

# Helpers Press Kit

## **Helpers Community Inc**

2626 Fulton St.  
San Francisco, CA 94118

+415 387 3031  
info@helperssf.org

OUR MISSION

“Helpers Community is dedicated to supporting individuals with developmental disabilities.”

## Who We Serve

Helpers Community provides support for individuals with Developmental Disabilities.

Helpers partners with other Bay Area nonprofits to ensure that adults with Developmental Disabilities have the opportunities for growth and safe living environments everyday.

## What We Do

- Provide residential homes
- Hands-on mentoring and job training
- Offers a Grant program to other organizations who serve our community



Helpers Press Kit





## OUR HISTORY

As with any journey, the long road we've traveled has had some blind curves and a few bumps, but we've managed to stay the course and remain true to our mission.

- **Founded in 1953** by Sister Miriam Auxilium O'Gara, to serve adults with Down Syndrome, **our organization incorporated in 1957 and received its 501(c)(3) status in 1958.** Helpers Community began raising funds to purchase and operate some of the first group homes for adults with developmental disabilities in the San Francisco Bay Area.

- **The first Helpers' home** was opened in 1963, followed by two others in 1966 and 1973. The three properties provided residential living opportunities in beautiful homes for 12 women and 6 men. Helpers'

homes were in operation until 2002, when the last one closed.

- **In December 2018,** Helpers, in partnership with Pomeroy Recreation & Rehabilitation Center, re-opened a residence at 2626 Fulton Street, serving six adults with special needs. Our second residence at 2750 Fulton Street opened in May 2019 serving four adults.

- **After more than 40 years of generosity,** Ghirardelli needed their retail space back. Helpers Bazaar, reborn as Helpers Artisan Boutique, moved from the Ghirardelli Square location to **1947 Union Street, in a lively retail area of Cow Hollow.** Our grand opening occurred in April 2019.



## Helpers Achievements

- **2019 August**

The Helpers **Board of Directors approves \$250,000 in grants to 6 Bay Area nonprofits**, to further enhance the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities to live fuller lives every day.

- **2019 March**

After 40 years at Ghiradelli Square, Helpers Bazaar retail store relaunches at a new location, 1947 Union Street, reinvented as **Helpers Artisan Boutique**. Helpers Artisan Boutique is dedicated to providing mentorship and job coaching to individuals with developmental disabilities to help prepare our clients for full-time job opportunities. **100% of the items featured at our Helpers Boutique are either made by, designed by or provided to us by organizations that support our mission.**

- **2019 January**

Helpers invests in a new digital data management system to help facilitate community outreach more efficiently and effectively.

- **2018**

**Allocates \$260,000 in grants** to 6 Bay Area nonprofits who support our mission.

- **2018 December**

Helpers invests \$400,000 of Helpers' own funds to upgrade and furnish two former residences on Fulton Street. With the partnership, administrative and management support of the Janet Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center (PRRC), **re-opens 2 group homes to house 10 individuals with developmental disabilities.**

- **2018 October**

Helpers redesigns and relaunches a totally new, updated website **helperssf.org**

- **2018 August**

Helpers Community hires a new Executive Director

- **2017**

**Disburses \$1M** in grants to 4 Bay Area nonprofits.

- **2016**

Helpers **Grant Program** continues



“Helpers has been a part of the community for over 60 years. Certainly, challenges surfaced, but the mission has always been to help those with developmental disabilities.”

*“Helpers  
Leadership Team”*





## Robert “Harry” Harrison, Jr.,



### **ROBERT “HARRY” HARRISON, JR.,** *Executive Director*

Harry is a well-respected, dynamic leader who possesses a wealth of experience in the corporate, educational and nonprofit sectors. His commitment to community service and implementing the pursuit of positive change led him to a career in philanthropy.

Harry refined his leadership skills and management experience at Levi Strauss & Company, where he enjoyed a career in a progression of management roles with increased responsibility, that spanned more than twenty years. In 2002, Harry was the Regional Director (East Coast) of Sales and Marketing for all brands and consumer segments, accountable for all P&L responsibilities for a \$125M business.

Harry’s initial orientation in philanthropy began with the Trey Whitfield School (TWS) in Brooklyn, NY. During his 10 years as Director of Development, Harry and the senior leadership at TWS, together envisioned, created and implemented a \$6M Capital Fund campaign which would contribute to Trey Whitfield School being recognized as a beacon of hope in NYC inner city education.

After TWS, he went on to serve as the Executive Director for the YMA FSF Fashion Scholarship Fund, a national non-profit association made up of influential members of the fashion community. The organization is dedicated to promoting education of the fashion arts and business by facilitating internships, mentorships, career programs and scholarship grants to talented students. During his time there he led the growth of member schools from 9 schools (2005), awarding 19 scholarships, to 46 schools and disbursement of 125 scholarships (2013). Harry was also instrumental in securing Corp donations and Foundation grant support that helped increase annual revenue from \$500k to \$3.0M during his tenure.

