

## El Segundo Whole Foods Market raises funds for autistic kids

By Melissa Evans Staff Writer

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Whole Foods Market in El Segundo has raised \$4,700 for a Manhattan Beach charity, Golden Heart Ranch, that is working to build a ranch for kids with autism.

The grocery store dedicated its biannual "5 percent" day - 5 percent of every purchase goes toward a specific charity - to the nonprofit that was founded two years ago.

"We are so grateful to be recognized by a company like Whole Foods," said Rose Hein, founder of the organization. "We feel honored to be chosen by them."

Hein and other volunteers have so far completed a site plan for the ranch, which would serve as a permanent home for young people with autism. They are now working to raise money to secure land for the facility.

The group's next fundraiser will be held in September.

For information, visit [www.goldenheartranch.org/](http://www.goldenheartranch.org/).

- Melissa Evans

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