



# lifehouse

serving people with developmental disabilities since 1954

F 2019 | No. 40



BENJI WHITE & PETER ELIAS AT COMITO HOUSE

a  
full  
life

**We are committed to ensuring that the people we support have the opportunity to live a full life.**

Lifehouse seeks to cultivate confidence and independence for people with developmental disabilities by providing life skills teaching, access to resources, and self-advocacy support. We encourage everyone to be a part of the community and realize their dreams.

**As we celebrate 65 years of service, please join us in building better lives together.**



# the president's corner

## Dear Friends,

**Choice, empowerment, independence, joy, and a full life!** It's what we all want and what we want to encourage and help facilitate for the people we support in our community. Our decision to purchase a home for Lifehouse ensures our permanence in the community. In my 27 years with Lifehouse, our offices have been moved 4 times. Last year, we were offered a suitable building in Marin County at a favorable price, an offer we happily accepted. We are creating an office environment that honors the people we support and reflects the important and critical service we provide to our community.

Our new home office at 18 Professional Center Parkway in San Rafael will accommodate our growing staff and the people we support. The building will have two large training/conference rooms to facilitate pertinent training and learning. Additionally, spaces will be available for private meetings with counselors and the people we support. We are creating a flexible office space to meet our growing needs, with the Pro Bono help of Erin Uesugi, architect and Mom to Sophie, a Lifehouse resident.

This year, we are celebrating 65 years of service in our community. We will move to our new home in Spring 2020. We have now embarked on a Capital Campaign to fund and renovate our building. If you would like a campaign packet or if you have any questions regarding our project, please feel free to call me at 415.526.5309 or email me at [ndmoody@lifehouseagency.org](mailto:ndmoody@lifehouseagency.org). Contributions can also be made through our website at [lifehouseagency.org/homeforlife](http://lifehouseagency.org/homeforlife).

As always, we appreciate your support of Lifehouse. Donations of any amount are appreciated and helps ensure our place in this community. Thank you for your generosity!

Warmest wishes,

Nancy Dow Moody  
President & CEO

## board of directors

Stephen Meeker, *Chair* | Eric Aanes, *Vice Chair* | Doug Clough, *Treasurer* | James Ricks, *Secretary* | Joseph Spinelli, *Immediate Past Chair* | Nancy Dow Moody, *Lifehouse President & CEO* | Alan Brayton | Daniel Engel | Andrea Henderson | Mark Jackson | Susan McFadden | Paul Smith | Justin Tedford | Jacquie Gribens, *Board Chair in Memoriam*

## advisory council

Mary Jane Burke | Patty Garbarino | Congressman Jared Huffman | Patricia Kendall | Assemblymember Marc Levine | Marc Loupé | James Shorter

# lifehouse board of directors

Meet our new Chair and Vice Chair for the 2019-2021 term. For this fiscal year, we also welcome new and returning Lifehouse board members. Lifehouse Board of Directors meet six times a year and work to fulfill the mission of Lifehouse for the people we support.



### ERIC AANES, VICE CHAIR

An avid supporter of Lifehouse, Eric Aanes returns to the Lifehouse Board of Directors after terming off last year, having served 9 years. He rejoins this time as Vice Chair for the 2019-2021 term. Eric is the President of Titus Wealth Management and has over 20 years of experience in the financial industry. Eric has held senior management positions with multiple institutional asset managers. He holds the Chartered Financial Consultant, Certified Fund Specialist, and Certified Estate Planner credentials.

Eric is a native of Oklahoma and now resides in Marin County with his wife Shelley, two children, and two dogs. In his free time, Eric enjoys golfing, traveling, and spending time with his family.



### ANDREA HENDERSON

Andrea Henderson is First Vice President, Director of Marketing for Bank of Marin. In this role, she oversees the Bank's marketing and community relations strategies. Prior to joining Bank of Marin, Andrea spent more than 10 years in financial services developing and executing key marketing and strategic growth initiatives for Small, Middle Market, and Corporate Banking Business lines.

