



First of the Month

October 2010

CDSA CONFIDENTIAL

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CDSA Calendar

October 12

PR Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

Inland Empire
Caucus
VIP
10:00 am-Noon

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

October 19

Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

Orange County
Caucus

The News

Government Affairs Plan

The CDSA Board has followed the recommendations of the Structure and Resources Committee. Here's an update:

1. Create an in-house government affairs director position - **Done**.
2. Offer the position to contract lobbyist Dwight Hansen - **Offered and declined**.
3. Use remaining funds to retain Hansen and Associates and Rose & Kindel - **In process**. Dwight Hansen has verbally agreed to a contract. Carl London is in discussions.
4. Hire a government affairs director - **In process**. Final interviews are set for October 5.

Budget Issues

In Sacramento, there still isn't a budget. The Governor and legislative leader announced a framework for a deal, and staff are supposed to be crunching numbers and assembling proposals.

Two Regional Centers have indicated that their remaining funds will cover October services. Other RCs are keeping quiet. The Lanterman Coalition has asked DDS Director Terri Delgadillo for a briefing on this.

Community Care Licensing is coping with lack of funds by either delaying or stopping the processing of licensing requests. The Sacramento office says that the highest priority will go to programs involving health and safety issues or where and emergency re-location.

Rest Stop Closures

On September 24, 2010, Caltrans District 8 closed Safety Roadside Rest Areas (SRRAs) in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. All but two of the SRRAs will be closed indefinitely. Water testing is necessary to ensure the SRRAs provide safe drinking water to the public, and the vendor providing testing refuses to accept a state payment voucher.

Many of the 80 SRRAs in California have water supplied by wells. So, a refusal of voucher payment by another water testing company could put additional SRRAs at risk of closure. There is also a danger that, if complaints about the district 8 closings are limited, further budget savings might be pursued by closing a percentage of all SRRAs across the state.

Project
Independence
11:30 am-1:00 pm

October 20
Caucus Steering
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

Membership
Committee
Teleconference
2:00-3:00 pm

October 21
CARI & Business
Services
Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

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

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

October 25
CDSA Board
Meeting
Teleconference
10:00-11:30 am

October 27
Central Valley
Caucus
ABLE Industries
10:00 am-Noon

October 28
San Diego Caucus
TMI
10:00 am-Noon

If your agency services one or more SRRAs, please contact [Andrea Gallippi](#) with specifics on the name, location, number of people employed, and (if you know) whether the facility is on well water.

Public Policy Agenda

The Public Policy Committee reviewed three possible areas for bills for 2011.

Budget trailer bill issues - This involves fixing some of the troubling language from the 2009 and 2010 trailer bills, including the methodology of the respite cut, protecting the IPP, and eliminating the option for regional centers to impose "flexibility" on service providers.

Audit - The Committee is exploring a bill that would draw directly from the recommendations of the audit to ensure options for consumers, open up selection processes, and restore rate setting through cost statements

Hours of work/meals/breaks - A bill in this area would not be likely to pass but would start educating lawmakers about the complexities of providing services to consumers at affordable rates.

The Committee is tracking a number of issues:

- Wage orders 5 and 15
 - Meals and breaks
 - Protection of prevailing wage payments
 - Employment first policy
 - Assembly Select Committee on Workforce Development
 - Flexibility language in the 2010 budget trailer bill
 - Sunset of the payment reduction
 - AB 2702 (2009-10 Budget Trailer Bill fix)
 - Tracking the impact of cuts on service providers
 - Adult education funding lawsuit
 - Cash flow until a budget is passed
 - Funding for ICF wraparound services
 - Bureau of State Audits report
-

Annual Meeting Recap

The September 7-9 Annual Meeting in downtown LA drew 86 registered attendees and six exhibitors, both up from last year. The workshops proved popular, with attendance as high as 87% in the morning and above 50% in the afternoon-when some were setting up tables for the reception. Registrants who missed a session will be able to download handouts; look for a post event email in the coming days with a link to the available presentations.

A new twist to the Annual Meeting program was the LA Legislator Reception, staged in a circular room at the top of the hotel with a panoramic view of downtown LA. To view pictures [click here](#). The reception featured 18 displays from almost all of the CDSA members operating in LA County. We impressed 13 legislators and staff, and CDSA members mingled and had the opportunity to learn more about their LA counterparts. The investment seems to have paid off with

November 2
PR Committee
Teleconference
10:00-11:00 am

November 9
Inland Empire
Caucus
OPARC
10:00 am-Noon

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

Institute Board
Teleconference
3:00-4:00 pm

November 11
Holiday - CDSA
Office Closed

November 16
Capitol Caucus
InAlliance
10:00 am-Noon

November 18
Bay Area Caucus
Contra Costa Arc
10:00 am-Noon

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

November 22
CDSA Board
Meeting
Teleconference
10:00-11:30 am

continued dialog with a few of the legislative offices after the reception. With this success, the reception format may be duplicated at future Annual Meetings.

