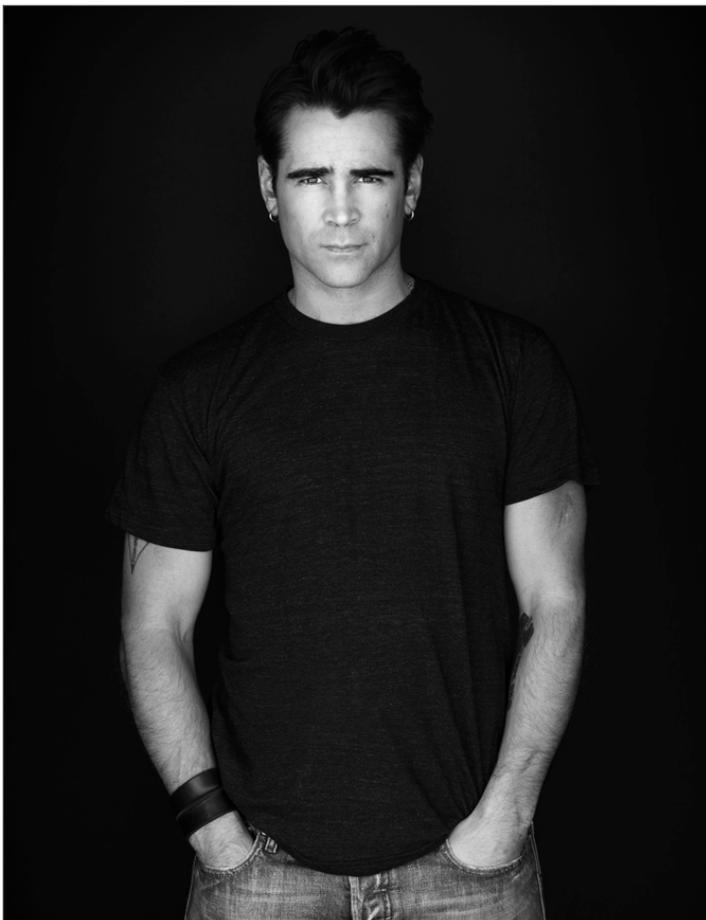


AWARD-WINNING ACTOR JOINS GATEPATH FOR *THE POWER OF POSSIBILITIES!*

Gatepath is thrilled to announce Colin Farrell to keynote *The Power of Possibilities* recognition event on the evening of March 23, 2017, at the San Francisco Airport Marriott-Waterfront in Burlingame. *The Power of Possibilities* is an inspirational event that honors people of all abilities and highlights Gatepath's commitment to creating an inclusive world for those with special needs and developmental disabilities – in the classroom, in the workplace, and in the community.



Colin Farrell

Colin is world-renowned for his starring roles in *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, *The Lobster*, and *Total Recall* (to name just a few of his movies), but he has a very personal reason for supporting our mission – he is the parent of a child with special needs.

“I have learned that disability is often imposed upon a person. Yet what one person deems a disability, another person deems a challenge and, most importantly, an opportunity to show the strength and deep reserve of the human spirit,” Colin shared.

The Power of Possibilities is known for its influential keynote speakers. Last year, Holly Robinson-Peete gave an inspiring speech regarding her son with autism, while also examining the importance of breaking stereotypes in the media related to people living with a disability. Popular *Glee* actress Lauren Potter and former San Francisco 49er Steve Young were also previous keynote speakers.

Gatepath is looking forward to an evening that celebrates individuals of all abilities who demonstrate perseverance and ingenuity in overcoming significant obstacles and create a path to independence.

As Colin so eloquently expressed, “When those with special needs are rightfully given the same opportunities as the rest of us, then the impossible becomes possible and each individual’s endeavor takes center stage. We then see ability instead of disability in every single person, and we arrive at the solidarity of acceptance, respect, and inclusion.”

For more than 96 years, Gatepath has worked to ensure that people with disabilities have the same opportunities as their peers to demonstrate their skills and abilities and to help them reach their full potential.

Join us! Be inspired and discover *The Power of Possibilities*.

Sponsorships are available; please contact Jeanne Berube at jberube@gatepath.org.

MAKING A PLEDGE TO SUPPORT INCLUSION



Bryan Neider, CEO

Every day I have the pleasure of working with so many dedicated, passionate and caring professionals, all focused on making our shared vision a reality: A world where people of all abilities are fully accepted, respected and included.

Everyone has a desire to belong and to be included, whether that's in the classroom, our community or the workplace. Gatepath is focused on sharing the many benefits of inclusion in our communities. To advance these efforts, Gatepath launched the "Pledge for Inclusion" campaign in October. The campaign is a collaborative effort geared towards unifying all organizations and individuals who are committed to creating a world where people with special needs and

developmental disabilities are fully included in all aspects of life.

