



SUMMER

Joan Martin Retires After 34 years

On May 28th there was a grand celebration at Hillcrest Park honoring Joan Martin and her thirty-four years as Executive Director of SPARC. Over the years Joan has provided



direction and leadership to families and staff of Skagit Preschool and Resource Center (SPARC).

She has been a continual source of inspiration to others, meeting the challenges in her own life while advocating for opportunities for all.

“Her insight and vision will be sorely missed,” said Pat Holloran, the new Director. “We will continue to provide comprehensive services for children birth to five with disabilities and are grateful for her tireless work throughout the community.”

SPARC is establishing a fund as a legacy to Joan’s career, affectionately called the

“**Joan Fund**”. Donations are tax deductible and will support and expand services for the children and their families.

Our New Director

SPARC was fortunate to have a person already on staff to assume the role of Director. Patricia Holloran began working at SPARC as a preschool teacher in the fall of 1980. Her roles as a preschool teacher, child care director, birth to three teacher, birth to three coordinator and educational program leader have given her hands on understanding of SPARC. Her compassion and knowledge for the children and families continues the mission of SPARC. During the 28 years Pat has worked at SPARC she has been a mentor to staff and taken the lead in developing inclusive classrooms and services.

Joan Martin wrote the following about Pat. “Pat, Thank you for being you—thoughtful, creative, professional and kind. SPARC would not have been so successful without you steady and knowledgeable leadership.



SUMMER SERVICES

SPARC is in the middle of their summer program. Therapy services are provided year-round for the children under three years old. Referrals are always accepted—if you have any concerns about your child’s development, please call— 416-7570.

More Inclusive Classrooms

SPARC works closely with the Mount Vernon School District and Skagit/Islands Head Start to provide inclusive opportunities for our children with disabilities. SPARC preschool children receive their services in six Head Start classrooms with support from instructional assistants, special education teachers and therapists provided by SPARC. We also collaborate with Early Head Start and place children in two of their toddler classrooms with support of an instructional assistant, teacher and therapists.

This Fall we are excited to add an inclusive classroom at our LaVenture site. SPARC will provide the teacher and assistant to work closely with a Head Start Family Service Specialist to provide comprehensive services to 6 Head Start and 7 SPARC children. The more opportunities we can provide for children with disabilities and community children to learn together, the better for all.

New Board Members

SPARC welcomes new Board members:

Tony Pickering—Businessman

Bill Ronhaar— Businessman-

Land Title Company

If you are interested in becoming a Board member to advocate for and enrich programs for children with disabilities call SPARC at 416-7570, Jackie Frazier, our Board President will return your call.

SAVE the DATE: S.P.A.R.C. Your Engines Saturday, February 28, 2009 will be the 2009 “SPARC Your Engines” fundraiser. The evening will be full of wonderful food, great silent auction items and a live auction to end the evening. For tickets or to find out more information, contact SPARC at (360)416-7570.



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Children Served

SPARC Financial Report

During our 2007-08 year :

Birth To Three

- 76 children age birth to three were provided needed services
- 16 children reached age three and services continued
- 5 children no longer needed services at age three
- 2 children no longer needed services before age three
- 41 additional children evaluated during this year were found to not need services

Preschool

- 101 children age three to six were provided needed services
- 8 children were exited from program because they no longer needed services

July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

Revenue:

School District	686,728
State Contract Services	247,002
Medicaid and Insurance	75,676
Grants and Donations	101,803
Fundraising	63,444
Other Income	<u>4,394</u>
	1,179,047

Expenses:

Preschool	460,591
Birth to Age 3	321,031
Bridge Kindergarten	149,969
Other Direct Services	84,468
Management & General	139,060
Fundraising	<u>23,928</u>
	1,179,047