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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**AbilityFirst Long Beach Center Guild Hosts Summer Social**

**LONG BEACH, CA** *(August 1, 2023)* – The AbilityFirst Long Beach Center Guild which is comprised of a dedicated group of women in the community who raise funds for the center, hosted its annual Summer Social on Saturday July 29th. The event was held at the center and aimed to strengthen the Guild’s outreach efforts and encourage new members to join in making a positive impact on the center’s programs for people with disabilities.

*“I was delighted to meet many of the Long Beach Guild members and hear stories of their unwavering generosity over the last 45 years,”* shares AbilityFirst Chief Development Officer, Courtney Jurado. *“I look forward to AbilityFirst’s Long Beach Center’s bright future with the Guild’s continued dedication and support.”*

The festive Summer Social included live music from local music group, the Jazz Angels, tours of the (recently renovated) center, and a brief program that highlighted the important work of the Guild for the last 45 years. Each member was presented with an ornament in memory of founding Guild president, Wanda Sewak.

Saturday’s event kicked off the Guild’s fundraising season, which also includes the Rainbows for AbilityFirst luncheon, scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, October 7, 2023, at The Grand in Long Beach. The annual event has guest speakers and performances, a live and silent auction and a lively shopping market with local vendors selling jewelry, clothing and other items. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.abilityfirst.org/events/rainbows](http://www.abilityfirst.org/events/rainbows).

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**AbilityFirst Long Beach Guild**

Since 1978, the AbilityFirst Long Beach Center Guild has raised funds to directly support and enrich the services offered at the Long Beach Center. Net proceeds from this year’s event will help to fund community outings, special events, playground equipment and furnishings for more than 100 participants at the Long Beach center.

**About AbilityFirst**

AbilityFirst is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. With locations throughout Greater Los Angeles, AbilityFirst offers a broad range of recreational and socialization programs, community integration, employment as well as a fully accessible summer camp, Camp Paivika, for both children and adults. More at [www.AbilityFirst.org](http://www.AbilityFirst.org).

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