

*October 2009*

**PASS-2**  
**10 N Russell St**  
**# 100**  
**Portland, OR**  
**97227**

**Ph: 503-802-7371**

*Soundbeam was  
generously  
provided by family  
and friends of a  
former PASS  
client, in her  
memory.*

**If you are inter-  
ested in Sound-  
beam services or  
sessions, we would  
be happy to send  
you more informa-  
tion as it becomes  
available. We have  
many decisions to  
make as we pro-  
gress toward utiliz-  
ing our Soundbeam  
effectively.**

**Please e-mail us  
and we will put you  
on our mailing list.  
Address below.**

## **PASS-2 Fall 2009**

### **Soundbeam®**

#### **The invisible, expanding keyboard in space**

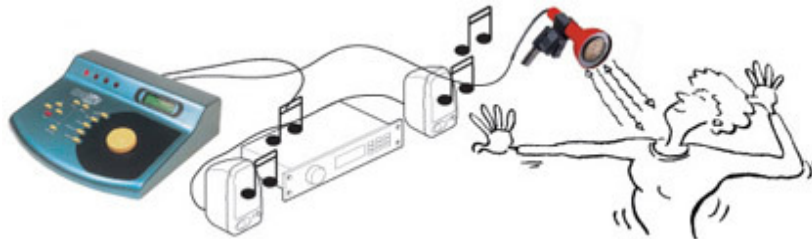
For some time PASS has had a Soundbeam instrument. At last we have the instrument set-up at PASS-2 where we have space and staff with the requisite skill and abilities to start using this wonderful piece of equipment with clients. Training will begin with a trip to the UK in October. Our lead staff, Nick Allard [see page 2], will be leading out in this part of PASS services starting later this year.

A brief introduction from the “Soundbeam Project” follows. More information can be gleaned at their website: [www.soundbeam.co.uk](http://www.soundbeam.co.uk)

**Soundbeam®** converts physical movement into sound using sensor technology to translate body movement into digitally generated sound and image.

Soundbeam provides a medium through which physically disabled or learning impaired individuals can become expressive and communicative using music and sound. The sense of control and independence which this provides can be a powerful motivator, stimulating learning and interaction in other areas. Its success rests upon two factors: 1) the sensitivity of the beam means that even the most unreachable or immobilized individuals can ‘play’ independently; 2) electronic technology makes available a huge palette of possible sound-worlds, releasing the player from the traditional limitations of percussion-based activity.

Ironically, Soundbeam was originally conceived as an esoteric performance tool for professional dancers; the recognition of its significance in the special education and therapy fields is a user-led phenomenon. Therapists in flagship centers such as the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability and the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital in London, England, the Beth Abraham Hospital in New York and similar institutions throughout the world, alongside hundreds of special schools, have attested to the therapeutic power of Soundbeam.



**Please see side-bar at left regarding more information.**

# Nick Allard—Musician, Composer, Social Worker

After attending the University of Oregon and Portland State University where he studied sociology, Nick began working with adults with developmental disabilities in 2002. His first position was with Community Vision, a non-profit agency that serves individuals in their own homes.

After 18 months he was offered a position with Luke-Dorf, Inc., an agency that serves adults with severe and persistent mental illness. Nick's strong leadership and energetic "client first" approach eventually gained him several promotions. He managed a residential treatment home serving clients under the supervision of the Psychiatric Services Review Board (PSRB). In this position he developed several treatment

modules and skill training programs that are still in place today. After a year in this position he was promoted to administrator of a 16 bed residential treatment facility where he supervised a staff of 10 and developed residential treatment programs in collaboration with Multnomah County Mental Health and Addiction Services.

His work with adults with MH/DD gained him certification as a **Qualified Mental Health Associate [QMHA]**.

Though without formal musical education, Nick has had desire and ability musically all his life. In 2004 he and some musical friends formed **The Village Green**, and in 2005 that group self released an EP titled

"The Village Green EP" [an "extended player" mini-album] which sold out almost immediately. This is where Nick began a double life of touring with the band while maintaining full-time employment with Luke-Dorf.

The Village Green released a full album "Feeling the Fall" in 2006 on SpinArt Records, a subsidiary of Warner Brothers. A tour of the UK, Ireland, Canada, and Spain followed, along with several of Nick's songs being licensed in films, commercials, & television.

The hectic pace of touring, recording and working full time led Nick to the decision of having to resign from Luke-Dorf in early

2008. Subsequently The Village Green formally went their separate ways and with the band no longer consuming so much time Nick re-entered the social services field as a full time employee of PASS.

**He has held the position of Team Lead at PASS-2 for the last year, and with Warren Rushold – PASS**

**President – is taking a leadership role in our Soundbeam project.** He will be in the United Kingdom for 10 days in October 2009; he will be training on the Soundbeam instrument in England and visiting schools and hospitals using the Soundbeam instrument in England, Ireland, and New York USA.

Nick is also completing work on a solo album – started in the summer of 2008 – that will be released October 2009 on Bladen County Records.