Harry’s passion for community service is expressed through his involvement as a Volunteer with Compass Family Services and SPUR, both in San Francisco. He is also a member of both the National Arts Club and Gramercy Park Building Association in NYC.



**MARGARET “PEGGY” BACHECKI**  
*Board Chair*

Peggy discovered Helpers in 1966. She became Helpers’ first part-time and then a full-time employee in the office and then went on to supervise the activity program until 1973, when she left her paid position. She stayed connected as a volunteer. The Board of Directors invited her to join in 1995. She was active in the operation of Helpers’ three group homes, the launch of the activity program, and the opening of Helpers Bazaar at Ghirardelli Square and the closing of the group homes in 2002.

The mission then became the granting of funds to other agencies who work and care for those with developmental disabilities. The intent of the Board remained reopening the group homes. That goal became a reality through a partnership with the

Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center.

Peggy embraced the plan to create a job-training and employment site at the Helpers Store, for those with developmental disabilities, in partnership with the Pomeroy Center and the ARC of San Francisco. She acknowledges that “while Helpers has been a part of the community for over 60 years, the organization has been challenged in many ways over this time period, but the mission is to help those with developmental disabilities”. Peggy retired after 36 years as an office manager for Uccelli & Associates Court Reporting



**STANLEY WONG**  
*Board Treasurer*

"I've stayed on the board because we put our focus on improving the lives of our residents. They come first. Our foundation is also supporting programs to assist people with developmental disabilities throughout the Bay Area."

Stanley first encountered Helpers in 2000, in his role as a Senior Project Manager for Plant Construction Company, when he relocated Helpers Bazaar from one location to another in Ghirardelli

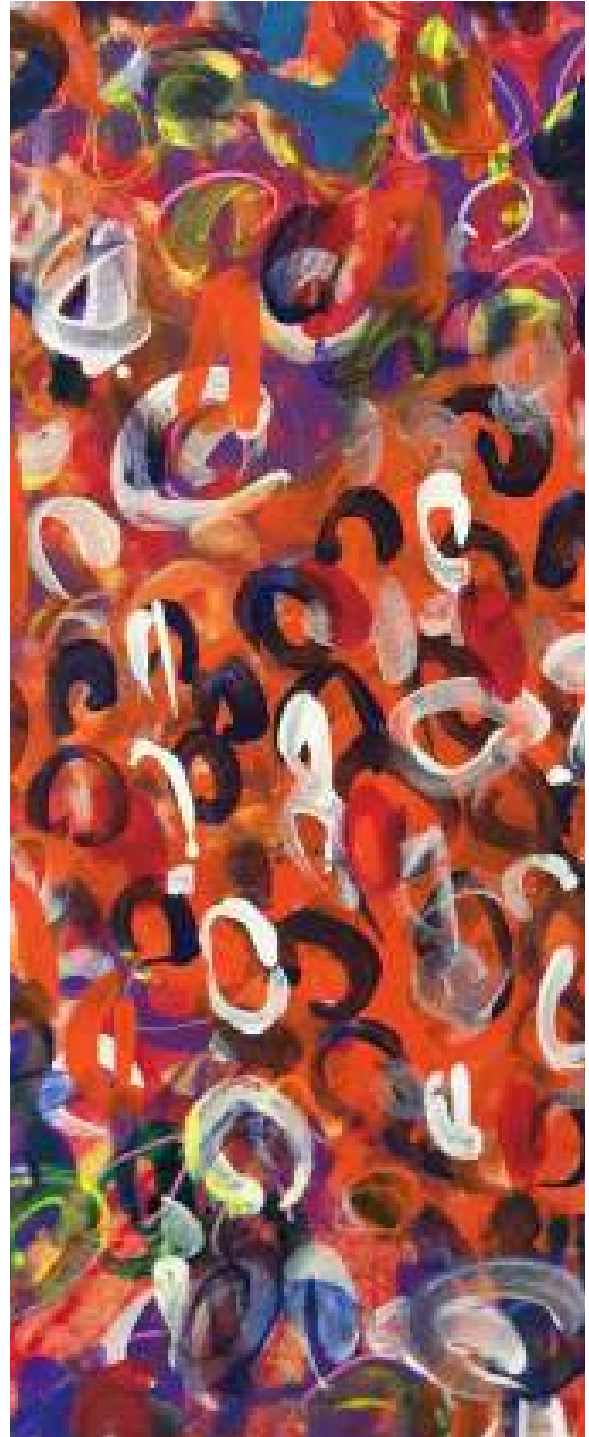
Square. Helpers introduced Stanley to the challenges faced by individuals with developmental disabilities. His architectural expertise came in handy through volunteer projects he performed for Helpers over the years. Eventually, he was invited to become a board member and accepted immediately. As a board member, Stanley continues to contribute his construction and architectural skills to the on-going maintenance, rehabilitation and renovation of the group homes.

