



## Words from weSPARK

### *weSPARK to light the way forward...*

We are hard at work honing in on our vision to discover and implement ground breaking ways to continue to enhance the lives of our guests. Our board members and staff recently joined together in our first “retreat” to strategize securing our future and to set exciting and achievable goals for the next three years.

Our future is big and bright! Our new initiatives and expanding satellite programs are taking shape to broaden our reach in the Los Angeles area. A few of our new initiatives include: **weSPARK’s Online Community**, where guests can experience our services from the privacy, comfort, and safety of their own homes; **weSPARK’s Interactive Health Fair**, showcasing

the most current and effective resources and awareness to the community; and expanding our **Spanish-language programming and outreach** by offering bilingual programs all over Los Angeles County; all at no cost to our guests.

Our path aligns with the legacy of our founder, Wendie Jo Sperber — *If we think it, we can do it!* Her spirit lives on in the fabric of weSPARK. She knew more than anyone what it took to get there — generous donors who believe in our work. We are excited to announce that spearheading this charge into the future is our new Director of Development, Marlene McGuirt. We’re thrilled she has joined us.



*Join weSPARK as we celebrate the 2014 holiday season!*

*We will be hosting a reception at the weSPARK Cancer Support Center on Thursday, December 11, from 5-7 PM*

*To RSVP, email [carlin@wespark.org](mailto:carlin@wespark.org)*

*All are welcome!*

## A Message from Marlene, weSPARK’s New Director of Development

In my short time as weSPARK’s Director of Development, I’m amazed by the spirit and courage of our guests. I am inspired by the therapists that have long been soldiers of hope, enlightenment, peace and calm as they guide our guests whose lives have been transformed by cancer. weSPARK is a place they can call their own and a retreat from an uncertain reality, all without worrying about the expenses of our services and programs.

As I learn more about the world of weSPARK and the work that we do, it inspires me to fearlessly and diligently raise funds and find the resources to continue the critical work of healing the body, mind and spirit of our guests by treating the person and not the disease. I’m looking forward to working with our dedicated Board of Directors, meeting more of our generous stakeholders, and developing new relationships to increase our revenue sources from foundations, naming opportunities, major gifts, appeals and special events.

If you are interested in supporting our work or want to discuss how you can help, please contact me at 818/906-3022 or [marlene@wespark.org](mailto:marlene@wespark.org).



### OUR MISSION

weSPARK is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for cancer patients, their families, and friends. weSPARK provides, free of charge, multiple services designed to heal the mind, body and spirit of all those whose lives have been affected by cancer.

818.906.3022 • [www.wespark.org](http://www.wespark.org)



# MAY CONTAIN NUTS!



## weSPARK Comedy Night a Success!

A serious amount of funny was enjoyed by all at **May Contain Nuts!** weSPARK Comedy Night on September 10th. Alonzo Bodden, Billy Gardell, Ritch Shydner and Debra DiGiovanni brought their comedic genius to a sold-out house ready and raring to laugh. From the moment guests arrived, they were photographed at the weSPARK press wall and escorted into

the legendary Main Room of the world-renowned **Comedy Store**. We were excited to begin the evening with Jimmy,\* who gave the audience a heart-wrenching look into why the services weSPARK provides are so vital. That launched our Fund-A-Need bidding frenzy hosted by friend and auctioneer Mark Walberg, raising over \$20,000 to finance our Kid's Art Program! Later in the evening, comedy guru and movie producer **Judd Apatow** surprised our guests with an impromptu stand-up routine AND auctioned off a lunch and movie editing session with him. That alone raised \$7,500! To everyone who attended, sponsored, volunteered, performed in and supported this year's comedy night, we thank YOU for a successful evening — over \$70,000 was raised! That will put smiles on a LOT more of our weSPARK kids' faces. 🌈



(1) Billy Gardell (2) The lovely group from Wells Fargo (3) Alonzo Bodden (4) Judd Apatow (5) Ritch Shydner (6) NBC's Chuck LaBella and Nancy Allen \*a weSPARK Kids guest.