Andrea is passionate about social equity, sustainability, and promoting development of young people and entrepreneurs. In addition to serving on the Lifehouse Board of Directors, she is also a board member of the Marin Childcare Council. Andrea grew up in Southeast Asia, has lived in Thailand, Hong Kong, and the Philippines, and is conversational in Mandarin. She currently lives in Novato with her husband, Jason, and two children.



### SUSAN MCFADDEN

Susan McFadden is a retired banker and a longtime supporter of Lifehouse. She is deeply committed to the cause of Lifehouse and is very excited to join the organization as a board member. As someone who is familiar with the wine industry, Susan has been a member of Lifehouse's Great Chefs Wine Committee since 2007, an all volunteer committee that supports the organization's annual fundraiser, Great Chefs and Wineries.

Susan is a San Francisco native and has been a Marin resident for over thirty years. She is also an active volunteer, serving on the committees of the San Francisco Symphony and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.



### STEPHEN MEEKER, CHAIR

Stephen Meeker is the Board Chair for the 2019-2021 term. An active and generous supporter of Lifehouse, Steve was on the Lifehouse Board of Directors for 9 years before terming off in 2016. Last year, he returned to the Board and has been a valuable voice for the team. We look forward to Steve's leadership in his new role as Board Chair.

As the Senior Vice President at Hub International, Steve has extensive business and financial management experience and spends his free time cooking, traveling, and golfing. He lives in San Francisco with his wife Kathleen. They are the parents of Lifehouse resident, Anne.



### MARK JACKSON

Please welcome Mark Jackson as he joins the Lifehouse Board of Directors this year. He was one of the founders of Sweetwater Spectrum, a state-of-the-art residential community for individuals with autism in Sonoma, where Lifehouse currently provides support services. A dedicated member of the community, Mark is well versed with the state and federal developmental disabilities system. He is also a former member of the California Blue Ribbon Legislative Committee on Autism and the California Senate Select Committee on Autism.

Mark is the General Partner at Peak Partners, a real estate company and resides in Marin County with his wife, Patty. As an avid sports enthusiast, Mark spends his free time mountain biking, golfing, hiking, and trail running.



## in memoriam

### JACQUIE GRIBENS 1966 - 2019

Jacquie Gribens, a beloved figure in our community, joined the Lifehouse Board of Directors in 2014 before stepping into the role of Board Chair in 2018. She began volunteering for Lifehouse 10 years ago and remained actively involved in Lifehouse activities. Her role as Board Chair was very important to Jacquie and she was a unifying force for the Lifehouse Board. She was enthusiastic about Lifehouse purchasing a permanent home and rallied the Board behind the cause. Jacquie was a great friend to Lifehouse and to many in our community. We will be forever grateful for her and her contributions.

# a full life

Everyone has a beautiful story to share. A *Full Life* is a collection of inspirational videos featuring the individuals supported by Lifehouse, telling their own stories and truths as they learn and grow within the community. It is our hope that viewers will be able to “meet” our residents and experience their struggles and triumphs presented in these profiles.



## SALLIE HARRISON

**MEET SALLIE-** She has a sweet demeanor and a great sense of humor. Some of her favorite activities include listening to music, hanging out with friends, and playing table tennis. She even won a local tournament! Her favorite thing about Lifehouse is the community that she now considers family.

**You can find these profiles at:**

[www.lifehouseagency.org/media](http://www.lifehouseagency.org/media)

# lifehouse residents at work

*Lifehouse Residents at Work* is an ongoing series exploring the people we support at their places of work and how they got to where they are today. Please stay tuned!



