Celebrating 21 Years!
Camphill California’s new Leadership Group

Cover photo:
Sara W creates a wool felted doll for the Camphill gala auction with the help of felting crew leader Kathleen Avalon
Celebrating 21 Years

Letter from the Leadership Group

Everything is flourishing here in Camphill California! Summer is the time of seasonal changes, sunny weather, flowering gardens and a time of transition and “Breathing out”, when many of our young volunteers leave after their time of service to our community, and new volunteers and students join us. It is a time of expansion, growth and change as we head towards the new volunteer service year, and Camphill Academy school year.

We are happy to announce that we are stepping into the next decade of Camphill California with a new collaborative Leadership Group! The Leadership Group, which originally consisted of three members after Coleman Lyles stepped down as President: Anya Hobley, Ala Jacob and Elizabeth Barber. After Elizabeth left, there were two of us Executive Co-Directors: Anya and Ala. Recently, it became clear to us that we need to expand this group in order to be able to represent the Coordination Circle (our long-term coworker group) and Camphill California as a whole. The Leadership Group provides a comprehensive overview and make decisions for Camphill California as an inclusive Anthroposophical and intentional organization. We went through a process of identifying key individuals - Philipp Jacob and Szilvia Budai, both with many capacities and a wealth of experience in Camphill, who have since joined the Leadership Group. Two of the Leadership Group members, Anya and Philipp, are also on CCC’s Board of Directors.

We thank you for supporting and working with us in our next phase of development and sustainability for the future of Camphill California.

In Service, The Leadership Group
(Photos left to right)

Ala Jacob
Executive Co-Director, Director of Admissions & Programs, House Manager for Evergreen House

Anya Hobley
Executive Co-Director, Director of Development & Community Outreach

Philipp Jacob
Director of Student & Volunteer Affairs, Music Therapist

Szilvia Budai
Social Therapy Program Director, Eurythmist

We thank you for supporting and working with us in our next phase of development and sustainability for the future of Camphill California.

In Service, The Leadership Group

2 SUMMER 2019
In Her Own Words by Alexis J.

When Alexis joined Camphill and the House of Ishi she brought a visual introduction she created. This is her story:

My name is Alexis and I am 23 years old. I love to swim and have been swimming since I was two. I can easily swim a mile every day.
I would like to learn weaving.
I would like to celebrate my birthday at Camphill.
I love to bake and cook and have been cooking and baking for many years.
I love to play golf.
I know the rules, and when I get the put in the cup in two strokes, I get to drive the cart.
I love to sing and know all the words to Glee songs as well as many modern tunes.
I would like to learn to sing on key. ;-)
I played the baker in the musical “Beauty and the Beast”
I have been going to Via Camp in Cupertino since I was little. I am now in the “Leadership” program and help the younger campers.
I love to travel and my grandmother says I am a terrific traveler. I am always ready for a new adventure and I never complain.
I can carry my own suit case and know how to get through the airport. Some of the many places I have been include: Lake Tahoe, Hawaii, Orange County, Disneyland, Huntington Beach, San Diego, Florida, Seattle, La Jolla, St. Martin...
All my family is very important to me.
I am shy until I get to know you.

PHOTOS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: Alexis and Willow enjoy an all-community hike and picnic to Schwan Lake in Santa Cruz. (Below) Alexis is the newest member to join the Camphill California family.
A Gardening Project Connects the Human Soul to the Earth

Camphill Friends joined Willow Roberge (Camphill Academy alumna) as she facilitated a workshop as part of her Senior Project for Prescott College.

My initiative was to start a Flower Arrangement workshop to create seasonal arrangements for the Camphill community while offering the therapeutic qualities of gardening for healing and to revitalize the Earth. I like to view it as a tribal approach to understanding ourselves in the way that we connect to earth and all that it gives; healing with the hands through sensory stimulation when we weed, dig, harvest flowers and then their seeds.

In our therapeutic homes, there are fresh flowers to look at during meals so in one way, it was a practical workshop that produced a soul-nourishing by-product. The flower beds were planted with Zinnia, Snapdragon, Amaranth, Calendula, Sunflower, Dahlia and Marigold seeds. The first two months we were busy keeping the beds from weeds and small pruning projects to guide the flowers' growth. After a couple of months, we harvested and created arrangements that were unique and expressive.

