

REFLECTIONS FROM FAMILIES WHO ATTENDED THE COPE - DB PICNIC SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - AUGUST 21, 2010

Patricia Barr



I love getting together each year and seeing everyone. It is such a great way to stay informed by other families about new activities and even new medical information for special need children and their families. It's nice to go to an event and feel so welcomed and accepted.

Familia de la Torre



Para nosotros como familia el picnic fue una gran experiencia que hemos tenido en los últimos meses, el poder compartir un poco de tiempo con otras familias sobre los progresos de nuestro hijo con necesidades especiales, es la mejor oportunidad que nos pueden dar a cada una de las familias que asistieron al evento. CDBS es uno de los mejores servicios que a tenido mi hijo sordo-ciego. Por el apoyo que nos ha brindado a mi hijo y toda mi familia. Muchas GRACIAS de nuevo por estar ahí y por los eventos que organizan para nosotros, nos sentimos incluidos en una misma gran comunidad.

[English translation] For all of us as a family, the picnic was a great experience. Just to be able to share with other families the improvements with our children with special needs is the best opportunity you can give to each one of the families who attended this event. CDBS is one of the best services my son with deaf-blindness has had--CDBS has given him and our entire family a lot of support. Again, thank you very much for being there, and for all the events you organize for all of us. We feel included in one big community.

Laurie King



When we travel from San Diego to LA each year for the deafblind picnic, I'm always glad we made the effort. The biggest deal for me is how I feel "at home," "grounded" when I'm with all these families and their children. We "fit in." I don't worry about my son's accomplishments or the things that are challenging for him, I just "am," relaxing, enjoying everyone and in the moment. I don't do enough of that so this is really an event that brings me back to where I want to be more often, where I want my son to be: just as he is. Thanks CADBS for your continued commitment to our families and children. I really appreciate what you do. I know you do it for the love of it and that's really special.

Esai Mora



I like to go to the picnic because its a lot of fun to me.
I like to do exercise at the park for my legs and arms.
I like playing games with the other families.
I like to be independent.

The Mora Family

We have a son who is now a teenager and is deaf and visually impaired. We have been attending the activities and the annually picnic each year. Since our first day we loved it, the fellowship and the games, the attractions. It makes us feel like we can be ourselves and we won't get judged. We are all there for the same reason and coming together to every event is like having a family reunion...we laugh, shout and cry together. We like all the events, especially the picnics we look forward to year after year. The independence that the kids have year after year is amazing...sharing with a new family our journey and how we got through it, and giving each other the support we all need as we go through this journey.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of it.