



REGIONAL OFFICE ACTIVITIES FOR:

<u>REGIONAL OFFICE</u>	<u>MANAGER</u>
NORTH COAST	DAWN MORLEY
NORTH STATE	SARAH MAY
SACRAMENTO	SONYA BINGAMAN
NORTH BAY	LISA HOOKS
EAST BAY	GABRIEL ROGIN
NORTH VALLEY HILLS	DENA HERNANDEZ
SILICON VALLEY - MONTEREY BAY	DAVID GRADY
SEQUOIA	YOLANDA CRUZ
CENTRAL COAST	VICKI SMITH
LOS ANGELES	CINDY CHIU
ORANGE COUNTY	SCARLETT VONTHENEN
SAN BERNARDINO	TAMICA FOOTTS-RACHAL
SAN DIEGO - IMPERIAL	MARY ELLEN STIVES

NOVEMBER 01, 2015

TO

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Goal #1	Individuals with developmental disabilities have the information, skills, opportunities and support to advocate for their rights and services and to achieve self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ SCDD participated in the Self-Determination Statewide Stakeholder Meeting on 11/5/15. The SDP Waiver was submitted to CMS on September 29, 2015. CMS has not responded. Updates were given by the FMS Workgroup, Training Workgroup, and SCDD. There was a discussion about IHSS overtime and how this may affect individuals in SDP and agencies providing staffing for ILS/SLS. A "ready-to-roll" date was set for 3/31/15. Training materials for Regional Centers should be ready by 12/31/15. It will then take several months for Regional Centers to train their staff. These materials will be available to be adapted by Self-Determination Advisory Committees (SDACs) and anyone doing presentations in the community. Many individuals who are interested in the Self-Determination Program (SDP) listened to the call and asked questions during two "public comment" periods. Next meeting was scheduled for 12/10/15. ◆ Staff attended the Self-Determination (S-D) workgroup teleconference meeting coordinated by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on December 10, 2015. DDS informed the workgroup of the status regarding the Self-Determination Waiver. Jim Knight, DDS, explained that CMS has provided an informal response to the SDP Waiver Application with a list of 180 questions. The questions request clarification on what services will be funded through the Waiver, what oversight measures will be taken by the Regional Centers and DDS, monitoring, reporting back to CMS, affect on other Waivers, and program enrollment. Some specific questions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community integration and employment. For example, paying for college tuition and books would not be allowed. Federal funds could not be used for these expenses. • How is massage therapy related to the disability – might not be OK for Federal funding. • Providers of service – FMS is the only one vendored. How would FMS do provider verification. • Settings Rule – 4 questions on settings being in compliance with new Rules. Requesting list of places where people live or receive services. • Individual Budgets – Do people who have similar needs have similar budgets? Are individual budgets equitable. Is the budget adequate to cover services. • Inclusion of cost for FMS and IF - How would these costs affect the budget and ability to fund needed services. • Rates - How would people receive support to determine what services to use, costs, reasonable rates, etc. Once the “formal letter” is received (probably within a couple weeks), DDS will post it on their website and share it with the Workgroup members. At that point, the “90 day clock” will stop. DDS will explore and offer answers to these questions and when there is agreement between DDS and CMS, DDS will resubmit the Waiver. The clock will restart at that point. ◆ SCDD staff attended Alta California Regional Center’s Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting at Alta Regional Center. The chair of the SDAC is a self-advocate and was absent so a parent advocate facilitated the meeting today. Phil Bonnet, director of Alta Regional Center (ACRC) continues to state that ACRC awaits a formal directive and information to distribute regarding SDP from the Department of Developmental Services. It is alright for the SD committee members 	

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to share general information about SDP with the community and there is progress on developing a flier and power point presentation for service coordinators and general public for initial informational purposes.

