

The Council's Corner

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Upcoming Events



- **February 21:** Transition Task Force is a group of professionals and family members who are interested in supporting others through the transition that happens as a person leaves school, and enters the world of adult services. Committee members have a passion for supporting individuals with disabilities and their families through this exciting and often confusing time. The Task Force will meet at 3:15 in Concord to review their most recent event, "*Employment IS an Option!*", and plan activities for the coming year. [Contact](#) Vi Ibarra for further details if you are interested in joining the Task Force.

- **February 27:** DD Council Board of Directors meeting, 10 am at RCEB in Concord.
- **February 28:** [Supported Decision Making](#) is a person-centered support tool for Youth and Adults with Disabilities. The **UC Davis MIND Institute's** Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities is offering two free trainings to learn more about this alternative to conservatorship. Link includes time and location details, as well as information on how to RSVP.

East Bay Legislative Coalition Update



- The **East Bay Legislative Coalition** hosted a legislative breakfast on February 1. It was well attended by Council board members from both Contra Costa and Alameda Counties, and representatives from offices of legislators of both counties. Check out the [photos](#) to see the fun!

- **Budget Subcommittee Hearings:** Assemblymember Tim Grayson presented information at the January DD Council meeting on the impact of the proposed Governor's budget for individuals with I/DD. The next step in the budget process is subcommittee hearings, which is an opportunity to provide input on the amount of funds that will be spent on services for individuals with I/DD.

March 6 is the **Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1** hearing at the Capitol building, room 4202. **May 2** is the **Senate Budget Subcommittee #3** hearing at the Capitol Building, room 4203. Mark your calendars, more information will be shared as it becomes available.

Opportunities and Announcements



- **March 23:** The [Alameda County Transition Faire](#) is an opportunity for students and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, service providers, and school district staff to learn about adult services. The Faire includes an educational showcase of adult service programs and a variety of educational workshops. [Registration](#) is required by March 11.

- **Contra Costa's District Attorney** is offering a [Community Academy](#) designed to provide members of the community an inside look at the criminal justice system, prosecution of crime, and the day-to-day operations of the DS's office. To participate, [applications](#) must be submitted by February 11.

- **February 19:** The [Hidden Workforce Forum](#) is for employers, hiring manager and recruiters to learn how to diversify your workforce by hiring people with intellectual and physical disabilities. If you know employers and hiring managers who aren't familiar with the hidden talent pool of energetic and motivated workers looking for careers, and the benefits available, pass along this event information!
- **March 2: DREDF** offers "[Understanding the Special Education Process: IEP Basics & Beyond](#)" in Richmond. In collaboration with West Contra Costa Unified School District, this event is open to all interested, regardless of district of residence. Spanish/English translation and childcare are available. See flyer for details on time, location and to RSVP.
- [Arc University](#), a training series designed for direct support professionals, offers classes throughout March and April. Classes provide six hours of ARM credits, approved by RCEB and recognized by CCL.
- **Text 911:** Three videos about Text-to-9-1-1 have been created for Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities nationwide. Each video is in ASL, captioned, and includes voice over narration and audio descriptions. These videos explain how Text-to-9-1-1 works in areas that have the service, and also in those areas where it is currently not available. Click to view each of the three videos:
 - ⇒ [General Information about Text-to-9-1-1](#)
 - ⇒ [How to Text 9-1-1](#)
 - ⇒ [Important Facts About Text-to-9-1-1](#)
- **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.

Grants and Research



- **Kaiser Permanente** Diablo Area has released their [2019 Community Benefit Request for Proposals](#). Local non-profit, public health, and human service organizations that improve the health of low-income, underserved communities in Central and East Contra Costa County and the Tri-Valley Area of Alameda County are invited to apply. The health funding priorities are: 1) healthy eating active living, 2) access to care and coverage, and 3) mental health and wellness. Applications are due by March 22.

- **Kessler Foundation** awards [Signature Employment Grants](#) yearly to support non-traditional solutions that increase employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. The grant concept deadline is February 22, with invited full proposal deadline in June.
- [Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects Program](#): Two new grant opportunities have been announced. One is to fund a [research project](#) aimed at improving community living and participation, and the other is to fund a [development project](#) with the same aim. Both grant opportunities close on March 25.
- **Stanford Medicine and Stanford Children's Health** are currently recruiting for two research studies. The first is to examine the effectiveness of a [Developmental Reciprocity Treatment Program](#) in targeting social communication abilities in children between the ages of 2 and 5 years with autism. The second is to identify brain imaging predictors of benefits from [Pivotal Response Treatment](#) (PRT) targeting language abilities in children between the ages of 2 and 4.

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

Have you heard?



Later this year, your smartphone and other devices will have new icons depicting the experiences of people with disabilities!



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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