After seeding the flowerbeds, we returned each week and eventually the time came to enjoy the fully blooming garden; taking in the colors and aromas lofting in the air. There was something magical about coming to the garden that helped us to feel at peace, and offered a sense of hope. Conversations stemmed from eco-psychology around the circle of life of the plant and how it connects to our personal growth and development organically arose. This active engagement of the plants' life: where a sunflower was in full bloom on the same stalk as decaying flower heads was an archetypal image of life itself. Where there is death, there also springs forth renewal and life; from blooming and flourishing to decay and sleep.

Thank you, Sarah V.E. and Alex for sharing in Willow's project!

PHOTOS: (Top) Sarah creating bouquets for the houses. (Below) Alex harvests sunflowers.
New Friends Admissions Process

by Ala Jacob (new Friends Admissions Director)

My name is Ala Jacob and I am originally from Poland. I’ve lived in a variety of Camphill places for over 16 years. I started my Camphill journey in England and continued in Beaver Run Camphill Special School in Pennsylvania where I did my curative education training. Life in Camphill is rich and full and also complex. I wear many “hats” in Camphill California, most of them have to do with daily life in our community. I am a householder in Evergreen house, Community Activities Program coordinator, and a leader of the fantastic Herb crew. I admit volunteers and students to our community, I am a teacher and work practicum coordinator in the Social Therapy training, and Executive Co-Director of Camphill Communities California.

My newest role is Director of Admissions. I look forward to expanding my current role from Coworker Admissions to admitting our Camphill Friends. Showing new people around, exploring the grounds and workshops with them, and peeking into our Camphill’s homes during our quarterly tours. The process of admissions in Camphill is a lengthy one and that is not to discourage you but to ensure that the placement is a match for the individual coming towards us, as well as our already well-established community. The process starts with a tour. Families who are interested in pursuing a placement will work further with me. The admissions process incorporates several visits and ends with an individual being considered to be included in a small pool of potential candidates. Once an opening becomes available, it is filled based on a match between the candidate and the opening. We strive to bring a balance to the community among peer groups and social life of the house community and Camphill California as a whole.

Photo: Ala’s herb crew: Scotia, Jonathan, Paul, Milena, Alexis, Sara and Ian
Camphill Communities California wishes to thank the following individuals, foundations and corporations whose donations were received between 7.1.2018 to 6.30.2019.

Report created on 7.1.2019

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Camphill Academy: Hands & Heart

The First Year Academy students worked in clay over 4 days to experience the invisible world of formative forces: the inner and outer forces that form shape and change the world. By observing and creating convex and concave, symmetrical and asymmetrical forms, movement and change through metamorphoses, students could understand something new and elusive through their hands and hearts, rather than through their thinking alone. The students were enthusiastic, open, courageous, and creative!

Jeanie Elliott

Photo: (Clockwise) (1) Camphill garden sunflower. (2) Coleman S weaves table runners in our weaving studio. (4) Faces in clay class with the Camphill Academy students. (3) Jeanie Elliott, Camphill Academy faculty member.
Human Race Article  By Jennifer Akiyama

On May 11, 2019 Camphill participated in the Human Race for the eighth time. Friends and Co-Workers, supporters and office staff met at our booth early in the morning.

Some were sleepy, some held coffee, others twirled wrapped in rainbow flags. It was a crisp and foggy start, but as our group walked, ran and strolled, the sun broke through, glinted off the ocean and warmed us all. We were joined by 80 other Santa Cruz Non-Profit organizations and their supporters, as we wound our way along Westcliff drive, pausing at times to listen to local bands, grab a cup of water, greet friends, or just to observe the hundreds of others coming together for their respective causes. In costumes, or Spirit wear, holding signs or pushing wheelchairs, Santa Cruz showed up for every kind of Human Need.

