



Eldridge Press

Meet Sonoma Developmental Center's Executive Director

On June 3, 2016 Aleana Carreon was appointed Executive Director of Sonoma Developmental Center. Ms. Carreon began her career at SDC in 1976 and has spent the last 39 years providing supports and services to the men and women living in the town of Eldridge, so they can achieve their potential. She has also provided supervision, management, and leadership to many employees throughout her career; she was Clinical Director before being appointed Executive Director.

As a Licensed Psychiatric Technician, Ms. Carreon's knowledge and understanding of everyday life for the residents is invaluable. She has willingly taken on the leadership role at a time when SDC must continue to improve services and progress through its upcoming commitments. Ms. Carreon's rich history, knowledge and experience over the last four decades has also provided her with a great wealth of understanding of what a day in the life of an employee at Sonoma Developmental Center is like at any level, in any position. She attended the Psychiatric Technician Program in the Professional Education Center (old historical brick building) in the 1970s and spent years literally caring for the men and women of Eldridge.

Since the announcement of closure, Ms. Carreon has been given the task of assisting the men and women living at Sonoma Developmental Center with transitioning into new homes and assisting the employees with finding new careers. Fortunately for us, having a familiar person who appreciates and lives our reality, provides a certain comfort and understanding that our Mission Statement of "Sonoma Developmental Center provides person-centered planning, services, and supports to people with developmental disabilities so that they have the opportunity to achieve their potential" continues until the last person is placed. Under Ms. Carreon's leadership, together, we will make this happen for each and every resident, one person at a time.



At Cinco de Mayo

Message from the Executive Director

by Aleana Carreon

Iwant to acknowledge all of the staff at SDC who have been working so hard providing wonderful services and making on-going improvements. We provide services with a strong value system and caring about the people that live and work at SDC. Everyone works so very hard to provide these services.

Do we have more work to do and improvements to make? Yes—and we will do this because that is who we are!

Just look at all of our accomplishments over the past years:

- Improved positive interactions with residents.
- Improvement in providing meaningful activities to residents.
- Increased opportunities for residents to participate in on-campus and off-campus activities.
- Residents are well groomed, dressed nicely, and are treated with dignity and respect.
- There is more access provided to residents—more doors are unlocked.
- Nursing care is excellent.



Aleana Carreon

continued next page

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Executive Director, continued from previous page

- Medical care is excellent.
- Therapy services are excellent.
- The Staff Development Office has expanded and more staff are attending valuable training.
- The incident reporting (GER) process has greatly improved—staff are providing better information and review.
- Knowledge of residents' plans has improved—especially with behavior support plans (both knowledge and implementing these plans).
- Restrictive interventions have dropped significantly.
- IPPs are focused more on helping people transition to the community.
- All team members have attended Person Centered Planning (in 2014), which is resulting in more meaningful discussions at IPPs.
- Improved activities during the residents' Advocacy Group.
- Improved monitoring by IPCs.
- QA support has increased which helps teams focus on problem solving for the residents.
- Improved documentation for residents.
- All residences have had their environment improved (paint, furniture, wall décor, etc.).
- The Trust Office opened on Saturdays to better serve residents.
- Impressions started a monthly evening shopping event and sponsors fashion shows and holiday events.
- Nutrition Services developed a great newsletter that has become an activity for residents to read.
- Nutrition Services developed a menu based on residents' input.
- The Main Storeroom is ordering personal products based on residents' input.
- Human Resources developed a Recruitment Plan and sponsored a job fair which is resulting in increased applicants.
- Plant Ops keeps this facility in good repair (despite 900 acres and being 125 years old!)—they respond quickly and are here early and late doing repairs, clearing drains, keeping the campus looking good and safe.
- Housekeeping staff provide great services—cleanliness of all areas is excellent.
- All departments at SDC contribute to the services to residents and continue to improve services, including Administrative, Clinical, QA, Nursing, Medical, Psychology, Sonoma Regional Project, and OPS.
- We had a successful ICF Title 22 (state) Survey in 2015, a successful ICF Fire Life Survey in 2016, a

successful NF survey in 2015, and a successful NF Fire Life Safety survey in 2015.

