

“The business of MOVE is to discover the dream in every child, and to believe in it until it becomes a reality.” – Linda Bidabe, founder of MOVE

What is the MOVE program?

Based on the belief that the ability to move is the foundation of building personal dignity, the MOVE program teaches meaningful motor skills to children and adults with severe physical disabilities. Using the MOVE curriculum, students improve their ability to sit, stand, walk, and transition while involved in activities of daily life. MOVE’s mission is to improve the quality of life for those previously marginalized.

Every child can learn

MOVE started in 1986 when special education teacher Linda Bidabe ran a pilot project at her school. For years she had been frustrated by the failure of traditional methods. For the study, Linda drew on her years of experience teaching severely disabled children as she observed and documented the progress of 15 children. The program was successful beyond anyone’s wildest dreams, proving that every child can learn provided we find a way to teach them. With the help of grant money Linda put her ideas together as the MOVE curriculum.

Backed by clinical research

Designed to promote independence for children and adults with disabilities, MOVE’s unique philosophy is supported by the latest clinical studies. The curriculum is the result of years of testing, trials and research backed by a firm belief that people with disabilities can gain or regain mobility. This approach is supported by current research regarding functional skills, motivation and motor learning theory.

MOVE is special

MOVE changes lives. It offers hope and a way forward, greater dignity and independence. Participants enjoy better health, partake more fully in school and society, and require less burdensome care. Facilities using the MOVE program provide the highest level of care while reducing risk, injury and costs.

MOVE is growing

In partnership with MOVE, over 25,000 professionals and care providers around the world have been trained to assist people with complex disabilities. Thousands of schools and care facilities use the MOVE program, including programs in 48 states and 22 countries. The MOVE curriculum has been translated into 15 languages. These numbers continue to increase as word spreads of the effectiveness of MOVE in transforming lives.

You can help

Based in Bakersfield, CA, MOVE’s staff promote the curriculum, train people to use the MOVE approach, and provide ongoing support to MOVE sites. Supporting the MOVE program is a concrete way to make a difference in the world. Financial contributions help defray costs and make it possible for MOVE to provide training scholarships.

