



OUTLOOK NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022

Edited by Adriana Vera

SourceAmerica.



***Established 1964
Providing Dignity and
Independence for Persons
With Disabilities***

**116 North I Street
Lompoc, CA 93436
(805)735-3428
www.lovarc.org**



New Faces at LOVARC!

Ernesto Cervantes

Kylie Schutz

Lucas Sutton

Max Macias

Arnold Vega

Christina Smith-Koff

Adriana Vera

Jorge Z. Hernandez

Virginia Ransome

AnnMarie Morello

David Smith

Gina Cabezas

Felicity Sayre

Linda Olivera

Patricia Graydon

Arthur Pressnall

Daniel Navarro

Anamarie Baltazar

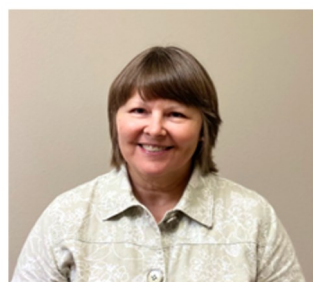
Ashley Bozarth

Arturo Padua



Welcome
Glad you're here!

Letter from our CEO'S



Greetings from two!

Since our last newsletter some long standing traditions have changed. Bill Reardon was the CEO for about 27 years and is now enjoying the retired lifestyle with his wife and family. As times change so do traditions. LOVARC decided to share the position of CEO and promoted Elen Vanderhoof and Shelly Barton as co-CEOs. Elen has been with LOVARC for 30 Years and Shelly 26 years that's 56 years combined! We believe we'll be able to keep the services going and continue to offer employment for persons with disabilities for years to come.

Although it's been a while since our last newsletter, we have been quite busy during these past 2 years despite covid restrictions and impacts. We continued to focus on our mission of providing opportunities for, and services to, persons with a disability.

Thankfully, our military food service contracts are considered "essential", which allowed us to continue our employment training programs even during the pandemic. At LOVARC, we strive to be "Continually Focused on Exceeding Customers' Expectations", and we learned to be flexible in serving our Air Force and CA National Guard food service customers, while complying with the covid restrictions. Our employees went above and beyond in serving on the front lines, both in food service and at our group home. Honestly enough can't be said about our employees and their hard work. We never closed our doors during the pandemic crisis and continued with our exceptional food service. Not to mention the loving care our direct care staff provided at our group home.

We appreciate your support as we continue our mission. LOVARC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, so your donation would not only be very much appreciated and helpful, but also tax-deductible.

We hope you and yours are enjoying all that life has to offer and making the most of every day.

Elen Vanderhoof and Shelly Barton

LOVARC co-CEOs

LOVARC Board of Directors

Officers

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Maureen Tolson

Vice President

Julie Davis

Treasurer

Jim Lowsley

Secretary

Ann Ladwig

Directors

Pat Brady

Kay Casey

Robert Klug

Lynee Dixon

Executive Staff

Chief Executive Officers

Elen Vanderhoof

Shelly Barton

LOVARC'S NEWEST OFFICE EMPLOYEES

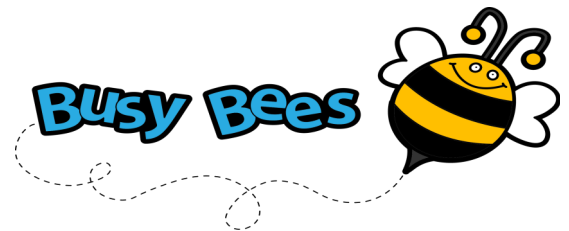
Meet Our New HR Assistant: Safety/ Recruiting,
Adriana Vera

Adriana Vera was born and raised in Lompoc and still residing. My previous job was being a nanny for 4 years to an amazing family and when it was time to broaden my horizon and get out of my comfort zone, I became an HR Assistant for Recruiting and Safety and it has been great becoming part of the LOVARC team! When I am not working, I like going on hikes, going to the beach, and BBQing with my family. I have 3 dogs which I refer to them as my fur babies.



Meet our New Coordinator of Vocational Services,
Christina Smith-Koff

Christina has lived most of her life in Santa Barbara and moved to Lompoc in September of 2019. She has enjoyed getting to know Lompoc and making new friends here. Christina always welcomes suggestions of places to go or things to do in Lompoc. She enjoys spending time with her family which include her partner Ben, and their four children. Christina loves to host BBQs where she and Ben will cook way too much food. Christina also enjoys working in her garden, reading, and cuddling up with her kids. Christina joined LOVARC first as a direct care worker at La Paloma, but now has the position of Coordinator of Vocational Services. She enjoys her work and looks forward to a great future with LOVARC.



Food Service Staff



Vandenberg SFB Staff!



For the Month of March at Vandenberg SFB we had two staff members go above and beyond, and showed great teamwork! Great Job Kunyane and Kimberly L!

Sodexo provided an Easter egg hunt for LOVARC's Employees! The eggs had a prize for a free meal.

Can you spot the eggs?



For the Month of April Eric and Martha showed great teamwork!

Good job you guys!

Food Service Staff



Camp San Luis Obispo Staff!



Meet some of our CSLO staff!

Rob Mead is our Contract Manager in the blue shirt and is doing an excellent job!



CSLO recently just fed the California Cadet Corps, Navy Sea Cadets, and Cal Poly Wrestling Team simultaneously at one point. 3 Large groups and this place was absolutely rocking!

