



## **Memo**

November 8, 2018

Re: Passing of Respite Caregiver Justin Meek

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Justin Meek in the tragic incident that occurred at Borderline Bar & Grill last night where he was working as a promoter and bouncer. Justin was employed by our organization as a Respite Caregiver. In his role he provided support and in-home care to families who have children with developmental disabilities including Autism. Our families, the children and young adults he supported, and our administrative staff are in shock and are mourning this senseless loss.

Justin was an exceptionally kind and gifted young man who always went out of his way to help others. Our families all felt that he was an extension of theirs, stating that they knew their children were safe in his care. He went out of his way to provide personalized care, attend their family events, birthday parties, and ensure that every moment he provided with them was meaningful, and based on their child's interests. They enjoyed having him teach their teens independent living skills like cooking favorite recipes, bowling, and sharing his gift of singing, as Justin sang in a professional quartet.

On behalf of our special needs families and all our staff, we extend our deepest sympathies to Justin's sister, his parents, his girlfriend, relatives, and friends. Justin's protective and heroic actions last night, as well as the way he led his daily life in ministry to our community, will forever stand as an example to us all.

We are offering grief counseling at our office at 9am tomorrow morning, Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup> for any of our employees or families who wish to attend.

Sincerely,

Sharon M. Francis  
Chief Executive Officer



Justin Meek

Photo by Channel Islands Social Services