



---

**AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center**

---



# BUILDING INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATING COMMUNITY



# BUILDING ACCESS TO THE COMMUNITY

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center



---

“I was really nervous and scared to start a new job, but my job coach really helped me to work through my fears and gave me the confidence that I could start something new.”

– Diego, Supported Employment participant

---

**The needs and desires of individuals with developmental disabilities are growing and changing rapidly. AbilityFirst is ready for the challenge.**

AbilityFirst aspires for our participants to have the fullest access possible to the community and, for many, that journey begins at an AbilityFirst center. The AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank and Long Beach Centers provide critical site-based instruction to enhance our important integration activities that occur in the community. AbilityFirst helps our participants achieve their personal best in the following areas: basic life skills, communication, socialization and healthy living.

Founded in 1926 as the Crippled Children’s Society of Southern California, AbilityFirst pioneered some of the very first community services for children with disabilities. As societal changes occur, so do our programs to better support people with developmental disabilities. Today, all programs focus on the unique needs and desires of each individual through a person-centered approach.

The AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center in Pasadena and the Long Beach Center were opened more than 50 years ago. A lot has changed since then and now our buildings must change to meet the needs today.

**THEN**, AbilityFirst staff members prepared snacks for our participants. **NOW**, we prepare the participants for a more independent life by teaching them how to make their own snacks, often after researching recipes and shopping for ingredients, and clean up afterward.

**THEN**, adults with disabilities worked in a “sheltered” environment at centers.

**NOW**, AbilityFirst job developers work with adults to find employment in the community and our job specialists provide the support that enable them to be successful in their jobs.

**THEN**, our participants stayed in the building during the entire program hours.

**NOW**, we do intentional site-based instruction and important integration activities that occur in the surrounding community.



Increasing independence of individuals is the cornerstone of AbilityFirst programs. One important way of doing this is by helping participants prepare and cook meals on their own. A common aspiration among our participants is to make a meal for themselves or their family, or to assist in making a meal. Think of the pride that comes from such an accomplishment. Our planned modernization and expansion of teaching kitchens at both centers will be pivotal to this goal.

Participants learn not just basic cooking skills, but also tasks like loading the dishwasher and washing dishes. Assuming responsibility for household chores gives individuals a sense of accomplishment, boosts self-confidence, and expands parent expectations. It can change the family dynamic and give participants the chance to

contribute to their home. Currently, both kitchens are small and are not fully accessible to participants who use wheelchairs. A larger, updated and more professional kitchen, such as the one in the photo shown, will also facilitate job readiness skills for practicing food prep, food service skills.



## THE NEED

**From 2016 to 2017 the number of children and adults with developmental disabilities needing services within the Pasadena and Long Beach communities, increased by 1,000 people, or approximately 9%. And, 66% of these same people are between the ages of 6 and 51 years old—the target age for AbilityFirst programs. With this Capital Campaign, we are ready to meet this need.**

## PROGRAMS

**PossAbility** In this newly launched program, adults are fully supported in the community. Each individual works with a support team to identify community-based activities that build on his or her skills and aspirations. They are then matched with no more than two others who share similar goals and interests for small-group activities with a dedicated staff member.

**ExploreAbility** This new program in Pasadena is patterned after our successful model in Long Beach. Our goal is to help adults explore and identify what is important to them, to develop the skills necessary to achieve their goals and to be involved in their communities through volunteering and other community activities. There are 40 adults attending this program in Long Beach and 36 in Pasadena. Both locations have a waiting list, demonstrating the high unmet need for adult services in these communities.

**After-School Program** Both centers offer the only After-School (and school break) program in their local community specifically designed for those aged 6 to 22 with moderate to severe developmental disabilities. Approximately 40 children, teens and young adults attend each program daily, with a combined total enrollment of 120+ at both locations. Parent surveys tell us that the program allows them to stay employed and provides the much-needed respite from caring for

a family member with a disability. Extensive updates and renovations are needed at both centers to better meet the needs of our participants.