We fed them in form of: In house feeding, Mermite Meals, and Sack Meals. Covering all aspects of the operation in large quantities. Our hard-working CSLO Employees did a fantastic job of making it happen June 18th to June 30th of this year. While doing this we also received requests for CAL FIRE Meals feeding local fire crews in response to fire outbreaks.

Food Service Staff



LOS ALAMITOS JFTB STAFF!



Here comes the Amazing Martin Lavelle dressed as spiderman!



We have our JFTB employees doing a themed lunch for student council! On the right side of the photo we have *Laurie Holler* our *Contract Manager* at Joint Forces Dining Facility doing an amazing job!

Food Service Staff (Continued)



LOS ALAMITOS JFTB STAFF!



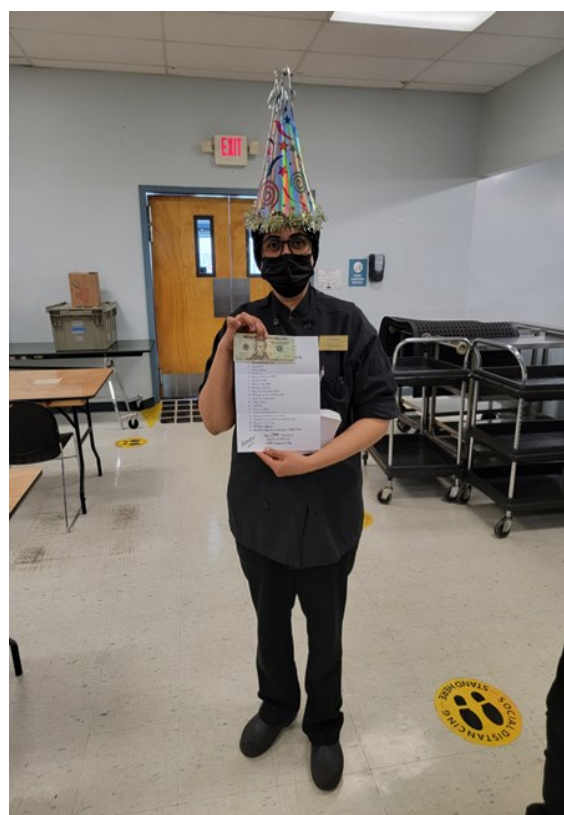
In the two photos above we have Gabby And Martin cleaning and sanitizing the kitchen area! Great job! Safety First!



Here we have Ramon and Joely cooking up some tasty lunch!



Congratulations to Arsh-
een as she celebrates her
one year anniversary as
Chef Manager at JFTB!



BIG NEWS FOR LOVARC!

La Paloma Group Home



La Paloma has some exciting events happening!

LOVARC has purchased the empty lot right next door to La Paloma in May 2021 and has plans to develop an outdoor space for the residents.

While interviewing *Bethany Mattis the Director and Manager of La Paloma* some plans she has in mind are to create a parking lot for staff and van parking that will have easier wheelchair access for our residents.. Some outdoor activities that are also in mind are vegetable gardens, flower beds and a shaded picnic area, that gives a nice family visiting area where residents can enjoy some time with family and friends. A weather proof storage/ shed area to keep all cleaning supplies, PPE (personal protective equipment) and chemical supplies is another great idea! Safety first!

Bethany has mentioned this EXCITING news to the residents and has taken them out to the lot and celebrated! A wheelchair swing would be amazing to have, as well as cornhole and a shortened basketball hoop.

BIG NEWS FOR LOVARC!

We sold our D ST location after 27 years!

123 North D Street location was sold May 10th, 2022.

LOVARC was originally at this location for 27 years until we moved to our newest location on North I Street. The D Street location was originally a home with five bedrooms that were converted into offices and it had a front and back wheelchair ramp.

After selling the location Co-CEO's Elen and Shelly both decided to bring the LOVARC sign that was on the building and it is now placed here in the office and hung up on our wall.



LOVARC'S HISTORY

Life Options, Vocational and Resources Center (LOVARC) was originally established by a group of parents in 1964 to assist children with developmental disabilities. The LOVARC acronym originally meant “Lompoc Valley Association for Retarded Children”. As schools eventually provided services to this population LOVARC changed it's focus to adults and its name to Lompoc Valley Association for Retarded Citizens. In 1996 with a federal food service contract at Vandenberg Air Force base LOVARC's focus shifted to serve people with all disabilities. To avoid the stigma word “retarded”, LOVARC's name changed again to “Life Options, Vocational and Resource Center,” retaining the LOVARC acronym.

WE ARE HIRING!



VANDENBERG SFB	CASHIERS FOOD SERVICE WORKER COOK
LOS ALAMITOS JFTB	COOK FOOD SERVICE WORKER
CAMP SAN LUIS OBISPO	AM COOK AM HOST CHEF MANAGER
LA PALOMA	DIRECT CARE STAFF

Apply on our website www.lovarc.org

Or send us your resume to avera@lovarc.org

Our mission is serving people with disabilities by providing employment and residential opportunities for them. We also hire non– disabled employees as well. We like to give everyone that equal opportunity and the chance to work in a great and unique work environment. Our main employment opportunities are in a restaurant environment . Where you are treated with respect and challenged to be your best.



THANK YOU LOVARC DONORS!

American Legion Auxiliary

Monica Flores

Joseph Andrade

Janet Wallace

Colleen Carter

National Association of Retired Federal Employees

**We thank these individuals & organizations for their
support!**



***Remember LOVARC in your charitable
giving— it will be greatly appreciated!***



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