We have made huge progress! Let's not forget who we are, what we do and why we do it. Be proud of the work you all do to support people with disabilities. I know I am proud of the work you do! Enjoy this summer Special Edition of the *Eldridge Press* which features photos of many of the employees of Sonoma Developmental Center. This one is for you!

Welcome Back, Beverly Taylor!

Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) welcomes back Beverly Taylor as Administrative Services Director! She began her new assignment on April 1, 2016. Ms. Taylor worked at SDC as the Manager of General and Fiscal Services from 1996 through 1998. She accepted a position with the United Nations in Rome, Italy as a Program and Budget Officer. She returned to California in 2001 and started a career with Caltrans in various administrative roles until returning to SDC in 2016.

When asked what a typical day as an ASD is, Ms. Taylor said, "There is really no typical day for an ASD. There is a certain structure to meeting with people and making decisions, which is always good to have. However, it's the sort of job where you often have to deal with issues and events as they come up. There are two things that I think help me to do that best. The first is being able to depend upon the high quality of knowledge, experience and dedication of the staff around me. The second is to always work according to my guiding principle, which is to try to make every decision in the best interest of both the people who live here and the staff that care for them and help to enhance their lives."



Beverly Taylor

She talks about her purpose, "To be an effective leader by modeling good work practices and ethical behavior; inspiring people to give their best effort by promoting a shared vision of the incredibly meaningful work everyone does here; and, most importantly, providing the support, resources and guidance that people need, then getting out of the way and letting them do their jobs."

When asked how it feels to be back at SDC, she said, "There were things that felt familiar, but also not quite the

continued next page

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Beverly Taylor, continued from previous page
 same as I remembered which was a little disorienting. But now that I've been here for a while, I am building new memories of the SDC that exists now. There are a few familiar faces from the past (mostly retired annuitants!) along with the great new SDC team that I've come to know. It's all just pretty amazing!"

Thank You, SDC Staff!

We would like to thank the SDC staff for your professionalism, commitment and dedication to the people living in the community of Eldridge. On behalf of the SDC Executive Team, the Department of Developmental Services, the Parent Hospital Association and other stakeholders, thank you again!



Celebrating SDC Staff!



Top photo taken at 12:30 by Nancy Flack, bottom photo taken at 3:15 by Abraham Hill



Celebrating SDC Staff!

Administrative Services

Although we were not able to capture all 1300+ employees, we give you a moment in time with photos of various staff working throughout the SDC campus. Enjoy!



Accounting



Carpenters



Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)



Groundskeeping



Health & Safety



Upholstery



Housekeeping



Celebrating SDC Staff!

Administrative Services



Impressions (clothing store)



Human Resources



Information Technology



Key Shop



Laundry



Mail Room



Motor Pool

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Administrative Services



Main Storeroom



Main Kitchen (Nutrition Services)



Property



Nutrition Services



Painters



Plant Operations

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Administrative Services



Plumbers, Electricians & Stationery Engineers



General Services



Recruitment Committee



Trust Office



Switchboard Operators



Celebrating SDC Staff!

Administrative Services



Water Treatment Plant

Clinical Services



Clinical Management Committee (CMC)



Above and left:
Bemis staff



Bentley staff



Brent staff



Active Treatment Team

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Clinical Services



Cohen staff



Above & below: Corcoran staff



Cromwell staff



Emparan A staff



Johnson C staff



Emparan B staff

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Clinical Services



Central Program Services (CPS)



Malone staff



Eldridge Farm (CPS)



Equestrian Program (CPS)



Nelson B staff

(The sign says, "You are stronger than you seem, braver than you believe and smarter than you think you are.")



