The Annual Report this year marks a special event for V.I.P. Tots—our 35th year of operation! Since V.I.P. Tots first began in 1979, we have been the premier choice for quality education and care of young children. V.I.P. Tots began with a vision... a dream that children with special needs could attend classes with typical peers. Founding Executive Director/CEO, Joann Hameister, realized that dream 35 years ago with the incorporation of V.I.P. Tots. We continue to grow, adapt, develop new programs, seek new grants, and work toward a better future for our community’s youngest and most vulnerable members. Simply put— we love our work, and we love to see children learn and grow! We hope that if you haven’t yet had the chance to stop by for a visit, or want to know more about the Best Preschool in Hemet/San Jacinto, that you will make it a point to visit us! V.I.P. Tots is a special place... full of unique children and amazing teachers! So, take a moment to look through all the incredible events and remarkable strides we have made with this report, and come join our family!
The Mission of V.I.P. Tots

V.I.P. Tots creates engaging, inclusive environments where young children learn and adults have access to positive solutions for supporting children.

Promoting Friendships and Education Through Play

Administration Staff 2013-2014

Executive Director of Programs & Education: Fran Henderson

Executive Director of Finance: Rhonda Thomas

Executive Director of Grants & Development: Kendra Votava

Home Program Director: Marcia Nogrady

Child Care Director: Debbie Haney

Administrative Assistant: Theresa Pastrano

Staff Trainer/Behavior Consultant: Theresa Helms

Home Program Coordinator: Collene Twardowski

Assistant Child Care Director: Marlene Perez

Board Members for the 2013-2014 fiscal year included:

Board President:
Dee Cozart

Board Vice President:
Nicole Worthington

Board Secretary:
Margo Worthington

Board Treasurer:
Pat Brudin

Additional Board Members:
Kathy Harvill
Vicky Mesa
Hans Twardowski
Car-Lee Clark
Shannon Covington

Staff Representatives:
Center Based: Marlene Galaviz

Home Program: Collene Twardowski
Home Based Interventions

Qualified early intervention teachers, therapists, and child development teachers design individual programs that are motivating and effective for children with identified special needs. Inland Regional Center provides funding for children birth to three years old to receive these intensive programs through V.I.P. Tots’ home program visits. Children enrolled in Home Program receive 5-9 hours per month of instruction on cognitive development, self-help skills, fine and gross motor skills, and language development. Parents are a vital component of the home based program, as V.I.P. Tots believes parents are a child’s first and best teacher.

This past year, V.I.P. Tots averaged 65 children per month with home based interventions, employing 10 dedicated Home Program Teachers. V.I.P. Tots believes that an early start in intervention services is critical to a child’s future success in school, and life.

Center Based Interventions

V.I.P. Tots is an approved vendor of Inland Regional Center. Once children have met eligibility requirements set by the state and federal laws, they may be placed in our center-based early intervention programs to assist in meeting their educational and therapeutic needs. Children enrolled in early intervention programs at V.I.P. Tots are placed in classes with typically developing peers, and are authorized to attend 2-4 days per week.

This past year, V.I.P. Tots averaged 26 children in center-based programs funded by Inland Regional Center. Interventions are based on the child’s individual needs and goals. Teachers work to prevent further delays, assess current abilities, help children meet their developmental milestones, and teach social skills that will be necessary for life. Children are enrolled with a variety of educational and developmental needs, ranging from speech and language issues to sensory integration needs.

Specialized Programs— Tots & Kids with Tutors

V.I.P. Tots has two dedicated programs for children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders or other disabilities that require intensive services. Tots with Tutors is for children ages 18 months to 3 years of age, and the Tots and Kids with Tutors is for children ages 3 to 8 years. Both programs are individualized to each child, and include therapy services along with one-to-one tutoring. Children are funded by Inland Regional Center, and can receive both in-class and in-home services for 39-43 hours per month.

