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First of the Month

May 2010

CDSA CONFIDENTIAL

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The News

The Government Affairs Position

As announced on Friday, Dwight Hansen did not accept the Government Affairs Director position. CDSA's contract with Hansen and Associates ends on June 30, and the Board expects to have a GA Director in place by then. It would be inappropriate to detail the specifics of the offer, recount discussions, or respond to assertions. I hope that you have seen the way the Board and staff conduct the business of CDSA so that you have confidence this difficult process was managed properly.

How did we get here?

When the Board approved the budget for the 2009-10 year, it debated at great length the cost of having contracts with two lobbying firms, noting the limitations it put on other possible initiatives. This was again brought to the floor during the Annual Meeting last September. Members questioned the use of two lobbying firms and the total costs of lobbying.

In the following months, the CDSA Board discussed the different roles people must play in governmental affairs. The Board realized that it had outsourced policy analysis, communications, and lobbying. The Board concluded there would be greater efficiency and effectiveness if the policy analysis and communications aspects were brought back into the CDSA office. This led to the decision to re-create the position of Government Affairs Director, which Dwight Hansen once held for CRA.

Unfortunately, the CRA operating budget was larger than is CDSA's. Today, the executive director doesn't earn as much. The CARI director doesn't earn as much. The meeting manager doesn't earn as much. Based on the size and budget of CDSA, the Government Affairs Director salary is reasonably positioned. The reality is that associations like CDSA are often the second step in the ladder for professionals in governmental affairs. They go on to larger associations and bigger salaries.

Some members have told me that the cuts over the past few years demonstrate that we should replace everyone involved with our lobbying efforts. I would argue that the cuts were smaller than they might have been, and that the only reason Lanterman Developmental Center is being closed is the pressure our lobbyists have brought to bear.

10:00-11:00 am

May 14
Central Coast
Caucus Legislative
Event

Other members have said that our current lobbyists are irreplaceable. Each of the three CDSA lobbyists I have worked with possess unique skill sets and knowledge bases. Changing any of the three will change the way our public policy effort operates, but we will continue to address legislation and budget issues and keep people informed. As we move forward, we will involve Public Policy Committee members and staff to ensure that we address issues with full background, fully implement legislative strategies, and continue to share vital public policy updates with members.

May 17
Board Retreat
CDSA Office
Sacramento
10:00 am-5:00 pm

Chris Rice
Executive Director

May 18
Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

The \$25 Million Cut

DDS Director Terri Delgadillo has announced her recommendation for saving \$25 million in the DDS budget: Change the 3% payment reduction to 4.25%.

May 19
DSI Board
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Our response:

Take the money from the "Prevention Program." The program's budget for this year is \$27 million, and the 2010-11 budget is \$36 million - that's for case management but no purchase of services. DDS estimated that 17,000 families would enroll in this program, but fewer than 3,000 have. The Prevention Program can manage with \$8 million, and additional funds can go to the Family Resource Centers where actual intervention services can be coordinated and delivered for these families.

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

May 20
Bay Area Caucus
Contra Costa Arc
10:00 am-Noon

Take this message to your legislators!

Other Messages for Legislators:

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

1. Confirm the authority of the Individual Program Plan (IPP) and the Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP) in the determination of services and supports for people with developmental disabilities.

Although the Legislature did not intend to make any changes to the authority of the IPP/IFSP in last year's trailer bill, some ambiguity in the final language have caused at least some regional centers to determine that they now have unilateral authority to make decisions outside of these key documents.

May 26
Central Valley
Caucus
Able Industries
10:00 am-Noon

2. Revise the language on the respite services to achieve the intended \$5.5 million reduction without placing undue hardship on some families.

The intended 2% reduction in expenditures made to in-home and out-of-home respite services placed a hard cap on the number of hours or days a family could receive per year or per quarter. This actually led to reductions between 15 and 30%. The burden also fell most heavily on those using the most hours; intuitively those with the greatest need, while those with lesser needs faced no reductions.

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

May 27
San Diego Caucus
TMI
10:00 am-Noon

3. Speed the final closure of the Agnews Developmental Center.

June 1
Public Relations
Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Although no consumers remain, the Department is still spending more than \$5 million to implement a "warm shut-down"; mowing lawns, flushing toilets, operating heating and air conditioning, etc. Let's really move out! People need services, and decrepit buildings that no one will ever use again don't need to be preserved.