**College to Career** Our other new program in Pasadena (with plans to expand in Long Beach) is College to Career, offered in partnership with Pasadena City College. This community-based, multi-year program is for students who want to go to college and gain the skills, education and training they need to achieve their academic and career goals. The program begins with a self-discovery and community exploration component to help students identify and develop a plan to achieve goals.

**Supported Employment** This program provides our participants the appropriate, ongoing support [that is necessary for success in a competitive work environment. We currently serve 54 people in Long Beach and 296 in Pasadena and the need is much greater.

Due to current space constraints at the centers, staff for the Supported Employment and College to Career programs work from remote offices away from the children and adults in the centers. By bringing them on-site, families will learn more easily about these programs, the transitions will be made easier for all and we will break down unnecessary silos between our programs.

# JOSH'S STORY

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center



---

“I have learned to be independent and advocate for myself. I have a strong bond between the staff because they act far beyond their roles by creating everlasting friendships with us.”

— Josh, adult participant  
Lawrence L. Frank Center

---

A few weeks ago, Josh surprised his mother by making her an egg breakfast.

This seemingly simple moment was the result of months of education, practice and dedication on the part of both Josh and the team at the **AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center** in Pasadena, where Josh is a member.

When he joined the Center, Josh had never cooked for himself before. He knew that kitchen skills would be key to being able to live on his own, pay rent, and cook his own meals. His mother supported him, but was always afraid that he would hurt himself in the kitchen. With a full time job and other obligations, she had been unable to find someone to help Josh learn.

Our team was up to the task! First, we worked with Josh to learn basic safety skills like how to use burners, oven mitts, and the stove. As we got to know Josh, he excitedly shared that he loved pancakes and would eat them every day if he could.

This created an opportunity for our team to offer education around basic nutrition and meal planning that would help Josh pursue one of his greatest passions: playing basketball!

Josh's kitchen repertoire quickly expanded beyond pancakes to include eggs and turkey bacon. Today, he is eager to share his skills and beams with pride when his mother shares about all the meals he has learned to prepare.

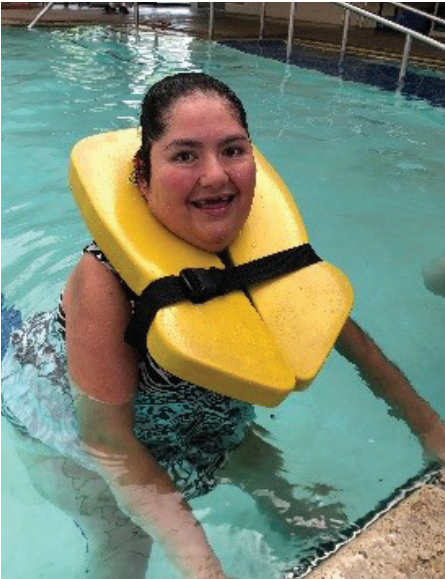
The new kitchen, designed for training, will ensure that people like Josh, people who have a disability and dreams of living on their own, are able to develop essential skills in the kitchen. The kitchen also will be a place where our participants can build confidence and the foundation of beautiful moments like the one that Josh was able to share with his mother.



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# ANNETTE'S STORY

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center



Even though she has cerebral palsy, Annette is a bundle of energy! She loves music, dancing, going on outings, and shopping (especially spending money at the 99¢ store!). She's always eager to meet new friends and try new adventures.

Despite her zest for life, like a lot of people, Annette wasn't as enthusiastic about getting exercise. When she came to the **AbilityFirst Long Beach Center**, her muscles had become atrophied and she had poor circulation in her feet, after years of little activity and a sedentary lifestyle.

But because Annette was always eager to explore and try new things, like painting, and gardening, the AbilityFirst team thought that with just a little bit of encouragement Annette might also enjoy the swimming pool. They knew that the warm water would relax her muscles and improve circulation—as well as provide exercise. And she might enjoy it!

The center's indoor pool was designed to promote safety and accessibility, with a Hoyer lift and sloping ramp for pool wheelchairs. Annette was ready to give it a try!

