

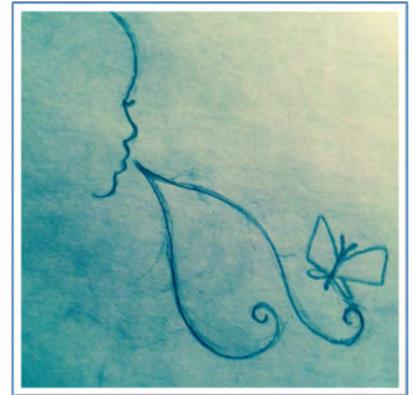
A Voice Discovered

501 (c) 3 Tax ID 46-3641066

PO Box 7389 Ventura, CA 93006
(805) 651-3906

www.avoicediscovered.com

info@avoicediscovered.com



October is AAC Awareness Month

And just like that, it's Fall! With Fall comes AAC Awareness Month in October. It is part of AVD's mission to raise awareness and provide information and education about AAC. We share information through our website as well as through social media. Every year AVD participates in AAC Awareness month by providing more frequent posts on our Facebook page with links to various resources for parents, caregivers and professionals. We also try to provide a free AAC Workshop in Ventura County. Like us on Facebook or join the email list to get information about upcoming AVD events and links to great AAC resources.

This October we will also be having a contest and a fundraiser. For Camp this year we gave each volunteer a canvas bag with the AVD logo on one side and a picture communication board on the other side and they were a huge hit! Check out our Facebook page for details about how to enter the contest to win one of these bags. We are also selling these bags for \$15 each as part of a fundraiser for AAC Awareness Month to raise money for our grant program. Email traci@avoicediscovered.com to place your order.

2nd Annual Camp Discover My Voice

AVD hosted our second annual summer camp for kids who use AAC called Camp Discover My Voice. The Bridge Church in Newbury Park generously donated their space to us again. All of the campers from the previous year attended along with a few new campers. Campers ranged in age from 5 to 18. We had a number of parent and sibling volunteers as well as students from local universities studying to be speech pathologists. Camp was from 9:30 to 12:30 each day for a week. Our theme was the Three Little Pigs with each group focusing on a different version of the story. Along with the story and preparing a play for the last day of camp, campers participated in a number of fun and engaging activities all while learning to use or increasing the use of their AAC system. These activities included science day where they built houses out of boxes and then knocked them down with blow dryers or themselves (like the wolf in the 3 Little Pigs), art day where they painted with paint filled balloons, sensory day where they made slime and then played with water balloons outside to get the "Big Bad Wolf". We also had the amazing opportunity to have firefighters visit from a local fire station as well as a few therapy dogs from Love on a Leash Pleasant Valley, thanks to Erika Buck, one of our volunteers. The final day the campers practiced their play,

Upcoming Events

AAC Awareness Month Fundraiser

AAC Implementation Workshop

10/24/19 – 6:00-8:00 PM

Arc of Ventura County

280 Skyway Dr. Camarillo

RSVP:

Linda@avoicediscovered.com

3rd Annual Holiday Party

December (Date – TBD)

Ventura County Community Foundation

4001 Mission Oaks Blvd.
Suite A, Camarillo



made refreshments for their families and then performed their plays at the end of camp that day. It was a busy and fun-filled week and wouldn't have been possible without the help of all of our amazing volunteers! Thank you to everyone who helped make Camp DMV such a success!



Camp Discover My Voice Testimonials

“Sean really thrived in this camp. We are so stoked to have been a part of such an amazing experience. Everyone was so kind, and I cannot think of anything I would change. I'd love the opportunity to do these camps more than once throughout the year.” – *Elsa, parent*

“Luke got much more exposure to using the iPad to communicate. Communication opportunities were embedded in lots of exciting activities like water play, art, sensory play, lunch time, songs, therapy dogs, the firefighters etc. ... great variety of activity!! Camp Discover My Voice definitely taught my son more about another way to communicate. The week after camp, all his therapists commented on how much more he was talking (both verbally and on his iPad.) – *Anonymous, parent volunteer*

“I admired all the caring people who dedicated their time and talent to make this camp happen. It gave me a sense of community and hope for our children with special needs and their ability to communicate. It was worth the time to go each day because it challenged me to see how others respond in their environments and how other parents and caregivers responded to the children.” – *Parent volunteer*

“This was my second year at camp. Last year I learned about the different devices being used by all of the campers, it was so eye opening! I also work with my camper on a weekly basis, at the camp last year he really started using his device more, and has continued to do so, so I think it's amazing for the kids to have the opportunity to come together for a week and really learn to use their voice! From last year to this year I saw so many campers using their devices more, or even talking more! It's an unforgettable and very rewarding experience!” – *Jenny C. Volunteer*