## Q&A WITH JEANNA ERIKSEN

Council on Developmental Disabilities. I do advocacy work for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Q: WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS YOUR STRONGEST SKILL THAT YOU BRING TO THE WORK PLACE?**

**A:** I am motivated, tenacious, and I get things done.

**Q: WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?**

**A:** Tackling challenges and making change happen.

**Q: WHAT WAS ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN FINDING A JOB?**

**A:** People not believing in me.

**Q: HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR CURRENT POSITION?**

**A:** I started with *Area Board 4*, the Sonoma regional office of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities, back in 2009. I was asked to be on a local committee and I did that for five years. Then in 2017, the opportunity came up for me to be on the SAC committee. I applied and got the job!

**Q: WHERE DO YOU WORK?**

**A:** I have been working for the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities for the past three years.

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT POSITION?**

**A:** I currently work on the SAC Committee (Sacramento Advisory Committee), which is a regional committee of the California State

**Q: WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?**

**A:** I recently became the Chairman of the SAC committee.

**Q: HAS LIFEHOUSE BEEN HELPFUL IN REACHING YOUR CAREER GOALS?**

**A:** Lifehouse empowers me in my role as an advocate. They provide me with the staffing needed for personal care, transportation, and assistance with resources.

**Q: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY TO OTHERS ABOUT HIRING INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES?**

**A:** We have had conversations about this in the council. I would encourage them to hire us because we are very dependable and reliable. We show up on time and we do the job well. People with developmental disabilities are just as equal and beautiful as those without disabilities and work just as hard.

# welcome to the team



## JOY HARRIS

Joy Harris is our new Human Resources Assistant. She graduated from Grand Canyon University with a B.A. in Communications and is working toward attending graduate school in the near future.

While her background is primarily based in Journalism, her professional and educational background has equipped her with a skill set to work with individuals across a variety of industries. As a cause-driven individual, she is excited to be a part of the nonprofit sector and looks forward to working with Lifehouse.

A native of Phoenix, AZ, Joy now resides in El Cerrito and looks forward to exploring what the Bay Area has to offer. In her free time, Joy enjoys photography, traveling, and playing guitar.



## JACOB PORTLOCK

Jacob Portlock is our new Assistant Manager. He is excited to be working at Lifehouse with the people that we support. He is extremely passionate about helping others be happy and content with their lives.

Prior to Lifehouse, Jacob had several years of experience working for individuals with developmental disabilities. He also spent a couple of years working at an animal shelter in Rohnert Park.

A native of Sonoma County, Jacob has lived in Santa Rosa, Sonoma, and Rohnert Park. He has a Border Collie, Bandit, who has been his best friend for the past 11 years. In his free time, Jacob enjoys photography, gaming, and playing acoustic guitar.



## KATI DOMBROSKY

Kati Dombrosky (pronounced Caw-tee) is our new Development Associate and has spent most of her career in the nonprofit world. She has previously worked with Marin Community Music School, NatureBridge, and Sunny Hill Services (now Side by Side).

She spent the past few years teaching Art Appreciation to homeschooled children. She started two small nonprofits, Golden Gate Learning Foundation, which supports homeschool families, and Cultural Institute of Language and Art (CILA), which advocates for global compassion through language and cultural immersion.

Kati lives in Fairfax with her husband Bruce, daughters Zoë, 13, and Madi, 9, and their dog Noel. They love to hike on local trails and have just taken up kayaking.

# staff updates



**LISA ANN CARBONE**  
Senior Quality Assurance & Staff Development Specialist



**OLIVIA VAIN**  
Sweetwater & SLS Manager



**CLAUDIA SILVIA**  
Senior Quality Assurance & Staff Development Specialist



**ERIN BERTULFO**  
Office Manager & Development Assistant



**BILL TOUPAL**  
Assistant Manager



**DEION MASON**  
HR Coordinator

# #HomeForLife

CAMPAIGN FOR A PERMANENT HOME FOR LIFEHOUSE



When joy is found, everyone wins. Lifehouse has been at the intersection of hopes and dreams for individuals with developmental disabilities for the past 65 years. With the launch of our capital campaign, **Home for Life: Campaign for a Permanent Home for Lifehouse**, the purchase of a building will serve as a permanent hub for our community to offer a lifetime of service and support.

