



*"Dare to live the life you have dreamed for yourself.
Go forward and make your dreams come true."*

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

East Bay Innovations

Creating Opportunities



This fall, EBI raised \$34,000 for our “Raise the Roof” initiative, established to cover expenses that are so often a barrier to our clients’ securing and moving into their own apartments. Our goal now is to match this amount by December 31st so we can address unfunded needs of many more individuals with disabilities in 2026.

Ryan’s story is an example of the impact EBI’s services can make, one person at a time, with support from our community.

An achievement four years in the making, Ryan’s long held dream of having a place of his own finally became a reality. His journey began when he first partnered with our Independent Living Services program. EBI staff provided essential life skills training, ensuring that Ryan would be fully prepared and confident about living alone when the right opportunity arose.

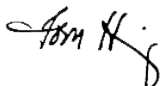
For Ryan, a talented 30 year old artist with autism, moving from his mother's home to his own apartment was a life change that came with a mix of emotions. But Ryan's excitement and desire for independence quickly eclipsed any nervousness when EBI successfully connected him with a competitive rent subsidy program that would make his housing affordable. On the long-awaited day that Ryan moved into his own apartment, he was ready. And, having the space and freedom to be creative, Ryan's apartment became a place where he could surround himself with his vibrant art.

What followed next was Ryan's desire to work. EBI's Employment Services staff assisted him in applying for a paid internship at a local retirement community. The interview process was extensive, but despite it being such an unfamiliar experience, Ryan gave it his best. He was accepted into the program and early on established himself as a valued intern with a strong work ethic, consistently receiving positive feedback from his supervisors, coworkers, and job coaches. One of his professional goals today is to develop skills he will likely need for future employment -- building rapport with coworkers, communicating clearly with supervisors, and responding to requests politely and professionally. Ryan is challenging himself, and with support from EBI, he's steadily building confidence and ease in his interactions.

EBI staff are honored to be part of a team that respects and supports our clients' goals, understands and addresses their needs, and celebrates successes, like Ryan's, alongside them.

Your Generosity Makes Our Work Possible!

Wishing you a happy holiday season and wonderful New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom H.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Heinz, Executive Director, EBI



East Bay Innovations
2450 Washington Avenue, Suite 240
San Leandro, CA 94577
www.eastbayinnovations.org