



First of the Month

April 2011

CDSA CONFIDENTIAL

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Retroactive Cut
Lawsuit

CDSA Board Election

Legislative Retreat

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CDSA Calendar

April 5

PR Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

April 7

Public Policy
Committee
Teleconference
3:00-4:30 pm

April 8

Orange County
Legislative Breakfast

April 12

Inland Empire
Caucus
OPARC
10:00 am-Noon

Upstate Caucus
Green Barn, Red
Bluff
11:30 am-1:00 pm

April 13

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

April 19

Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

Orange County
Caucus
Project
Independence

The News

The Budget Story

The budget defies a nice neat metaphor. It's just too complicated. There are five strands to follow:

The DDS Cuts - A budget trailer bill has now passed that continue the previous 4.25% cut and adds a new \$174 million cut (8.1%). At this point, we don't know how the \$174 million cut will be applied because DDS is charged with developing administrative "best practices" for purchase of services (previously titled "standards"). That brings us to another strand.

The DDS Workgroups - As it did the last two years, DDS is consulting with stakeholders before it does what it wants to do to achieve the \$174 million cut. This time, there are eight workgroups addressing different service areas. After a day-long meeting with each group to collect ideas, DDS will go off and write its best practices. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the best practices at three public forums, and DDS will submit them to the legislature by May 15.

The Transparency and Efficiency Savings - The legislature put into the trailer bill administrative requirements that are supposed to save money. These include a restriction of administrative expenses to 15%, requiring an audit or financial review for vendors receiving \$250,000 or more per year from regional centers, and transparency requirements that include web posting of contract awards, vendor information, and vendor audits.

Taxes - The Governor just gave up on trying to get Republican support for placing five-year extensions of several taxes on a ballot in June. It's unclear what direction he'll now take, but there has been considerable discussion pursuing a November vote on reinstating the taxes.

The CDSA Response - CDSA continues to promote its alternatives to the \$174 million cut to legislators. First, the cuts should be spread equitably across the system. Then, instead of cutting services, DDS should secure additional federal funding through the Home and Community Based Services waiver, Plan Amendments 1915 (j) and (k), and Community Placement Plans. Passage of AB 171 would secure health insurance support for autism services. Finally, we suggest implementation of a uniform, cost statement based Rate Setting mechanism (as recommended by the State Bureau of Audits) for behavioral intervention services. Click here for the latest version of our [alternatives handouts](#).

What can you do? Keep talking to your legislators about the impact of cuts on services and our alternatives.

Bills We Care About

The Public Policy Committee approved positions on more than 20 bills before the legislature. Most will be watched. Five require action:

SUPPORT:

AB 171 - Health Insurance for Autism Services
SB 743 - Interim Payment Fund

OPPOSE:

AB 170 - Divide Inland RC
AB 350* - Displaced Janitor Opportunity Act expansion

11:30 am-1:00 pm

AB 889* - Domestic worker regulations on wages, hours & working conditions

*=Priority Oppose

April 20

Caucus Steering Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

To learn more about these bills and others on our watch list, [click here](#).

New Leaders in the Caucuses

Let's welcome CDSA's new chairpersons for the following regional caucuses:

- Capitol Caucus - Joe Jaquez, Elk Grove Adult Community Training
- Central Valley Caucus - Michael Mast, Kings View Work Experience Center
- Upstate Caucus - Jane Work, Shasta County Opportunity Center (July 1)

April 21

Bay Area Caucus
Contra Costa Arc
10:00 am-Noon

CARI & Business Services Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Our thanks to the departing chairs for all their hard work: Wende Ayers, Carl Ochsner, and Robin Rhoades. We stand in awe of their ability to follow an agenda no matter what their peers brought up and how long the tangents were.

Public Policy Committee

Teleconference
3:00-4:30 pm

April 22

Spring Holiday
CDSA Office
Closed

Retroactive Cut Lawsuit

Our day in court on the retroactive application of the 1.25% rate cut will be April 15. In case you've forgotten, we're arguing that the state can't apply its 1.25% payment reduction to services provided before the date the legislature approved it.

April 26

Leadership Retreat
CDSA Office
10:00-5:30 pm

DLSE and \$1 per Hour

CDSA is forming a task force to address this complex issue. The Division of Labor Standards Enforcement office needs to explain to us the process and material used to establish what seems to be a new minimum wage policy. There isn't consistency on this across the state, and we're trying to resolve this in a collaborative manner. We want to work closely with the DLSE on this issue, to establish ongoing communication with an enforcement agency that could well be involved in such critical issues as meal and break, overtime for "personal attendants," and alternative work schedules common in many program types.

