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# First of the Month

## March 2010

CDSA CONFIDENTIAL

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### CDSA Calendar

March 2  
Public Relations  
Committee  
10:00-11:00 am

March 9  
Upstate Caucus  
Green Barn  
Restaurant, Red  
Bluff  
11:30 am-1:00 pm

Institute Board  
Teleconference  
3:00-4:00 pm

March 11  
CARI Committee  
Teleconference  
10:00-11:00 am

### The News

#### Lanterman Developmental Center

DDS has announced its intention to close Lanterman Developmental Center. There are many complex issues that must be resolved, with sensitivity to the concerns of families and others involved. CDSA supports the commitment to close Lanterman:

- We want to see the remaining 400 residents moved to the community; temporary transfer to another facility (Fairview) should only be considered as a last resort.
- The value of the existing 300+ acres and any useable buildings at Lanterman should first be leased or sold to create a revenue stream to build or retrofit housing for the residents transferring to the community.
- Sufficient funds from the operating budget at Lanterman (approximately \$116 million annually) should transfer with the consumer to the community to fully cover the DDS portion of serving the consumer.
- Annual savings from the dollars spent now for support in a DC versus the far less expensive cost of community support represent the real savings to the State and our system. The total could exceed \$70 million per year!

Gloria Negrete McLeod is discussing a bill that will ensure a portion of the asset value of Lanterman stays in the system to support housing costs for residents moving into the community.

Diana DeRodeff reported on DDS' discussion of the Lanterman closure at the Budget Advisory Committee. Right now, there are 398 people at Lanterman - only two come from north of Bakersfield. DDS must have a preliminary plan in place by April 1, for implementation July 1. The plan can be updated and formalized later; there is no date certain for closure. There won't be bond money for housing, as there was for Agnews. They have \$86 million for CPP. There is research on the possibility that Lanterman is held in trust for people with developmental disabilities. They are exploring how funding can follow the person and whether it allows for affordable permanent housing.

#### Bylaws

**One Done** - The members of CDSA voted to approve the bylaw amendment changing the experience requirement for candidates for the position of Board Vice President. Serving on the Board, on a CDSA committee, or as a caucus chair all provide sufficient

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

March 16  
Capitol Caucus  
InAlliance  
10:00-Noon

CDSA Board Meeting  
Citizen Hotel  
4:30-6:00 pm

March 17  
Legislative Affairs  
Conference  
Citizen Hotel  
8:00 am-9:00 pm

March 18  
Legislative Affairs  
Conference  
Citizen Hotel  
8:00 am-1:00 pm

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

March 24  
Central Valley  
Caucus  
ABLE Industries  
10:00 am-Noon

Membership  
Committee  
Teleconference  
2:00-3:00 pm

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

March 31  
DDS Holiday  
Cesar Chavez Day

April 2  
Sonoma County

experience.

**Another to Do** - An announcement has now gone out to members about the bylaws changes needed to create the Respite Care Provider Affiliate Membership. The proposed changes can be [viewed here](#). Members will be asked to discuss and vote on the bylaw amendments during the Legislative Affairs Conference.

### Legislative Affairs Conference

Come help us paint the State Capitol Building green. Yes, our legislative visits are on March 17, St. Patrick's Day, and other business will be dispatched on March 18. We are setting appointments with **every** legislator, and we need you in Sacramento sharing your concerns. Only one week left to register.

[Register online today!](#)

### Hearo Awards

The Board has approved two **Every Day Hero Awards**, to recognize heroes who work every day to help persons with developmental disabilities. We will be presenting the awards to legislators during the Legislative Affairs Conference Reception.

### Generosity of Dynamic Solutions

Dynamic Solutions (our in-house insurance agency) has been very generous to CDSA members. It provided more than \$15,000 in scholarships to attend the Legislative Affairs Conference and grants for health and safety training and professional development. Recipients of funds will receive notices within a week.

### Leadership Retreat

Caucus Chairs, Committee Chairs, and Board Members will gather for the annual Leadership Retreat on April 20-21. The meeting will start at 3:00 pm on the 20th and end at 3:00 pm on the 21st. The group will review committee recommendations, evaluate progress on the strategic plan, and develop 2010-11 objectives. The location for the meeting will be in the south - but we're still looking for a venue. Suggestions are welcome.

### California Hires the Best Press Release

The California Hires the Best website is fully operational, ready to connect employers with participating CDSA members. Those who belong to local chambers of commerce can submit a [press release](#) or send us contact information for your chamber, and we'll send it.