Many thanks to the committees that invested many hours in organizing the reception and all the agencies that brought staff, persons served, families, and wonderful displays.



Save the date!

The 2011 Annual Meeting is September 14-16 at the Westin San Diego Emerald Plaza located a few blocks from Gaslamp quarter.

Need Your Newsletters

Thank you to the two organizations that have provided CDSA with e-mail subscriptions to their newsletters. If anyone else can do the same, it will help the PR Committee, which is launching an external newsletter that will go to legislators and others who need to understand the wonderful things all of you do. We need material for that newsletter, and we want to steal it from you. After all, plagiarism is the sincerest form of flattery.

If at all possible, please e-mail your newsletters - or the copy for them - to [Chris Rice](#). As a fallback, put the CDSA office on your mailing list. We're also looking for photos.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Policy Meetings

CDSA's next gatherings will be the North/South Policy Meetings:

- South - January 26 at San Gabriel Valley Training Center, La Puente/Bassett
- North - January 27 at the CDSA office, Sacramento

Watch for an email announcement later this month; registration will begin November 1.

Navigating the Future in Turbulent Times

You have an opportunity to see via computer 11 presentations by leaders in the field of developmental disabilities addressing the theme "Navigating the Future in Turbulent Times." The series, organized by Tennessee Microboards Association, Inc., costs \$16 per session and features Steve Eidelman, John O'Brien, Judith Gran, Tom Nerney, Beth Mount, David Wetherow, Nancy Thaler, Michael Callahan, Nancy Ward, Clarence Sundram, and Michael Smull. Presentations are on Wednesdays, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm. To learn more and to register, go to <http://tnmicroboards.eventbrite.com/>.

CARI and Work Contracts

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

November 25-26
Holiday - CDSA
Office Closed

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](mailto:Andrea.Gallippi). More opportunities are coming soon.

Members' Noteworthy News

Marine Salutes Arc of San Diego Workers

A Marine Corps colonel recently praised the Arc of San Diego's food service program for performing "way beyond expectations" in providing "quality and professional services to meet stringent military sanitation and contract requirements."

The Arc of San Diego provides employment to some 275 individuals, with a variety of disabilities, in food services and ground maintenance at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MRCRD) through the AbilityOne program. In a letter of recommendation, Colonel J. E. Kasperski wrote that, "Due to the Arc's dedication, troop morale dramatically increased, our dining facilities are the envy of the rest of the Marine Corps, and the MCRD has won two consecutive prestigious awards for food service excellence."

Since 2002, participants in the Arc's community employment services program have been responsible for serving up to 18,000 meals per day at the Marine Corp's largest single mess hall, and Colonel Kasperski praised the Arc employees as "reliable and indefatigable workers, with total commitment to their jobs, our military, and our Nation." Marine leaders also have praised the grounds maintenance services provided by the Arc since 2000.

Integrated Work Program

Villa Esperanza Service's newest program for adults with developmental disabilities in Ventura County is a community based integrated work program in which the individuals work on employment and social skills, community integration and life skills. This is accomplished through instruction, volunteer work, community exploration, skills training and participation in local events. Program participants have volunteered at Silverado Convalescent Home in Simi Valley, Peter Strauss Ranch, Leo Carillo State Beach, Conejo Valley days, Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks street fair, Rotary Club of Van Nuys track meet, and the Los Robles Hospital Meals on Wheels program. The program continues to grow and is always accepting referrals.

Employment Classifieds

Position Opening: Steps Toward Wellness Program Director **Projected start date: December 1, 2010**

Stepping Stones Growth Center, a private not for profit social services agency located in San Leandro, CA is seeking a director for its newest program for our developmentally disabled clientele, Steps Toward Wellness. The mission of this program is to promote systemic change in

the areas of improved physical, social and emotional wellness (quality of life) for individuals with a developmental disability. The mission of Stepping Stones is to enhance the independence, self-sufficiency, and quality of life of people with developmental disabilities who might otherwise be alienated from the mainstream of society.

POSITION OVERVIEW

Under the direction of the Executive Director, The Steps Toward Wellness Director is responsible for managing both programming and personnel consistent with the mission of Stepping Stones and the Wellness program. S/he supervises the Steps Toward Wellness Lead Instructor, Wellness Instructors, volunteers, and guests/visiting Instructors. With the consumers' interdisciplinary team the Director insures that consumers receive training and exposure to wellness information and community activities that allow them to make more informed choices leading to a better quality of life. The Director is a member of the Management Team. This is a full-time, benefited position. Stepping Stones is an equal opportunity employer.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal applicant is an energetic and innovative planner and problem solver who has demonstrated the ability to work successfully with a wide variety of people. S/he must demonstrate the ability to work effectively with the Wellness Program staff and clientele in the areas of health, recreation, fitness and wellness activities, and community-based quality of life. Must be experienced in leadership of a community-based program, familiar with budgets, grants, and funding development activities. A college degree in a field that would prepare one for this position is highly desirable. All candidates must have a high school diploma or equivalent and at least five years experience working with adults with disabilities, preferably in a recreational or wellness activity setting. Familiarity with a wide range of recreational activities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties and RCEB procedures is a plus. Must be fluent in English with legible handwriting and good computer skills. Must be reliable, punctual and able to work independently. All employees must pass a fingerprinting background check and have a good DMV driver record.

