### Spring 2019 Newsletter

# A Voice Discovered 501 (c) 3 Tax ID 46-3641066

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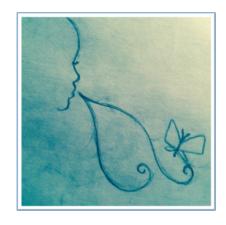
It's hard to believe it is already May of 2019! We are excited to share some what has happened so far this year and what we have in store for the rest of the year!

### **Grant Giving**

One of A Voice Discovered's main programs is our Grant Giving program. Each year we give up to 5 or 6 individual grants to local individuals who are unable to use speech to communicate for equipment and/or services that they would otherwise be unable to access. We are so grateful for our generous donors who help us keep this program running! Even without a fundraiser we are able to continue to give up to 5 individual grants again for 2019. We seem to be on the fast track to giving those grants away this year though. Four grants have already been awarded as of April! This may be our fastest grant giving year yet!! Individuals who receive grants use them for a number of reasons including to help fund AAC assessments, therapy and training, as well as to purchase equipment such as mounts for wheelchairs so people in wheelchairs can have their devices with them wherever they go. Grants have also helped to fund iPads with communication apps that are used as communication devices. Our grant program is a huge part of A Voice Discovered's mission to help people gain access to AAC and services and it is something we hope to continue to be able to grow each year.

### **Parent/Caregiver Support Group**

The AVD Parent/Caregiver Support Group ended 2018 with our 2nd annual Holiday Party. It was a huge success and very well attended. Santa came and made sure to bring his talker which he used with all of the kids much to their surprise and delight! A wonderful photographer, Whitney Hartmann, graciously donated her time and the photographs to the families who attended the event.



## **Upcoming Events**

### **Camp Discover My Voice**

July 22nd -26th

9:30 to 12:30

The Bridge Church in Newbury Park

Camper Info Email:

Linda@avoicediscovered.com

### **Volunteer Info Email:**

### traci@avoicediscovered.com

A Voice Discovered is always looking for volunteers for our various social events, workshops, fundraisers, and AAC Camp. To be added to our volunteer email list please contact:

traci@avoicediscovered.com







In April the AVD Parent/Caregiver Support Group hosted the Brandon's Buddies Free Kids Club Event at an inclusive park in Calabasas called Brandon's Village. It was a beautiful day and many of the AVD families made it out to participate in the crafts, face painting, bounce house and the awesome playground that is Brandon's Village. Brandon's Buddies meets the first Saturday each month at Brandon's Village. It's a great opportunity to meet other families in the community.

At the end of March the AVD Parent/Caregiver Support Group hosted a workshop addressing the Implementation of AAC at home and in the community presented by SLPs Traci Peplinski and E. Cheryl Fletcher. The workshop was well attended and very lively with great discussions and ideas being exchanged. We plan to host more educational workshops throughout the year.

Make sure to join our Parent group email list by contacting <u>linda@avoicediscovered.com</u> or like us on Facebook to learn about upcoming events and when our 2019 Holiday event will be.

#### **Fundraisers**

In 2019 AVD has revamped our fundraiser format. In April AVD held our first fundraiser of the year, a trivia night hosted by King Trivia Cares at Mouthful Eatery in Thousand Oaks. It was well attended and a ton of fun! The winning team generously donated the cash prize back to A Voice Discovered. Be on the lookout for more trivia nights in the future!

We will also be hosting a restaurant night and hopefully a karaoke night! Join our email list to learn more about upcoming fundraisers and other AVD happenings by emailing traci@avoicediscovered.com.







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