Please join us in realizing our next great chapter.

## brick-by-brick

YOUR DONATION WILL HELP BUILD:

New ADA Elevator	\$282,079
Temperature & Air Control System	\$292,842
Electrical & Lighting	\$310,900
Building Signage	\$35,000
Sprinkler /Fire Safety System	\$194,754



JOCK EBERHARDT



"With a strong foundation and more control over future expenditures, this permanent home for Lifehouse accompanies an acknowledgment of the great gifts our children and loved ones offer while providing them the means to independence and a better life."

Allen & Nancy Herzog  
Lifehouse Parent and Former Board Member

## leadership

### CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

**DOUG CLOUGH**  
Board Treasurer

**LIA ECONOMOPOULOS**  
Board Member

**DANIEL ENGEL**  
Board Member

**STEPHEN MEEKER**  
Board Chair

**NANCY DOW MOODY**  
President & CEO, Lifehouse

**VIRGINIA THOMSON**  
Campaign Counsel

### BUILDING PROJECT

**ERIN UESUGI, ARCHITECT**  
Uesugi & Associates

**ROBERT WRIGHT, ARCHITECT**  
Wright Architecture Studio

**JOE MEYLAN, CONTRACTOR**  
Meylan Construction

**ED COYNE**  
Project Consultant

[lifehouseagency.org/learn-more](http://lifehouseagency.org/learn-more)



PEACOCK GAP: GOLDEN BEET AND CHEVRE NAPOLEON, BLOOD ORANGE GASTRIQUE

# great chefs & wineries

**4.13.19** peacock gap  
 honorary chairman huey lewis  
 master of ceremonies betty yu  
 culinary host heidi insalata krahlung  
 musical guest mustache harbor  
 auctioneer damon casatico

ALL PHOTOS BY DREW ALTIZER

## gold tables

Ed Coyne | Helen Brame | Deloitte | Kaiser Permanente |  
 Dr. & Mrs. David W. Martin | Marin Sanitary Service |  
 Mark & Susan Schatzberg | Mt. Tamalpais Mortuary &  
 Cemetery | Wells Fargo Advisors | Robert & Mary Wilsey

## silver tables

Berkshire Hathaway | Fred Cohen  
 & Carolyn Klebanoff | Costello &  
 Sons Insurance | Filice Insurance |  
 In Memory of Walter Hall, DDS, MSD |  
 Law Offices of Samuel Kornhauser |  
 Mechanics Bank | Anoosh & Kija  
 Mizany | Phil Pollock & Sally  
 Spencer | Dr. Harold Broder

## restaurants

Americano San Francisco | Boca Tavern & Boca Pizzeria | Buckeye  
 Roadhouse | Copita Tequileria y Comida | Farallon Restaurant |  
 Il Davide | Il Fornaio | Insalata's | Le Comptoir | Left Bank Brasserie |  
 Marinitas | Osteria Stellina | "The Clubhouse" at Peacock Gap |  
 Perry's Larkspur | Piatti Mill Valley | Piazza D'Angelo | Picco | Poggio |  
 Servino Ristorante | State Room Kitchen & Brewery | Sushi Ran |  
 Wildfox

## volunteer & vendor sponsors

Sol Food | Revive Kombucha | Republic of Tea | Lush USA

## additional support

Bank of San Francisco, Floral Sponsor |  
 California Math Festival, Mobile Bidding Sponsor