At first, she was apprehensive. Annette preferred to float using noodles under her neck, arms and legs for support. The staff helped her move her arms and legs in the water and soon, she didn't need the noodle floaties anymore. Soon, she was able to propel herself around the pool on her back.

Today, Annette swims twice a week. Her circulation has improved and she no longer uses oxygen at night. She also has a new activity to enjoy with friends—one that doesn't cost her any money!

The pool at the AbilityFirst Long Beach Center is nearly 50 years old and requires structural upgrades and operational improvements including an enclosed roof. These enhancements to the pool will ensure that participants like Annette can enjoy all the benefits of the pool for many years to come.

---

**“I love AbilityFirst because I get to teach all the participants, staff and families how to have the best quality of life!”**

*– April, Long Beach Center Director*

---



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# ABILITYFIRST HISTORY

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center



---

“The staff are kind, caring and knowledgeable. They meet the needs of each individual participant and treat them with much respect and love.”

– AbilityFirst parent

---

In 1926, a group of business leaders from the Los Angeles Rotary Club reached out to help children affected by the pre-vaccine polio epidemic. These visionary men, looking beyond crippling physical disabilities, saw children and capabilities first and sought ways to help these children flourish and thrive. Out of this seed of compassion and concern, AbilityFirst—with all the promise of its cornerstone belief in capability—was born. Originally named the Crippled Children’s Society of Southern California, AbilityFirst and its founders were leading-edge advocates for disability rights.

AbilityFirst went on to pioneer some of the very first community services in California for children with disabilities and has continued that advocacy through numerous accomplishments, including:

- **Designing and constructing one of the first fully accessible camps in the nation**
- **Opening one of the first vocational training programs in the country for adults with disabilities**
- **Sponsoring passage of state Senate Bill 309; allowing young adults with developmental disabilities to attend after school programs**

In 2000, we adopted the name AbilityFirst to better reflect our mission, vision, and commitment to celebrating the unique abilities of every individual. Today, AbilityFirst is distinguished by:

- **Evidence-based services**
- **Exceptional leadership and management**
- **Longstanding experience and community roots**
- **Outcomes-based program evaluation with measurable results**

That tiny seed—92 years ago of looking beyond the disabilities of polio to see children and capabilities first—has grown strong, deep roots that continue to change the lives of more than 2,000 individuals and their families each and every day in our community.

As the needs for individuals with disabilities change so do AbilityFirst programs and services. In June 2017, AbilityFirst launched a new strategic direction which will result in all AbilityFirst programs being person-centered and providing our participants the fullest access possible to the community by 2020. A person-centered approach involves discovering what is most important to a person rather than for a person. It also develops a plan with the individual to achieve his or her own goals.



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children’s Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# ABILITYFIRST BOARD & COMMITTEE

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Wendy Lees**, *Chair*  
**David Saeta**, *Vice Chair*  
**Randall “Randy” Repp**, *Treasurer*  
**Kathryn Sanders Plotnick**, *Secretary*  
**Will Craig**, *Member at Large*  
**Steve Brockmeyer**  
**Ray C. Cherry**  
**Mike Dokmanovich**  
**Mark Fedde**  
**Tom Fenchel**  
**Richard R. Frank**  
**Lauren Hom**  
**Willan “Will” Johnson**  
**John Kelly**  
**Joanne Kim**  
**Mary J. Spellman**  
**John Suruy**  
**Louis F. Teran**  
**Harlan Thompson**  
**Patricia Vick**

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

**Gloria Deukmejian**, *Co-Chair*  
**Richard Frank**, *Co-Chair*  
**Joan Alderson**  
**Mary Alice and Bob Braly**  
**Mark Fedde**  
**Caroline Hansen**  
**Deloris Mayuga**  
**Linda Silver**  
**Julie and Henry Taboada**  
**Harlan Thompson**



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# PLANNED RENOVATIONS

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

Through planned renovations and programmatic changes, the Lawrence L. Frank Center will become our Pasadena “flagship” location and the Long Beach Center will become our South Bay “flagship” location for our expanding programs and services. Left unchanged, the facilities will continue to hinder our ability to modernize and enhance our programs. Specifically, we have identified several urgently needed improvements for our centers.