April 27

Leadership Retreat
CDSA Office
8:00 am-3:00 pm

Central Valley Caucus
ABLE Industries
10:00 am-Noon

CDSA Raffle - We Have a Winner!

April 28

San Diego Caucus
TMI
10:00 am-Noon

Thank you to those who participated in the CDSA raffle that supported family and self-advocates' attendance at the Legislative Affairs conference. The raffle winner, Dale Thornton, purchased his raffle from Ukiah Valley Association for Habilitation (UVAH).

May 3

PR Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

The raffle proceeds helped send two UVAH self-advocates to the Legislative Affairs conference in March. Dale won a Southwest Gift Card (\$350 value) and a free night stay at a Joie de Vivre hotel (\$200 value). Congrats to Dale and UVAH!

May 10

Inland Empire Caucus
VIP
10:00 am-Noon



Nick and Gary drawing the winning raffle ticket.

Upstate Caucus
Green Barn, Red Bluff
11:30 am-1:00 pm

May 11-12

Board Retreat

May 17

Capitol Caucus
InAlliance

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

CDSA Board Election

10:00 am-Noon

May 19
Public Policy
Committee
Teleconference
3:00-4:30 pm

May 25
Central Valley
Caucus
ABLE Industries
10:00 am-Noon

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

May 26
Bay Area Caucus
Contra Costa Arc
10:00 am-Noon

May 30
Memorial Day
CDSA Office Closed

The 2011 CDSA Board election begins April 1 and ends April 30. Today CDSA will send an e-mail to the one voting delegate for each member agency and each affiliate group with candidates' statements and a link to the ballot. If you are the voting delegate for your organization but did not receive this important e-mail, contact crice@cal-dsa.org. Here is the slate:

Candidate for Vice President (4 years as officer)
1 Position

- Sam Seaton, PRIDE Industries, Capitol Caucus

Candidates for Board Director (2 year term)
3 Positions Open

- Tim Chervenak, Project Independence, Orange County Caucus
- Diana DeRodeff, InAlliance, Capitol Caucus
- Joyce Hearn, OCARC, Orange County Caucus
- Liz Sutton, North Bay Industries, Bay Area Caucus

Sam Seaton, Joyce Hearn, and Liz Sutton currently serve on the Board as Directors. Tim Chervenak chairs the Caucus Steering Committee and the Orange County Caucus. Diana DeRodeff chairs the Legislation Committee and previously served on the Board.

2011 CDSA Leadership Retreat

CDSA needs to start planning for 2011-12, as we hope for the best/plan for the worst. That means we'll be looking at what CDSA needs to do if the \$174 million cuts - and possibly additional cuts - go through. The more participants, the more insightful the plan will be.

So, come to Sacramento, April 26-27, to define how CDSA should support its members and how members can support CDSA. There is no fee for this event, but we ask you to register by April 18 so that we can plan our logistics. [Register here](#).

The meeting will be held at the CDSA office. The meeting starts at 10:00 am on Tuesday, April 26 and will end at noon on April 27. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Smith at (916) 441-5844 ext. 113 or msmith@cal-dsa.org.

Looking for New Digs: Willing to Share Space

CDSA's current lease ends December 31, and we will be looking for a smaller, less expensive space. This means we'll be moving out of downtown Sacramento - but not so far away that it's hard to get downtown. (We're also open to a second-hand Star Trek transporter device.)

CDSA currently sublets space to Futures Explored, and we are open to sharing space with them and with any other CDSA member seeking space near downtown Sacramento. Alternatively, we're open to renting space from a CDSA member . . .

CARI and Work Contracts

New Opportunities

We are working on identifying contract opportunities weekly. New contract opportunities are sent out on Tuesdays. If you're interested in receiving these notifications, would like bid packets or information about any of the current bid opportunities, please e-mail [Andrea Gallippi](mailto:Andrea.Gallippi). More opportunities are coming soon.

Members' Noteworthy News

PRIDE Releases Guide for Employers

PRIDE Industries, based in Roseville, CA, recently released "Ability Matters," a guide to employing qualified people with disabilities.



Compiled with input from local leaders, "Ability Matters" helps businesses gain a competitive edge by achieving diversity in the



workplace. Hiring people with disabilities is an equation for expansion, profitability and mutual success.

