



August 2015 Express

How do we measure success?

The New Horizons spacecraft [flyby of Pluto](#) on July 14, 2015, is celebrated as a milestone in space. It is compared with earlier milestones in space exploration, like the first human footprint on the moon.



Milestones celebrated at Matrix take many shapes: completing a week of school without a meltdown, reaching goals in an IEP, speaking first words, taking first steps, or giving a hug.

Although milestones celebrated by families of children with special needs may look different than milestones in space, to each child and family, they are every bit as profound and remarkable.

- Matrix Parent Advisors support parents by offering strategies, information, and educational resources.
- Families connect with other families at Matrix workshops, regional support groups, and via our [Big Tent](#) online support group.

DONATE
to Matrix

[SF Giants Tickets!](#)

[En Español](#)

Did Matrix Make a Difference?

Please take a moment to answer this [very short, four question survey](#) about our services.

Let us know how we're doing!



Our mission to empower you means that we provide you with useful information and training that you use to better advocate for your child.

Your response to this survey will help us measure the effectiveness of our agency and guide our work for the future.

- Families use the Matrix website, visit our library, access updated information, download valuable resources, and learn about the systems that serve them.
- Parents advocate for their children at Individualized Educational Plan meetings.
- Children grow and thrive!

Upcoming Matrix Trainings & Workshops



Kicking off the School Year Right!

Please join us for a series of trainings for families, in English and Spanish, on **IEP Basics**.

The series will rotate through Marin, Solano, and Sonoma counties. You are welcome to attend any of these important trainings!

Topics include:

- *IEP Basics and Overview*
- *Advocating for Your Child*
- *Special Education Rights and Responsibilities*

September offerings in Marin County, Novato Office

IEP Basics and Overview

[English: Sept. 16th, 10 am – 12 pm](#)

[Spanish: Sept. 30th, 10 am – 12 pm](#)

October offerings in Sonoma County*

IEP Basics and Overview in English and Spanish

November offerings in Solano County*

IEP Basics and Overview in English and Spanish

* October and November locations and dates will be

Upcoming Matrix Trainings & Workshops

[IEP Basics in English and Spanish](#)...join us for the first series of trainings for families.

[Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction](#) (English only)

Matrix News



[A Warm Welcome](#)

Sandi Strang joins us as our Interim Director of Parent Services.

Stephanie Ryan is our newest Parent Advisor and is serving Solano County.

Alexis Lynch recently joined our Matrix Board of Directors.

Ways to Give

[Matching Gift doubles impact!](#)

[We love our interns!](#)

We are delighted to have two outstanding interns.

posted on our website calendar (to be announced).



Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction

Starting September 2, Matrix is offering a six-week course, [Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction](#) (MBSR), specifically for parents of children with special needs (English only).

We are very grateful to the Marin County Board of Supervisors for making this class possible.

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Matrix News



left to right: Parent Advisors Ana Acosta, Stephanie Ryan, Carmen Diaz; Interim Director of Parent Services, Sandi Strang; Matrix Executive Director, Nora Thompson; Parent Advisors Margaret Johnston and Kristie Anderson...and our beautiful Matrix Baby...Alexa

Interim Director of Parent Services

Sandi Strang joins us as our Interim Director of Parent Services. We are delighted to be working with Sandi again. She previously served as a Matrix Parent Advisor and is a special education teacher by training.

Parent Advisor for Solano County

Stephanie Ryan, our newest Parent Advisor, will be serving Solano County and responding to Helpline calls. Stephanie has one child on the Autism Spectrum. Her

[SF Giants](#)

Tim Lincecum's *Timmy's Tickets*.

[Dine & Donate at Paxti's Pizza](#)

[Families on Parade](#)

The Inaugural Matrix Children and Family Fashion Show

Milestones in Space



The New Horizons spacecraft departed Earth's orbit in 2006 and traveled for nine years before sharing the [amazing images of Pluto](#) with all of us. It often takes many years of planning to reach new frontiers.

Here at Matrix, families learn step-by-step how to support their children and navigate the systems that serve them. ***Here's to aiming high for our children!***

Community Events

experience in Early Intervention with families (Birth to 3) has familiarized her with Regional Center services.

New Board Member

Our newest board member, Alexis Lynch, is a Marin native and an attorney. Alexis works with families to ensure their developmentally disabled family members are protected through conservatorship proceedings.

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Ways to Give



We doubled the impact of donations made by over 18 donors! Thank you to our Matrix followers who contributed to Angela DeCarli's Matching Gift Challenge. [*This will be a great year at Matrix with your support!*](#)

Outstanding Summer Interns at Matrix!

Working 10-16 hours a week, **our two summer interns** have become valued members of the Matrix team. They bring technical knowledge and a willingness to learn and will leave with on the job experience and our sincere appreciation! *Fall Internship opportunities coming in September!*

Megan Tarrant, Event Planning, is a sophomore at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

Daniella Lituano, Social Media, is a senior at San Rafael High.



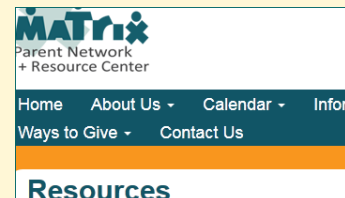
Sensory Sensitive Film Screenings

[Saturday, August 29th](#)

Showing monthly at 10 am on the last Saturday of each month at Airport Stadium 12 in Santa Rosa

[Visit our Calendar](#) for more community events

Explore Our Resources



- [Information by topic](#)
- [Matrix Newsletters](#)
- [Links to Key Public Agencies](#)
- [Matrix Libraries \(in our offices\)](#)

Connect Online!