## Governmental Affairs

### Current Issues

Our lobbyists are excited to have Gloria Negrete McLeod as a sponsor for a bill that will ensure a portion of the asset value of Lanterman stays

Legislative  
Breakfast

in the system to support housing costs for residents moving into the community. The focus is not on the process DDS must follow or the timing but on making sure the closing is done right - ensuring funding for the residents moving into the community.

**April 5**  
DDS Holiday  
Easter Monday

Although AB 1260 (fixing the method of the respite care cut) seems to be stuck, outreach to a few legislators continues.

**April 6**  
PR Committee  
Teleconference  
10:00-11:00 am

### DDS Budget Advisory Committee

Diana DeRodeff reported from her February 11 sojourn with the DDS Budget Advisory Committee: DDS says that the 08-09 year ended within budget, and that they expect the same for 09-10.

**April 8**  
CARI Committee  
Teleconference  
10:00-11:00 am

In terms of the current year, they will see December financials in February. First Five has some money set aside and will discuss funding for DDS programs in April.

San Diego Caucus  
Legislative  
Breakfast

Medicaid has approved two waiver amendments submitted by DDS and should approve another amendment soon. DDS is still working on adding day care and transportation for clients in Intermediate Care Facilities.

**April 13**  
Inland Empire  
Caucus  
OPARC  
10:00 am-Noon

Sierra Vista Developmental Center is now closed, and 30 residents at Porterville have been moved into the secure treatment area (thus qualifying for Medicaid funding).

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

There are 3,127 clients in the new Prevention Program - fewer than expected. Some families are dropping out, feeling that they receive nothing. Some children with greater disabilities are getting moved inappropriately to the Prevention Program and then moved over to Early Start - but there aren't any statistics on this.

Institute Board  
Teleconference  
3:00-4:00 pm

As of February 2, there have been 2,402 Fair Hearing requests (961 for social rec, 929 for respite, 221 for nonmedical therapies, 108 for experimental therapies). Thus far, some 80 decisions have been announced, but only 28% of the requests granted.

**April 15**  
Bay Area Caucus  
Contra Costa Arc  
10:00 am-Noon

DDS continues to work on the Individual Choice Budget. Acumen is working to make the CDER predictive for funding clients.

## CARI and Work Contracts

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

### New Opportunities

CARI has secured four contracts in the past month, a Safety Roadside Rest Area for CalTrans, two landscaping contracts for Department of State Military, and a document management contract for Department of Child Support Services. The state budget is still tight, but there's some movement in the right direction!

**April 16**  
Orange County  
Legislative  
Breakfast

We are working on identifying more 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 Gaillippi](#). More opportunities are coming soon.

## Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**April 20**  
CDSA Leadership  
Retreat  
Location TBA  
3:00-7:00 pm

Capitol Caucus  
InAlliance  
10:00 am-Noon

Orange County  
Caucus  
Project  
Independence  
11:30 am-1:00 pm

**April 21**  
CDSA Leadership  
Retreat  
Location TBA  
8:00 am-3:00 pm

CDSA Board Meeting  
Location TBA  
3:00 -5:00 pm

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

**April 28**  
Central Valley  
Caucus  
Able Industries  
10:00 am-Noon

**April 29**  
San Diego Caucus  
TMI  
10:00 am-Noon

### Legislative Affairs Conference

Citizen Hotel, Sacramento  
March 17-18, 2010

It may be Lent in New Orleans, but saints like you can still march down the halls of the Capitol. Join us on St. Patrick's Day to bring CDSA's concerns to legislators.

Members: \$445  
Non-Members: \$535

**[Register online today!](#)**  
(Registration closes on March 8)

### Conference Schedule

Tuesday, March 16

8:00 am - CDSA: Golf Enthusiast Outing at [Ancil Hoffman Golf Course](#)  
2:00 - 6:00 pm: Registration open  
5:00 pm: Pre-Conference meet and greet at the Grange Bar located in the Citizen Hotel

Wednesday, March 17

7:30 am: Registration & continental breakfast buffet  
8:00 am: Preparation for legislative visits  
9:00 am: Legislative visits begin  
Noon: Lunch at Citizen Terrace  
1:00 pm: Legislative visits continue  
6:00 pm: Hosted Reception with music at Citizen Terrace

Thursday, March 18

7:30 am: Registration & continental breakfast buffet  
8:00 am: De-briefing and next steps  
10:00 am: Breakout sessions  
11:15 am: CDSA business meeting  
12:30 pm: Lunch

### Accommodations

To book your accommodations at the [Citizen Hotel](#), call reservations at (916) 447-2700.

