 6,000 children and their families each year. With more than 1,000 staff members, The Help Group's state-of-the-art schools and programs are located on five campuses in the Los Angeles area.

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ABOUT THE HELP GROUP

The Help Group is dedicated to the education, treatment and outreach of children, adolescents and young adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and other special needs

SPECIALIZED DAY SCHOOLS

*Our Newest School...*STEM³ Academy provides an innovative and rigorous K-12 curriculum for students with social and learning differences, including autism, who have a passion for STEM fields and may benefit from experiential learning approaches.*

*With a 98% college acceptance rate...*Summit View School is a college-preparatory program for students with learning differences who possess average to above-average intellectual capabilities.*

Village Glen School is a college preparatory program that serves students K-12 with high-functioning autism and challenges in the areas of socialization, language development and peer relations. The Pace Program offers honors and AP classes for gifted students. The Beacon Program provides additional positive behavior support for students with behavioral challenges.*

Young Learners Preschool uses an evidence-based and interdisciplinary approach to intensive early intervention for children ages 2.9 to 5 with autism spectrum disorder.

Bridgeport School provides basic skills education, community based instruction and vocational training, for students ages 5 to 22 with mild to moderate cognitive delays and challenges with social communication and/or language development.

Bridgeport Vocational Education Center is for young adults with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental differences, ages 18 to 22, providing vocational skills training, including supported job placements.

Sunrise School is a functional life skills program serving students ages 5 to 22 with moderate to severe cognitive delays associated with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities.

The Help Group's Westview School of Arts and Technology provides a nurturing learning environment dedicated to supporting students with learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, high functioning autism, and/or mild emotional issues and helping them to achieve academic and personal success.*

The Help Group's North Hills Prep offers a college preparatory curriculum while supporting students with social emotional challenges.*

*A WASC accredited school

MENTAL HEALTH & CLINICAL PROGRAMS

These programs provide a continuum of comprehensive outpatient services for children and families, including assessment; individual, family and group therapy; case management; psychiatric services; parenting groups; in-home counseling; school-based mental health counseling; REACH - after-school day rehabilitation; Stepping Stones - an intensive day treatment for children ages 3 to 5 and therapeutic behavioral services. Wraparound is an innovative program designed to maintain at-risk children in their homes and avoid placement in institutions or other restrictive settings.

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER PROGRAMS

The Help Group Center for Autism Spectrum Disorder features multidisciplinary assessment, consultation, intervention, family support groups, as well as seminars for parents and professionals.

Paws and Pals for Kids with Autism is a volunteer-supported pet intervention program designed to engage young people with social and communication challenges.

RECREATIONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Kids Like Me provides after-school enrichment, social skills groups and day camps designed specifically for children and adolescents with ASD and other developmental challenges. Teens on the Go is a travel camp for young people with ASD. club I.a. TEEN provides a supported social network for teens with ASD.

VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Community Employment Program assists adolescents and young adults with social-emotional and/or mental health challenges with the special guidance, skills and support needed to obtain and maintain successful employment.

RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Project Six is a therapeutic boarding option for teens ages 13 to 17 with Asperger's Disorder, ASD, mood and anxiety disorders, and learning differences.

Project Six Adult Residential Program provides community-based group homes for adults with developmental disabilities.

18 + PROGRAMS

Advance LA provides one-on-one life skills coaching for teens and young adults with unique challenges in their transition to independence.

club I.a. facilitates activities for young adults designed to enhance social skills, meet people with similar interests and develop long-lasting friendships.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

Doctoral Psychology Internships are full-time APA accredited internships in Health Service Psychology.

Post-Doctoral Psychology Fellowships in Pediatric Neuropsychological Assessment and in Autism Evaluation and Treatment.

Clinical Practicum Training for Psychology, Social Work, and MFT Art Therapy trainees.

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Help Group – UCLA Neuropsychology Program providing neuropsychological assessments and consultations.

The Help Group – UCLA Autism Alliance dedicated to evidence-based best practices in ASD diagnosis, intervention and treatment.

The Help Group – USC Occupational Science Initiative dedicated to developing evidence-based programs for children with ASD.

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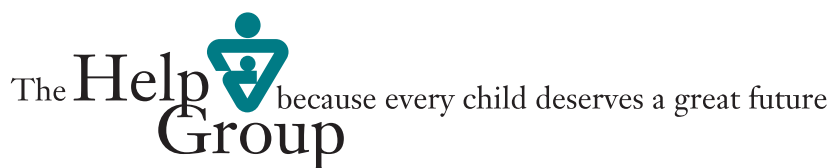
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Founded in 1975, The Help Group is the largest, most innovative and comprehensive nonprofit of its kind in the United States serving children, adolescents and young adults with special needs related to autism spectrum disorder, learning disabilities, ADHD, developmental delays, abuse and emotional challenges.

The Help Group's nine specialized day schools offer pre-K through high school programs for more than 1,500 students. Its broad range of mental health and therapy services and residential programs extends its reach to more than 6,000 children and their families each year. With more than 1,000 staff members, The Help Group's state-of-the-art schools and programs are located on five campuses in the Los Angeles area.

The Help Group is widely regarded for its high standards of excellence and unique scope and breadth of services. Through its public awareness and outreach programs, university partnerships, applied research, graduate and postgraduate professional training, conferences and seminars, parent education programs, publications, and public policy efforts, The Help Group touches the lives of children with special needs and their families throughout the United States and in other parts of the world.

At the heart of its efforts is the commitment to helping young people fulfill their potential to lead positive, productive and rewarding lives.

Schools

Village Glen School · Bridgeport School · Bridgeport Vocational Education Center · Sunrise School
Young Learners Preschool · STEM³ Academy
Summit View School · Westview School of Arts and Technology · North Hills Prep

Programs

The Help Group - UCLA Autism Alliance · The Help Group - UCLA Neuropsychology Program
The Help Group - USC Occupational Science Initiative · Advance LA · Project Six/The Commons
Kids Like Me Recreational Programs & Camps · club i.a./club i.a. TEEN
Paws and Pals for Kids with Autism · The Help Group Child & Family Center
The Help Group Center for Autism Spectrum Disorder

Campuses

CULVER CITY · SHERMAN OAKS EAST · SHERMAN OAKS WEST
VALLEY GLEN · VAN NUYS

www.thehelpgroup.org  

For more information on these and other events, please call 818.779.5212

UPCOMING EVENTS



Music for Autism

The Help Group Autism Center
February 28, 2019



The Help Group's Teddy Bear Ball Saluting Steve Stark

The Beverly Hilton Hotel
March 19, 2019



Special Needs Resource Fair

The Help Group Autism Center
April 7, 2019



Advance LA Conference

American Jewish University
May 10, 2019



Festival of Arts

Santa Monica Art Studios
May 18, 2019



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