

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

ODS also currently participates in three Special Olympic sports: Softball, bowling and basketball. Our consumers can participate on one, two or all three of these teams!

During the late spring and through the summer months, the ODS (Stockton) "Blue Sox" compete in area and regional softball tournaments. In 2004, the Sox took home silver medals from the Nor-Cal Area Tournament in Sacramento and were given the opportunity to compete in the two-day, Nor-Cal Regional Championship in Sunnyvale, CA. They brought home the bronze in their division after playing teams from as far away as Lake Tahoe and Butte County in the two-day tournament.



During the fall and early winter, the ODS "Stockton Strikers" bowl weekly, honing their skills for the Nor-Cal Bowling Tournament held every December.

Then, when the weather turns cold, the ODS "Stockton Swarm" move inside and take to the court. Basketball is played from January through to the Championships in April. COME BE PART OF THE TEAM!!!



ODS COMPOSITION

With over forty-five years of collective experience represented in our management team alone, ODS provides these training services, among others, to individuals in the Stockton and Modesto areas living with developmental disabilities:

Behavior Management, Self Advocacy, Community Integration, Employment Training, Life Skills and Supported Living.

Our multi-ethnic staff communicates effectively in diverse languages, including: English, Spanish, Filipino and German.

ODS also provides flexible hours in an effort to accommodate the needs of our consumers in employment and the community.



OpenDoor Services, Inc.

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Management Team

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Sherry Welker - Consumer Project Manager
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OPENDOOR SERVICES, INC.



STOCKTON & MODESTO AREA DAY PROGRAM SERVICES

*Empowering People to Help
Themselves, Since 2002.*

WHO ARE WE?

OpenDoor Services, Inc. (ODS) is an organization providing quality services to people living with developmental disabilities. We have committed ourselves to providing these services with integrity, sensitivity, consistency and support.

We recognize and earnestly take on the challenge of offering the type of training that will provide empowerment to the individual, enabling him or her to make informed choices in their life and strive towards a greater independence within their community.

OUR AIM IS TO SUPPORT THE WILLING INDIVIDUAL IN THEIR EFFORTS TOWARDS REACHING THEIR HIGHEST POSSIBLE POTENTIAL.

ODS Day Program Services offers training in the following areas:

- ◆ Self Advocacy
- ◆ Community Integration
- ◆ Employment Training
- ◆ Life Skills: i.e. Grooming, Hygiene, etc.

SELF ADVOCACY

The focus of OpenDoor Services' Self Advocacy training is to both enhance an individual's ability to make informed choices and increase his or her ability to effectively and appropriately communicate needs and wants. ODS provides training that facilitates the following in both a socially acceptable and responsible manner:

Empowerment

Encourages and trains each individual to prepare for and take an active role in planning the steps necessary to reach their personal goals.

Decision Making

Encourages each individual to make informed choices. ODS staff assist our consumers in gaining the skills necessary to formulate questions, find and utilize resources and weigh options before making personal decisions.

Communication

An individual's ability to aptly communicate his or her needs or wants is paramount to ultimate success and independence in a community setting. ODS staff continuously observe our consumers and proactively seek out ways to enhance their social interactions and create an awareness to the possible consequences of their behaviors.

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

The purpose of community integration training at ODS is to increase an individual's ability to independently access natural supports and services in the community. These supports include, but are not limited to, community service agencies, support groups and community recreation and leisure activities and centers.

Typical training provided by ODS staff both sponsors and utilizes the following:

Community Transportation Services

ODS impresses the importance of community transportation. Staff train and assist in the use of city bus lines, taxi's, Dial-A-Ride, etc. and encourage these modes of transportation to get to and from events, appointments, places of employment, etc.

Support Groups

ODS strongly encourages the attendance of support groups both during and outside program hours. Should a consumer wish to attend a support group during program ODS will strive to assist in that consumer's attendance. Also, due to the request of both consumers and third parties, ODS has begun an *Alcoholic's Anonymous (AA)* group for our consumers. This group meets twice a week.

Personal Shopping

ODS staff assist consumers in shopping for personal and incidental items. This training is conducted with the goal that the individual will increase their ability to identify, budget for and purchase items independently.

Recreation and Leisure

The goal is to increase the individual's ability to choose, plan and participate in community activities of their choice.

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING

ODS employment training aims to assist individuals in identifying employment interests and options, as well as developing the skills they will need and use to acquire and maintain employment in the community.

ODS Instructors and Job Coaches prepare our consumers by providing training in the following areas:

Job Readiness

Individuals are assisted in increasing their ability to identify employment preferences and develop positive attitudes towards effective work habits. Instructors and Job Coaches facilitate mock interviews, assist in the application process, help obtain proper documentation and building personal resumes. ODS also attempts to impress upon individuals the importance of proper grooming and attire while both seeking and sustaining employment.

Employment

It is ODS' philosophy that individuals obtain work skills by actual experience through gainful employment in the community. ODS has numerous consumers currently placed in both enclave and direct hire employment sites. Job Coaches are always provided to ensure proper communication between employers and consumers, as well as create and maintain quality work.

Job Retention

ODS Job Coaches strive to increase the likelihood that our consumers will maintain employment in the community. This is accomplished through observation and identification of possible barriers to success in the work place. Job Coaches are given the responsibility of assuring work quality through both verbal instruction and physical modeling of assigned tasks.

The ultimate goal is to see our consumers increase in skill and ability allowing them to maintain employment independently.