

# INFOZONE

**NEXT SESSION: SEPTEMBER 2015**

10 AM - NOON

RESERVE YOUR FREE SPOT

TO R.S.V.P. CALL OR EMAIL

AMANDA WILLIS

(909) 985-3116 X155 or AWILLIS@OPARC.ORG

## Back By Popular Demand!

The National Employment First Policy is pushing consumers to get community jobs. How will this affect benefits? Come to InfoZone and learn:

- How much can I earn and retain SSI?
- How much reporting is necessary?
- Will I keep my Medi-Cal?

**Watch our website and emails for the date!**



9029 Vernon Ave  
Montclair, CA 91763

[www.oparc.org](http://www.oparc.org)

## HEART & SOLE WALK & ROLL was a big SUCCESS!

We want to say a big thank you to all who attended and supported the 2nd annual Heart and Sole Walk and Roll event on April 25, 2015 at Ruben S Ayala Park in Chino, CA. Despite the unusually cold temperature and afternoon rain, we had over 200 walk and rollers and raised **\$21,000!**

OPARC would like to thank all of the participants, sponsors, volunteers, Board of Directors, furry friends, informational booths, and staff who made the Heart & Sole Walk & Roll a big success. Thank you!

A special thanks to our sponsors:

Prime Healthcare Services – Presenting Sponsor  
Pacific Western Bank – Heart Sponsor  
MK Smith Chevrolet – Roll Sponsor  
Walnut Valley Farms, Inc. – Roll Sponsor  
Sonia Borja, in Memory of Yorik M. Ponce – Roll Sponsor  
Elissa Simkins, in Memory of David Seinfeld – Roll Sponsor

Thank you for speaking at opening ceremonies and acknowledging OPARC:

Senator Connie Leyva  
Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez



Save the date for OPARC's 2nd Annual



## Turkey Bowl CHALLENGE

**November 7, 2015 • Noon - 3 pm**

Brunswick Zone • Upland

## HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

### START A TEAM



Assemble a team of 4 bowlers made up of family, friends, and coworkers

### FUNDRAISE



Reach out to your contacts and ask them to support your team!

### HAVE FUN

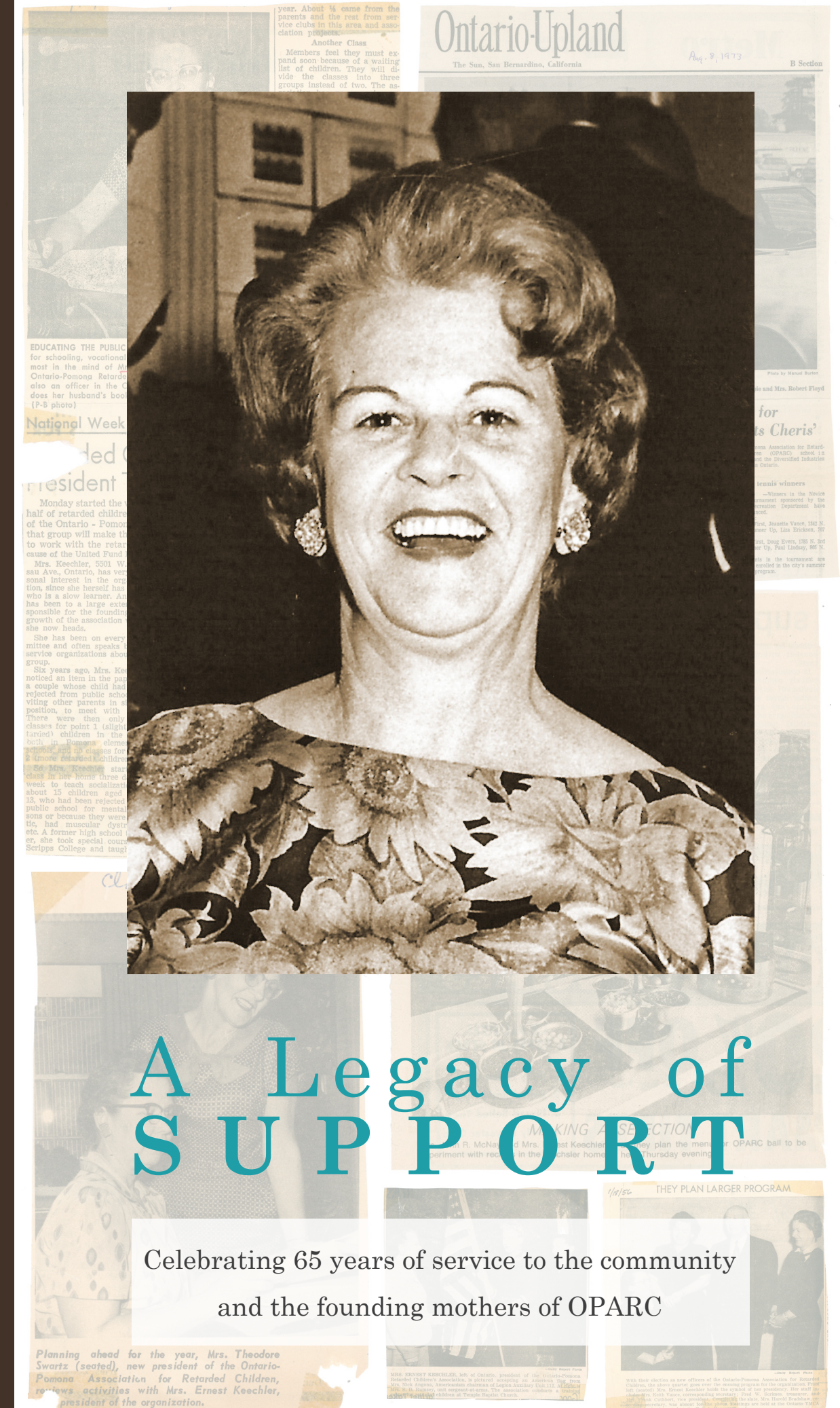


Put on your bowling shoes and enjoy a good time!