## PLANNED RENOVATIONS FOR BOTH CENTERS

1. Create a “teaching kitchen”—a hub where participants will gain valuable cooking and safety skills when navigating the kitchen. The teaching kitchen will combine basic culinary instruction and nutrition education with personal choice; participants can learn which foods they enjoy, what they should eat more of, or less of, and why. They will learn hands-on cooking techniques necessary to prepare delicious, easy to make, nutritious recipes with new technology and state-of-the-art appliances geared towards a safe teaching environment.
2. Add more office space for AbilityFirst Supported Employment—by having job developers and supported employment case managers on-site and easily accessible to participants and their families as the important transition from high school to adult life occurs, we can better support our participants in giving them the fullest access to their community possible (savings from current leased space).
3. Enhance outdoor program area to include multi-use and gathering areas, accessible paths, raised planting beds and an area for a community garden.
4. Install energy efficient updates such as LED lighting.

## LAWRENCE L. FRANK CENTER

1. Better utilize the space currently dedicated to a seasonal on-site swimming pool for programs that best occur on-site and support participants to build independence and contribute to the community by visiting and accessing the many local community pools around Pasadena.
2. Maximize use of the building by re-designing a better passageway with less wasted space.
3. Add more office space for AbilityFirst Supported Employment and College to Career staff—by having these staff on-site and easily accessible to participants and their families, we can better support participants in providing the fullest access to their community possible (savings of \$30,000 annually from current leased space).

## LONG BEACH CENTER

1. Improve safety for our participants and the community with a new one-way drive aisle at the rear of the building.
2. Ensure the sustainability of our indoor swimming pool, an integral program component and vital community resource, through new mechanical equipment to adequately ventilate the enclosed pool. The Long Beach Center directly addresses water safety and healthy exercise challenges for vulnerable populations, including our participants and community seniors, who are at high risk for drowning, injury or pain from traditional exercise, sedentary lifestyles, obesity, and related conditions.
3. Modernize and enhance the Children and Adult Program areas and administration office.
4. Elevate visibility for our programs with enhanced signage and branding.



