The Road to Resilience, Paved with Help from Caminar Jobs Plus and You

When Daniel left for school on a spring morning in 2013, he was an able-bodied 17-year old with a bright future and big plans.

When he left school later that day, he became a victim of mistaken identity that resulted in eight stab wounds, a coma, five surgeries, six months in a rehabilitation facility, years of recovery, and a new normal as he struggled to overcome his injuries, new-found disabilities, and the psychological effects of severe trauma.

Now, just over five years later, Daniel still copes with the aftermath of that tragic afternoon, most especially paralysis on his right side, difficulty with speech, and some cognitive challenges, but with newfound skills and a new outlook on life.

What made the difference? One ingredient has been Daniel’s dedicated participation in Jobs Plus, our vocational rehabilitation program that partners with the State of California’s Department of Rehabilitation (DoR) and connects people who would otherwise be excluded from the workplace with meaningful, gainful employment.

When Daniel was referred to Jobs Plus from the DoR, our team went to work exploring his interests and goals and building essential job search and employment skills. After Daniel decided to explore jobs in retail, his Job Coach helped him learn to put clothing on hangers using just one arm. Daniel succeeded in winning a job—his first job—at a large retailer near his home. He has proven to be a dependable, hard-working employee. For Daniel’s mom, the transformation is remarkable. Her son, who was severely depressed, angry, and grieving the loss of his former life, is happy. Work has advanced Daniel’s recovery process, restoring his sense of self-worth and bringing newfound energy and resilience as he looks to his future and builds new dreams.

In addition to working, Daniel is taking computer classes at his local community college and plans to become a music producer.

We are so grateful to you for giving Daniel this gift of hope.
From Our Board Presidents

We are grateful for your support and all you do to help individuals and families move toward greater resilience, wellness, and independence. You make the life-changing work of Caminar possible.

Caminar’s thriving programs and services serve more than 14,000 individuals annually across five regions. And, we are expanding our capacity to address the increasingly complex needs of individuals and families. Since January of 2017, we have added three divisions to the Caminar organization. Read more about these divisions in the adjacent article.

As we close our 2018 fiscal year, we have changes on the horizon. Effective July 1, our CEO Chip Huggins will move on to pursue an opportunity outside of Caminar. We wish to thank Chip for his nine-plus years of service. During his tenure, the organization has grown considerably to provide excellent services to the most vulnerable members of our community.

The Board of Directors has appointed Chief Operating Officer Karen Gianuario as Interim CEO. While the Board is engaged in a search for a new CEO, Caminar is in quite capable hands with Karen at the helm. Karen has been with Caminar for almost five years, fully understands Caminar’s programs and operations, and is deeply committed to the organization’s mission and work.

We invite you to follow us on your favorite social media site for frequent updates and to contact our Development Department at 650.513.1509 or development@caminar.org with any questions.

Thank you for helping us to ensure people in need have the opportunity to enjoy improved health and wellness.

With great appreciation,

Steve Porter
President, Board of Directors

Suzan Getchell-Wallace
Incoming President, Board of Directors

Our Expanded Reach

Family & Children Services of Silicon Valley

Since 1948, Family & Children Services of Silicon Valley (FCS) has been promoting the resilience, safety, and wellness of individuals, families, and communities throughout Santa Clara County. FCS brings its counseling, prevention, and support services to dozens of community locations, including schools, community centers, jails, and health clinics. FCS counsels children and teens coping with the effects of trauma, provides a way forward for adults in recovery from addiction, and empowers families to heal from violence and abuse. FCS merged with and became a division of Caminar in January 2017.

Healthy Partnerships

Since its founding in 1997, Healthy Partnerships has provided high-quality behavioral health care in an atmosphere of compassion, respect, and cultural competence in Solano County. Outpatient prevention, intervention, and treatment services offered at Healthy Partnerships reflect a deep and abiding belief in the value of treatment, and a strong commitment to promoting recovery on an individual, family, and community level. Healthy Partnerships began operating as a division of Caminar on May 1, 2018.

Project Ninety

For more than four decades, Project Ninety has served individuals and families in San Mateo County through its alcohol and substance abuse treatment services. Over the years, Project Ninety has helped more than 23,000 individuals recover from the disease of addiction. Project Ninety’s services treat all individuals, regardless of socioeconomic standing, race, cultural background, education, age, or life experience. Project Ninety became a division of Caminar on June 1, 2018.
Caminar Earns Highest Level of Accreditation from CARF

Caminar has again earned the highest level of CARF accreditation. CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process and continuous improvement services that center on enhancing the lives of persons served.

CARF surveyors identified many areas of strength and spoke highly of our services and our staff. For example:

"The staff members at Caminar are an inspiration for the work they do on a daily basis. They are strong believers in the rights of persons served and demonstrate this to the clients on a regular basis."

"All clients said that staff members are warm, welcoming, energetic, respectful, and engaging… Caminar seems to do very well at hiring staff with both skills and heart."

"A strength of Caminar is the large array of services that it provides. This allows continuity of care that clearly promotes the recovery of clients who require longer-term assistance."

Thank you for helping to make this quality of care possible.

Circle of Support Luncheon Spotlight

Our 15th Annual Circle of Support Luncheon highlighted today’s youth and their mental health. Dr. Tina Payne Bryson, featured speaker, shared proven ways to help children strengthen resilience and develop empathy. The San Francisco 49ers Community Relations and 49ers Foundation were honored for their philanthropic leadership, including organizing once-in-a-lifetime experiences for heroes who have undergone extreme hardships, such as domestic violence survivors we serve.

Special thanks to our presenting sponsor Carole Middleton, event co-chairs Lisa Conover and Olana Khan, and all of our underwriters and table hosts.
Behavioral Health Symposium Highlights

In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, we hosted our 4th Annual Behavioral Health Symposium and highlighted the theme of **Marijuana to Opioids: Understanding Substance Use and Mental Health**.

Experts Mark McGovern, PhD; Douglas Noordsy, MD; and Adina Fischer, MD, PhD, shared current research findings on this timely and important behavioral health topic. Caminar executives Tara Beckman, LCSW, and Christopher Kughn, MA, MFT, moderated the event, including the in-depth Q&A session.

We extend a special thank-you to lead underwriters Mills-Peninsula Health Services and Sequoia Healthcare District.

Barbara Sommers, MD, and Barbara Patterson, Caminar Board of Directors, connect before the program.

Tze Pin Tai, Caminar Board of Directors, and her son, Zhan Ng, enjoy walking through the gardens.

Guests enjoy a reception in the lovely Filoli Gardens before the Symposium begins.

View more photos and highlights at caminar.org/events