This year was the 39th consecutive year for the Human Race in Santa Cruz. We hold the honor of hosting the longest running Human Race in the country! This is the largest collaborative fundraiser in Santa Cruz County, where all Non-Profit Organizations are encouraged to participate. This year 2402 Donors gave to 81 local agencies, and raised almost $248,000! We came in 8th place and almost reached our goal of $12,000. It’s an honor to be part of such an incredible event and in such good company. As our group shared a lunch at the end of the race, Johannes confided in us that he had placed first of all the runners! What a joyous day for all!
Celebrating 21 Years

Making a Case for the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule  By Jonathan Flint, Administrator

In March 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published a landmark regulation that sought to advance the civil rights of adults with developmental disabilities by requiring States to ensure that recipients had choices about their lives, the right to dignity, privacy, and respect, and opportunities for full community participation, including ensuring access to education, employment, and relationships.

The rule gave States five years to design Transition Plans, assess systematic progress, assist service providers to implement changes and come into compliance (the deadline was rolled back in 2017 to March 2022). Quick and simple, right?

The first barrier in implementing the Final Rule is the chronic underfunding in California of Regional Center services, a cause of the shrinking diversity of “cost-effective” services. The service system became like a garden in which an initially diverse mix of plants are slowly choked out by Hosta’s, because Hosta’s are the only plants that the overburdened gardener can care for. They don’t have the time or resources to care for a wide range of individual plants. The problem is that many people do not prefer Hosta's, but after fifty years, it’s one of a few plants left in the garden.

The second barrier in implementing the Final Rule are deep institutional biases favoring large organizations employing hundreds of low skilled caregivers at minimum wage to safeguard the health and safety of vulnerable adults living in the wider community. Direct support caregivers were not asked about their needs, received little dignity and respect, given no pathway for advancement, and generally left their position within six months of starting. Recipients and their families felt more unsafe and, failing to identify the cause of their lurch from crisis-to-crisis as the effect of an underfunded system, sought greater regulation protecting health and safety. No one stopped to ask if the problem wasn’t in fact rooted in an institutional bias preventing adults with disabilities from controlling their own resources and making decisions about their own lives.

From the beginning, Camphill California recognized that it would be necessary to cultivate donors to financially support the organization in order to sustain a variety and diversity of individualized needs and services in keeping with its values. Secondly, Camphill California recognized that “scaling-up” is not an advantage when it comes to organizations serving adults with developmental disabilities. The organization grew in proportion to its ability to ensure that individuals would retain and exercise their own decision-making and control over their own resources to the maximum extent possible while also living in a collaborative community setting. These are two examples of how Camphill California is addressing systemic barriers to informed choice and individual rights advanced in the HCBS Final Rule.

Photo: Aaron has been a happy and dedicated contributing member of Camphill since 2010
Farm to Table Dinners at Camphill California:

This Fall we will host our 3rd Farm to Table fundraising dinner in support of our community and its' amazing programs! This year's theme- A Taste of Camphill- will feature a delectable floral feast prepared by chefs Gregory Bondi and Erika Tauriello of Erika Tauriello Catering. Guests will get a taste and a flavor of all things Camphill- from our delicious homemade pestos, jams, herbs and spices to our artistic programs and offerings. If you have not been to Camphill California for a Farm to Table dinner- this is the perfect chance! Come join us on Saturday September 28th, and experience first-hand the wealth of human relationships, creativity and joy that our life-sharing community for people of all abilities has to offer. Table sponsors, local businesses and individual attendees who join us at our table help us continue to thrive and grow Camphill California, and allow us to have a greater impact and presence in the wider community.

Photos: (Clockwise) (1) Sue and Steve Rosen, family members and generous donors, attend our Farm to Table fundraiser. (2) Farm to Table committee member and Camphill parent Jennifer Greene invited her friends to join her in supporting our beautiful community. (3) Family members Mary Ann Nels, Roddey Reid and Liz and Don Maruska enjoying our Farm to Table dinner. (4) Coworker Minh Vinh serves the second course.
OUR MISSION
Camphill California is a nurturing, dynamic community where a dedicated group of individuals of all abilities live, learn and work together. Our vision of community living is grounded in Anthroposophical principles in alignment with the Camphill movement, and involves relationships of mutual respect, ongoing education, meaningful work, and natural circles of support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (831) 476-7194
info@camphillca.org, www.camphillca.org

2019–2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Saturday, August 24: Family & Friends Workshop
Saturday, September 28: Farm to Table Dinner
Friday, December 20: Holiday Fair
Saturday, February 29: 2020 - A Space Odyssey Gala