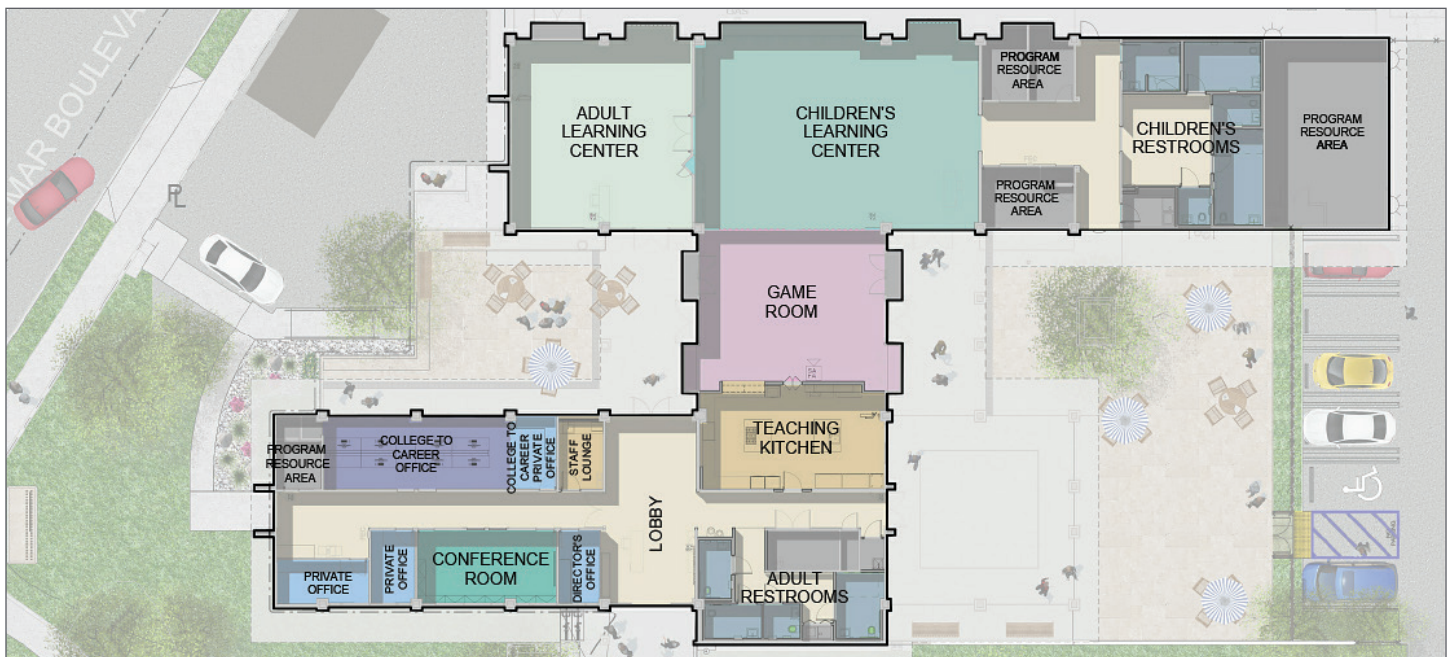


# PLANNED RENOVATIONS LAWRENCE L. FRANK CENTER

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

Through the planned renovation and programmatic changes, the Lawrence L. Frank Center will become our Pasadena “flagship” location and a central hub for our expanding Supported Employment, ExploreAbility, PossAbility, College to Career, and After-School program. Left unchanged, the building will continue to hinder our ability to modernize and enhance our programs. Specifically, we have identified six urgently needed improvements for the Lawrence L. Frank Center:

1. Create a “teaching kitchen”—a hub where participants will gain valuable cooking and safety skills when navigating the kitchen. The teaching kitchen will combine basic culinary instruction and nutrition education with personal choice; participants can learn which foods they enjoy, what they should eat more of, or less of, and why. They will learn hands-on cooking techniques necessary to prepare delicious, easy to make, nutritious recipes with new technology and state-of-the-art appliances geared towards a safe teaching environment.
2. Better utilize the space currently dedicated to a seasonal on-site swimming pool for programs that best occur on-site and support participants to build independence and contribute to the community by visiting and accessing the many local community pools around Pasadena.
3. Maximize use of the building by re-designing a better passageway with less wasted space.
4. Add more office space for AbilityFirst Supported Employment and College to Career staff — by having these staff on-site and easily accessible to participants and their families, we can better support participants in providing the fullest access to their community possible (savings of \$30,000 annually from current leased space).
5. Enhance outdoor program area to include multi-use and gathering areas, accessible paths, raised planting beds and an area for a community garden.
6. Install energy efficient updates such as LED lighting.



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# PLANNED RENOVATIONS LONG BEACH CENTER

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

Through the planned renovation and programmatic changes, the Long Beach Center will become our South Bay “flagship” location and a central hub for our expanding Supported Employment, ExploreAbility, and After-School programs and ultimately PossAbility and College to Career in the South Bay. Left unchanged, the building will continue to hinder our ability to modernize and enhance our programs. Specifically, we have identified eight urgently needed improvements for the Long Beach Center:

1. Create a “teaching kitchen”—a hub where participants will gain valuable cooking and safety skills when navigating the kitchen. The teaching kitchen will combine basic culinary instruction and nutrition education with personal choice; participants can learn which foods they enjoy, what they should eat more of, or less of, and why. They will learn hands-on cooking techniques necessary to prepare delicious, easy to make, nutritious recipes with new technology and state-of-the-art appliances geared towards a safe teaching environment.
2. Improve safety for our participants and the community with a new one-way drive aisle at the rear of the building.
3. Ensure the sustainability of our indoor swimming pool, an integral program component and vital community resource, through new mechanical equipment to adequately ventilate the enclosed pool. The Long Beach Center directly addresses water safety and healthy exercise challenges for vulnerable populations, including our participants and community seniors, who are at high risk for drowning, injury or pain from traditional exercise, sedentary lifestyles, obesity and related conditions.
4. Modernize and enhance the Children and Adult Program areas and administration office.
5. Add more office space for AbilityFirst Supported Employment—by having job developers and supported employment case managers on-site and easily accessible to participants and their families as the important transition from high school to adult life occurs, we can better support our participants in giving them the fullest access to their community possible (savings from current leased space).
6. Enhance outdoor program area to include multi-use and gathering areas, accessible paths, raised planting beds and an area for a community garden.
7. Elevate visibility for our programs with enhanced signage and branding.
8. Install energy efficient updates such as LED lighting.



