

WINTER 2020



RIVERSIDE COUNTY SELPA

CAC NEWSLETTER

Presidents Message

Come Fly with Me

Good evening this is your captain, welcome to flight 2021. We are prepared to take off into the New Year. Please make sure your positive attitude as well as your gratitude are secured and locked in the upright position. All self-destruct devices, such as, pity, anger, selfishness, and resentment should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away. Should you lose your positive attitude under pressure during this flight, reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by faith. Once your faith is activated, you can assist other passengers who are of little faith. There will be no baggage allowed on this flight. Our Captain has cleared us for take-off, destination – Greatness! Wishing you a new year filled with new hope, new joy, and new beginnings! Stay safe and be blessed! Welcome to 2021!

*Jennafer LaPaglia Griswold
CAC President (Pilot)*



CAC Executive Board

Jennafer Griswold, President, Perris Union Jennafer.lapaglia@puhsd.org

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Secretary—Vacant

Public Information Officer— Vacant

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Phil Stein, Past President, Desert Sands,
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Community Spotlight

Christmas 2020 was different for most families this year and that was also the case for most of our special needs families during the winter break. Our students and families are typically invited to multiple Christmas parties designed especially for them. This winter many, if not all, events were cancelled or modified.

Jacob's Wish was one of those events that was modified. This year they partnered with the City of Menifee's Mighty Me program and offered a "Be Merry & Be Mighty Christmas Drive-Thru Event". On Dec. 11, 2020, The City of Menifee provided a safe way to celebrate the holidays for our special needs friends. The event hosted Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus and their elves. Students were blessed with gifts and a warm Christmas greeting from members of the community, it was definitely the highlight of the night. All the Christmas lights and the celebration was just what our kids needed.

If you're interested in finding out more about The Mighty Me program, which is a special needs program that offers FREE monthly programming for all ages, all abilities, and all capabilities please contact the City of Menifee on their website, or contact the Community Service Coordinator at cbollinger@cityofmenifee.us

In addition to the "Be Merry & Be Mighty Christmas Drive-Thru Event", students with disabilities were also invited to the "HELD Christmas Gift Drive-Thru".

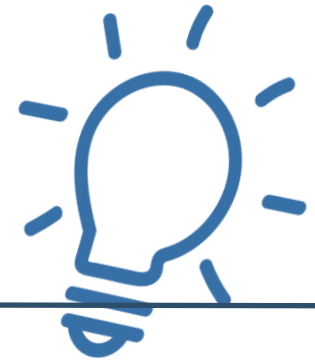
The HELD group is composed of moms and special needs families in the Temecula Valley area. This unique group fundraised money this fall to be able to provide 29 families with a safe holiday celebration and a Christmas Gift.

On December 20th, HELD and Awakening Church hosted "The HELD Christmas Gift Drive-Thru" event. Families receive a gift basket with a family night game, goodies, and gift cards. Our families with special needs students felt loved and appreciated and our children with disabilities loved it! It was a great success.

The highlight of the event was a very special Santa Claus appearance. A young man, Levi Bowman, of the community stepped up and wanted to be Santa Claus for his fellow friends. Levi's is 21 years old and he was born with Down Syndrome. When asked if he wanted to be Santa Claus for this event he was thrilled. These were Levi's exact words, "I liked being Santa Claus. It was my dream to be Santa." Levi was the best Santa Claus of 2020.

These are only some of the community events available for our Special Needs families in the Riverside County area. For more information please contact Community Advisory Committee.





Early Start Outreach

Riverside County SELPA

Phone: 951-490-0375

Fax: 951-490-0376

Email: info@selpa.org

The Early Start program, which provides early intervention services, has experienced a decline in referrals since the beginning of the pandemic. Be-

cause early intervention is critical for children to achieve the best possible developmental outcomes, the Department of Developmental Services and partners are working together to share information and resources. It is important for referral agencies and families to know that all 21 regional centers across California remain open and are accepting referrals. If an infant or toddler has, or is suspected of having, a delay or disability, contact the local regional center about possible Early Start services. Anyone can make a referral. To find your local regional center, go to <https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/early-start/familyresource-center/regional-center-early-start-intake-and-family-resource-centers/> or call 1-800-515 BABY.

We're on the web!

rcselpa.org

Upcoming Events

1/13/2021 at 4:30 pm

Parenting Strategies for Positive Behaviors

1/20/2021 at 3:30 pm

Disaster Preparedness/ CAC Business Meeting

3/17/21 at 3:30 pm

Voices of our Families: Conversations on Education

4/21/21 at 5:30 pm

13 Annual Recognition Event, "Recognition Round-Up"

5/5/21 at 3:30 pm

CAC Officer Elections

