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First of the Month

August 2011

CDSA CONFIDENTIAL

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CDSA Calendar

August 2

PR Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

August 5

Central Coast Caucus
Andersen's, Buellton
9:00-10:30 am

August 9

Inland Empire Caucus
VIP
10:00 am-Noon

Upstate Caucus

North Valley Services
10:00 am-Noon

Institute Board

Teleconference
3:00-4:00 pm

August 16

Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

Orange County Caucus

Project Independence
11:30 am-1:00 pm

August 17

Public Policy Planning
Day
USC Building
Sacramento
10:00 am-3:00 pm

August 18

Capitol Caucus
Training on TBL
InAlliance
9:00 am-Noon

CARI & Business

Services Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Bay Area Caucus

Contra Costa Arc
10:00 am-Noon

August 22

CDSA Board
Teleconference
10:00-11:30 am

August 24

Central Valley Caucus

The News

No Rest for the Weary

Legislators are taking their summer break. That means they're at home in their districts, relaxed, reconnecting with families, friends, and **constituents** - that's **you!**

Even though legislators may be resting, you can't! You need to build new bonds or strengthen your existing ties with your legislators:

- Make an appointment to visit with your legislator or to provide a tour of your programs.
- Wherever and whenever you meet with a legislator, share your concerns with the proposed \$100 million trigger cut. [Download talking points here.](#)
- Educate legislators and their staff on how your programs support employment for people with developmental disabilities. Read the following items to see why this is important.

AB 350 (Solorio)

Bill Description: AB 350 (Solorio) would require you, as a new contractor for licensed security, window cleaning and food services, in addition to janitorial and building maintenance services, to hire the workers of the previous contractor rather than bring your own employees (people with disabilities) onto the job.

Current Status: We have provided draft language for an exemption. SEIU and the author's office have been unwilling to accept our language. AB 350 is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 15.

Comment: This bill is one of the reasons why it's important to explain how employment works to your legislator.

AB 508 (Swanson)

Bill Description: AB 508 provides a 10% bid preference for any organization seeking a recycling or waste management contract with local governments that agrees to hire workers from the previous contract.

Current Status: This bill has become a two-year bill and our lobbyists continue to work with the author's office on exception language.

Comment: This bill is another reason to explain how employment works to your legislator.

AB 1244 (Chesbro)

Bill Description: AB 1244 re-names the self-directed services program and makes minor changes, without resolving the central obstacle to successful implementation - a workable methodology to determine an individual budget for persons who wish to enroll in the program. AB 1244 doesn't define a mechanism to ensure matching federal funds, and it makes other changes that weaken the desirability of the program for its intended participants. It also creates a statewide vendor contract for financial management services and a new bargaining unit managed by the Department of Developmental Services.

Current Status: Due to the strong grassroots effort by CDSA members and others, our lobbyists had the backup they needed to stop this bill in committee. AB 1244 is officially ineligible for further action until January.

Comment: This is why it's important to write letters to members of the Senate Human Services Committee, to thank those that stopped the bill and explain our position to those that supported it.

Employment First Policy

On July 27, CDSA testified on the proposed Employment First policy statement at a meeting held by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). CDSA supports the expansion of job opportunities but does NOT support the policy statement as written. Members believe that the Employment First process must address the barriers to employment, counter current and future legislation that eliminates jobs in fields that employ persons with developmental disabilities, honor the IPP, and acknowledge that inevitable, future cuts to an already devastated system will further limit opportunities for employment in California.

The language approved by the SCDD will become part of AB 254 (Beall) next year. This is a third reason to educate legislators about how your employment programs work.

Arc Fresno
10:00 am-Noon

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

August 25
San Diego Caucus
TMI
10:00 am-Noon

August 31
Public Policy
Committee
Teleconference
3:00-4:30 pm

September 5
CDSA Office Closed
Labor Day Holiday

September 6
PR Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

September 13
Inland Empire Caucus
OPARC
10:00 am-Noon

Upstate Caucus
North Valley Services
10:00 am-Noon

September 14
CDSA Board Meeting
San Diego Westin
4:00-6:00 pm

September 14-16
CDSA Annual Meeting
San Diego Westin

September 15
CDSA Legislative
Reception
San Diego Westin
5:00-7:00 p.m.

September 20
Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

September 22
San Diego Caucus
TMI
10:00 am-Noon

September 23
Dynamic Solutions
Board
Teleconference
11:00 am-Noon

September 28
Central Valley Caucus
Arc Fresno
10:00 am-Noon

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

Trailer Bill Implementation Surveys

The implementation of this year's trailer bill language will have significant impact on services for persons with developmental disabilities. In preparation for what will likely be an ongoing back and forth with DDS and the Legislature illustrating unintended consequences, CDSA and CSLN will be asking for your help! We are requesting information regarding changes in half-day/full-day billing each month and in SLS services each quarter. Look for an email announcement later this week!

