

A Voice Discovered

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Camp Discover My Voice 2018

A Voice Discovered hosted our first annual AAC Camp this past July in Newbury Park at The Bridge Church called Camp Discover My Voice. We had 12 children who use AAC, 2 siblings and a number of volunteers attend. Campers ranged in age from 4 to 13 and used a variety of AAC systems. Some campers came with family members or respite providers who were familiar with them and others were paired up with speech pathology students from CSUN, Biola and New York University. We also had 3 licensed speech and language pathologists specializing in AAC there to facilitate the group activities and coach the communication partners. All volunteers attended a day long training on AAC and communication partner strategies. We couldn't have done it without the volunteers! They were amazing making camp a HUGE success! Everyone had a great time participating in various science, art, cooking and reading activities as well as whole group camp songs and sharing activities. On the final day campers performed in the Camp DMV talent show called "Campers Got Talent". Camp was a fun way for the campers to be immersed in AAC and for the volunteers to learn how to be good communication partners. We received great feedback from volunteers and families and plan to do it again next year! Stay tuned for location and dates. If you are interested in volunteering or attending please email traci@avoicediscovered.com



Upcoming Events

Holiday Party

December 10th 4:30 to 6:30

Ventura County Community
Foundation

4001 Mission Oaks Blvd.
Suite A Camarillo, CA 93012

RSVP

Linda@avoicediscovered.com

Communication Club starting in January!

Brandon's Buddies Meet-Up

February 2nd 2019
10:30-12:30
Brandon's Village
25801 Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Calabassas, CA 91302

RSVP

Linda@avoicediscovered.com

Workshops coming in 2019

**AAC Partner
Communication
Strategies -- TBD**

New Board Members and Fundraiser Changes

In addition to running Camp Discover My Voice for the first time this year we also have other exciting changes to announce! First we would like to welcome April Callis and Joanna Fouad to our Board of Directors! April will be taking over as Grant Coordinator for Teresa Solinap who has done a fantastic job in this position and Joanna will be helping with fundraising among other things! We look forward to what they will both bring to AVD as board members!

This year we will not be hosting our Annual Casino Night Fundraiser as we have for the past 4 years. After much discussion we decided to change the format of our fundraisers so that we can have a few smaller events each year. The reason for the change is so that we can reach more people and hopefully raise more awareness about AAC and what AVD does for the local AAC community. We plan to host a Spring fundraiser to raise money for Camp DMV and our Grant Program and a Fall fundraiser to raise money for our Grant Program and Lending Library. We will also be hosting a restaurant night and possible a few other smaller events throughout the year. Like us on Facebook or join our email list to stay informed about upcoming events!

Parent/Caregiver Events

Our Annual Holiday Party is coming! We had so much fun last year with crafts, letters to Santa and of course a visit with Santa that we want to do it all again! We are currently looking for a sponsor for the event. If you are interested please contact traci@voicediscovered.com.

To keep the communication momentum from Camp going, we plan to have more family events and social gatherings throughout the year. In January we are planning on hosting our first Communication Club for children who use AAC. The format will be similar to camp with fun and engaging activities in a social context. We plan to have volunteers to assist as communication partners. This is a great way for the children to work with other communication partners who may not know them as well! Dates and locations are still being determined. We plan to host the club every other month. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Traci Peplinski at traci@voicediscovered.com. If you know someone who would like to attend please contact Linda at Linda@voicediscovered.com.

AVD will also be sponsoring the monthly Brandon's Buddies meet-up held at Brandon's Village in Calabassas on February 2nd, 2019. Brandon's Village has an accessible playground that everyone can enjoy! There will be face painting, crafts, snacks and a great opportunity to meet other families.