Disabilities don't discriminate; they affect people across all racial, gender, and socioeconomic lines. In fact, people with disabilities are the nation's largest and most diverse

minority.

The guide addresses topics ranging from business advantages to recruitment and hiring, as well as support services, tax incentives and realistic workplace accommodations.

"Ability Matters" was developed by PRIDE Industries in collaboration with; The ARC of California, ALTA California Regional Center, Work Training Center, Inc., California Disability Services Association, Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce, and Unisource Worldwide, Inc.

For a free copy, visit www.prideindustries.com.

Goodwill Opens New Store in Colton

Goodwill Southern California (GSC) was excited to open its new store in Colton. The store provides first-class merchandise at deeply discounted prices with the proceeds going to support Goodwill programs benefiting people with vocational disadvantages and disabilities, homeless, veterans, ex-offenders, and others who are vocationally disadvantaged, at-risk or in need. GSC spends 92 percent of its budget on programs that transform lives through the power of work.



Opening festivities included attendees from local government, media, chamber, business and community partners, as well as Goodwill staff. Community members enjoyed browsing through the vast selection of items during the Grand Opening celebration.

Employment Classifieds

Marin Ventures

Program Director

Marin Ventures is a nonprofit agency in San Rafael serving 100 adults with developmental disabilities in day programs. Our mission is to foster independence and personal growth while promoting opportunities for community integration based on clients' individual needs.

The Program Director works with the Executive Director to implement the vision and mission of Marin Ventures. As a key leader in the organization, he/she is responsible for managing Marin Ventures' programs: program development, staff recruitment, retention and development, program operations, and client services. The Program Director ensures that the programs and services of Marin Ventures are of the highest quality.

Qualifications:

- Five years of work experience managing services for persons with developmental disabilities, day program supervisory experience preferred.
- College degree
- Current California driver's license, good driving record, and personal car.
- Knowledge of, and experience in, current trends and practices in the assessment and training of individuals with developmental

- disabilities, including the administration of programs and case management.
- Must be able to communicate effectively through speaking and writing.
- Strong organizational, management, administrative, and interpersonal skills.
- Competent with MS Office software and networked PCs and familiar with database management.

For information about Marin Ventures, please see our website www.marinventures.org.

Email resume to marinventures@gmail.com. Include subject line: Program Director position. Please no phone calls. We will contact qualified candidates.

CDSA Employment Advertisements

Do you need to fill a position or are you looking for a new position or career advancement?

List your open position in the CDSA Classifieds. Your open position will be posted on the Listserv, the monthly newsletter and our web site for 30 days. Service fees are \$99 for members and \$275 for non-members; contact [Melissa Smith](#) to place an ad.

Board & Committee Meetings



California Disability Services Association Board

The Board discussed the DDS workgroup process. DDS invited CDSA to provide three participants for the "Day, Supported Employment, Work Activity Programs" workgroup. The Public Policy Committee asked that CDSA respond, urging for representation on other workgroups. DDS rejected CDSA's request. However, a number of CDSA members are participating in workgroups as representatives of other organizations:

Workgroup	Participants Who Belong to CDSA
Behavioral Services	Peter Bowers
Day, Supported Employment & WAP	Diana DeRodeff, Mark Melanson, Dwight Hansen, Barbara Maizie, David Miklas
Early Start Services	
Healthcare and Therapeutic Services	
ILS & SLS	Donna Bettencourt, Carol McKinney
Residential Services	Kelly White
Respite & Other Family Supports	Dwight Hansen, Mike Huckins, Dianne Rose, Maureen Wright, Barbara Maizie
Transportation Services	Will Sanford

The Board approved guidelines for a new lease for the CDSA office. The current lease ends December 31. The new office will be smaller and located in a less expensive area of Sacramento. The Board also approved a Relocation Committee composed of Wendy Rogina, Sam Seaton, and Liz Sutton.



California Disability Services Institute Board

The Institute Board did not meet in March.



Dynamic Solutions Incorporated Board

The DSI Board did not meet in March.



CARI and Business Services Committee

The CARI Committee did not meet in March, but it fostered an informal meeting on subminimum wage issues during the Legislative Affairs Conference.