**MELISSA TRUJILLO**

*Board Secretary*

“Being a Helpers board member during a time of transition and growth is a blessing in my life. Reopening the homes for residents has been a goal for Helpers since they closed in 2002. Seeing those dreams come to fruition is inspiring.”

Melissa joined the Helpers Board in January 2017. Prior to that she served as a volunteer for eight years at Helpers Bazaar. Her dedication to Helpers deepened her understanding and furthered her own work with people with developmental disabilities. Melissa is a program manager at the Pomeroy Recreation and Rehabilitation Center where she’s worked for over 10 years. Melissa understands first-hand the struggles people with developmental disabilities face to have safe and welcoming housing in the Bay Area.





**CATI GALLARDO**  
*Board Member*

“Helpers grants have enabled other organizations to improve their day programs, while others updated facilities. Our partnership with Pomery Recreation & Rehabilitation Center clinched our ability to re-open a beautiful home for individuals with developmental disabilities, so they can live and thrive in San Francisco. The need for this kind of housing in San Francisco is so great, we aim to create more residential opportunities. I’m excited to see what we’ll do next.”

Cati joined the board of Helpers in the fall of 2016. Being able to serve her community by helping others has always been an important part of her life. Cati and her family left San Francisco and headed for the Northern California redwoods in 2017. However, her work with Helpers continues, as there is still so much work to be done to support individuals with developmental disabilities in the Bay Area and beyond. In addition to her work with Helpers, Cati is the Chair of the Communications Working Group for Equity Arcata and is a board member of the newly formed Bureau of Fantastical Spectacles, which raises funds for CASA of Humboldt each year by producing family-friendly community events, including the Arcata Fairy Festival. When Cati is not volunteering, she enjoys spending time with her family and works as the Communications Specialist for the City of Arcata.





## **MEDIA CONTACTS**

### **Robert "Harry" Harrison**

*Executive Director*

### **Helpers Community**

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**Phone** 415.387.3031 (office)

### **Cati Gallardo**

*Brand Marketing, Social Media and PR*

### **Helpers Community**

catigallardo.volunteerwork@gmail.com

### **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/helperssf/>

1947 Union Street,  
San Francisco, CA 94123  
Phone (415) 346-9300

### **Instagram**

<https://www.instagram.com/helperssf/>

STYLE GUIDE

“Enriching the lives  
of individuals with  
developmental  
disabilities.”

## STYLE GUIDE

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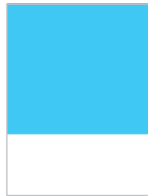


## COLOR

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C85 M50  
#1b75bc



C60  
#44c8f5



M80 Y95/#f15a29  
M35 Y85/#fb040

## TYPOGRAPHY

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### Poppins Bold

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abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy

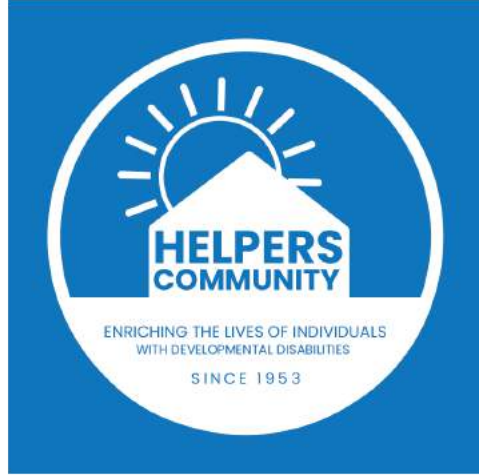
### Poppins Regular

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy  
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxy



## BACKGROUND APPLICATIONS

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## STANDALONE SYMBOL

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**BLACK VERSION**

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**COPERATE COLOR - ONE COLOR**

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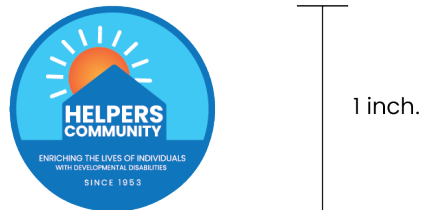
## CLEAR SPACE

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## MINIMUM SIZE

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**Social**

[www.facebook.com/helpersf/](http://www.facebook.com/helpersf/)  
[www.instagram.com/helpersf/](http://www.instagram.com/helpersf/)

**Online**

[www.helpersf.org](http://www.helpersf.org)  
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