# THE CALI PROJECT Bi-Annual Newsletter



#### HAPPY AUGUST!

Good day and good news! Time sure flies when you're having fun. We are already more than halfway through the year, we have had some amazing fun, learned many new skills, and we are always trying to squeeze in a little more! Be sure to check out our summer time fun on the next page, but for now, I would like to bring your attention to our highlighted CALI crew Member Susanna and Coach Ryan. In every newsletter, we like to pick a crew and staff member who stands out. It is always hard to choose, as we have an amazing crew and team. Let's start with Susanna. If you would kindly take a look to your right the story will begin.

## Moving forward with our independent lives

We are so proud of Susanna! Recently, Susanna started a new job where she's learning caregiving skills. She's been taking on new responsibilities with confidence and heart, showing just how capable and determined she is.

When she's not working or hanging out with friends, she enjoys her hobbies like Akedo and horseback riding.

In the time we have known Susanna, she has become more confident and well-rounded in her work, friendships, and her life skills. Susanna's positivity, talent, and spirit inspire us all.



#### THE LIFE COACH

Meet Ryan, our incredible Director of Clubs here at The CALI Project! Ryan has been with us full-time for almost two years now, and in that time, he has made a lasting impact on both our clients and our team. Ryan brings patience, adaptability, and a sense of humor to everything he does. He is always ready to jump in and help out or tell a good joke to brighten your day. His ability to connect with clients and create engaging, supportive experiences in our clubs is truly amazing. Whether he's organizing activities or offering one-on-one support, Ryan's care and dedication always shine through. We are so grateful to have Ryan on our team. His leadership and heart help make CALI the vibrant community it is.



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#### EVENT RECAP

#### STEP UP FOR CALI: A WALK TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE

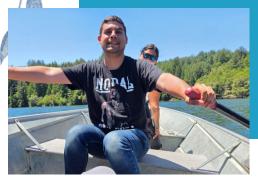
Thank you for stepping up with us! On April 13, 2025, our CALI community came together for the "Step Up for CALI" Walkathon, and what a day it was! From the CALI House to the Surfer Statue and back, we walked, rolled, and celebrated with BBQ, music, and great company.

Thanks to your support, all proceeds go toward empowering differently-abled individuals through our life skills programs.

Congrats to our raffle winners and top sponsors!

Every step made a difference. Stay tuned for more ways to support the CALI mission!















WELCOMING THE NEW CALI CREW MEMBER









### 4TH ANNUAL GALA THE BUDDING COMMUNITY

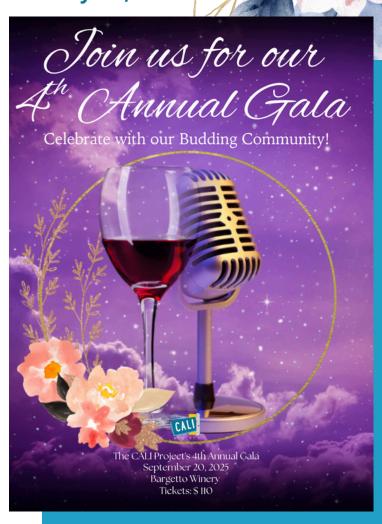
And now, the event you all have been waiting for. We are thrilled to announce that tickets are now available for our 4th Annual Gala - Celebrate Our Budding Community! This is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and we can't

wait to celebrate it with YOU!

You're invited to an inspiring evening of food, drinks, and live entertainment celebrating community, independence, and the impact of CALI's mission.

All proceeds will benefit CALI's programs that teach life skills to differently-abled individuals, helping them live with confidence and purpose.

Let's raise a glass to transformation and inclusion. Save the date. We can't wait to see you there!





#### **Get your Tickets here:**

https://thecaliproject.networkfor good.com/events/87361-4thannual-gala



Thank you for all of your support, whether it's donating or following us online, attending our events, or participating in our activities. Your involvement and encouragement mean the world to us and help make everything we do possible.

As we enjoy the last rays of summer, let's continue to celebrate our small wins and look forward to all the exciting things ahead. We can't wait to see you at our future events!

Cissi Van Wickler, Program Director Judy Maitland-Locke, Director The Board and The CALI Crew

P.S. Big news in 2026, we're celebrating our 10th Anniversary!

Join our Anniversary Planning Committee to help create memorable experiences. Whether you love event planning, storytelling, or just want to be part of this milestone. We'd love your help. Reach out to us by email at admin@thecaliproject.org to get involved!