college courses, job development, mentoring and employment monitoring, and in working with community resources. During my visit, residents were coming and going – some by cab, some on bikes and even a few in their own cars (but never with other residents as passengers).

Casa De Amma likes to think of itself as "a family of families." There is an active Family Association that supports resident services. Social events like the Monthly BBQ bring families and friends together on a regular basis. There are also weekly activities planned for residents that include the things Southern California is known for…biking, going to the beach, skiing, fishing…and excursions to events like the Orange County Fair and music at Newport Beach.

The staff members are all a part of the family at Casa de Amma. All have college degrees and participate in weekly in-service sessions. Staff come with social work backgrounds, with work experience with special needs populations and with specialties in vocational rehabilitation and recreation therapy. As I met various staff, I was struck by their energy and excitement about their work.

Casa de Amma – Grandmother's Home – is a very inviting place for a very special population of residents.

VISTA ADOLESCENT TREATMENT CENTERS

Sandy, Utah
Staci Bradley, Admission Coordinator
801-910-5897
www.vistatreatmentcenters.com

Visit by Larry Stednitz, March 2, 2007

Vista Adolescent Centers, founded in 1991, include four different services--Vista at Dimple Dell, Vista Magna, Vista Teen Living, and Vista Counseling Services. The Dimple Dell Canyon program consists of one large home for 16 girls. The home is large and comfortable, providing a home-like environment.

Vista at Dimple Dell is a 16-bed residential treatment home for girls. Appropriate girls for the program include those who are diagnosed as depressed, dysthymic, bi-polar, eating disordered, oppositional defiant, post traumatic stress disorder, attachment problems, substance abuse and borderline personality disorders. Learning disabilities are not uncommon. A full 85% of the girls

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