



Turlock UCP Insider

August 2018

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My time at Choices

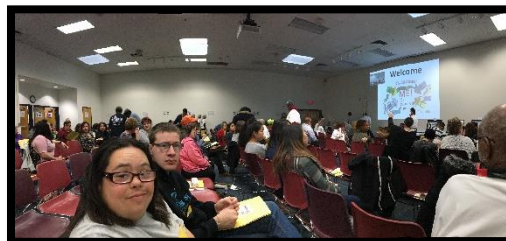
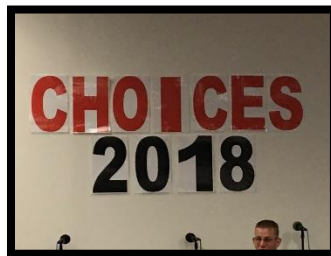
By: Alicia Robeldo & Brent Whisenthunt

History of Choices: Established in 1986, CHOICES Institute is a non-profit, educational organization with the goal of providing education through an annual conference and various training seminars throughout the year. Our topics include: disability awareness, advocacy, micro-business, and employment for all to name a few.

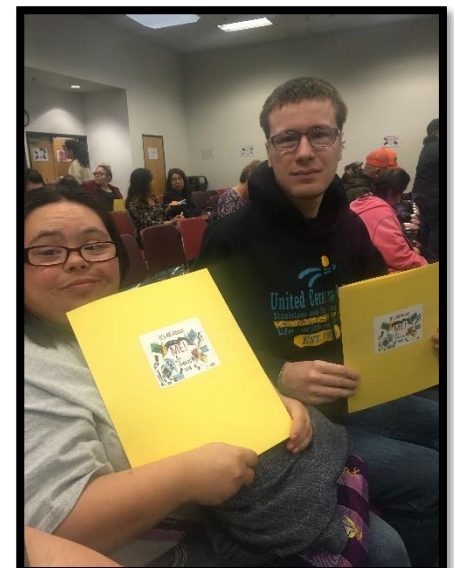
The CHOICES conference is for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities, families, educators, transition students, service providers, regional center staff, and many others.

Alicia: This year I got to go to the Choices day again. It was fun and interesting to listen to the speakers. There were two boys who were there with their moms. They talked about how they have jobs and live fun lives. They also said that they do things with their friends not just their moms. I would like to do that. The boys had jobs that helped them pay for things also.

Brent: Choices was "All about me" this year. It's what they talked about. We had breakfast with a lot of people and got to listen to music from "The Advocates". The guys talked about living on your own and having your own life. I like living with my family, not by myself. I would want to go next year again.



Remember to like UCP Stanislaus on Facebook and Instagram to see the latest pictures from our adventures.



Interview Time

With: Matt Harris, Ball Corporation

What is your job?

I am the plant manager, I'm responsible for everything. We have different departments, we make food cans and aerosol cans. We are responsible for making sure everyone is doing what they're supposed to do. Most important is that everyone is being safe.

How did you hear about this job?

I was an engineer manager and I saw an opening for this job and I got promoted. I'm originally from London and I transferred to Atlanta, Georgia first, then here to California. It took many years to get here and a lot of hard work, but I'm glad to be where I'm at.

How long have you been working here?

I've been working in California for 9 years. 4 years in Georgia.

What's your favorite part about your job?

Meeting new people and helping around in the community. We are all looking forward to all the UCP events.

What's the hardest part of your job?

Making sure everybody is safe. That they're considerate and doing what they're supposed to be doing from a safety perspective.

Where are you from?

London, England I left London in 2005 and moved to Georgia.

What's your life motto?

Love and respect people and lead with integrity. Always do the right thing for the right reason even if no one is looking.

How did ball get so involved in volunteering?

We have good leadership people that give us time to go and volunteer. Ball Corporation is a family owned business and they have passed along the desire to help in the community. Now we are keeping the tradition going.

What do you expect from people you hire?

Honesty, integrity, and do the best that they can.

Where do you hope to see ball in the future?

We hope to be around many years to come and continue to help in the community.