- ◆ Staff participated in the RCOC Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee that reviews the development and ongoing process of the self-determination program, including advancing the principles of self-determination and to ensure operation consistent with the requirements of the WIC statute. At this meeting, the following was discussed (1) time lines moving forward for training Regional Center staff, vendors, service providers, and family and self-advocates (2) process of how the committee will operate and frequency of meetings (next meeting to take place in January) (3) discussion of future agenda items, including securing speakers (Judy Mark and Willie West), offering public trainings, and sending out information about the meetings to consumers (4) discussion of getting the word out and how to inform family and self-advocates about SDP - discussed sending email blasts, mass mailings, and reaching out to the various support groups to offer trainings.
- ◆ Staff participated and facilitated the monthly San Andreas Self Determination Advisory Committee. The committee plans to invite Self Determination advocate from the Autism Society of Los Angeles to call in and give guidance on the operation of the SDAC, and to receive training on person-centered-planning.
- ◆ Staff provided technical assistance and support to the Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting with Kern Regional Center (KRC) . Updates from KRC on map of people in the pilot, training to staff, and tentative community orientation dates for remote areas of Bishop, Tehachapi, and Bakersfield. KRC held all staff training given by SCDD Staff on SD on 10/13/15. SDAC outreach is to continue, so that consumers are notified of upcoming orientations by KRC on SD to the community. Introductions to the new Regional Office Managers for SCDD San Bernardino Office and Sequoia offices were provided.
- ◆ Staff supported the Inland Regional Center Self-Determination Committee meeting. Presentation included an update by Judy Mark a volunteer at Westside Regional Center SDAC, on the board of Disability Rights California, Government and Public Relations chair of ASA LA. She updated the group that the application or the waiver (HCBS) was returned to DDS on 12/14/2015 by CMS Center for Medicaid Services with 180 questions. According to Judy the state is very far from being ready to implement. Committee recommended dedicated staff at Inland Regional Center for SD clients, Subcommittees for SD outreach (orientation/pre-enrollment), training (staff/parents/consumers), and independent facilitators. Person Centered Planning (PCP) was discussed. Presentations from OCRA on Independent Budgets and Fair Hearing Rights was provided. SCDD provided one page handouts on Self Determination in English and Spanish. OCRA provided handouts on the Due process Rights Under the Lanterman Act.
- ◆ Staff supported and facilitated the meeting of the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County. They were introduced to new SCDD Regional Manager, Cindy Chiu. They discussed

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issues of concern such as fare increases for Access Services, how to influence legislators to increase budget to developmental services system and to restore state SSP and how to deal with UCP's discriminatory practices in their housing complexes. They will make some decisions at their January meeting on how and when to meet with legislators and how to tell their stories so they are compelling. Members agreed to continue recruitment efforts to enhance representations from different regional centers' serving areas in the LA Region.

- ◆ Staff conducted a presentation/meet and greet with the Integrity House clubhouse members (self-advocates) to discuss creating regional self-advocacy groups in Orange County as well as to identify interested persons for a new Statewide Self-Advocacy network (SSAN) representative. Integrity House currently serves 60 self-advocates who all contribute to the daily operations of the clubhouse, including performing clerical support, kitchen help, technology/media assistance, etc. The self-advocates were very excited about the potential of having a regional group, one in Central/South Orange County, one in West Orange County, and one in the North area. At this meeting, we discussed potential meeting locations and availability.
- ◆ Staff presented a Self-Advocacy presentation to 15 students at Olive Crest Non-Public School in their Special Day Class. Olive Crest Academy offers an educational and residential program for K-12 students who require a more restrictive placement.
- ◆ Staff is coordinating a Regional Self Advocacy meeting for Dec 2015. Staff is working with the presenters to develop their presentations and conducting outreach to local self advocates to encourage them to talk about their jobs. RecyKAL, a local recycling business, will talk about their business. Several other self advocates have expressed interest in talking about their jobs. Staff is working with a self advocate to serve as Master of Ceremonies for the meeting.
- ◆ Staff collaborated with the Client Rights Advocate/CRA at Canyon Springs Community Facility to co-facilitate a self-advocacy group. The self-advocates had a lot of questions regarding the locked facility policies and protocol. Several self-advocates had questions regarding why they recently received over payments from social security regarding their wages. The staff suggested training regarding social security wages and benefits. Some self-advocates requested if they could have access to the facility computers during breaks, down time or earned privileges. The majority of the self-advocates that attended the meeting brought up questions and concerns regarding the transition process out of the locked facility. There were a few questions regarding if a self-advocate moves into a board and care facility what is the process to eventually move out independently? In addition, what sort of employment would be available to self-advocates once they do transition.
- ◆ Staff met with self-advocate and her Independent Living support staff to discuss her efforts to create a self-advocate organization in the Santa Cruz area. She discussed the difficulty she is having with building membership. SCDD staff offered to assist her as she develops this network. In subsequent collaboration an action plan was put together and approved. Team is researching a model of service to promote

