



Immediate Release

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New AbilityFirst Afterschool Program for Children with Developmental Disabilities

GLENDALE, CA (JUNE 19, 2013) – AbilityFirst announces the opening of the AbilityFirst Glendale Center located at College View School, 1700 East Mountain Street in Glendale. The center is licensed for 25 children with developmental disabilities ages 5 to 22 for an afterschool enrichment program.

Afterschool enrichment programs are core for AbilityFirst which operates seven other programs throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties attended by approximately 325 children year-round. The AbilityFirst Lawrence L. Frank Center in Pasadena has been providing services to San Gabriel Valley children and adults with disabilities since 1968. “We are excited to have the opportunity to bring our afterschool program to Glendale,” says AbilityFirst CEO Lori Gangemi, “and we are pleased to announce Rene Guevara as the Center Director.” Guevara has more 20 years’ experience as a Special Education teacher.

Under Guevara’s supervision, well-trained, caring staff will engage the children, teens and young adults with age-appropriate activities that nurture social, physical, cognitive and creative abilities. Activities and individual goals will center around socialization, communication and life-skills that enable each participant to reach his or her personal best.

About Ability First

AbilityFirst, formerly Crippled Children Society, provides programs and services to help children and adults with disabilities reach their full potential. Through 25 locations across Southern California, they offer a broad range of employment, recreational and socialization programs and operate 12 accessible residential housing complexes. Government support provides approximately half of the dollars AbilityFirst needs to deliver high quality programs and services. As a nonprofit organization, they rely heavily on the generous support of donors who share their vision. www.AbilityFirst.org

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