Fun Facts We Learned About Ball

- Ball is very active in the community through various community service, which is how UCP became connected with them.
- The first Ball can was a wood jacketed tin can.
- Ball doesn't just make food cans, they also make Axe Body Spray cans, WD-40 cans and bug spray aerosol cans.
- Ball no longer makes mason jars.
- Oakdale Ball employs over 120 people.
- Ball has an aerospace division.
- Ball manufactures parts for both the Mars rover and the Hubble telescope.
- Ball was started in Colorado by 5 brothers with a \$200 loan from their uncle in 1880.
- Ball manufactures cans for Pepsi, beer and hard cider.
- Safety is #1 at Ball, they have implemented a "take 5" program, which allows employees to take 5 to make sure they are doing things safely.



Interview Time

With: Rochell Williams, Project Specialist UCP

What is your job?

I'm a Job Developer for United Cerebral Palsy. I create jobs for people with disabilities.

How did you get this job?

I came in through a temp agency and applied as a human resource specialist. But during my second interview I started talking about helping people and getting into the community and they realized I'd be perfect as a job developer

What is the best part of your job?

Being able to help people. I love people, that's just who I am. Being able to make a difference is what I love about my job.

What's the hardest part of your job?

I would say the hardest part of my job is educating people who have often put people with disabilities in a box or stereotyped them and not give them a fair chance. People have a sense of fear, which has become a hurdle to get past that mindset. To convince them that people with a disability deserve an opportunity, that they're just like anybody that doesn't have a disability, they want the same things and with a little extra training that they could be exceptional.

Did you always see yourself doing this?

I did. I always envisioned starting my own charity, that's always something that I wanted to do. I have always found myself helping people, I have a lot of people in my family with disabilities, so it was a natural transition. I wanted to be an advocate.

What high school did you attend?

Jordan High school, in Long Beach California, I'm a Los Angeles girl. Graduated with honors and that was the best four years of my life.

What's your life motto?

Take care of others. I believe that God has me on this Earth to take care of others, so I feel if I am helping others then I am fulfilling my purpose.

What's your hiring process?

We do what's called an intake, we find out a candidate's likes, dislikes, their strengths and get more of an idea of where they would fit best in an employment setting. Then I get out there and I create a job for them by meeting owners of different businesses, and from there I'm able to match them up with the best job for them.

Where would you like to see UCP grow from here?

I would love to see UCP have a website that connects the community with the members and parents. A place that would help deal with the different types of struggles within

their families. That way we can be able to kind of be the bridge to merge the parents and the people with disabilities with the actual companies. I just want UCP to be able to be an information highway and I want to be able to be connected to every single company and charity that is involved or wants to be involved; let's link together and be a huge community and a huge family in being able to see our members thrive in every single aspect of life. My whole vision is to change the mindset of people regarding people with disabilities and get people to understand that there are rock stars out there and they deserve to shine.



Catalina Soliz

Cat is a fan of soccer, she loves lifetime movies and all kinds of music. Cat would like to be a dog walker one day. She wants to visit Brazil one day.

Member Spotlight

Top 5 Favorite Restaurants:

McDonalds

Hometown Buffet

Subway

Red Robin

Wendy's



Brent Whisenhunt


Brent is a huge sports fan, his favorite teams are the San Francisco Giants and 49ers. He loves to play video games and go to theme parks.

Camp Tuolumne Trails

Camp was an enormous success again this year. Campers got to enjoy the outdoors, go to campfire each night, show off their dance moves, learn archery and go swimming. New friendships were formed with other campers and with the fantastic CTT staff. Camp staff were fun and made us at UCP all feel welcomed and helped everyone to have fun! Campers are already talking about next year and can't wait for the next week of fun awaiting us!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



SAFARI DASH 2018
UCP
OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

FLEET FEET Sports | SPONSORED BY **Ray's Flooring** | **ditto's**

October 6, 2018
East La Loma Park
1/2 Mile Dash, 5K & FREE Kids Run
All abilities encouraged to attend

REGISTER ONLINE AT SAFARIDASH.ORG

*Proceeds benefit UCP of Stanislaus County programs.

Save the Date for Safari Dash 2018.
Interested in sponsoring our event?
Call 209.577.2122 ext. 111 or Email events@ucpstan.org

Upcoming Events



PROM NIGHT
Spark of Night

PRESENTED BY
UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY - SAN JOAQUIN, CALAVERAS & AMADOR COUNTIES
XI CHI SIGMA
COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN - PACIFIC CHAPTER

Saturday, October 20th
6PM - 9PM

DEROSA UNIVERSITY CENTER BALLROOM
UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
3601 PACIFIC AVENUE
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

OPEN TO PERSON WITH A DISABILITY IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY. FREE ADMISSION.