[Like us on Facebook](#)

[Join our Matrix Big Tent](#)
A safe online community for Matrix parents/guardians only



Timmy's Tickets

Tim Lincecum of the SF Giants designates 25 tickets for every home game in 2015 to a Bay Area non-profit organization.

Matrix Parent Network & Resource Center was a chosen organization. The Bogacki Family was one of the lucky families able to attend the game. **Go Giants!**

Dine & Donate

Let's get together over pizza, salads, and more!
[Wednesday, September 30, 2015](#)

PATXI'S PIZZA

Bon Air Shopping Center, 940 Bon Air Center, Greenbrae

Patxi's Pizza will donate 10% of the entire day's sales to Matrix Parent Network & Resource Center. Please support us by dining at Patxi's or placing a to-go, delivery, or catering order on Dine and Donate Day!

Families On Parade

Celebrate with us at the Inaugural Matrix Children and Family Fashion Show. We have the program and the formula. Volunteer and join in on the fun. If we have enough help, this event will be a go!

Please contact Joanne Ferris joannef@matrixparents.org
415-475-2118. Let's do this!

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[Big Tent](#)

En Español

¿Cómo medimos el éxito?

New Horizons astronave sobrevuelo de Plutón el 14 de julio de 2015, se celebra como indicador en el espacio. Se compara con los indicadores anteriores de la exploración espacial, como la primera huella humana en la Luna.

Indicadores que se celebran en Matrix toman muchas

formas: completar una semana de la escuela sin una fusión de un reactor, alcanzando metas en un IEP, hablando primeras palabras, tomando los primeros pasos, o dar un abrazo.

Aunque indicadores celebrados por las familias de niños con necesidades especiales pueden tener un aspecto diferente al de los indicadores en el astronave, a cada niño y su familia, que son tan profunda y notable.

- Los Asesores de Matrix padres apoyan a los padres por los que ofrecen las estrategias, información y recursos educativos.
- Familias se conectan con otras familias en los talleres de Matrix, grupos de apoyo regionales y través de nuestro grupo de apoyo en línea [Big Tent](#).
- Familias utilizan el sitio web de Matrix, visite nuestra biblioteca, acceso a información actualizada, descargar recursos valiosos, y aprender acerca de los sistemas que los sirven.
- Los padres abogan por sus hijos en las reuniones del Plan Educativo Individualizado.
- Los niños crecen y prosperan.

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Próximos Entrenamientos y Talleres de Matrix

¡Para comenzar su año escolar correctamente! Por favor,

únase a nosotros para la primera de una serie de entrenamientos para las familias en lo esencial del IEP.

Vamos a ofrecer una serie de entrenamientos en Inglés y Español. La serie girará a través de Marin, Sonoma y Solano. Le invitamos a asistir a cualquiera de estos entrenamientos importantes!

Los temas incluyen:

- *IEP Conceptos básicos y vision de conjunto*
- *Abogando por su Niño*
- *Derechos y Responsabilidades de la Educación Especial*

Ofrecimiento en Septiembre en Marin County

IEP Conceptos básicos y vision de conjunto

[Español - DE SEPT 30th 10 a.m.-12 p.m.](#)

Oficina Novato

Ofrecimiento en Octubre en Sonoma County

IEP Conceptos básicos y vision de conjunto en Inglés y Español

Visite nuestro sitio web para la ubicación y la fecha (que se anunciará)

Ofrecimiento en Noviembre en el Condado de Solano

IEP Conceptos básicos y vision de conjunto en Inglés y Español

Visite nuestro sitio web para la ubicación y la fecha (que se anunciará)

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Noticias de Matrix

Director Interino de Servicios para Padres

Sandi Strang se une a nosotros como nuestro Director Interino de Servicios para Padres. Estamos muy contentos de estar trabajando con Sandi de nuevo. Se

desempeñó anteriormente como Asesor de Padres de Matrix y es un maestro de educación especial del entrenamiento.

Asesor de Padres para el Condado de Solano

Stephanie Ryan, nuestro nuevo Asesor de Padres, será sirviendo el Condado de Solano y respondiendo llamadas a la Línea de Ayuda. Stephanie tiene un niño en el espectro del autismo. Su experiencia en la intervención temprana con las familias (nacimiento a 3) la ha familiarizado con los servicios del Centro Regional.

Un Miembro Nuevo de la Junta Directiva

Nuestro más nuevo miembro de la Junta Directiva, Alexis Lynch, es un nativo Marín y un abogado. Alexis trabaja con las familias para asegurar sus familiares con discapacidades de desarrollo están protegidos a través de procedimientos de tutela.

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Maneras de Dar

Boletos de Timmy

Tim Lincecum de los Gigantes de SF designa 25 boletos para cada partido en casa en el 2015 a una organización sin fines de lucro Área de la Bahía. En el 12 de Julio, Matrix Parent Network & Resource Center fue una organización elegida. La Familia Bogacki era una de las familias de la suerte que puedan asistir al partido. Van los Gigantes!

Cene y Donar

¡Juntémonos sobre pizza, ensaladas y mucho más!
Miércoles, 30 de Septiembre 2015

Bon Air Center Shopping Center 940 Bon Air, Greenbrae

Patxi pizza donará el 10% de las ventas de todo el día a Matrix Parent Network & Resource Center. Por favor apoyemos cenando en Paxti's ordenando para llevar,

entrega o ordene servicios de comidas en el Día de “Cene y Done”!

Familias en Desfile

Celebre con nosotros en la inaugural de los Niños y Familias de Matrix Fashion Show. Tenemos el programa y la fórmula. Voluntarios y unirse a la diversión. Si tenemos suficiente ayuda, ¡este evento será una oportunidad!

Por favor, póngase en contacto con Joanne Ferris joannef@matrixparents.org 415-475-2118. ¡Hagámoslo!

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