## auction donors over \$1000

Donelan Family Wines | Copita Tequileria y Comida |  
 Mr. Ed Coyne | Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Dizon | Enriquez Estate  
 Wines | girl & the fig | Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Gribens |  
 Mr. & Mrs. Archie Held | Mr. & Mrs. Allan Herzog | Holland  
 America Line Inc. | Hotel Kabuki | Mr. & Mrs. Tim Jorstad |  
 Joshua Ets-Hokin Photography | Kosta Browne Winery |  
 Lifehouse Board of Directors | Mary Small Photography |  
 Mr. & Mrs. Steve Meeker | Peay Vineyards | Poggio Trattoria |  
 Revana Family Vineyard | Royal Palms Resort & Spa |  
 Schumacher Photography | Schweiger Vineyards |  
 Stephan-Hill Jewelry Designers | Viking River Cruises, Inc |  
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Weil | Mr. Scott Wheeler | Mr. & Mrs. Patrick  
 Whisler

## wineries

Benovia Winery | Brooks Note Winery | Cakebread Cellars |  
 Dutton-Goldfield Winery | Frank Family Vineyards | Freeman Vineyard &  
 Winery | HALL Wines | Hartford Family Winery | Keenan Winery |  
 Kistler Vineyards | Kosta Browne Winery | Linked Vineyards | Merry  
 Edwards Winery | Navarro Vineyards & Winery | Papapietro Perry Winery |  
 Peay Vineyards | Pride Mountain Vineyards | Revana Family Vineyards |  
 Ron Rubin Winery | Schweiger Vineyards | Selah Wines | Silver Oak &  
 Twomey Cellars | Thirty-Seven Winery | Wilson Winery | ZD Wines



MADISON LABIES, TODD MAITRE OF ZD WINES



CHLOE POLLOCK, LIFEHOUSE PERFORMER

CONGRESSMAN & MRS. JARED HUFFMAN



NIGHTAH VAHIDY, PAULETTE SPENCER, ZEHRA VAHIDY



KATHLEEN & STEPHEN MEEKER, PAUL & JUDY GIGANTI



JOE ERLICH & JOANNE WEIR, RISA OGROSKIN

## dining room

Rustic Bakery  
 Red Whale Coffee  
 Fiorello Artisan Gelato  
 Ital Foods  
 Blooming Cakes  
 Duckhorn Vineyards  
 Toby Lane Vineyards  
 Black Stallion Estate Winery

## toast

Schramsberg, sparkling wine  
 méthode champenoise

## libations

Red Whale Coffee  
 Stillwater Distillers  
 Sonoma Brothers Distilling  
 Sonoma Syrup Company

## sponsors

### anniversary



### music

Allan & Nancy  
 Herzog

**diamond**  
 Brayton + Purcell LLP  
 Attorneys Helping People



**emerald**

Steve & Chris  
 Wilsey

### platinum



### sparkle

CRESALIA JEWELERS

### print



**decor**  
 bright  
 EVENT RENTALS

### venue

PEACOCK GAP  
 — THE CLUBHOUSE —

### gift



### preschool

Bank of Marin

### media

Marin Independent Journal  
 digitalfirst | marinij.com

### magazine

MARIN  
 MAGAZINE

### valet



### bid paddle



NANCY DOON, SAMMY & SORAYA JIZRAWI, TONY BONVISIO



MARISA DOMBROSKI, HOOMAN KHALILI, NATALIE MARDEUZ, TRAVIS NELSON, ALICIA HVISTENDAHL, HALEY MAGERS, JENNIE ANGLE



PRIDE MOUNTAIN WINES AT DINING TABLE

# true blue supporters

January 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019

## DIAMOND (\$5000+)

Bank of Marin  
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Brady  
Ms. Helen Brame  
Mr. Douglas Clough & Mrs. Erin Uesugi  
Costello & Sons Insurance  
Mr. Ed Coyne  
Down Syndrome Association  
North Bay  
Mr. Ted Glenwright  
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Mr. & Mrs. Allan Herzog  
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Mr. Samuel Kornhauser

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Thirty Seven Winery  
Wells Fargo Advisors  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Wilsey  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilsey  
Ms. Kathleen Wilsey  
Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Wilsey

