

# The Council's Corner

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## In this newsletter:



Council Meetings



Upcoming Events



News and Action Alerts



Opportunities and Announcements



## Council Meetings



Developmental Disabilities Council Board Meetings will resume after a summer break.

Remaining meeting dates in 2019 are:

September 25

October 23

November 20

Please plan to join us!

## Upcoming Events



• **September 18 & 25:** The UCLA Tarjan Center will host two webinars in collaboration with Maria Paiewonsky, Ed.D., Think College, Institute for Community Inclusion, University of MA Boston. Both are relevant and timely given the colleges' implementation of Guided Pathways and AB 705. It is recommended that you attend both of the webinars and a description and registration information can be found [here](#). Click on the presentation titles to register. [Supported Education: Finding the Right Support for College Success](#) Wednesday, September 18 from 10:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon. [Supporting Students with Intellectual Disabilities Through the Implementation of Education Coaching](#) Wednesday

September 25 from 2:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M

- **September 19:** [Social Security Disability Benefits and Appeals](#), hosted by NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness. This mental health speaker series is free and open to the public. Presentation by Barbara Mann, an attorney who exclusively represents applicants for SSI and SSI in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.
- **September 25:** The State Council Bay Area Office invites you to participate in a [Forum for Bay Area Self-Advocates](#). As they plan for the year ahead, they would like to hear from local self-advocacy groups and individuals: What is most important to you? What types of activities and trainings would you like to see the State Council hold this year? How are your services and supports? How can the State Council and other agencies assist you? Attend in person or by phone.
- **October 10 & 11:** Supported Life 2019 Conference [Opening Doors to Diversity: Cultivate, Participate, Celebrate](#) This 2 day conference is filled with breakout sessions on a variety of learning tracks, empowering all people with developmental disabilities to be fully included in the community. And a pre-conference session is offered on October 9: [What's on the other side? Opening doors to employment](#) where you can join California APSE for an afternoon of networking and learning about the importance of work experience for individuals with disabilities through school to adult transition and what are resources available
- **October 18:** The [Transition Fair at Willow Creek Center](#) is a unique opportunity to meet with the people who provide adult services in Contra Costa County and find out more about available programs. A panel of students and parents will also discuss their successful transition from school to adult life. This event is free and open to all.
- **October 26:** Registration is now open for [Vision for the Future: Educational Options for Students with Disabilities](#). This conference is for parents and students ages 14 and older to learn about options after high school including vocational programs, adult education, community college, university, and lifelong learning.
- **October 27:** Based on a true story, "[The Best of Men](#)" is showing at Acalanes High School, presented by the Independent Jewish World Cinema. Britain, 1944: Dr. Ludwig Guttman, a Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany, is assigned to the spinal unit of a military hospital where he starts a radical new regime to treat paralyzed soldiers. Although the "norm" is to heavily sedate patients and basically "write them off," Guttman trains them with competitive wheelchair sports. His pioneering work leads to the creation of the Paralympics. Click [here](#) for pre-admission tickets and further details.
- **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.
- **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. Note: this location is corrected from the previous Council's Corner edition.

## News and Action Alerts



- My Ballot, My Way: Did you know you can get your ballot for upcoming elections by mail by simply sending a text? Text COCOBALLOT to 28683 for a simple, easy and convenient way to get your ballot at home. You can still get your "I Voted" stickers at all ballot drop-off boxes or by dropping it off at a polling place on Election Day.
- On August 28 there was an article entitled "[Renters with disabilities sue Oakland for housing discrimination](#)" in the East Bay Times. The article reports on a class action lawsuit alleging the city's rent control program excludes people with disabilities in the East Bay Times.

## 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.

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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