Inclusion is the foundation of our work throughout the year: from cultivating employment partners who are dedicated to hiring employees with disabilities, to joining forces with corporations and individuals who lend their valuable time volunteering and sponsoring our events. Inclusion would not be possible without their incredible support.

I encourage everyone to **Accept, Respect and Include** people of all abilities by signing the online pledge at PledgeForInclusion.org. It is simple to fill out and it only takes a minute to complete. You can also help by spreading the word your friends and family members on social media.

Thank you for your support.

GENENTECH VOLUNTEERS MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE

There is one common thread that all humans share no matter who they are or where they live – hopes and dreams for a better future. Depending on each person's life journey, these hopes and dreams can be as simple as going to the beach, or as lofty as taking a trip to the moon.

Recently, a group of adults in Gatepath's employment program shared their hopes and dreams with each other by creating their own "bucket lists". The items on their lists were things that most adults take for granted or come by easily in their lives, such as "finding my own place to live", "getting a job", or "falling in love."

To help the adults at our Learning and Employment campus identify their dreams for the future, Gatepath partnered with nearly 100 volunteers from Genentech to create "dream boards". Dream boards, similar to vision boards, are a visualization tool that uses imagery to help people envision their future.

The dream boards were created by using photos from magazines, brightly colored items, and a variety of scrapbooking materials. In addition, a photo of each person was pasted to the middle of the board. Each board represented how they envisioned their family and friends;



Gatepath participants creating dream boards

their hopes and dreams; and goals for the future.

Each person was partnered with a Genentech volunteer, who helped them with their dream board project as well as an art therapy project, resume writing and interviewing. Finding a job can be difficult for someone with disabilities, but a good job fit begins by being prepared. The Genentech volunteers came away with a better understanding that people with and without disabilities are more alike than different.

Thank you, Genentech, for providing our participants with a meaningful experience.

THERAPISTS ARE TRULY MIRACLE WORKERS *By Stephanie Lee*

Our family was introduced to Gatepath five years ago when our son Sammy started therapy services at seven months old (he has the diagnosis of Down syndrome). Sammy was at risk for several delays in the areas of speech, cognitive, and social functioning. Also, due to low muscle tone, Sammy experienced delayed growth in fine and gross motor skills. We are truly amazed at how impactful the Early Intervention pediatric therapy services have been on Sammy's development.

Gatepath has helped our family in so many ways – while Sammy received physical, occupational, and speech-language therapy, his older brother attended the Learning Links inclusive preschool, and my husband and I received parental support and benefited from the community resources offered through the Family Resource Center. Having children with special needs is very challenging and exhausting. It has been extremely helpful to have a single place to come to that accepts families as they are, supports them wholeheartedly, and gives moral support to parents who struggle raising children with many challenges.

Sammy, who was largely non-verbal until the age of three, has learned to communicate through American Sign Language and alternative communication devices and now expresses his needs and wants to others appropriately, which also allows him to have a more enjoyable experience with his playmates and caretakers.

After working extensively with a physical therapist, Sammy



The Lee family at the Annual Golf Classic

strengthened his muscles so he could sit, stand, and ultimately – walk. And he did walk! Without the Early Intervention services, I am certain he would not have walked until much later.

All of the therapists who support Sammy's development are truly miracle workers. They work so hard, and they are dedicated, loyal, and committed to Sammy and all of the other kids they see on a daily basis. We couldn't imagine where we would be today without them.

We've been given the incredible opportunity to watch our son learn, play, talk, make friends, and thrive through Gatepath. We have also connected with a wonderful network of other families through these amazing services. Gatepath, and everyone who supports the organization, has truly helped us succeed. For that, we'll be forever grateful.

THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO OUR SUCCESS!

We are proud to share some of the outcomes you helped make possible during fiscal year 2016:

- Gatepath was selected as the lead agency for the countywide Watch Me Grow initiative to improve the system of care for children with special needs
- We expanded access to speech, occupational and physical therapies, increasing the number of children served by 29%
- Over 180 adults were supported through our job placement services
- 19% increase in adults in our Community Access program, which offers learning and inclusion through daily community-based activities and employment
- Over 1,500 families and professionals received information and support through the Family Resource Center

Our complete FY16 annual report will be available in December. To request a copy, please email development@gatepath.org or call 650-259-8500.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Sobrato Center for Nonprofits
350 Twin Dolphin Drive, Suite 123
Redwood City, CA 94065
650-259-8500 | Gatepath.org

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Burlingame, CA
Permit No.19

November

- 14 Infant and Toddler Learning and Development Foundations Workshop
- 15 Grupo de Apoyo Para Padres
- 20 **Caring Santa**
- 29 **Giving Tuesday**

December

- 4 **Caring Santa**
- 6 Autism Support Group
- 16 Autism Social Connection's Hang Outs
- 19 Holiday Hair Cut Party
- 20 Grupo de Apoyo Para Padres

January

- 17 Grupo de Apoyo Para Padres

We recently changed our database; if your address below needs to be updated, please email development@gatepath.org.

