



### A Note From the Executive Director

ACCEL always has a rich and compelling story to tell, and this year is no exception. Our educational programs continue to expand as we move students along the continuum of services. Not only are we providing exceptional educational, therapeutic, vocational and behavioral services to our students with special needs on our Phoenix and Tempe campuses, but we have created another step on our continuum of services and are operating two satellite programs on two different public school district sites in the Phoenix metro area. These programs provide a significant and positive stepping stone as students move closer to returning to their home school district programs.

In addition, ACCEL has a growing number of requests for its consulting services to public school districts, charter schools and other private schools, locally and out of state. These evidence-based consulting services include workshops, district wide and program specific consultation, specific teacher training and services, and individual student consultation.

ACCEL's BISTÅ Center has expanded to serve an ever-increasing number of children on the autism spectrum. With eight BCBA's (Board Certified Behavior Analysts) on staff, BISTÅ is in a unique position to provide the very finest in behavioral intervention, support, treatment and assessment.

Michael's Garden, ACCEL's innovative day program serving adults with special needs, is flourishing. Michael's Garden trainees are provided the opportunity to gain valuable employment skills through practical, hands-on training in classes and innovative enterprises. Most importantly, Michael's Garden promotes the dignity, self-worth and independence of all of its trainees and provides them the skills to live successfully in our community.

My colleagues and I at ACCEL extend our warmest thanks to all who have supported our programs and services throughout the year. Your ongoing support has helped to strengthen ACCEL and enables us to continue to provide excellence in quality programs for children and adults with special needs.



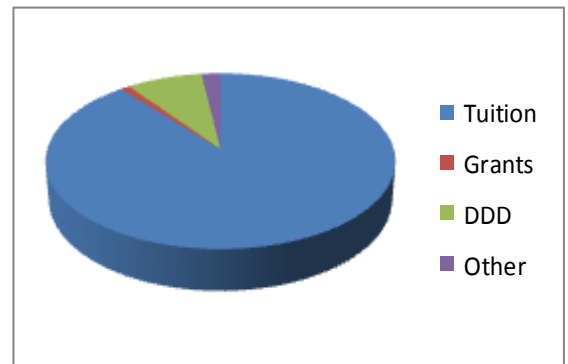
Connie F. Laird, Executive Director

**ACCEL's Mission:** *To provide exceptional educational, behavioral, therapeutic, and vocational programs to individuals with special needs, to give them the necessary skills to learn, to work, and to live successfully with dignity and independence.*

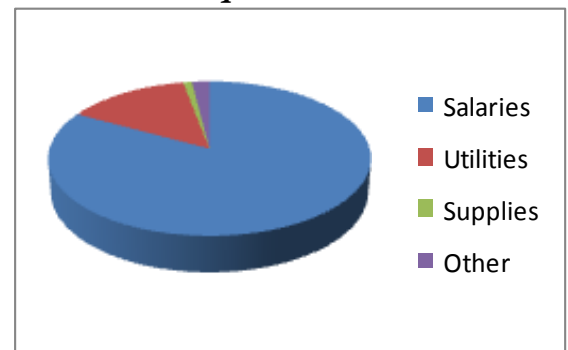
### Revenue & Expense Summary

The charts below summarize ACCEL's 2011 calendar year revenues and expenses. Despite the incredible economic challenge, we have been fortunate to have dedicated staff, trustees, donors and volunteers, allowing us to continue to provide excellent programs to those we serve.

#### Revenues



#### Expenditures



## The Industrial Development Authority of the City of Phoenix Awards \$15,000 to ACCEL for Literacy



“A literacy rich environment that is individualized for students with disabilities is essential. The generosity of the Phoenix IDA has enabled us to provide a variety of multi-sensory language and literacy activities throughout the school day. We are so grateful for this gift.”