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children’s Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# PROJECT BUDGET

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

## DIRECT PROJECT COSTS

Permits/Fees/Reports	\$	233,905
Architectural and Management Services	\$	504,788
Construction	\$	\$4,446,278
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	\$	200,000
Contingencies	\$	197,187
Cost Escalation	\$	211,742
<b>Total Direct Project Costs</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,793,900</b>

## INDIRECT PROJECT COSTS

Fundraising & Marketing	\$	100,000
Builders Risk Insurance	\$	6,100
<b>Total Indirect Project Costs</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>106,100</b>

**TOTAL PROJECTED COSTS** **\$ 5,900,000**



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# CAMPAIGN NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

To commemorate the generosity of its supporters, the campaign leadership wishes to make a public and enduring record of those who have contributed generously in support of **Building Independence – Celebrating Community AbilityFirst Capital Campaign**. A broad range of commemorative recognition opportunities has been approved. The following is a list of recognition possibilities.

## LAWRENCE L. FRANK CENTER

Recognition Opportunities	Suggested Gift
Building (shared name)	\$2,000,000
Lobby	\$1,000,000
Teaching Kitchen	\$500,000
Children's Learning Center	\$250,000
Adult Learning Center	\$250,000
Children's Courtyard	\$100,000
Adult Courtyard	\$100,000
Patio	\$100,000
Conference Room	\$100,000
Center Director's Office	\$50,000
College to Career Office	\$50,000
Gaming Rec Room	\$50,000
Office (3)	\$25,000 each
Program Resource Area (4)	\$25,000 each
Staff Lounge	\$25,000

### Notes

1. Amounts indicated do not reflect actual construction costs; rather, they are an indication of the memorial or tribute value based on visibility to those who visit.
2. Recognition opportunities are at the discretion of the AbilityFirst Board of Directors.
3. Recognition opportunities are selected on a first-come, first-served basis.
4. Additional naming opportunities may be identified.

## LONG BEACH CENTER

Recognition Opportunities	Suggested Gift
Building	\$3,000,000
Aquatics Center	\$1,000,000
Lobby	\$1,000,000
Teaching Kitchen	\$500,000
Adult Learning Center	\$250,000
Lawn	\$100,000
Outdoor Garden	\$100,000
Playground	\$100,000
Conference Room	\$100,000
Director's Office	\$50,000
Creative Collaboration Center	\$50,000
Art Studio	\$50,000
Basketball Court	\$50,000
Children's Wellness Room	\$50,000
Adult Wellness Room	\$50,000
Office (4)	\$25,000 each
Supported Employment Office	\$25,000
Program Resource Area (3)	\$25,000 each
Staff Lounge	\$25,000
Support Station (2)	\$25,000 each



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# DONOR RECOGNITION

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center



## DONOR CATEGORIES AND DONOR RECOGNITION WALL

A handsome “Donor Wall” will be located prominently in the lobby of the AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank and Long Beach Centers. It will serve as a permanent reminder—for generations to come—of those whose interest and generous support have made this project a reality. The Donor Wall will be inscribed with (1) the donor’s name, (2) in memory of or (3) in honor of, as specified by the donor.