Caucus Steering Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Membership Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee approved positions on more than 20 bills before the legislature. Most will be watched. Five require action:

SUPPORT:

AB 171 - Health Insurance for Autism Services

SB 743 - Interim Payment Fund

OPPOSE:

AB 170 - Divide Inland RC

AB 350* - Displaced Janitor Opportunity Act expansion

AB 889* - Domestic worker regulations on wages, hours & working conditions

*=Priority Oppose

The committee also reviewed the Trailer Bills as-released and approved a list of alternatives to the proposed \$174 million in cuts. There was a discussion about possibly changing the timing of the Legislative Affairs conference to avoid scheduling conflicts with other groups, the conclusion was that the problem will probably continue even if we did try to switch dates.

Committee members discussed concerns that CDSA was not asked to be on all eight DDS workgroups and how CDSA representation for groups like this is selected. A report on the DDS workgroup process was disheartening. The process is set up to gather ideas, but to keep development of all "best practices" in the hands of DDS staff. All ideas are given the same value in the gathering process, whether the idea is voiced by 99% or 1% of survey participants or workgroup members. DDS wants the workgroup to provide ideas without knowing what they will apply the idea to, or how much they're trying to save.

Public Relations Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Business Advisory Team

The team did not meet because of the budget crisis.

Who's Who & How to Contact

California Disability Services Association

1029 J Street, Suite 380
Sacramento, CA 95814
P: (916) 441-5844
F: (916) 441-2804

CDSA Staff

Executive Director

Christopher Rice, x 106, crice@cal-dsa.org

Assistant Executive Director

Andrea Gallippi, x 111, agallippi@cal-dsa.org

Government Affairs Director

Amy Wall, x 104, awall@cal-dsa.org

Membership Manager

Jim Scott, x 110, jscott@cal-dsa.org

Office Manager/Event Coordinator

Melissa Smith, x 113, msmith@cal-dsa.org

Caucus Chairs

Bay Area Caucus

Mike Huckins, (707) 644-4491, mike@bayrespitcare.org

Capitol Caucus

Joe Jaquez, (916) 685-7666, jjaquez@egact.org

Central Coast Caucus

Kirk Spry, (805) 928-5000 x 324, kspry@vtc-sm.org

Central Valley Caucus

Michael Mast, (209) 357-0371, MMast@kingsview.org

Inland Empire Caucus

Andrea Wells, (951) 780-8444 x 223, andreaatexceed@aol.com

LA County Caucus

TBA

Orange County Caucus

Tim Chervenak, (714) 549-3464 x 242, tim@proindependence.org

San Diego Caucus

Bill Mara, (760) 721-1706 x103, billm@terriinc.org

Upstate Caucus

Carl Ochsner, (530) 343-7994 x 104, carlo@ewtc.org

(Effective July 1) Jane Work, (530) 225-5725, jwork@co.shasta.ca.us

Committee Chairs

Audit

Karen Jones, 909-624-3555 x 223, karen@pwwonline.org

CARI & Business Services

Ron Killingsworth, (559) 280-7134, ron.cdsa@yahoo.com

Caucus Steering

Tim Chervenak, (714) 549-3464 x 242, tim@proindependence.org

Membership

Sylvia Anderson, (909) 428-3833 x 11, programs@industrial-support.org

Public Policy

Barbara Maizie, (925) 370-1818, bmaizie@arcofcc.org

Public Relations

Cindy Burton, (805) 966-3310 x 12, cindy.burton@pathpoint.org

Research & Development Committee

Will Sanford, (925) 963-4950, willsanford@futures-explored.org

CDSA Board of Directors

President

Patty Enger, (805) 966-3310 x 14, patty.enger@pathpoint.org

President-Elect/Treasurer

Ron Killingsworth, (559) 280-7134, ron.cdsa@yahoo.com

Vice-President

Sylvia Anderson, (909) 428-3833 x 11, programs@industrial-support.org

Immediate Past-President

Carl Ochsner, (530) 343-7994 x 104, carlo@ewtc.org

Directors

Joyce Hearn, (714) 744-5301 x 101, jhearn2001@yahoo.com

Wendy Rogina, (909) 483-5924, wendyr@vipsolutions.com

Sam Seaton, (916) 788-2114, sseaton@prideindustries.org

Liz Sutton, (707) 585-1991, liz@nbrs.org

Kirby Wohlander, (858) 467-0600, kirbyw@tmi-inc.org

For more information regarding CDSA's monthly newsletter, please contact [Melissa Smith](#).



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California Disability Services Association | 1029 J Street | Suite 380 | Sacramento | CA | 95814