

## Update on the Capital Campaign

The excitement and momentum are building, and progress continues on the AbilityFirst capital campaign as we are at 90% of the \$5.9 million goal. We have less than \$800,000 to raise!

The AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center in Pasadena and the Long Beach Center were opened more than 50 years ago. A lot has changed and now our Centers must change to meet to serve our 1,650 program participants annually.

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. The reconfiguration of the interior and exterior at the Lawrence L. Frank Center will comfortably accommodate a "teaching kitchen"—a hub where participants will gain valuable cooking and safety skills when navigating the state-of-the-art kitchen and appliances geared towards a safe teaching and learning environment. The Center will be a gathering place for the College to Career Program where educational coaches help participants and their families make this important transition from high school to college. In addition, the Center's outdoor program area will provide invaluable multi-use and gathering areas, and a community teaching garden.

To learn more about our Capital Campaign, naming opportunities and to donate, contact Lauren Rayner, Chief Development Officer at 626-243-4844 or [lrayner@abilityfirst.org](mailto:lrayner@abilityfirst.org)



Richard Frank taking the golden hammer to the wall at Lawrence L. Frank Center

### A FAMILY LEGACY

"I believe passionately in the mission, and I also know that AbilityFirst is a good at what they do," says Richard Frank when he recalls his family's impact. Richard's grandfather served as its volunteer executive director for more than 10 years, spending much of his time performing the day-to-day operations. Lawrence Frank also discovered the land in which the AbilityFirst camp, Camp Paivika sits on today, a place where children, teens and adults with disabilities can have a traditional camp experience.



Richard R. Frank, Board Campaign Chair and Lori Gangemi, AbilityFirst CEO, and Michael Barkyoub, Center Director at the Lawrence L. Frank Center.

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