Nelson C staff



Nelson D staff

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Clinical Services



NF (Nursing Facility) Services Management Team



Northern STAR Crisis Home staff



Program 4 Management Team



Program 6 Management Team



Poppe staff



Regamey A staff

Celebrating SDC Staff!



Roadruck staff
(photo above taken
in April to honor
Employee of the Month,
with executive staff.)

Clinical Services



Regamey B staff



Smith staff



Stoneman staff

Medical Services



Left:
Outpatient
Services
& Dental



Right:
Adaptive
Engineering
Services
(AES)

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Medical Services



*Adaptive Technology Resource Services (ATRS)
Left: residential assistance; Right: day program assistance*



Lab staff



Pharmacy



Physicians and Dentist



Physical Therapy



Public Health



*Specialized Rehabilitation Services
(Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Restorative Aides)*

Celebrating SDC Staff!

Central Nursing Services

Medical Services



Custom Shoes



X-Ray Department



Central Supply



Centralized Nursing Services [submitted photo]



General Acute Unit (GAC)



Professional Education Center

Celebrating SDC Staff!



Quality Assurance



*Individual Program Coordinators
(Quality Assurance)*



Office of Protective Services (police and fire)



Sonoma Regional Project



Executive Office staff



*State Council on Developmental Disabilities
[submitted photo]*

Celebrating SDC Staff!

 Dioscoro Bation	 Teresita Bation	 Gandhi Biteng	 Diego Buenaluz	 Luz Capoy	 Victor Capoy	 Lourdes Fox
 Chand Kumar	 Mila Labrador	Foster Grandparent & Senior Companion Annual Recognition April 26, 2016			 Irenia Lidres	 Asuncion Luna
 Cora Manayug	 Ernesto Manayug	 Rkia Mernissi	 Rosario Palomares	 Roderick Paton	 Remy Patterson	 Dionisia Perez
 Geronima Puha	 Juanito Puha	 Marguerite Saint Juste	 Josefina Salgado	 Erlinda Salvador	 Sylvia Solidum	 Elena Son
 Leonardo Son	 Lolita Son	 Dominga Tagum	 Jose Tagum	 Rosalinda Tamayo	 Rosemarie Tan	 Eleuterio Torrencia
 Norma Torrencia	 Luz Torres	Not pictured: Sue Anderson Telfa Donado Alex Maina Samuel Mallabo Zena Mallabo Eduardo Marzo Valeriana Marzo Rosario Romero Nicolas Saint Juste Emilio Tamayo Victorio Villafuerte			 Left: Becky Zyskowski CPS Acting Program Director & Wendy Reid, Director, FGP/SC Program	

Photos by Nancy Flack

Celebrating SDC Staff! (and helpers)

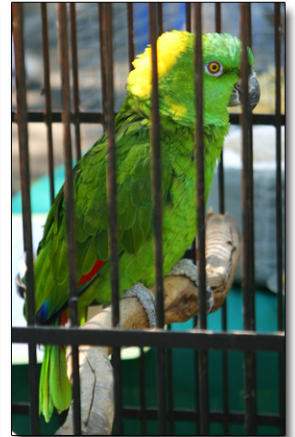
Eldridge Farm Friends



Tenille and Bonnie



Mijo and Sunny



Pedro



Strut



Dallas



Hamlet and Top Gun

Submitting articles to the *Eldridge Press*:

The *Eldridge Press* gladly accepts submissions of articles about events at Sonoma Developmental Center, news about the Center's departments and programs, employee recognition, and other information of interest to the Center's employees, consumers and other stakeholders. Articles may be edited for grammar, punctuation, and clarity. To submit your article, send it to the Office of Planning and Communications, Room 102, Sonoma Developmental Center, P.O. Box 1493, Eldridge, CA 95431. Deadlines are the 15th of the month prior to the publication date (for instance, September 15 is the deadline for the fall 2016 issue).

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