



STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES—NORTH BAY OFFICE
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E-News: September 14, 2015

How to Prepare for a Wildfire

[How To Prepare For A Wildfire](#)

This hazard-specific guide provides information on the basics of each hazard, how to protect yourself and your property, and what steps to take now.

Wildfire

Be Smart. Know your hazard.

Wildfires can occur anywhere and can destroy homes, businesses, infrastructure, natural resources, and agriculture. For more information, download the How to Prepare for a Wildfire guide, which provides the basics of wildfires, explains how to protect yourself and your property, and details the steps to take now so that you can act quickly when you, your home, or your business is in danger. Get involved. Start participating today.

[Be Smart](#)
[Take Part](#)
[Prepare](#)

The Fight Goes On

From Greg deGiere, Public Policy Director, The Arc & United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

“So what happened in the Capitol last week in the fight to save our developmental services?”

The bad news is that the Legislature didn’t take any action before going home Friday night. The final push stalled by the end of the day, leading to the Democrats and Republicans angrily blaming each other for why they still couldn’t do anything for our community.

The good news is that they didn’t adjourn the special legislative session Friday as they had planned to -- so the Legislature will officially be in session even though they aren’t here, and the legislators can be called back to Sacramento to vote if there’s a deal. And they created a Senate-Assembly conference committee with members of both parties to work on it this fall.

The other good news is that our community has built more political power -- and put it into action in the Capitol on this -- than I’ve seen any time in my almost seven years as a professional advocate for you.

Thanks to our community's united effort for the last year, climaxing with a flood of calls to key legislators last week, every senator and assemblymember now is painfully aware of the problem and that we need to fix it before the system completely collapses. And they all feel pressure from the voters they represent to get it done this year. When they start complaining about how many calls they got, you know we have their attention.

Senator Ed Hernandez, who led the charge for us at the end, will be on the Senate-Assembly committee. So will Assemblymember Rob Bonta, who we know gets it and who put his vote where his mouth is in the budget process in June. We don't know who else will be on the committee.

So the outcome is that our service system will continue to disintegrate while the fight goes on.

One potentially very positive development last week was that Senator Hernandez said that his goal is for the Legislature to develop a bill to solve the problem and pass it to the governor for his signature or veto – the first time a legislative leader has publicly acknowledged that they should pass a bill whether Jerry Brown likes it or not. And since it will likely be a comprehensive bill that also fixes the MediCal funding program, which Brown wants a lot, it's very unlikely he would veto it over our relatively small piece.

By the end of the night Friday, I was as angry as everybody else around here. Even after some rest this weekend, I still get mad when I think much about it. But the fact is that we're getting closer to a real solution, and the key is to keep up the pressure – not give in to cynicism and fatigue, no matter how tempting.

So you'll be hearing more from us in the coming weeks.

And thank you for your advocacy." - Greg deGiere, Public Policy Director, The Arc & United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

Public Hearing on Sonoma Developmental Center

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will conduct a second public hearing on the transformation of Sonoma Developmental Center on -

Monday, September 21, 2015

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Conference Call Line: (866) 261-7147

The Renaissance Lodge at Sonoma – Sonoma Ballroom

1325 Broadway (Leveroni & Napa Roads)

Sonoma, CA 95476

Senate Bill 82, signed by the governor June 24, 2015, requires the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to submit a plan to the Legislature by October 1, 2015, to close one or more of the state's three remaining developmental centers. DDS will release a [Draft Closure Plan for Sonoma Developmental Center](#) on September 16, 2015.

Self-Determination Program Informational Video

DDS's informational video on the Self Determination Program is available on its [Self Determination Program Home Page](#)

DDS states that they are, "...excited about the possibilities and opportunities this program will provide for those who receive regional center services. In October of 2013, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed into law the Self-Determination Program, which will provide consumers and their families with more freedom, control, and responsibility in choosing services and supports to help them meet objectives in their Individual Program Plan. This site is designed to allow those interested to follow the progress and learn more about Self-Determination as the program moves toward implementation."

Updates on progress towards implementation of the new Self Determination Program are available on the DDS Self Determination Home Page. The latest Update states that the Waiver Application will be formally resubmitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services shortly after the public comment period ends. The comment period ended September 7, 2015.

Locally, the North Bay Regional Center (NBRC), the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (OCRA), and, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities' North Bay Office have established a Self Determination Program Advisory Committee (SDAC) to advise NBRC on the roll-out of the new program which will be available to approximately 80 NBRC clients and families in the first 3 years of the program. Afterwards, it will be available to all clients.

For information on the local self-determination advisory committee, please contact Michi Gates at michig@nbrc.net or Bob Phillips at robert.phillips@scdd.ca.gov.

Workshop on Community-Based Employment

Imagine the Possibilities

**Join us for this important workshop on
Community-Based Employment**

Work is good! It offers an opportunity to become more independent, make new friends and earn money. Yet the idea of getting a job can be daunting for a job seeker and his or her family.

Where do I start?

What kind of work can I do?

Who can help me?

Who should attend?

- NBRC clients (and/or their parents) who are considering Employment
- Transition-age Youth
- School personnel and service providers

You will learn about -

- Customized placement services, which can be used to find the RIGHT job for you
- The services and supports available to help you find and keep a job
- NBRC's new program service model that braids employment and community integration services to create comprehensive wrap around supports
- How work may impact your SSI/SSDI benefits if you work

PRESENTER: Sara Murphy, WorkLink/TransCen, Inc., national expert on employment

The workshop is at two locations and dates:

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Central Santa Rosa Library

211 E Street, Santa Rosa

12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Solano County Office of Education

5100 Business Center Dr, Fairfield

There is **no cost** to attend this training, **but** as space is limited, **registration is required!** Register with the State Council's North Bay Office at 707-648-4073 northbay@scdd.ca.gov

This workshop is presented through a Program Development Fund grant from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities awarded to Trans Cen Inc. The following agencies are collaborating with the Council and Trans Cen Inc. to create innovative ways to increase employment for individuals with developmental disabilities: North Bay Regional Center, Production Services Industries, and Redwood Enterprise Industries.

State Plan Survey

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities recently announced it will keep its website survey links open and active until the end of 2015 for the purpose of continuing to collect information statewide – especially in regard to the state's unserved/underserved populations – for its new 5-Year State Plan.

The Council is committed to obtain input from ethnic/cultural minority populations. The on-line survey is translated into 14 languages, available <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/> or in print at any of its 13 regional offices.

State Plan Survey

SCDD wants to help and we need information from you.
Please take a moment to complete our online survey.

- State Plan Survey
- Plan Estatal de Desarrollo de 5 años: Reunión Abierta y Preguntas de la Encuesta

Visit our web page at <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/northbay4.htm>

*Like us on Facebook *Sign up for our free e-newsletter, contact Robin.tigh@scdd.ca.gov