



Hill & Saks News

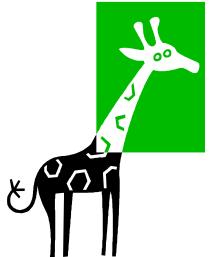
Behavior Therapy Providers for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities



Fall 2008

Agency News

We are initiating several steps to reduce our impact on the environment and take advantage of current technology. We have launched a website to reduce hard copy distribution of our newsletters. The website also provides convenient access to information about agency services and therapists. Please visit us at: www.hillsaksbts.com. We are also taking steps to distribute client information electronically and in a HIPAA compliant fashion to team members. We hope this can become an easy and convenient way for providers to access necessary information.



Stick your neck out for success!

Profile of Success

We are launching a regular column about individual successes. Often individuals with developmental disabilities can receive attention and focus related to what they cannot do. We would like to highlight simple, daily successes that may go unrecognized. We would also like to highlight persistent hard work and lifetime achievements. Please contacts us with your own, your family member's or your consumer's success story. We would like to publish your story for recognition. Your story is also likely to inspire others!

Daily Responsibility - Big Gains!

Tony Steven Baca
(Steven) is a long-time
animal lover. He has had
his pet Chihuahua,
Thunder, for almost eight
years. Steven and
Thunder are best buddies.
Steven buys Thunder food
and treats, feeds him,
walks him, plays with him
and gives him lots of love
and affection every day.



Steven and his Chihuahua Thunder

Steven says that Thunder likes a lot of treats and even walks on his hind legs when he begs. Thunder looks out for Steven, cuddles in his lap, and gives him lots of love and affection. Steven is a great pet owner. Owning a pet requires money, time and responsibility but Steven thinks it is all worth it!

Opportunities for Friendship

Individuals with developmental disabilities can sometimes feel isolated. Unfortunately barriers to inclusion continue to exist in our society. Caregivers are extremely important to an individual with developmental disabilities life. They become trusted and relied upon. It can become very sad and difficult when a caregiver moves on to another position or is simply "off -shift". If unpaid relationships and true friendships have not been developed for the person., he or she can feel very lonely and unfulfilled when their caregiver is gone. Therefore, it is important that caregivers play a helpful role in creating more opportunities for unpaid friendship for the people they work with. Caregivers can help by:

- Making introductions
- Finding out about community events
- Helping plan small outings or big parties

- Helping to make telephone calls for connection
- Give space so that a person can develop friendships without overreliance on the caregiver





Hill & Saks

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