

# East Bay Innovations Creating Opportunities



*“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”*

— Winston Churchill

## SAM’S STORY

At three years old, Sam suffered a severe asthma attack that left him quadriplegic. When EBI staff met Sam almost 20 years later, he was exiting high school.

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**EBI** staff quickly realized that with Sam's changing needs it was critical that he move to a physically accessible living situation with enough room for his multigenerational family and space for the medical equipment he increasingly needed.

Sam became a participant in EBI's Community Day Supports (CDS) program serving young adults with developmental disabilities and substantial physical limitations. Staff searched for and found affordable housing for Sam's family, advocated for funding to make it accessible, and spent months negotiating with contractors and landlords to make sure the modifications met everyone's requirements.

## ***Success!***

While staff are seamlessly providing personal care to CDS participants, assisting with feeding, communication and mobility, and continuously on the alert for health problems that arise, our consumers are participating in a rich, varied schedule of activities in the community. For Sam, each program day is a departure from the fixed routine he'd had for so many years.



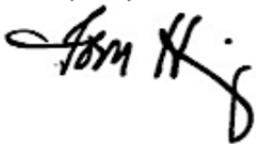
***Five years later, Sam's world has vastly changed.***

Today, he chooses to attend cooking and music classes. He follows multiple musicians, loves dancing with his wheelchair, masterfully navigates local bus routes to new activities, and volunteers weekly for Meals on Wheels. He's a storyteller and a jokester and spends as much time as he can socializing with friends. In many ways, Sam has become the life of the party.

It's hard not to wonder how different Sam's life might be right now if EBI hadn't been able to address his family's need for housing early on. The generosity of our supporters made it possible for us to do this important work.

***Your contributions really do change lives.***

Please support East Bay Innovations by making a donation at [www.eastbayinnovations.org](http://www.eastbayinnovations.org) or by mail in the enclosed envelope by December 31, 2015. ***Thank you.***



Tom Heinz, Executive Director, EBI



***YOUR DONATIONS MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR EBI TO PROVIDE SERVICES  
to more than 450 individuals with disabilities.***