



City of Santa Barbara

Parks and Recreation Department

www.sbparcsandrecreation.com

www.cityofsantabarbara.ca.us

August 21, 2008

Ms. Honor Hall
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Community Services

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Dear Honor,

I'm so sorry I haven't responded sooner, but what a pleasant surprise to receive such a wonderful letter on my return from vacation. We are so happy that Jadyne is having a positive experience in the Parks and Recreation Department programs. The Department takes great pride in our Inclusion program, the benefits it brings to our citizens and the fact that our program is on the cutting edge of support services in comparison to other cities in California.

As you mentioned, the Inclusion staff are responsible for the very detailed and responsive work that is achieved to support participants. Their work as a team from beginning to end demonstrates their commitment (and that of the City of Santa Barbara) to participants that we serve. Julie Thomas is an effective and compassionate leader of this team. I am so happy that the experience has been positive and met both your and Jaydn's needs.

Thank you for taking the time to let us know. We look forward to serving your family in the future.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hanna
Recreation Programs Manager

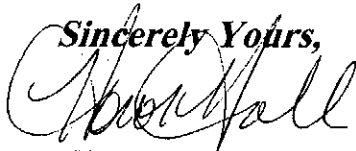
cc: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director
James Armstrong, City Administrator
Joan Kent Assistant City Administrator
Park and Recreation Commission
Adapted Advisory Committee
Adapted Programs Staff

Dear Sarah,

My name is Honor Hall. I'm writing to you to let you know what a pleasure it has been working with your inclusion department at S.B. Parks and Rec. I'm a single mom with a wonderful son named, Jadyn. He has been a student at Washington and will now be starting at Monroe this coming school year. Let's just say that Jadyn has had a rocky time at school and his last after school childcare program. Because of this I had one of Jadyn's aids keep telling me that I need to try Parks and Recreation. He told me about RAP and that they had an inclusion program and thought it would be a perfect fit for Jadyn. (Jadyn has an IEP because of a sensory processing disorder) With being so skeptical with any program, school, ECT. I decided to give it a try anyway and so happy I did! I can't begin to tell you what a great experience it has been for me and most importantly, Jadyn. I owe it all to Julie and her staff! She is a great asset to your team, and you're very lucky to have her! I'm sure you already realize this but I thought I would share some of my experiences with Parks & Rec. because of her. From setting up the meetings before Jadyn started any program, to accommodating me with my work schedule, to providing Jadyn with awesome staff! He started RAP at Washington last year and he loved it. I loved it because everyday I picked Jadyn up, there was never a negative thing said about him. Julie always was available for my questions and concerns! Always professional and always positive! Then I put Jadyn in camp for spring Break and Julie paired Jadyn with Gilbert. Gilbert was awesome! That was such a great experience for him. And it gave him something to look forward to for the summer as far as sending him to Summer Camps. I was so nervous about his summer and wanted him to experience something new and Julie helped me to accomplish this as well! She helped with his schedule and mine. She is one of those who goes above and beyond! And I just found out she did all this being pregnant! Jadyn is in his 2nd session at Aqua camp and he is beside himself! Last Tuesday when we had that earthquake Aqua camp had gone to the Long Beach Aquarium. This was a field trip my son had been waiting all summer for because he loves whales and sea creatures so much. I was nervous letting him go so far without me. But I'm very comfortable Jadyn's counselor, Jeremiah. As soon as the earthquake happened I went into panic mode! Staff was amazing! I called and left a message and I got a return call back and was reassured that everyone was o.k.! Jeremiah called me and said the smaller kids

did not even know it was an earthquake. He has been amazing with Jadyne! Jadyne has had and is still is having such a phenomenal summer because of your inclusion team and all the staff! Kudos to Julie for all her hard work and making this Mom and her son, stress free when she has to leave to work in the morning!

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Honor Hall".

Honor Hall

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