### CoPhilanthropist

Gifts of \$1,000,000 and above

### Humanitarian

Gifts of \$500,000– \$999,999

### Innovator

Gifts of \$250,000 – \$499,999

### Founder

Gifts of \$100,000 – \$249,999

### Builder

Gifts of \$50,000 – \$99,999

### Developer

Gifts of \$25,000 – \$49,999

### Friend

Gifts of \$10,000 – \$24,999

---

“I cannot thank you enough for all you have done for my daughter! She is so excited everyday to go to her after-school program”

– AbilityFirst parent

---



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children’s Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# WAYS TO GIVE

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center



“My child has greatly improved on working with others. When we first came to AbilityFirst she did not like to engage and be social, but now she dances, sings and communicate with her peers.”

— Parent of a child in the AbilityFirst after-school program

## Tax Information

Federal and State income tax laws encourage voluntary support of non-profit organizations such as AbilityFirst. Gifts made to such organizations are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Consult with your tax and/or legal counsel, as well as with AbilityFirst staff or campaign counsel to determine your best giving advantage.

## Cash – Outright or Pledge

Most of the donations given to the **Building Independence–Celebrating Community** capital campaign are cash gifts. It's the easiest gift for a donor to make and for AbilityFirst to receive. Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent provided by law. A pledge may be paid over a period of up to five years.

## Memorial or Tribute Gifts

Contributions to AbilityFirst can be made in tribute to or in memory of loved ones, colleagues or others you may choose to honor with your contribution. Gifts of \$10,000 or more will be recognized on the Donor Wall to be located prominently in the new facility. Additionally, a variety of naming opportunities have been designated for memorial and commemorative purposes. A complete list of commemorative giving opportunities is available upon request.

## Credit Card

An increasing number of donors are interested in making their gifts by using their credit cards. In many instances, credit cards offer the advantage of mileage points or premiums. By using Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express, your pledged gift can be arranged as an automatic debit over one or more periods.

## Stocks and Bonds

You might consider making your gift in stocks or bonds, including mutual funds. AbilityFirst staff can assist you with additional information on a gift to the campaign of stocks, bonds or mutual funds.

## Real Estate

Consider a gift of property including improved and unimproved land, single-family dwellings, apartment buildings, condominiums, office buildings, farms, leasehold interests and gifts subject to a retained life estate. Gifts of real estate require approval from the AbilityFirst Board of Directors.

## Planned Giving Opportunities

A deferred gift may be made to the campaign through your estate plan. AbilityFirst staff can assist you with planned gift opportunities. Deferred gifts through your estate plan made to the capital campaign require approval from the AbilityFirst Board of Directors.

With a planned or deferred gift, the donor typically gives a future interest in property or assets, with actual transfer of the property or assets deferred to some future time. Planned/deferred gifts, while greatly appreciated, will be recognized but not credited to the campaign total. Planned Gift Options include: Charitable Remainder Trusts, Charitable Lead Trusts, gifts of Life Insurance, Bequests, gifts from Retirement Funds, and Life Estate Contracts. It is recommended that you inform AbilityFirst staff regarding your planned gift.



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

## What is the Mission of AbilityFirst?

AbilityFirst provides programs and services to help children and adults with physical and developmental disabilities realize their full potential throughout their lives.

## Whom does AbilityFirst serve?

Each year, AbilityFirst serves thousands of individuals with disabilities such as autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy. AbilityFirst offers a broad range of programs for children and adults with disabilities, including employment, recreational and socialization programs, accessible camping, and housing.

## What makes AbilityFirst unique?

At AbilityFirst, our vision is of a society that values each individual and provides the opportunity for all people to lead full and productive lives. For more than 92 years, we have been looking beyond disabilities, focusing on capabilities, and expanding possibilities. Our person-centered programs are grounded in individual choice, autonomy and community participation.

## How is AbilityFirst supported financially?

Like many non-profit organizations, AbilityFirst relies on a variety of sources of financial support, including government support primarily through the Regional Center system, and the support of our generous donors.

## Why is the AbilityFirst Capital Campaign for the Lawrence L Frank and Long Beach Centers necessary?

In prior decades, our program buildings were destinations meeting the broad needs of groups of individuals. Today, AbilityFirst programs focus on the unique needs and desires of each individual through a person-centered approach to provide our participants the fullest access possible to the community. AbilityFirst programs have changed and now our buildings must change to meet these evolving times. The buildings must serve as a support for individuals accessing their community and they must be adaptable to meet a variety of personal goals of our participants. Our intentional site-based instruction that occurs in our buildings enhances the important integration activities that occur in the community. To expand in the community, we need more efficient sites to house our expanding programs.