June 8
CARI Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Respite Care Affiliate Group

The affiliate group now has seven members. New members since the last newsletter are:

Inland Empire
Caucus
VIP
10:00 am-Noon

Channel Islands Social Services, Sharon Francis, CEO
(Central Coast Caucus)

Shella Care Management Services, Michael Foster, CEO
(Inland Empire Caucus)

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

Please welcome these new members.

The HIRE Act and Tax Savings

John Rumsey pointed out that agencies may be able take advantage of a provision in the new jobs bill. One provision of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment (HIRE) Act, is that employers will not be required to pay the employer-share of Social Security tax on the wages of new employees who:

Institute Board
Teleconference
3:00-4:00 pm

- Are hired after February 3, 2010, and before January 1, 2011.
- Have been unemployed for at least 60 days.
- Have not been employed more than 40 hours in the 60-day period ending on the date such individual gains such employment.
- Are not replacing a person who was terminated, "unless such other person is separated from employment voluntarily or for cause."

June 11
Central Coast
Caucus
Anderson's
Restaurant,
Beullton
9:00-11:00 am

Have someone who enjoys tax codes and federal legislation check this out for you.

June 15
Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

Adult Ed Funding Survey

The results from the survey on Adult Education support are in. Some 40 agencies responded to the survey, and 10 of those are ready to help CDSA pursue this issue at the statewide level. In 2009-10, member agencies lost support worth more than \$1.5 million, and they now face an additional loss of more than \$5.5 million.

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

A total of 19 agencies had staff paid by another source, and 14 of those counted the adult ed staff in their ratios. Twenty-one agencies received funding from adult education or community college sources, and 13 of those included the adult ed funding in their last cost statement.

June 16
Caucus Steering
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

Approximately 4,400 clients receive services through adult education support, and agencies estimate that 1,500 will lose those services when the cuts occur.

June 17

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

These statistics don't tell the whole story. One agency saw the adult ed program grow over time, so that the last cost statement doesn't reflect current reality. Another agency has seen cuts over the past several years.

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

Board Election

The suspense is over. All election results are in, including Cook County. CDSA has elected three people to the 2010-11 Board. They will assume their positions in July.

June 18
DSI Board
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Serving as Vice President will be Sylvia Anderson, Fontana Rehabilitation Services/ISS (Inland Empire Caucus). After a year as Vice President, Sylvia will serve in each of the other leadership chairs for a year: President-elect, President, and Immediate Past President.

June 21
CDSA Board
Teleconference
10:00-11:30 am

Elected for two-year terms as Directors at Large are Wendy Rogina, VIP Solutions (Inland Empire Caucus), and Kirby Wohlander, Toward Maximum Independence (San Diego Caucus).

June 23
Central Valley
Caucus
Able Industries
10:00 am-Noon

Departing the CDSA Board will be Immediate Past President Joan McKinney and Directors Carol Rogers and Karen Jones. Karen looks forward to greater involvement with CARF, and Joan plans to teach all her grandchildren how to golf - with very tiny golf clubs.

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

Leadership Retreat

Caucus Chairs, Committee Chairs, and Board Members gathered in Long Beach for the annual Leadership Retreat on April 20-21. The group reviewed the strategic plan, covering long term goals and strategies.

June 30
End of CDSA
administrative year

Then, it reviewed the objectives set for 2009-10 (not all completed) and developed new objectives for 2010-11 (some are repeats). The Board will review the plan in May, and it will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting in September.

Governmental Affairs

Bills We Like

The Legislation Subcommittee and Public Policy Committee have identified the bills we care about. You can find a [complete report on our website](#), but here's a quick summary.

Support

AB 1260, Huffman - Our bill to fix respite care and senior program language in last year's trailer bill.

AB 1763, Lieu - A clean-up of existing law on background checks. Allows worker to work in different county using same background check.

AB 2204, Beall - Requires the DDS stakeholder group to reflect diversity of the population. This would open up the stakeholder process.

AB 2220, Silva - (Support in Principle) Subjects the Regional Centers to the public records act. What records of CDSA organizations would this open to public record?

AB 2702, Chesbro - Arc California's bill to fix trailer bill language that

took decision making away from IPP team.

