

The Council's Corner

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Council Meetings



- **August 28:** Board members will meet for their [Summer Planning](#) session to set priorities for the coming year.
- **September 25:** Regular Council Board meetings will resume after a summer break. **Please plan to join us!**

Upcoming Events



- **October 3:** The Alameda County [Disability Employment Awareness Conference & Training](#) is an opportunity for supervisors, managers, professionals in human resources, law and others interested in diversity and inclusion to discuss best practices and gain knowledge on how to attract, engage and advance persons with disabilities in employment. Registration is now open for this one day conference.
- **September and October:** A free Intensive [Independent Facilitator Training for Diverse Individuals](#) is being offered in Southern California. Training will be offered on various dates for speakers of Asian languages, Spanish, and others who are committed to becoming an Independent Facilitator for diverse and underserved populations.
- **October 18:** Bay Area People First presents the Annual Carlos Quintong Self-Advocacy Celebration, at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley. Online [registration](#) is available, and you still have time to [nominate](#) a self advocate.
- **October 30:** 6th Annual [Disability and Access and Functional Needs Forum](#) – this free emergency preparedness forum focuses on keeping people with disabilities and access and functional needs safe and healthy during disasters. Speakers include first responders with experience from recent California wildfires and floods.
- **November 15-16:** [Statewide Conference on the Self-Determination Program](#). Highlights include: presentations by state and national experts, witness a live person-centered plan, hear success stories from self-determination participants, and opportunities to get to know other participants and family members. [Registration](#) is now open.
- **March 28, 2020:** Mark your calendar for the next **Autism Star Conference** for parents of children with autism. Conference will be held at Contra Costa College in San Pablo. Stay tuned for further details.

News and Action Alerts



- Contra Costa and Alameda Counties have both issued information and resources on the recent changes made to the “public charge test” used by the Department of Homeland Security. To learn more about how these changes impact you, or the people you work with, you can find more information at [Contra Costa Health Services](#) website, or view a [FAQ](#) or [informational flyer](#) created by Alameda County Social Services Agency and partners.
- Have you heard? Governor Newsom signed the [State Council sponsored apprenticeship bill](#) into law. Authored by Assemblymember Jim Frazier, this bill amends the California Labor Code to expand membership of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards’ Interagency Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship (IACA) to include the Director of the California Department of Rehabilitation and the Executive Director of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.
- SB 412, sponsored by the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA), proposes to repeal the Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP) and Annual Family Program Fee that were implemented during the Great Recession. A [fact sheet](#) provides further information, and for information about how to educate lawmakers on the impact this bill would have on you and your family, [contact](#) ARCA’s Government Affairs/Community Relations Director.
- Enroll now for [511ALERT](#) to receive alerts and advisories about transportation emergencies via text. Users can sign up for 511 Emergency Alerts by simply using their mobile phone to text 511Alert (no space) to 888777.

Opportunities and Announcements



- The [Fall ARC University](#) schedule has been released. This training series is designed for direct support personnel. All classes are taught by an experienced and credentialed adult education teacher.
- Disability Voices United and Disability Rights California are leading a project called the **Communication Disabilities Access Network (CDAN)**. The project explores the various problems that people with developmental disabilities face when trying to access communication supports. They want to know the problems you are facing so that they can develop informational materials and advocacy efforts to break down the barriers. There are three versions of the survey, select and complete the one that is appropriate for you: for [Self-Advocates/People with Developmental Disabilities](#), for [Family Members](#), for [Professionals](#).
- If you are a person with a developmental disability who is a **current or recent college student**, we want to hear from you! The planning committee for the **Vision for the Future** conference want to hear some real-world input from students about your college experience. If you would like to learn more and consider answering a few brief questions, please [email Vi Ibarra](#). We would love to hear about your experience.
- Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is seeking a diverse group of stakeholders to be on the **Developmental Services (DS) Task Force**. The purpose of the DS Task Force is to look at ways to strengthen community services for people with developmental disabilities. **Members include consumers, families, advocates, regional centers, providers, labor and members of the Legislature.** They are appointed by the DDS Director and the Health and Human Services Agency. Further details and an application are available [HERE](#). Applications are due by September 3.
- **Do you have a knack for taking great photos?** Are you an aspiring photographer or do you just enjoy taking pictures with your smartphone? The Contra Costa County Elections office invites photographers of all ages and skill levels to participate in the [Voter Information Guide Photo Contest](#). The theme is “Flora and Fauna of Contra Costa County.” Your photo could be seen by over 650,000 Contra Costa residents!

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:

Vi Ibarra
vi.ibarra@cchealth.org
1220 Morello Ave., 2nd floor, Martinez
(925) 957-2685



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