DUTIES and RESONSIBILITIES

The Wellness Director provides leadership and directs program activities for adults who participate in the Steps Toward Wellness Program. With the Wellness staff, provides on-going curriculum and support to participants as needed to enable them to engage in a meaningful fitness, leisure and community activities.

- Initiates and implements weekly curriculum.
- Communicates the program goals and schedule to care providers and other members of the team to insure that participants receive the program's full benefit and meet their goals.
- Assists the Executive Director with events and fund development activities to support and expand the program.
- Responsible for maintaining high level quality documentation and reports, billing paperwork, budgets, and required client records.
- Participates with the Stepping Stones Management Team to insure agency-wide co-operation for Safety, Training, Social Events, Employee recognition and other goals.

COMPENSATION

Pay: Commensurate with background and experience
Benefits: Kaiser health insurance and Guardian Dental insurance plans;
vacation, sick and holiday pay per agency policies.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the Stepping Stones Application (download from the website www.stepsstonesgrowth.org or come into the office at 311 MacArthur Blvd. San Leandro CA 94577 and submit with your resume and a cover letter to the attention of Margaret Barbee, Human Resources.

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 2010-11 Action Plan changes proposed by the Public Relations Committee. This adds developing an external newsletter and exploring a new web address and eliminates promotion of the California Hires the Best website. The Board approved proceeding with several recommendations from the Structure and Resources Committee, including offering reduced contracts to both lobbying firms and hiring a government affairs director. The Board authorized a deficit budget if it is necessary to accomplish this.

The Board noted that two new members joined CDSA:

1. Goodwill Southern California (a long-time CARI participant)
2. WellSpring Homecare Services (respite care affiliate member)



California Disability Services Institute Board

The Institute Board reviewed the Annual Meeting. The Board recommended continuing the reception for legislators, but inviting employers, too.

Five workshops drew more than one third of the attending population. These topic areas or speakers merit attention.

- Relationship Challenges . . . Autism/Asperger's
- Project SEARCH: California Implementation
- Microenterprises: Structure and Success
- Developing a Public Image
- Ten Things Your Agency Should Be Doing

Six workshops received ratings of four or higher in every category. These speakers and the design of the session merit attention.

- Ten Things Your Agency Should Be Doing - Carlock
- Converting to the Community - Robinson, DeRodeff, Christensen
- Developing a Public Image - Batterman, Burton, Dillard-Foss, Frampton
- Project SEARCH: California Implementation - Riehle, Murphy
- Finding and Keeping Good Employees - Wolff
- Aging in Individuals with Developmental Disabilities - Nelson



Dynamic Solutions Incorporated Board

The Dynamic Solutions Board decided to suspend its insurance sales program for six months.



CARI Committee

The Committee did not meet in September.

Caucus Steering Committee

The members discussed current activities in their caucuses and leveraging proven successes. Most of the caucus activities are focused on local legislative advocacy and CDSA membership. Caucus chairs were recently asked to survey CDSA members who historically have not been active in committees, meetings, or the Listserv. The objective is to understand why these members are not participating more and to ensure that the association understands their expectations.

Membership Committee

CDSA has 97 agencies that have committed to membership for this fiscal year, which equates to 98.9% of the dues income budget. Five others have said they will join but have not provided the required

paperwork. This group would take us to, or slightly above, the dues budget. Historical perspective on our membership count:

2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	
86*	92	93	111	Service Providers
8	7	0	0	Affiliate - Respite Care
3	3	3	3	Affiliate - Other
97	102	96	114	Total

* includes the five who have committed to join.

Work continues on interviewing transportation companies. The Committee has asked the caucus chairpersons to interview member agencies with a low attendance rate at CDSA events/meetings to ensure their needs are being met. Chair Sylvia Anderson announced that Beth Kahiga has agreed to be the committee Co-Chair. The Committee is discussing the membership dues structure, caucus membership events, and the issue of non-members receiving member benefits at the regional caucus meetings.

Public Policy Committee

The Committee met on September 2 to prepare the issues to be presented at the Annual Meeting. It formed a workgroup to develop the CDSA response to the audit of regional centers.

Public Relations Committee

The Committee reviewed a draft of the case statement, identified changes to the brand guide for CDSA, discussed a new tag line, and reviewed meeting displays for CDSA, CARI, and the Institute.

Structure & Resources Committee

Committee Chair Barbara Maizie and CDSA President Patty Enger spoke to the membership at the Annual Meeting in LA. They reviewed the recommendations of the Structure and Resources Committee and reported on the Board's implementation of the recommendations. The S & R Committee has finished its task and is now disbanded.

Who's Who & How to Contact

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TBA

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