

# The Council's Corner

VOL. 5, ISSUE 11

12/24/2019

## In this newsletter:



Upcoming Events



Parent and Family Resources



Opportunities and Announcements



News and Action Alerts

## DECEMBER

### Upcoming Events



- **January 22, 2020:** Join us at the next Developmental Disabilities Council Board of Directors meeting from 10am to noon. The presentation will be part two of the Healthcare Advocacy and Ethics topic first discussed at our October meeting. We meet at the RCEB 4th floor conference room, 1320 Willow Pass Road in Concord.

### Parent and Family Resources



- **January 3:** Deadline to enter the [Special Needs Talent Showcase!](#) Come spread your invisible wings and reach for the stars. You can join Special Needs Talent Showcase as an individual or as a group. All types of performances are welcomed – musical acts, dancing, comedy, magic acts, martial arts, acrobatics, etc. Participation medals will be awarded to every contestant. Trophies and prizes will be awarded to all finalists at the Final Competition to be held on March 14. All individuals with developmental disabilities are encouraged to try out and have the chance to enjoy an extraordinary experience!
- **February 22:** [Family, Community Strengthening and Education Conference.](#) A unique community gathering for families who have a child with a developmental disability or concern who identify as African American. Learn about services that are available for your child. Find out how to qualify and get equitable access to services. Meet other families and enjoy cultural presentations.
- **March 14:** Save the date for the [Alameda County Transition Faire.](#) This informational faire is an opportunity for students with developmental disabilities and their families, teachers, case manager and staff to learn more about the transition process and adult services located in Alameda County and beyond. Registration opens in January 2020, contact [sandi.soliday@acgov.org](mailto:sandi.soliday@acgov.org) with questions.

### Opportunities and Announcements



- Register now to attend an upcoming [Self-Determination Independent Facilitator Training.](#) Build skills and resources you need to be an effective Independent Facilitator for those in California's Self-Determination Program, including the philosophy and practice of self-determination, person-centered thinking, roles of the facilitator, and more. Dates in Contra Costa County as early as January 14 and 16. **Training is free**, and registration is required.
- **Autism Star Conference**, a family-focused conference for parent, guardians and caregivers of children with autism, birth to 21 years old is now accepting [vendor registrations](#) for the resource fair as well as [event sponsorship packages.](#) Conference will be held March 28, from 8am to 3pm at Contra Costa Community College, San Pablo.
- **Contra Costa CAER Group, Inc.** is now accepting application for its **2020 grant program.** Eligible grants must be exclusive to Contra Costa County in source and benefit and can be used to perform or support emergency preparedness activity. Grant [guidelines](#) and [application](#) are available, with applications due by February 14.
- [Loaves and Fishes](#) is currently recruiting for January and March classes. This is an opportunity for people with barriers to employment to learn the skills needed to begin a career in the culinary industry. They partner with various employers ready to hire students after the completion of the program. If you or your organization has any potential students you can [apply here.](#)
- **The Dale Law Firm** is offering two free presentations. The first is **Thursday, January 16**, from 3:00 – 5:00 pm, a webinar/workshop on **Special Needs Trusts.** This presentation will discuss how Special Needs Trusts can be established in order to protect and provide assistance to the disabled while protecting their financial interests and eligibility. To register to attend in the office, please send an email to [amy@dalelawfirm.com](mailto:amy@dalelawfirm.com) with your name, address and phone number. To participate online, link to <https://vimeo.com/366853765> on January 16 at 3:00.  
  
The second presentation is **Thursday, February 20**, from 3:00 - 5:00 pm, an in-office workshop or online streaming: **Special Needs Trusts with a Focus on Mental Illness.** This presentation will focus on providing long term care for a person with a disability, with a special focus on maximizing quality of life. You will learn what to do to prepare for writing a Special Needs Trust and go through a simple 4-step process that will ensure you have a document that will address all the issues and decisions that must be made in providing for your loved one with a disability. To register to attend in the office, please send an email to [amy@dalelawfirm.com](mailto:amy@dalelawfirm.com) with your name, address and phone number. To participate online, link to <https://vimeo.com/366856756> on Thursday, February 20 at 3:00.
- The **211** database is the information and referral line to resources throughout Contra Costa County. To learn how to search for resources, create your own Resource Group, or update your agency listing, attend an [upcoming database training.](#) Sessions have been filling up fast, so [register](#) right away.
- The **California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)** wants to know what you think about the system of services and supports for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities throughout the state. What would you like the State Council to focus on? SCDD is currently in the process of developing the next Five Year State Plan, and [would like your input!](#)

### News and Action Alerts



- KQED reported [a story](#) about how PG&E's power shutoffs sparked an **East Bay disability rights campaign**
- Employees of Contra Costa County receive a newsletter with updates about all sorts of goings-on throughout the County. Check out the [current issue](#) to see information that may be of interest from many of the County Departments, including the Library, 2020 Census, Health Services and more. You may see some familiar names on page 15 on the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services article!

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

[Click to unsubscribe](#)



CONTRA COSTA  
HEALTH SERVICES