



2116 East Villa Street
Pasadena, CA 91107

www.VillaES.org



**2024-205
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Unmasking Their Success

At Villa, we are passionate about what we do. Our customized services, amazing staff, and continuum of care over the course of a lifetime, make Villa a special haven for our courageous participants – children, adults, and seniors with intellectual/developmental differences. Villa provides the support and tools for them to blaze their own trails towards independence, reaching their fullest potential and leading fulfilling lives.

Read on to learn more about some of Villa's treasured jewels!



Jory dancing at Villa School's 2024 end of year performance.

**Jory
Villa Esperanza School**

Jory has made significant progress since he began attending Villa almost 2 years ago. In his first few months, Jory exhibited daily behaviors, including aggression toward staff and students, making it difficult for staff to support him. He struggled to complete academic work and sit at his desk. Villa aide Audrey worked patiently to build a trusting relationship with Jory. Although there were challenges at first, improvements became noticeable as Audrey, along with our team of developmental behavior therapists, continued to support him. Over time, Audrey learned how to best support Jory, balancing compassion with clear boundaries and consistency. Now, Jory exhibits minimal, if any, disruptive behaviors in the classroom and is able to successfully participate in a variety of academic, social, and school activities.

**Anissa & Nick
Villa Community Integration Program (CIP)**

Nicolas (Nick) and Anissa met at Villa's Dimensions day program before joining CIP five years ago, where their love blossomed. They've grown a lot during their time at CIP and have been in a sweet relationship for some time now. They go on weekly dates and spend time with each other's families. Nick was very shy when he first started at CIP; he had a hard time interacting with staff and peers. He also had a hard time working independently. Today, Nick has no issues introducing himself to strangers or making friends. He also "graduated" from CIP and is now working at Goodwill in Glendale. Nick is a CIP success story, he represents what the program is and can do for people. Similarly, when Anissa came to us, she had a hard time expressing her emotions in a positive way. Because of CIP she has been able to learn how to talk about and control her emotions and express herself in a positive manner. Anissa has also learned how to be professional in a work setting. This is a skill she has been using at her current job at the YMCA where she has worked twice a week for 12 years.



Anissa and Nick leaving the Villa Campus after a day at CIP.



John receiving his Villa's Employee of the Year 2024 award with Villa CEO, Kelly White.

**John
Villa Employment Program (West Region)**

Villa's regional office in Thousand Oaks provides a wide variety of services for adults with special needs. In our Employment Program, Villa is lucky to have a longtime collaboration over 20 years and counting with many supportive businesses. John serves as one West Region success story as he has worked at Home Depot for 20 years, consistently demonstrating exceptional dedication and hard work. Over the course of his career, he has built an extensive knowledge of the products across the store, making him a valuable asset to the team. His commitment and expertise truly define him as a hardworking and reliable professional. Outside of Villa, John is known for being compassionate, appreciative of his Villa staff, deeply valuing his mother, being a loving dog owner to "Murphy" and was made Villa's Employee of the Year 2024.





Step into a night of elegance with Villa Esperanza Services at our annual Fundraising Gala! This year, we are hosting Villa's "Masquerade Gala," celebrating Villa's passionate commitment to providing love, care, and hope for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Honoring

Irene Konogeris Albeck

Villa Parent, Guild Member and Retired Villa Teacher
26th Annual Guardian Angel Award Recipient

Saturday, April 26th, 2025

The California Club, 538 South Flower St, Los Angeles, CA 90071

6:00 p.m.

Cocktail Hour in The Lounge

Villa art gallery, photo opportunity, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, wine draw, silent auction, and live violinist

7:30 p.m.

Dining in the Main Dining Room

Dinner, award presentation, live auction — plus a DJ and dance floor!

Join us for a night of elegance at Villa's 2025 Masquerade Gala, where you'll have the chance to show off your most dazzling jewel-toned attire and, of course, wear a mask to add to the air of intrigue. **The California Club upholds a strict dress code to maintain the sophistication of the event**, so please refrain from wearing denim, untucked shirts, t-shirts, shorts, sports wear, flip-flops, hats, or athletic shoes. Some encouraged and allowed garments include: evening gowns or cocktail dresses, collared shirts, slacks or trousers. Let your mask and attire shine as we dance the night away, with all proceeds going directly to support Villa's 9 programs!