For more information visit: Gatepath.org/calendar

Stay Connected:     

SAVE THE DATE!

#GIVING TUESDAY

November 29, 2016

Two great reasons to give back on
#GivingTuesday this year

The holiday season is just around the corner, and we invite you to kick it off with us on November 29 for #GivingTuesday – a global day of giving back.

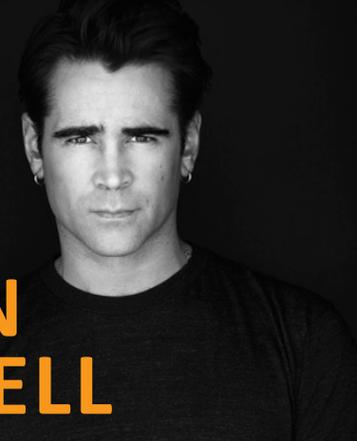
This #GivingTuesday, your donation can make twice the impact thanks to matching gifts! In addition, online transaction fees will be waived.

Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and join us
at GiveToGatepath.org.

THE POWER OF POSSIBILITIES

Thursday, March 23, 2017 | 7 p.m.
San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront

Featuring
**COLIN
FARRELL**



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!
Please contact Jeanne Berube at 650-259-0160

CREATE YOUR LEGACY

Establish a sustainable future for people with special needs



INTRODUCING THE GATEPATH LEGACY SOCIETY

For more than 96 years, Gatepath has been a cornerstone of the community, providing life-changing services that meet the evolving needs of people with special needs. We are unique in providing support to individuals throughout their lifetime, which means we are always planning for today, tomorrow, and the future.

Part of our future planning includes ensuring we have the resources to sustain our services. As an important part of this effort, we recently formed a Legacy Society to recognize the individuals and families who have included Gatepath in their estate plans. During the past two years alone, we received several legacy gifts that supported our existing programs while also providing the foundation for greater community inclusion in the future.

Gatepath is grateful for the members of our Legacy Society, who have remembered us in their plans:

Larry and Betsy Grotte
Frank Hunt
Bryan and Katie Neider

Beverly D. Pabst
Mieko and Nick Poppin

Robert and Katherine Sharp
Louisa Williams

A LEGACY OF GRATITUDE

Neal Poppin's social nature and infectious personality brightened Gatepath's adult programs for more than two decades. His energy and enthusiasm transcended the significant physical challenges he faced as a result of cerebral palsy.



Nick and Mieko Poppin

In 1979, Neal joined Gatepath's programs, where we provided him with adaptive equipment, ongoing support, and specialized training. Neal was eager to achieve, and he happily put to use every skill he acquired. Despite having the use of only one finger on his right hand, Neal skillfully manipulated his wheelchair and learned to enter data using a keyboard designed especially for him.

Although Neal has passed away, his parents, Nick and Mieko, keep his memory alive by presenting the Neal Poppin Award to a Gatepath participant at our annual Power of Possibilities recognition event. They have also chosen to express their gratitude for the services Neal received by including Gatepath in their will to help ensure future generations.

Thank you, Nick and Mieko, for including us in your legacy.

FREE AND EASY WAYS TO MAKE A LEGACY GIFT

There are many options available when establishing your own unique legacy plan. From very simple arrangements to more tailored options, legacy gifts can offer important estate, financial, and personal advantages. Here are two of the easiest ways to create your legacy:

1. Designate Gatepath as a beneficiary of your life insurance, IRA, pension plan, stocks and bonds, and/or checking or savings account.

A beneficiary designation is one of the easiest ways to make a legacy gift. You can often implement these options yourself during open enrollment at work, while conducting an annual review of your plans, or by contacting your financial provider. It is often as simple as filling out a few fields on a form and providing Gatepath's legal name (Community Gatepath) and Tax ID (94-1156502).

2. Include Gatepath in your will.

Estate plans are important for people at every income level who want to help protect their finances and avoid future conflict between family members. All too often, however, creating an estate plan falls by the wayside: A 2014 survey found that 64% of Americans didn't have a will—with 57% saying it was simply because they hadn't gotten around to making one. Now is as good a time as any to plan for your future. If you decide to include Gatepath in your will, we can provide you with sample language.

You can create a plan today that will take care of both your loved ones and Gatepath in the future!

Since every person's situation is different, we recommend consulting an advisor about the specific benefits of making a legacy gift.

CONTACT US

If you'd like to learn more, or if you have already included Gatepath in your plans, please check the appropriate box on the enclosed envelope and return it to us. You can also reach us at legacygiving@gatepath.org or 650-259-0150.

Gatepath.org/legacygiving