

May 2026

I'm very happy to report that our Exceeding Expectations kids continue to thrive.

As you know, EE's primary goal is to see that our kids get a good education so they can enjoy a successful life, full of opportunities. We use sports –triathlon and running– as the vehicle in that endeavor.

The skills that make an athlete successful, such as goal setting, committing to the goal, executing a well-thought-out plan, handling failure as an opportunity, etc., will also make them successful in school and every other walk of life. Our kids start running and playing soccer at a very young age. As they develop those skills and attitudes through sports, they are also building the same skills and attitudes necessary for obtaining a good education and living a happy, productive life.

And that's what Exceeding Expectations is all about.





As they grow, we move many of them into open-water triathlons where they have shown us that they are very competitive.

Lake Perris: "Good luck, Eduardo!"



Richard and Ricardo hit the water.



“You can do this, Jose!”



Recently, some of our kids and families had the opportunity to meet and get inspired at a **Night of Champions** where they met Steve Hegg (Olympic Gold Medalist), Mari Holden (Olympic Silver Medalist) and Jeff Pierce (Tour de France Stage Winner).



Our strategy of using sports as the vehicle to make them successful in college and in life is proving to be a good one. We have several kids (young adults) being recruited as athletes for their college teams.

Yoselin, second from left, running the steeplechase for UC San Bernardino



Chi (left) running for the University of Redlands



Karla was recruited to run for Crafton Hills College.



Ahris has been recruited to run and play soccer for Valley College.



Remember "little" Arian?



He's playing soccer for the US Air Force now!



June is 2026 graduation month and we have one college and three high school graduates.

Fernanda just graduated San Diego State with a degree in business.



Ahris, Jose and Karla are graduating high school in a few weeks. We'll have pictures of the ceremonies in our next letter!

\*\*\*\*\*

Our Exceeding Expectations kids are succeeding where once there was little expectation of success. Many of their families, who previously felt their kids would have few opportunities, are now more actively engaged in their kids' athletic and academic lives.

This didn't happen overnight. It's been a 25-year journey and many of you have been on this journey with us, some from the very beginning in 2001. You've watched some of our kids from early days who now serve as mentors for our younger kids. There's no more powerful motivation than our younger kids hearing one of our older, successful members speak to them: ***"I was just like you. Then I went to college and look at me now. You can do the same thing."***

We are very grateful to all our EE supporters. The results of your generous support can be seen every time any one of our kids has success – on the playing field, in school and in life. This would not be possible without you.

Thank you very much.

Cherie



