

The Council's Corner

VOL. 5, ISSUE 5

5/10/2019

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MAY

Register now for the 30th Annual Joint Award Dinner with featured keynote speaker Alva Gardner.

Submit your [nominations](#) for the 2019 Excellence in Service Awards by May 17!

Upcoming Events



- **May 16:** [Safety Training and Risk Reduction for Self-Advocates](#). Learn about sexual abuse and assault and how to report it, what to do during and after a crisis situation, and what to expect if you talk to police. Additional trainings for self-advocates as well as trainings for family members and support staff will be offered at other dates and locations. See the full training schedule [here](#).
- **May 21:** Stephen Dale is offering a webinar: **Housing Issues for Beneficiaries of Special Needs Trust** from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. This webinar will go over housing issues for SSI recipients, as well as beneficiaries that are only receiving Medi-Cal. It will also review how household expenses are calculated, how to calculate in-kind support and maintenance (ISM) for SSI recipients, as well as special ISM issues for beneficiaries not receiving SSI and only receiving Medi-Cal. Lastly, he will discuss how using an ABL Account tied to a special needs trust may assist in paying for housing without reducing SSI beneficiaries. To participate online, [click here](#) on May 21 at 11:30 am.
- **May 22:** DD Council Board of Director's meeting at RCEB Concord from 10am to noon. Attend to hear the presentation "**Housing Options: An Introduction to Family Home Agencies**", as well as subcommittee updates.
- **May 24:** [Scavenger Hunt, a Travel Training Adventure!](#) The Center for Independent Living and Community Connections is offering a fun event to enhance the ability to navigate, problem solve, work together in a team and have fun within the community.
- **June 6:** The 30th Annual Joint Award Dinner will be held at Zio Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill. Join us for a fun evening with featured keynote speaker Alva Gardner and presentation of awards for folks making a difference in the lives of residents of Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. Register [online](#), or [print and mail](#) in your registration. And you still have time to make a [nomination](#)! Submit your nomination to [Vi Ibarra](#) by May 17.

News and Action Alerts



- **May 23:** [Disability & Aging Capitol Action Day](#) is a day of unity and action for people with all types of disabilities and older adults: resource fair, educational rally, march to the Capitol and legislative visits.
- The **Bay Area Office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)** would like to learn more about the existing Person-Centered Thinking, Person-Centered Training resources and networks in the community. If you would like to participate, please [click here](#) for the survey.
- **PG&E** has released a [fact sheet](#) with information about the Public Safety Power Shutoff program. As we head in to the summer months, review the program, and reach out to PG&E with questions or concerns, particularly if your household requires power for medical devices.
- Read the press release from **Contra Costa County** on the [Bridge to Success Program](#), a pathway for people with developmental disabilities to compete for County jobs.
- Starting in the summer of 2019, SSI recipients will be able to apply for [CalFresh](#), as is the case in every other state in the country. This presents a tremendous opportunity to increase food security for this population, more information can be found [here](#).

Opportunities and Announcements



- **May 29:** *Smile, California*, the Medi-Cal Dental Program's campaign to help members increase utilization of their dental benefit would like to hear from you! They have partnered with RCEB to offer a [Focus Group](#) for self-advocates. A **cash incentive of \$50** will be paid, and registration is required.
- The [Great American Baking Show](#) is looking to diversify their casting of season 5 of the show and include bakers with disabilities. So who is a great baker? Now is your chance to [apply!](#)
- **Contra Costa County** is currently recruiting to fill supervisory and non-supervisory [census jobs](#). Additionally, they are looking for ideas on how to best connect with our County's "hard to count" populations and are soliciting feedback if this is a topic you are [interested in collaborating](#) on.
- The **California State Council on Developmental Disabilities** administers grants to community-based organizations to fund new and innovative program development projects. The RFP for [Cycle 42 grants](#) is now open, seeking to fund projects of statewide significance. The Council is looking for projects that fit any of the six State Plan goals.

Legislative Information



- In response to a request made by the Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health and Human Services, the Legislative **Analysts Office** has [issued a letter](#) offering a few options for actions that could be taken by the Legislature in response to the recommendations made in the **rate study** by Burns & Associates.

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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