Parents also receive training in the home through modules targeting specific behavior, sensory needs, and communication. Children learn skills in relationship development, self-regulation, sensory integration, and academic/cognitive areas. Parents have the opportunity to participate in parent support meetings that range in topic from navigating the special education system to developing food texture tolerance.
Child Development Programs

Child development and early education programs run from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday, with the exception of posted holidays. Children may attend from two to five days per week. Children 18 months through kindergarten age attend in classrooms integrated with children with special needs. This past year, an average of 210 children were served with childcare programs. Some of our classrooms are supported with funding from First 5 Riverside, through a tobacco tax initiative (Prop 10). During 2013-2014, First 5 provided 70 Full Time Equivalent spaces in two different grants. The Access and Quality grant increases the number of available scholarship spaces for low-moderate income families, while also increasing the quality of the program through teacher training, funding to purchase needed classroom items, and structural additions to help us improve the safety of the school. The Special Needs grant specifically funds scholarship spaces for children with identified special needs to attend childcare classes. Children in this grant must have an IEP/IFSP to qualify. These grants provided us with a total of $545,127 to support children. Staff use the Desired Results Developmental Profile (2010-R) as well as the Brigance assessment to plan activities that are appropriate for the developmental levels of the children in their classroom. Daily activities are designed to enhance learning in the areas of language and speech development, cognitive, fine and gross motor skills, self-help, early literacy, and school readiness. Second Step and Positive Solutions programs are implemented in each class for social and emotional development to promote friendship. Teachers take their cue to creating engaging activities from the children’s interest areas and curriculum sources like Creative Curriculum.

Adult Learning Programs

**Trainings in 2013-2014 included:**
- Positive Solutions for Families parent classes
- Autism family meetings
- Southwest County Child Care Council Trainings

Parent training is a vital component of the programs at V.I.P. Tots. This past year, we have trained 84 parents, guardians, and grandparents with the Positive Solutions for Families six week parenting course, which teaches invaluable social-emotional skills. In addition, 240 community teachers attended trainings to further their education and receive professional growth hours. Fran Henderson and Theresa Helms teach these classes as part of a sub-contract with Southwest CCCC to provide hands-on experiences to current and potential teachers in the community.

Summary of All Services Delivered

In 2013-2014, V.I.P. Tots:

**Averaged:**
- 86 children per month in early intervention programs
- 1 child 3-8 years old, per month, in T&KWT
- 8 children 18-36 months, per month, in TWT
- 92 children birth-36 months received early intervention services either in the classrooms or in home program.
- 119 children in childcare programs per month

**Provided:**
- 1266 service hours to children with disabilities (average)
- 112908 hours of childcare services for the year
- 401 hours of speech, occupational, or physical therapy for the year

Staff logged more than 127,863 hours to love, nurture, teach, play with, inspire, encourage, comfort, talk with, observe, assess, respect & celebrate more than 220 kids!
Fundraisers & Donors

Major Fundraisers

7th Annual Duck Race Sponsors— $25,123 raised
Trike-a-Thon Sponsors— $2,179 raised
School Pictures— $5,094 profit
Blood Borne Pathogen DVD Sales— $2,672

Businesses & Private Cash Donors

Amber Air Conditioning  HUB International  Susan Hartshorn
Balfour Beatty  Iris Ellis-Hoffman  Sierra Dawn Charity
Carol Ewald  Jan Weeks  Doll Class
Carol Goldbach  Jean Slater
Carolyn Debrask  Joann & Joel Hameister
Century 21  Karen Walker
Curry Copy Center  Knights of Columbus
Dee Cozart  Maria Taco Catering
Engineering Resources  Pat & John Brudin
Fast Trip  Pilgrim Church &
Fran Franke  Women’s Fellowship
Hafliger Family  Santa Rosa Band of
Hans Twardowski  Cahuilla Indians