AJR 31, Buchanan - Urges Congress to fully fund the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

SB 110, Liu - Expands training, investigation, and prosecution requirements for crimes directed at persons with disabilities.

SB 812, Ashburn - Requires housing developers to look at needs of people with disabilities.

SB 1196, Negrete-McLeod - Planned bill would convert land value of Lanterman into funding for housing and take operating funds from Lanterman for the POS in community for former residents.

SB 1283, Steinberg - A placeholder to get autism spectrum disorder parity law. Strengthens requirements so health insurance companies have to pay for services.

Oppose

SB 1129, Wiggins - Proposes a health center at Sonoma Developmental Center, but the health care service should be in the community where the people are.

DDS Budget Advisory Committee

The BAC has met several times since the Governor's budget was announced. Diana DeRodeff reported that the April meeting was the first time Terri Delgadillo had discussed the \$25 million budget cut. And it was clear that the idea of a 1.25% rate reduction was not popular.

CARI and Work Contracts

New Opportunities

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 Gallippi](#). More opportunities are coming soon.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

CDSA Annual Meeting

The CDSA Annual Meeting will be held at the Downtown LA Sheraton, September 7-9. A unique feature of the conference will be a reception for state legislators from LA County. CDSA members and families from the area will be asked to help plan that event.

Members' Noteworthy News

Congratulations to Cheryl Westley

NISH has awarded Cheryl Westley of Elwyn California the 2009 NCWC Management Excellence Award for the Pacific West Region for her years of dedication and commitment to serving individuals with significant disabilities and her assistance in securing major contracts on behalf of them. This award is very prestigious as it is voted on by peers.

Before Cheryl Westley's illustrious history with Elwyn, she graced the

offices of CalARF (now CDSA) as the first person to run the CARI program when it was first released by the Department of Rehabilitation some 20 years ago. She was single handedly responsible for growing the program in those initial years by 800%. Her work and dedication helped pave the path for the program to be where it is today.

Employment Classifieds

Assistant Executive Director: Porterville Sheltered Workshop

Provide for executive management & direction of areas within Porterville Sheltered Workshop Assure intent of board policies/philosophy of Porterville Sheltered Workshop effectively carried out.

Bachelor's Degree required and Master's Degree preferred in Bus Admin, Public Admin, or related field from post secondary accredited institution.

Minimum of (8) yrs full-time employment with (4) years exp in administrative work directing professional, technical or supervisory personnel.

Clean DMV(H-6)/drug test required.

Fax Resumes to: Human Resources, Porterville Sheltered Workshop, (559) 782-8474.

Deadline: 5/14/2010 @ 4:30 p.m.

(Please no emailed resumes.)

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor: Foothill Vocational Opportunities, Inc.

Foothill Vocational Opportunities, Inc., a non-profit organization since 1965, is recruiting for Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to provide quality vocational rehabilitation services to developmentally disabled adults in an industrial setting.

Duties include: providing case management services, work evaluation and work training; developing individualized vocational plans and writing reports; providing vocational counseling and behavioral modification and intervention.

Qualifications: B.S. or M.S. degree in Rehab Counseling or related field, experienced in case management and vocational counseling for developmentally disabled adults. Bilingual a plus.

Salary: \$2700 to \$3000 per month

Please send resume and cover letter to:

Foothill Vocational Opportunities

789 N. Fair Oaks Ave.

Pasadena, CA 91103

FAX 626-449-3104

E-mail: hr@foothillvoc.org

Equal Employment Opportunities

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 approved the [CARI Code of Ethics](#), which will be the standard of behavior for volunteers who assist the CARI program. Until CARI can hire field staff, the volunteers will work in the field to develop relationships and pursue contract opportunities.

The Board reviewed a proposal from Carl London of Rose & Kindel, which has the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) as a client. CDSA is for the closing of Lanterman Developmental Center, and AFSCME is against it. The proposal is that Rose & Kindel not represent CDSA on bills related to the Lanterman closing and provide in recompense eight hours per month for four months of public relations/communications assistance from Marcey Brightwell of Grayling Communications. The Board asked what the financial value of this offer is and urged exploration of a reduction of fees.



California Disability Services Institute Board

The Institute Board has started work on the program for the Annual Meeting and urges members to suggest (or volunteer to present) workshops and speakers.



Dynamic Solutions Incorporated Board

The Dynamic Solutions Board meets quarterly.

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

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