## What will be included in the new AbilityFirst facilities?

Urgently needed improvements include: creating a “teaching” kitchen at each site; rebuilding fully-accessible restrooms with larger personal care rooms; maximizing use of the buildings by redesigning passageways; better utilization of space currently dedicated to a seasonal on-site pool (Lawrence L. Frank Center)

and new mechanical equipment and ventilation of the indoor pool (Long Beach Center); more office space to accommodate more programs; enhancing outdoor space to include multi-use and gathering areas, accessible paths, raised planting beds for community gardens and installing energy-efficient updates such as LED lighting, and more.

## Where will the money for The AbilityFirst Capital Campaign come from?

The volunteer leadership of **Building Independence—Celebrating Community** is seeking support from individuals, corporations, and foundations throughout the community. The Board of Directors of AbilityFirst and key community leaders are leading the campaign and financially supporting this important project. The Board has also devoted \$2 million from AbilityFirst funds to support this project.

## Why should I contribute to The AbilityFirst Capital Campaign?

From 2016 to 2017 the number of children and adults with developmental disabilities needing services within the Pasadena and Long Beach communities, increased by 1,000 people, or approximately 9%. 66% of these individuals are between the ages of 6 and 51 years old—the target age for AbilityFirst programs. These statistics show the need for more programs within the Pasadena and Long Beach communities. The existing space is not adequate to accommodate existing and new programs.

## I already give annually to AbilityFirst. Why should I give to The AbilityFirst Capital Campaign too?

Annual gifts, which focus on the immediate operating needs of AbilityFirst, are critically important. This capital campaign will allow AbilityFirst to continue that important work far into the future; to expand our programs and services in two new, more modern facilities; and to develop vital new programs and services. New and current donors are urged to “stretch” their giving because the need for this campaign is so urgent. For all of our supporters, this campaign is an opportunity to participate in a project that will have lasting, life-changing significance for others. **Building Independence—Celebrating Community** will require bold generosity from all who understand and believe in the important work of AbilityFirst.

## Who can I contact if I have other questions?

**Lori Gangemi**  
President and CEO, AbilityFirst  
[lgangemi@abilityfirst.org](mailto:lgangemi@abilityfirst.org)  
626-396-1024



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE FORM

AbilityFirst Capital Campaign  
for the Lawrence L. Frank Center  
and Long Beach Center

**Please return this form  
with payment to:**

**AbilityFirst**

1300 East Green Street  
Pasadena, CA 91106

**or email form to:**

**Lori Gangemi**

**lgangemi@abilityfirst.org**

**Make Checks Payable to:**

**AbilityFirst**

Federal Tax ID 95-1690983

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**In support of the Campaign for AbilityFirst, I pledge the following  
unconditional commitment in the amount of:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_, payable over \_\_\_\_ (1 to 5) years. My first payment will be on  
\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/20\_\_\_\_ via:

- Monthly installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  One-time payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Quarterly installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Annual installments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I wish for my gift to be used as follows:**

- Support both the Long Beach and Lawrence L Frank Centers  
 Support only the Long Beach Center project  
 Support only the Lawrence L Frank Center project

**Payment to AbilityFirst will be made as follows:**

Charge My Credit Card:

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  MC  VISA  Amex

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check (payable to AbilityFirst)  
 Gift of Securities, Real Estate, or Other Assets  
 Deferred Gift (i.e. Bequest, Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Remainder Trust,  
beneficiary of Retirement Plan)

**Please indicate how you would like for your gift to be recognized:**

Name (please print):

- I would prefer to remain anonymous.  
 I would like to honor or memorialize someone with my gift.

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_



AbilityFirst (established in 1926 as the Crippled Children's Society) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit (Federal Tax ID #95-1690983) that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. To learn more, visit [www.abilityfirst.org](http://www.abilityfirst.org)