Non-Cash (In-Kind) Donors

Kathleen Lange, Angela Hurtado, Christina Davidson, Jon Worthington, Karina Jones, David King, Shannon Covington, Vicky Mesa, Sharyl Williams, Yongette Lomas, Callaway Vineyard, TJ Maxx, Stadium Pizza, Kathy Harvill, IHOP, Margo Worthington, USS Midway Museum, Mulligan Family Fun Center, Mariela’s Hair Studio, In-N-Out Burger, Pat Brudin, Juan Pollo, CVS, Home Depot, Living Desert, Cheesecake Factory, Wheelhouse, Shear Class, Red Carrette, Marcia Nogradry, Rumors Salon— Wynn Harris, Hemet Car Wash, Abby’s Café, Lake Elsinore Storm, Castle Park, Ripley’s Believe it or Not, Dodgers, CarLee Clark, Quality Turf, Kendra Votava, Theresa Pastrano, Roxanna Wanamaker, Christina Helms, Albert from California Parks, Blanca Guierrez, City of San Jacinto, Lowe’s, Maria Vivanco, Kona Ice, Soboba Foundation, Mira Ecker, Fran Henderson, Sierra Dawn Charity Doll Club.
Goals

Looking Back-
2013-2014 Goals:

- Increase the visibility of V.I.P. Tots in the community. (in progress)
- Expand training programs to parents/caregivers and the teaching community. (met)
- Increase fundraising efforts for a sustainable future. (in progress)

Looking Forward-
2014-2015 Goals:

- Improve children’s learning experience by enhancing our library with written materials and new technology.
- Continue to increase the visibility of V.I.P. Tots in the community.
- Increase the variety of parent training offerings.

Program Income 2013-2014

- Inland Regional Center (Birth to Three) $ 852,547
- Childcare (parent pay, GAIN, RCOE, other funding) $ 264,763
- First 5 Riverside (A&Q, Special Needs grants) $ 545,127
- Small Grants, Fundraising, Gifts, Interest $ 85,490

Total Annual Income $1,747,927

Special Events

- Visits with the Firefighters of Station #26
- Easter Egg Hunting
- Back-to-School Night
- Baby Tree’s Birthday Party
- Harvest Festival
- Canned Food Drives
- Santa’s Visit
- Crazy Hair Day
- Winter Performance
- The Great Shakeout
- Picture Day
- Ranch Trip to Calicinto Ranch
- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Graduation
- Clown Performance
- Folklorico Dancer Visit
- Field Trips (Staters, Del Taco)
- Luau
- EEK Music and Physical Fitness Program

Our staff work hard all year long to create interesting, engaging learning opportunities for their students. Every activity has an educational reason behind it— even the fun stuff!
Staff Training & Professional Growth

This past year, V.I.P. Tots staff members met four times for half-day inservices to discuss topics relevant to the field of childcare. This year, we were certified as NAP SACC providers for meeting high standards in health and physical activity. We were also designated an Asthma Friendly center, after training and certification through the Riverside Department of Public Health. Staff members at V.I.P. Tots are required to participate in, and obtain, 21 hours of professional growth outside the workplace each fiscal year. This allows staff to keep fresh with the latest techniques and science in the field of child development. V.I.P. Tots strives to stay current with the best techniques and tools available, as well as making strides to lead the field of child development and early intervention. V.I.P. Tots recruits and maintains motivated and educated staff!

Staff Member Listing by Original Hire Date

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V.I.P. Tots would not be the incredible place it is without our dedicated staff members!
Follow us on Facebook!

Check out our website: www.viptots.org

Interested in joining our family as a staff member? Visit our website for employment opportunities or to fill out an online application! V.I.P. Tots is an Equal Opportunity Employer that values unique capabilities and creative people who love teaching children!

This 35th Annual Report was prepared and presented to the Board of Directors of V.I.P. Tots on October 21, 2014 by Kendra Votava, Executive Director of Grants & Development with input from Rhonda Thomas, Executive Director of Finance. The annual financial audit was prepared and presented by Gregory J. Prudhomme, CPA and presented to the Board of Directors at a regular Board Meeting. This information is public and may be viewed at www.viptots.org.