

The Council's Corner

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Upcoming Events



- **January 23:** DD Council [Board of Directors meeting](#). **Assemblymember Tim Grayson** will join us to present highlights of the 2019 Governor's proposed budget. (View the [Department of Developmental Services budget highlights](#).) This is a public meeting, and all are welcome. Join us!
- **February 2:** [Register now](#) for "Employment IS an Option!", a conference to answer questions such as: What does employment mean for me, a person with a disability? How will earning income affect my benefits? What support is available? I want to work, how do I find the right fit? Planning for this transition should start early, this conference is appropriate for family members and students age 14 and up.

News and Action Alerts



- **Contra Costa Libraries** have announced new policies to make the library even more accessible to all. In December, they announced "[Goodbye to Fines](#)", and in January they announced they are [waiving all overdue balances](#). So if you have been staying away from the library due to fines or overdue balances, dust off that library card and head back in!
- **January 18: Affordable Housing**- New California Treasurer Fiona Ma has announced a [statewide listening tour](#) January 17th through 25th to gather ideas and feedback from the public about how her office can help increase the supply of affordable housing statewide. Sessions will be held in both San Francisco and Sacramento on January 18th. Register for one of the sessions [here](#).
- **Contra Costa Employment and Human Services** has announced that they are issuing February food benefits to most **CalFresh** recipients early, on January 15th, due to the federal government shutdown and instruction from the US Dept. of Agriculture. View the [press release](#) for more details.

Opportunities and Announcements



- **Employment Opportunity:** Contra Costa Arc has posted a job announcement for the Program Director at Care Parent Network. Care Parent Network is a one-stop family resource center serving families of children with disabilities and special health care needs. View the [job announcement](#) for details and how to apply.
- **January 25: Spotlight on the IPP**, hosted by Care Parent Network and presented by Disability Rights California. Presentation will be available in both English and Spanish.
- **Service Providers:** Person-Centered Thinking is at the heart of HCBS compliance. In order to develop the knowledge, skills and abilities as a community to help further enhance the lives of people served, two-day training sessions are being offered throughout the year. Providers are invited to view the [2019 Training Calendar](#) and register for this grant funded introductory training.
- Contra Costa County is seeking **Census 2020 Complete Count Steering Committee** members. Specifically, they are looking for diverse membership, including people with disabilities. The time commitment is estimated at 5 to 10 hours per month, with monthly meetings to be held in the afternoons. Further information can be found in the [press release](#), including information about how to apply for the volunteer positions. Applications must be received by January 23.

Recreation, Health and Safety



- **February 8: Night to Shine** is a prom night experience for people with special needs ages 14 and older. On one night, churches from around the world will host Night to Shine for thousands of honored guests. Locally, this will be held in Livermore and [registration is open](#) for guests and volunteers. Register by January 23 if you would like to join in on the fun.
- **March 2: The Special Olympics Health Program** is hosting a free Health Fair! The event will take place at the Samuel Merritt University Health Education Center in Oakland, from 10:00 – 3:00. Participants are welcome to receive free health screenings and education from trained medical professionals in health disciplines called Opening Eyes, Healthy Hearing, Fit Feet, Health Promotion, and Strong Minds. The event is open to everyone, not just Special Olympic athletes. [Registration](#) is now open and you are invited to [learn more](#) about Special Olympics work towards inclusive health
- Looking for **recreation and leisure activities** for adults with I/DD? The [Winter Activities Newsletter](#) has lots of fun resources from art to yoga, dinners and day trips! Also check out links to Special Recreation [Bowling](#) and [Dances](#).
- **Sound the Alarm, Save a Life:** To save lives and reduce fire-related injuries, the American Red Cross is teaming up with fire departments, volunteers, and partners to *Sound the Alarm* with home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events in [Pacheco](#), [Richmond](#) and [Antioch](#). All sites are looking for Canvassers, Installers, Educators, Drivers, Documenters, Restockers and Data Entry support. If you are interested in volunteering, click on any of the cities listed above for further details about dates, locations, and how to get involved.

Please forward any news, opportunities events, or alerts [here](#) for distribution to the council!

For more information on the Contra Costa Developmental Disabilities Council and its mission, please visit us on the web at <http://cchealth.org/groups/ddc> or contact:

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