## THE 1954 CLUB (\$1,954 to \$4,999)

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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Drysdale Properties  
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Ms. Ashley Hance  
Mr. Marc Loupe & Anette Harris  
Ms. Susan Macmillan  
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Mayer

Mechanics Bank  
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Mr. & Mrs. Frankie Morris  
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Mr. & Mrs. Jim Sides  
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Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Spinelli  
Ms. Janet Sutherby  
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Sweetland  
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Weil  
Mr. Stephen Zienowicz & Ms. Jeri Mearns

## SAPPHIRE (\$500 to \$1953)

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Ms. Apeksha Armbaram  
Ms. Elizabeth Anderson  
AXA Foundation  
Ms. Toni Bava  
Ms. Cheri Beering  
Dr. Marjorie Belknap  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Berglund  
Mr. Ray Bergman  
Mr. Jeff Bergner  
Dr. & Mrs. Neal Birnbaum  
Mr. Gabriel Burczyk & Ms. Barbara Fabbri  
California Math Festival Program  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Clough  
Ms. Michelle Coe  
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Cohen  
The Dahlberg-Donahue Family

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Thompson Builders  
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Mr. Robert Massey  
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Ms. Wendy Heineman  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert McFadden  
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Ms. Catelyn Spencer  
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Mr. Ryan Stecz  
Mr. Julian Hill Garfalo  
Mr. Dan Swearingen & Ms. Janet Lawson  
Ms. Jane Thompson  
Ms. Virginia Thomson  
Ms. Gerry Uesugi  
Ms. Terry Ulin  
Ms. Linda Vaio  
Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Valla  
Mr. Larry Varellas  
Ms. Catherine Varnau  
Ms. Tania Wang  
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Wardwell  
Ms. Greta Wells  
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Whisler  
Mr. Kyle Woitel  
Mr. Steven Woodside  
Mr. Joshua Wykes  
Mr. Chris Qvale  
Mr. Peter Yore  
Ms. Jean Zucker

## EMERALD (\$100 to \$499)

101 Surf Sports  
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Aanes  
Aerial Dance Marin  
Alpha Omega Winery  
Asian Art Museum  
Balletto Vineyards  
Bankhead Theater  
John Baum  
Bay Club - StoneTree  
Bear Republic Brewing Co.  
Bella Vineyards & Wine Caves  
Berkeley Repertory Theatre  
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## let's get social



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## save the date

1st Saturday Night	Novato Youth Center (monthly)
3rd Friday Night	Rec, Inc. Dance, Larkspur (monthly)
October 25, 2019	Awards Banquet
December 16, 2019	Holiday Party
April 18, 2020	Great Chefs & Wineries

## lifehouse news

**President & CEO**  
Nancy Dow Moody

**Director of Finance**  
Viola Morris

**Director of Development**  
Ann Elias

**Editors/Designers**  
Nancy La,  
Executive Assistant to the CEO

Jennifer Waight,  
Communications &  
Marketing Specialist

899 Northgate Drive #500  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
P: 415.526.5300  
F: 415.472.5739  
mail@lifehouseagency.org

**Director of Programs & Operations**  
Kate O'Connor

**Director of Programs & Operations**  
Michelle Condit

**Director of Human Resources & IT**  
Johanna Schleret

6050 Commerce Blvd. #105  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928  
P: 707.586.1961  
F: 707.586.0919  
mail@lifehouseagency.org



## a powerful springboard

Great Expectations is a year round preschool for children of all abilities. Our approach is relationship-based. We build nurturing, trusting and authentic connections with each child and take time to observe, recognize and build on their strengths in a structured learning environment.

We are open Mondays-Fridays from 7:30am to 6:00pm. If you would like to schedule a tour, please contact Lynn Nichelini, Preschool Director.

850 Del Ganado Road  
San Rafael, CA, 94903  
P: 415.499.5892  
lnichelini@lifehouseagency.org  
facebook.com/greatexpectationsmarin  
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lifehouseagency.org  
marinautism.org  
greatexpectationsmarin.org  
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