## The Linda Nichols Family Room Naming Ceremony

Linda Nichols was one of those people you would never know was going through cancer treatment. She was such a warm and bright presence in the center and she touched the lives of so many, guests and staff alike. Once Linda was in her post-treatment stage, she found herself asking, "what just happened?" and "now what?" To answer those questions, Linda stuck even closer to weSPARK to help her relieve the anxiety, pain, and fear from her world. She often mentored others who needed her wisdom and kind words. She was never without a smile on her face even during her biggest challenges. Linda availed herself of all weSPARK had to offer and made it her home away from home for the last eight years. We lost Linda recently, but her spirit lives on in all of us at weSPARK.

On Sunday, October 19th, our beloved family room was dedicated in celebration and in honor of her life it will now be called "The Linda Nichols Family Room." Family and loved ones shared memories and helped to hang the plaque naming Linda's favorite group room after her.

For more information on naming opportunities at weSPARK, please contact Marlene McGuirt, 818/906-3022. 🌈



## Look Good...Feel Better

Join us at weSPARK for a night of beauty & fun, plus a make-up kit provided by the American Cancer Society.

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in Sherman Oaks.



Space is limited, must call to sign up. Call Carlin at (818) 906-3022

¿Usted o un ser querido tiene cáncer? ¿Usted o alguien cercano ha sido afectado por cáncer?



## "PLATICAS FAMILIARES" GRATUITAS

Usted no está solo, venga y hable con otras familias en la comunidad hispana que también están pasando por lo mismo.

Venga con preguntas. | Obtenga recursos.

Pacientes con cáncer, miembros de la familia, y cuidadores. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Horario: Cada Viernes a las 11:00 a.m.



Si usted está interesado o gusta más información por favor comuníquese con Susana Stewart, Trabajadora Social o Wendy Montero, Coordinadora de Ayuda Comunitaria al número (818) 906-3022



Robert Hays, the Galpin Ford Team, and Joel Murray



L-R: Christopher Rich, Jeff Nordling, Bob Sanseverino, Nancy Allen, Don Borthwick, Gregory Harrison

# Teeing Off at the Celebrity Golf Classic

There's nothing like a day on the greens!

Celebrities, golfers, and supporters alike came out to the links on October 23 for the 2014 Celebrity Golf Classic, at the beautiful Calabasas Country Club.

We started out with a highly enjoyable round of golf joined by Kevin Sorbo, Jonathan Banks, Robert Hays, and Robbie Amell, among many others. We capped off the tournament with dinner and an entertaining Awards Ceremony emceed by the very funny Joel Murray.

Thank you to our presenting sponsor FORD, along with sponsors and partners California Bank & Trust, ValleyCrest, Bruce Bolkin, Subway, Mike's Hard Lemonade, Club Glove, and Just Chill, benefitting weSPARK and the Cancer Support Community of Pasadena. It was a great day for a great cause!

weSPARK Board Member Jessica Davis with raffle winner Mike Dingman of ValleyCrest



Robbie Amell of the new CW series The Flash



Karen Morin & Nancy Allen



Galpin Ford's Mustang Contest



Top row, L-R: Michael Ironside, Kevin Sorbo, Robert Hays, Gregory Harrison, Jay Ferguson, Dominic Keating, Christopher Rich. Middle: Jonathan Banks, Nancy Allen, Mario Haug (Executive Director of Cancer Support Community Pasadena). Front: Jeff Nordling, Robbie Amell, Emcee Joel Murray, David Naughton.

**YOU keep the spark alive at weSPARK...**



The Torchbearers is for big-hearted individuals who wish to give an annually recurring gift to weSPARK Cancer Support Center for annually recurring needs. To become a Torchbearer, please visit our website: [www.wespark.org](http://www.wespark.org)

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To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit [wespark.org/donate](http://wespark.org/donate) - Thank you!



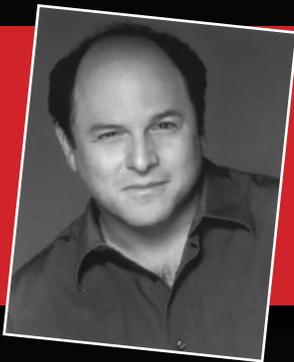
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## *The Jason Alexander Texas Hold 'em*



# POKER TOURNAMENT

## Coming March 2015!

Be sure to follow us on Twitter & Like us on Facebook  
so you don't miss out on any of the info & updates!

 @weSPARKsupport  facebook.com/wesparkcancersupportcenter

Proceeds to benefit **weSPARK Cancer Support Center**  
to keep all services free for cancer patients, their families and friends.

