



1880 Pruneridge Avenue, Santa Clara, California 95050 Tel: 408.245.3400 Fax: 408.260.7267 www.pacificautism.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SANTA CLARA, CA, SEPTEMBER 28, 2018 WRITTEN BY: MARTA WEINSTOCK

## TENTH ANNUAL PACE GOLF CLASSIC A HUGE SUCCESS

WOW! The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual PACE Golf Classic "the best tournament yet." PACE welcomed enthusiastic golfers and a record number of sponsors in support of people with autism. Golfers enjoy wonderful weather, cold drinks, eighteen holes, and smokin' BBQ - all for a good cause.



PACE, aka Pacific Autism Center for Education, held its tenth annual golf fundraising tournament on Friday, September 28th at the neatly manicured greens of Cinnabar Hills Golf Club. Over 133 golfers with generous spirits teed off under the sunny skies in support of people with autism in the Bay Area. "We love being out here! We come every year to support PACE," one golfer said.

Though no one ended up winning the "Hole-in-One" grand prize on the sixth hole, a 2018 GMC All Terrain, although many gave it their best shot.

PACE staff were supported by over 15 volunteers who did everything from register golfers, sell raffle tickets, organize lunch, drive the beverage carts and to run the tournament games. This year's big surprise featured "Joe's Party Tent" to celebrate the 10 years Joe Dermer, now a member of the PACE Advisory Board, has put sweat equity into creating, promoting, and driving attendance and sponsorship to the tournament. Craig Robinson, a long-time friend and local Keller Williams Realtor, sponsored the Party Tent and offered appealing cocktails for the guests.

Thanks to the two Course Sponsors, Sequoia Wealth & Jan Berthold, and the Adidas Gear Sponsor O2 Mortgage, and other generous sponsors, this year's event offered many benefits and perks for the golfers. The team at O2 Mortgage are also known as the 'hot dog stand experts' and volunteer each year to support the event with grills a blazing!

After over six hours of driving, putting and cruising around Cinnabar Hills in high-powered golf carts, guests were invited to attend the dinner and live auction. Auction prizes ranging from a foursome at Half Moon Bay Golf Links to a meet-n-greet with Santa Cruz Warriors were highlights of the evening. Joe Dermer and Mark Gilfix helped raise over \$18k for the Fund-A-Need for PACE's Residential Group Homes with a matching donation from the SPARC Foundation of \$10k.



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PACE was founded in 1989 by a group of concerned parents and educators as a private, nonprofit 501 (C) (3) organization to meet the critical need of providing education and care for children and adults with autism/developmental disabilities and their families.

Starting with 14 students in 1989 and one group home in 1992, PACE currently serves over 60 students in our preschool and K-12 school, houses 36 children and adults in our residential program, and provides behavioral services for Bay Area families.

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**About PACE:** Founded in 1989, Pacific Autism Center for Education provides high-quality programs for individuals with autism and its related developmental disabilities. PACE operates a non-public school for ages 6-22, offers Early Intervention and behavioral therapy services including Sunny Days Preschool and operates two children and four adult group homes in Santa Clara County. *EIN:* 77-0259858. www.pacificautism.org facebook.com/pacificautismce

**About Autism**: Autism is a neuro-developmental disability that impacts an individual's ability to regulate sensory input, to communicate, to interact socially, and to learn in conventional ways. Autism is considered a spectrum disorder and so affects each individual differently and at varying degrees. <a href="http://pacificautism.org/about-pace/about-autism/">http://pacificautism.org/about-pace/about-autism/</a>

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