## Board & Committee Meetings



### California Disability Services Association Board

The Board recommended bylaw amendments to the membership for approval. The amendments will establish a new category of affiliate membership. This will allow CDSA to offer affiliate membership status

to respite care providers. The Board approved two Every Day Hero awards, which will be presented to legislators at the March conference. CARI received approval to secure a C-27 contractor license, which will reduce costs for CARI participants pursuing some state contracts. The Leadership Retreat is scheduled for April 20-21, and the Board Retreat for May 24-25.



### California Disability Services Institute Board

The Institute is developing a seminar on programs for clients with autism. The Board established a scholarship committee to approve scholarships for the Legislative Affairs Conference.



### Dynamic Solutions Incorporated Board

The Dynamic Solutions Board reviewed and approved grant requests.



### CARI Committee

The CARI Committee submitted a request to the Board to approve pursuit of a C-27 license. It has recommended to the Public Policy Committee that our lobbyists move forward with trying to include disability business enterprises and service providers in the DVBE participation goals in regards to contracting with the state. The Committee noted that the meeting with Northrop Grumman provided useful information.

### Caucus Steering Committee

The **Caucus Steering Committee** has started collecting materials for a "caucus binder" of example materials all caucuses can draw upon for developing events and planning meetings.

The **Bay Area Caucus** is preparing for an April 2 Sonoma County legislative breakfast. The group is also preparing for a meeting with US Speaker of the House Pelosi.

The **Capitol Caucus** has elected Robin Rhoades (Southside Art Center,

Sacramento) as its chair. The group critiqued its second community forum and completed an event log report for CDSA.

The **Central Coast Caucus** is organizing a May 7 legislative event, with a program that includes voter registration, an advocacy talk by a People First representative, and an opportunity for legislative candidates to speak. The event will be held in a park, with hopes for 1,000 attendees.

The **Inland Caucus** encouraged members to write letters to federal legislators (to encourage funding) and state legislators to support the closing of Lanterman Developmental Center. The caucus analyzed its January legislative breakfast, with 140 attendees and 13 participating agencies. The group also discussed responses to the proposed elimination of the subminimum wage.

The **Orange County Caucus** is planning its first legislative breakfast for April 16, with target attendance of 50.

The **San Diego Caucus** (DDPN) is planning a legislative breakfast for April 9, in partnership with the San Diego Regional Center. They expect 500 attendees, and the district attorney is the honorary chair. The DDPN has secured sponsors for the breakfast, and it will be followed by a workshop on how to talk to your legislator.

The **Upstate Caucus** hosted State Senate candidate Doug LaMalfa for a Q & A session, with 18 in attendance. They now hope to get Mr. LaMalfa's opponent to visit.

### Membership Committee

The Membership Committee has been instrumental in developing a new membership category for CDSA. The Committee completed a business analysis and then secured Board approval to proceed with the new Respite Care Agency Affiliate group. Our member agencies attending the North and South Policy Meetings gave it unanimous approval. The Committee is now encouraging outreach to respite care agencies to promote participation in CDSA.

### Public Policy Committee

The Committee urged members in the area near Lanterman Developmental Center to participate in the hearing on February 24. It asked staff to encourage members receiving surveys from the State Bureau of Audits to respond fully and honestly. Helping the auditors understand the operations of regional centers will be helpful to everyone. The Committee asked Dwight Hansen to set up a meeting with Assembly Member Hector De La Torre. A committee member will talk to the Infant Development Association about its issues. The Committee also discussed creating an issue paper to present to candidates for governor.

The Committee will next address the talking points for the Legislative Affairs Conference.

### Public Relations Committee

The Committee continues work on a case statement as the first step in

developing a PR plan.

## 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

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##### **Assistant Executive Director**

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##### **Membership Manager**

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##### **Office Manager**

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##### **Dynamic Solutions Insurance Account Executive**

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#### Caucus Chairs

##### **Bay Area Caucus**

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##### **Upstate Caucus**

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##### **Capitol Caucus**

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##### **Central Valley Caucus**

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##### **Central Coast Caucus**

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##### **Inland Empire Caucus**

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##### **San Diego Caucus**

Mark Berger, (619) 681-1999, [mberger@pwiworks.org](mailto:mberger@pwiworks.org)

##### **LA County Caucus**

TBA

##### **Orange County Caucus**

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#### Committee Chairs

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

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