# inspire

magazine

**oparc**  
SUMMER 2015





## A Message from our Chief Executive Officer

This year OPARC celebrates 65 years of serving people with disabilities. What began as a single classroom with 15 children is now an organization with eight locations providing job training, employment and support services to over 800 adults with disabilities!

In this issue we recognize the founding mothers who dedicated their time, energy and resources to meet a very critical need for education and socialization of children with disabilities. One of the most prominent mothers and lifetime supporters of OPARC was Mrs. Sally Keechler.

You will also read about Stacy Waltman, an OPARC board member who continually goes above and beyond in service and commitment. Additionally we introduce you to one of our long time corporate partners, Pacific Western Bank as well as share the success of the 2nd annual Heart & Sole Walk & Roll event held in June.

Another big reason to celebrate this year, we will complete the total renovation of our new Walnut location in August! This new location has expanded our capacity allowing us to serve an additional 40 adults with disabilities!

All of the services OPARC provides, from job training to speech therapy is only possible with your continued support. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. Here is to an amazing 65th year!

Sincerely,

*Andrea Erickson*

Andrea Erickson  
Chief Executive Officer  
aerickson@oparc.org

## A Real Inspiration Stacy Waltman

Stacy first got involved at OPARC by joining a board member recruitment committee and also volunteering at golf tournaments. A few years later, Stacy was asked if she would serve on the board of directors and she accepted the challenge. She now serves as an OPARC board member and on the audit committee, and is often the first person to volunteer to help.



***"OPARC touches our community members and the local economy by offering support, job training and employment. It is wonderful to be part of an organization where you can see the direct impact on the local community."***  
– Stacy Waltman

Thank you Stacy, for inspiring us all through your hard work and investment of your time into making OPARC great. You are truly an inspiration.

## Our Corporate Partner Pacific Western Bank

OPARC is grateful to have Pacific Western Bank as a corporate partner that shares a desire to make our community great. Since partnering with OPARC in 2010, Pacific Western Bank has donated \$22,000!

Pacific Western Bank employees routinely participate in OPARC events. Most recently they organized teams at the Heart & Sole, Walk & Roll in May and the first annual Turkey Bowl last November.

Thank you Pacific Western Bank!



## A Legacy of Support

In 1950, a group of concerned and caring mothers rallied together to meet a need for special education. One of the most prominent founding mothers and lifetime supporters of OPARC was Mrs. Sally Keechler.

Having a disabled son of her own, Sally knew the challenges children with disabilities routinely faced. After hearing of a couple whose child had been rejected from public school because of a learning disability, Sally started a class in her home for 15 children.

That one class expanded to three to meet the growing need and later that year, Sally helped to organize and bring to life the organization we now call OPARC.

We celebrate Sally as a parent, an organizer, a teacher, the first president of the board of directors, and a lifetime supporter of OPARC. Her legacy of support is carried on today through her daughter, Mrs. Jill Elliot (pictured at right with her brother Jack).



OPARC would also like to recognize additional founding mothers (their names recorded in 1956, a time when using the husband's first name was standard): Mrs. Keith Vance (1956 Board of Directors, Secretary), Mrs. Frank Cuthbert (1956 Board of Directors, Vice President), Mrs. Harold Bradshaw (1956 Board of Directors, Recording Secretary) and Mrs. Theodore Swartz (1957 President of OPARC).

Today, OPARC provides job training, employment and support to more than 800 adults with disabilities. Thank you to Sally and all the founding mothers of OPARC!



## Expanded Walnut Location 65 Years and Growing

To meet the increasing demand for OPARC's high-quality, effective programs we are excited to announce the upcoming opening of our expanded Summit Services location in Walnut. With 200% more space we will be able to serve an additional 40 adults with disabilities!

The renovation includes new restrooms, kitchen, exercise area, and activity areas. Opening August 1, 2015.

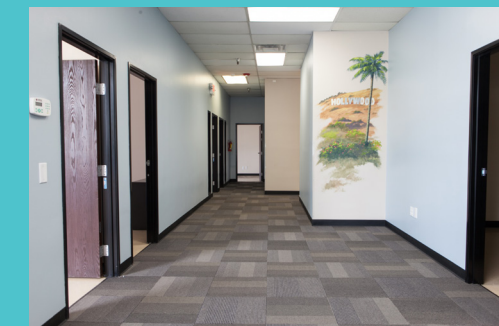
A special thank you to all of our generous supporters for helping to make this new facility a reality, and thank you to the staff and leadership at the Walnut location for their patience and extra effort to keep the programs running smoothly during the construction.



Murals generously donated by artist Mark Traudes [traudesart.com](http://traudesart.com)



Exercise Room



Alternate View of Lobby



Kitchenette

1956

1957

1965

1973

1976