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Public Policy Planning - All Invited!

We're not done with the current legislative session, but it's time to start planning our public policy agenda for next year. We need members from every part of the state and representatives for every kind of support services we represent.

All members are welcome to participate August 17 in a one-day planning session for public policy issues. The meeting will run from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in Sacramento, and lunch is provided.

There isn't a charge for this meeting, but we need you to [register by August 9](#). [Register Now!](#)

CDSA Annual Meeting - Membership Connects!

The 2011 Annual Meeting, September 14-16 in San Diego, is your best time to connect with the community that shares your mission of serving persons with developmental disabilities. Look for new information on programs, updates on public policy, and great opportunities to leverage the power of collective knowledge. The Annual Meeting celebrates the uniqueness of each member and each program. [Register today!](#)

What's New

- Special one-day registration option.
- Reception for legislators, local government and employers from San Diego County on September 15 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.
- 16 workshops, 3 roundtable sessions and 2 keynote speakers!

Why Attend?

Communication, knowledge sharing, collaboration, FUN!

- Further advance your organization and the mission you share.
- Continue your commitment to lifelong learning.
- Connect and share experiences with colleagues in a fun environment!

Westin Accommodations

CDSA discounted room block expires August 26! To reserve your room now, [click here](#).

DSI Scholarships

For members with financial difficulties, we are offering 10 Dynamic Solutions scholarships that will cover registration costs. [Click here](#) for the application form.

Early registration discounts end August 12 - less than two weeks away! [Register today!](#)

CARI and Work Contracts

Bid Worksheet

Do you want to be as competitive as possible when putting together contract bids? Members can be sure that all of their organization's possible expenses have been covered by costing out contract opportunities using a bid costing worksheet approved by the CARI Committee. [Click here](#) to test it out.

New Opportunities

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

Members' Noteworthy News

Success Springs from Marin Ventures Garden

Clients, their families and staff are all reaping the benefits of Marin Ventures' sensory garden. With help and donated plants from Marin Master Gardeners, Marin Ventures has been able to transform an area between their buildings, formerly occupied by storage sheds, into an organic garden.

Gardeners, clients and parents have planted zucchini, eggplants, artichokes, potatoes, beets and carrots just to name a few of the bumper crops produced in the garden. Lettuce, Swiss chard, and

herbs have been harvested for use in Marin Ventures' lunch preparation classes, along with green beans, strawberries and blueberries.

The sensory garden integrates well with the Vocational Skills Training, Community Integration, Occupational Therapy, Volunteering, Music, Art, Cooking, Computer Training, and Independent Living Skills training programs Marin Ventures offers.

Lincoln Training Center Recognized by the DOR

Lincoln Training Center (LTC), Belinda Owens and her team were recently recognized for their superior services by the California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). In a letter citing LTC's "creative ways to provide unique opportunities for persons with disabilities in a stagnant economy," and touting LTC as being "at the forefront of the paradigm shift in how employment services are to be delivered," the DOR commended LTC's diligence, collaboration and willingness to go the extra mile for consumers. Congratulations to the LTC team!

Employment Classifieds

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 asked the executive director to provide a plan at the next Board meeting for eliminating the deficit in the association's budget.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of contracting for a three or four month public relations campaign on the impact of the trigger cut. The Board developed a consensus that staff should investigate this further, reporting to the PR Committee. It is important to define how much effort will be required of members, what will give CDSA the most impact, and whether members will commit to pay for a campaign.



California Disability Services Institute Board

The Institute Board elected officers for the year: President-George Molano, Secretary-Vic Wursten, Treasurer-Patty Enger. The Board reviewed the schedule for the Annual Meeting and suggested improvements.



Dynamic Solutions Incorporated Board

The Dynamic Solutions Board did not meet this month. It will meet in September.



CARI and Business Services Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Caucus Steering Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Membership Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Public Policy Committee

The Committee reviewed current activity on AB 350, AB 508, and AB 1244. It approved a support position for AB 161, which would allow volunteers trained by medical professionals to administer a seizure control medication to students in schools.

The Committee discussed the Employment First report at great length and agreed upon an initial stance to report to the State Council. The group agreed that more discussion is needed.

Public Relations Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Relocation Committee

The Committee did not meet this month.

Who's Who & How to Contact

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



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