



The Gazette



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“Barriers cause handicaps, not disabilities.™”

Tom Pomeranz, Phd

The Rockstars of MSS

By Winter Dainard, *Courtesy of Cheryl Day*



I had the pleasure of interviewing one of the members of *The Rockstars of MSS*, Cheryl Day, about the purpose and goals of the group. We are very pleased to highlight these individuals in this edition of the Gazette.

The Rockstars of MSS reside in Orange County and are led by three individuals: Cheryl Day, Bobby Olea, and Shanbriel Harris. Cheryl explained to me that she is the group’s president, Bobby is the Vice President and Shanbriel is the group’s secretary. I asked Cheryl how the group decided upon the name, and she explained that they held a meeting, voted upon it, and came to a consensus that they will be The Rockstars of MSS.

Cheryl was very informative of the group’s ideals and purpose: promoting independence. She described that they are the pilot of this group, and hope for its expansion. She explained:

“We want the group to be independent and rely upon ourselves. The group is run solely by individuals and the staff that does attend our meetings is only there for feedback and support, but we make the decisions. We want to show other groups that if we can do it, so can they. The word ‘can’t’ is not in our vocabulary!”

The Rockstars of MSS are in the process of coming up with some events for the group and already have some plans set. On July 23rd they will be attending the Angels vs. the Twins baseball game. Cheryl stressed that all individuals are invited to join, that the tickets are \$30 which one can purchase for themselves to attend the game with the group. Some other events that are in the works are trips to both Disneyland and Sea World.

Cheryl explained that they are always welcoming new members into The Rockstars of MSS and as the group expands and the events line up, they will need more members to fill positions to help with the running of the group.

If you are interested in becoming a member, their meetings are usually scheduled on the 3rd Monday of every even month. Please feel free to contact Jim Williams, our Associate Director, at 855-853-2300 ext. 102 if interested.



I had the pleasure of interviewing Yesenia Chavarria, a former DSP in our Glendale office, about her recent endeavors in joining the military. Yesenia is an extremely dedicated individual who gives her all in her work. We are sad to see her leave Modern Support Services but are pleased to have the opportunity to highlight her in this edition of the Gazette.

Yesenia was with Modern Support Services for almost a year, and in the time she spent with us she put forth great work ethic. Recently, she informed us that she would be leaving for the military, and as a result would have to part with MSS. Yesenia will be on active duty for the army, in which her Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) will be a Health Care Specialist. In this position, Yesenia will be working as an emergency medic with wounded soldiers, similar to the role of an EMT.

I asked Yesenia if she could share some of her best memories with Modern Support Services, and she explained that they are all with the individual she supported named Rebecca. Yesenia said “We could talk about anything together. I always enjoyed talking with her; she’s really funny and always made me laugh.”

Yesenia continued to share how working with Modern Support Services has influenced her. She stated “This has been a job that has really developed my character and tested my patience. The more I was tested, the more I

grew. I have been able to teach others in different ways, and it’s awesome. Modern Support Services has allowed me to grow both professionally and as a person.”



Yesenia shared these last words with me about her feelings towards Modern Support services: “I’ve never worked for a company that has been led by people with such good hearts. I’ve never been treated so well as an employee and I have worked many places. The leadership here has a heart to help others and I think that is awesome.”

Our lead support coordinator, JoAnne Williams, Shared the following about Yesenia:

“Yesenia was a model DSP. She gave 100% of herself to the client she was assigned to. She was very instrumental in helping the individual she supported in overcoming many severe obstacles. Because of Yesenia's dedication to the services she provided, the quality of life for the individual she was assigned to has greatly improved. Yesenia will be greatly missed! I wish her much success as she continues her journey. The United States Army is lucky to be gaining such a dedicated and creative individual as Yesenia.”

Although Modern Support Services is saddened by Yesenia’s departure, we fully support her decision to join the Army and serve for our country. We thank Yesenia for all the work she has done for Modern Support Services, and for the work she will be doing for our US Troops!



Check Out These Valuable Resources

Health Tips: How to Avoid Health Problems

The best way to stay healthy is:

- Eat well
- Take care of your body
- Exercise
- Think good thoughts



Catching health problems early:

- Visit your doctor at least once a year
- Ask your family about their health problems (many health problems are partly genetic!)
- Get tested!

Information retrieved from <http://www.ddssafety.net/content/how-avoid-health-problems>

Resources

Free Eyeglass Voucher

Visit www.neweyesfortheneedy.com
or call 973-376-4903 to apply

Special Olympics

- Visit www.sosc.org for specific dates and details!
- Santa Clarita: 661-253-2121
- Tri-Valley: call 818-342-0017
- Los Angeles Region: 562-502-1120
- San Gabriel Valley Region: 562-502-1120
- Orange County Region: 714-564-8374
- Ventura County: 805-650-7717

Free community events

- www.eyespyla.com
- www.venturausa.com
- www.orangecounty.net

Food Banks

- www.lafoodbank.org/pantry-locator
- www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/foodbanks
- www.cafoodbanks.org

Homeless Shelters

- www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/california
- www.lahsa.org
- www.salvationarmyoc.org/pr_ser_shelters



The Gazette

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