

# Better Together

SUMMER 2021

## Greetings!

Welcome to our inaugural issue of *Better Together*. With summer in full swing, we hope you are finding a bit of sunshine and some calm wherever you can. Though the pandemic has brought us many challenges, we have also seen opportunities and been inspired by the dedication of our practitioners, the patience of the people we serve and the generosity of the community around us. With that, we would like to share a little about what we learned over the past several months and how our programs are evolving to best support the individuals and families we serve across Northern California. When we join forces in support of others, like so many did over the past year, we can achieve great things – we are truly better together.

## OUR PROGRAMS

Early Intervention

Autism Services

Kaleidoscope Community Adult Program

## HIGHLIGHTS



1,263 families served in 2020



80,723 hours of services in 2020



150+ staff maintained through the pandemic



Introduced hybrid care and telehealth

## COMMUNITY IMPACT

Learn how the Kaleidoscope program has impacted Patrick's life and what his future holds.



Patrick is part of the Easterseals Northern California Kaleidoscope program. Kaleidoscope offers a place for adults with disabilities to come and learn, integrate into the community and just be a part of day-to-day life as an adult. Patrick's family loves how the program provides him the opportunity to go into the community unlike other programs, which had him spending a lot of time driving around in a van with

no communication. Kathy, Patrick's mom, said he truly loves going to Kaleidoscope and the program has helped him come out of his shell. "Now, he will talk about his day, his friends and what he has done – it has really brought his voice back." As for Patrick's future, he will always be part of Kaleidoscope even as he tries his hand at working in a library or fixing computers.

Hear about Mirabel and her family, and how they were able to face the challenges of the pandemic with honesty, optimism and quality time together.



"Mirabel has blossomed in her friendliness, made a lot more friends, and is more brave in joining in groups and even playing socially."  
—Jessica, Mirabel's mom

## THANK YOU SAFEWAY!

Please shop at Safeway this month to support their *Boost their Ability* campaign.

**Boost their ABILITY**

Everyone should have an opportunity to succeed. Your donation will support programs and services designed to inspire and enable people living with disabilities.

**DONATE Today!**  
Thank you for your donation to help better the lives of people in our neighborhoods.

**SAFeway Foundation**  
SafewayFoundation.org

This campaign is managed by Althorpe Companies Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, d/b/a Safeway Foundation.

## SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

If this last year has made you feel more inspired for progress and inclusion, consider joining us by supporting our programs and services. With a community rallying behind the children, individuals and families in our care, we get closer to building a world where everyone feels they belong and are equal.

### What's on the horizon:

We are excited to share that we will be launching a new respite program over the next few months. Respite is an invaluable service where our expert practitioners provide fun and engaging activities for children and adults, while their caregivers enjoy some much-needed time for themselves. Be on the lookout for an update on our respite services in our fall edition of *Better Together!*

**I'M INSPIRED!**

Thanks for being *Better Together* with us!

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