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### **BANK OF AMERICA DONATES \$15K TO HELP PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES LIVE INDEPENDENTLY**

SACRAMENTO – Bank of America is helping people with developmental disabilities access affordable housing and develop financial skills so they can live independently through a \$15,000 Basic Human Services grant to UCP of Sacramento and Northern California’s independent living program called Community Living Arrangements Services and Programs (CLASP). UCP empowers people with developmental disabilities to live life without limits.

“Too often when someone is diagnosed with a disability, society assumes the only option is to forever lock that person into a life of dependency, which can be a drain on society and on the spirit of that person,” said Doug Bergman, UCP President and CEO. “We are grateful to Bank of America for recognizing that people with disabilities can live life without limits when they are empowered with the right tools.”

Serving 22 people each month, UCP’s CLASP independent living instructors provide individualized education tailored to each person’s specific goals. Instruction includes personal and social development, financial management, accessing affordable housing, health, nutrition, cooking, public transportation, navigating the health care system, safety, household management and self-advocacy. By helping people with disabilities live independently, the program reduces state costs by up to two-thirds.

“Bank of America is lending, investing and giving in local communities like ours in order to advance the economy and create positive change,” said Lori A. Rianda, Bank of America Senior Vice President. “Providing support to

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organizations like UCP of Sacramento and Northern California, organizations that are providing critical services and programs, is just one of the ways we are helping improve the quality of life in the communities we serve.”

Each month, UCP of Sacramento and Northern California serves 4,775 children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families in Butte, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Shasta, Sutter and Yolo counties. Programs include Saddle Pals adaptive horseback riding, UCP’s Autism Center for Excellence at Sacramento State, adult day programs, independent living services, transportation and in-home respite care for families. For more information, visit [www.ucpsacto.org](http://www.ucpsacto.org).

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation supports high-impact initiatives, organizations and the development of visionary leaders. Last year, the foundation contributed more than \$200 million to address critical issues facing neighborhoods and communities. In June 2012, the foundation awarded more than \$22 million in grants to more than 650 nonprofits. Based on data provided by nonprofit partners, these funds are estimated to benefit more than 31 million people. The foundation’s Basic Human Services grants focus on individuals struggling to provide basic necessities for their families. Support is focused on helping people at their point of need, from immediate human needs such as food and shelter to addressing financial wellness and stability issues facing low-income communities, such as access to benefits and resources. For more information, visit [www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation).

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