Dr. Mindy Malik

ACCEL is the recipient of a \$15,000 grant for literacy materials from The Industrial Development Authority of the City of Phoenix, Arizona (the "Phoenix IDA"). Pictured L-R at the Dec. 13, 2011 check presentation are: Margie O'Campo de Castillo, Board Chair of City of Phoenix Industrial Development Authority, Joe Lauterio, ACCEL Board President, Marjorie Cook, ACCEL Director of Grants & Quality Management, Dr. Mindy Malik, ACCEL VP of Training & Program Development, Connie Laird, ACCEL Executive Director, Juan Salgado, Executive Director of IDA, and Judy Lorch, Chief of Staff for the Vice Mayor. The IDA awards are presented to charitable 501(c)(3) nonprofit community organizations selected by the Phoenix IDA's Board members. The Board supports programs that have demonstrated leadership and provided services for residents of the City of Phoenix.

## Thank You To Our 2011 Sponsors

ACCEL's Annual Fundraisers, *Boo Bash* and the *Golf Tournament and Gala*, were successful (and fun!) again this year due to the generosity of area businesses and organizations.

**A & C Properties**

**Aetna**

**Alliant Insurance**

**Bijou of Scottsdale**

**Carlson Creek**

**COACH-Biltmore Fashion Park**

**English Rose Tea Room**

**Greenberg Traurig**

**Greco & Sons**

**High Spirits**

**Jason's Deli- Metro Center**

**Marathon Administration Company**

**Melissa Ioquilino**

**Mumbo Jumbo Boutique**

**Partlow Insurance**

**Premier Access Insurance**

**Pinnacle Peak Country Club**

**Price Kong**

**Quarles and Brady**

**Schmitt Jewelers**

**Scottsdale Property Management**

**Steve Manios**

**The TMF Club**

**Totom RV Sales and Service**

**Unique Vintage Chic**

**White House Black Market**

## SOS Committee Receives Anonymous Donation

Over 60% of ACCEL's students come from low-income households, according to federal guidelines for the free or reduced lunch program. Throughout the year, ACCEL's SOS (Save Our Students) Committee holds fundraisers to purchase grocery store gift cards so that ACCEL students will have enough to eat over school breaks. The SOS Committee was given a big boost in December from a donor wishing to remain anonymous. Touched upon hearing ACCEL staff care so much about their students that they coordinate efforts toward assuring no student goes hungry, he wrote a check to the SOS Committee for \$1,000!



L-R Members of the SOS Committee Mike Imburgia, Dale Gambrell, and Jonathan Evans are presented a check from an undisclosed donor by Angela Pacheco, ACCEL's Development Coordinator.

## 2011 Grants Awards

Funder	Grant Amount
Alexander & Baldwin Foundation	\$ 1,000.00
ECF of Boeing Mesa	\$ 4,500.00
U.S. Bancorp Foundation	\$ 4,500.00
Phoenix Suns Charities	\$ 1,000.00
Target	\$ 2,500.00
Arizona Community Foundation	\$20,000.00
US Airways Education Foundation	\$10,000.00
City of Phoenix Industrial Development Authority	\$15,000.00
Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation	\$ 5,000.00
Cardinals Charities	\$ 5,000.00

## Arizona's Private School Tuition Tax-Credit : There's Still Time!

The State of Arizona offers tax credits in certain situations allowing some Arizonans to make contributions to schools and non-profit organizations, and then receive that money as a direct credit (not just a deduction) at the time income taxes are filed. In order to take advantage of the program, your donation must be made by April 17, 2012.

An individual may claim a credit for making a donation to a School Tuition Organization for scholarships to private schools. The maximum credit amount that may be taken is \$500 for single, unmarried head of household and married filing separate filers and \$1,000 for married filing joint filers. To redirect your tax dollars to ACCEL online, go to [topsforkids.com](http://topsforkids.com), complete the secure form and recommend ACCEL. Mail checks to: TOPS, P.O. Box 41930, Mesa, AZ, 85274. You will receive a tax credit receipt. The monies assist students in receiving a tuition scholarship to attend ACCEL.



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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**ACCEL**

**In partnership with  
The Wells Fargo History Museum  
Presents**

***Art of Autism***



**Opening Reception**

**April 26, 2012 4:00-8:00 pm**

**Purchase tickets online at [www.accel.org](http://www.accel.org)**

**For more information call 602.926.7211**

**ACCEL Office of Development**

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