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<p>socialization. SCDD staff will utilize its resources and assist with outreach to maximize attendance and participation in group by other self-advocates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In collaboration with Imagine Services of Santa Cruz, State Council staff held the monthly meetings of the Self Determination Facilitation Learning Community. At the meeting the Person Centered Planning was reviewed. ◆ Staff attended Alta California Regional Center for the purpose of developing materials, flyer to distribute to consumers and a PowerPoint to present in Self-Determination (SD) informational meetings. Collaboration between SCDD, ACRC, Disability Rights of California, consumers and parents continue throughout this development process. It has been determined that a one page flyer would be beneficial for Service Coordinators to distribute to self and family advocates during the Individual Program Plan meeting and otherwise. ◆ Staff participated in a meeting on 11/4/15 of the Westside Regional Center (WRC) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC). Staff provided technical support as well as offered assistance to the CAC in the following ways: 1) to provide a free meeting space in the future if self-advocate feel unsafe meeting at WRC; 2) to assist the WRC CAC in any way they need to assist them in achieving their goals; 3) to provide logistical support to locate a space and hold a Los Angeles County meeting of the CACs of all seven regional centers. ◆ Staff collaborated with Desert ARC to co-facilitate a self-advocacy group. During the meeting the group decided to update the meeting flyer and request that it be placed within the Desert ARC newsletter that goes out to all the self-advocates that attend the program. They hope this will give the self-advocacy group more exposure and possibly generate more interest and more attendees. The group also decided to draft a letter of Thank you to Sun-Line Access Advisory Committee for considering their request. Each group participate stated that they will try to bring a new group member next meeting. ◆ Staff provided technical assistance to the SSAN Newsletter Workgroup as they developed their 4 volume of their newsletter. Articles were collected and sent to this SCDD staff to "drop" them into the format the members choose. Staff completed the draft and sent to the chair for inclusion into the SSAN meeting packet. The full SSAN will review it at their next meeting. ◆ Staff provided training on facilitation to a client and their new facilitator. The facilitator requested assistance in understanding what their role was and for information on the DDS-CAC and ARCA CAC. Both the client and the facilitator felt going through the materials on facilitation and developing a facilitation support plan was very helpful. ◆ During the Strengthening Self Advocacy meeting this month the group reviewed the upcoming presentation sites to be scheduled in the new year. Several past presentations were reviewed and suggestions for improvement were made. The group also discussed the regional meetings and identified ways to improve their meetings it was also decided they would do their Strengthening Self Advocacy presentation at the February Regional Meeting. The following organizations are

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- participating in the strengthening self-advocacy collaborative: Arc San Diego, San Diego Regional Center, San Diego People First, and St. Madeline's.
- ◆ Staff provided facilitation support to San Diego People First officers as they held and reviewed their quarterly meeting, discussed officer elections and reviewed their progress on their community service projects.
 - ◆ The Self Determination Advisory Committee was held this month. SCDD Staff assisted and arranged for a presentation by Judy Mark from Autism Society of Los Angeles. Judy Marks described self-determination services and the role of the Advisory Committee.
 - ◆ SCDD and Regional Center Staff of the Self Determination Advisory Committee met with the chair and vice chair of the committee to discuss the goals of the committee for the coming year. Also discussed the best ways to communicate and conduct business.
 - ◆ Staff, collaborated with a large residential provider (Peppermint Ridge) to co-facilitate the monthly Self-Advocacy group meeting. Some of the group members made an announcement that they had successfully registered to vote and were looking forward to the upcoming elections in 2016. Since the group had not completed the over view of the rights of persons with developmental disabilities, "Your Rights" curriculum from Disability Rights California was handed out and the group began to review and discuss the document regarding the individual rights of persons with developmental disabilities. The curriculum contains another section on rights of person's who reside in community facilities, the group has decided to review that section next meeting.
 - ◆ Staff collaborated and coordinated with Desert ARC to co-facilitate the self-advocacy group for the consumers who attend the program. Introductions were made, the agenda was reviewed, and the new group flyer was presented and edits were suggested. The group discussed expansion within the new year. Goals for 2016 were discussed and the group considered attending city council meetings to be proactive in the community. The group would like to educate the local community about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In addition, the group stated they may want to have a training component during some of their group about topics such as; safety and abuse prevention, independent living, safe and affordable housing, social security and health insurance.
 - ◆ Staff is working alongside Integrity House (clubhouse), on-site management at Integrity Cottages (affordable housing development), and now Project Independence (ILS/SLS, community-based day program, and employment vendor) to relaunch regional self-advocacy groups in Orange County. There has not been an active self-advocacy group that is led by and for people with disabilities since the People First of Orange County chapter folded in August 2011. Since that date, the only self-advocacy group in Orange County is the Regional Center of Orange County Community Advisory Committee, as vendors provide self-advocates with transportation. This relaunch will focus on having regional self-advocacy chapters

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based on geographic location of members/interested members. Two January dates have been set for this relaunch: January 21 in Santa Ana and January 31 in Anaheim (see attached flyers). We are working with Project Independence to establish a Costa Mesa-based group due to the large number of people with disabilities who reside in this city.

- ◆ Staff supported the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) meeting in Sacramento. Staff presented the Story Boards regarding ID/DD history and took the minutes during the meeting. A power point presentation from Mayra Fernandez with Crossroads Diversified Services titled "Disability is Ability" focusing on learning the facts of receiving Social Security benefits and what happens if an individual chooses to work and increase financial independence. She presented the myths and facts, resulting in the support that an individual will come out ahead by working and offered information on work incentives planning and assistance. Crossroads Diversified Services provides technical assistance with the following: *SSI & SSDI Employment Supports that ensure people don't lose their cash benefits *Work incentives designed to help people reach employment and educational goals *Medicare programs are available *SSI protections specially tailored for students between the ages of 16-22 *Qualifying and/or retaining Medi-Cal with yearly earnings of up to \$59,892 *How to effectively utilize "Ticket to Work" Imperial SSAN Representative gave presentation on the importance of Voting, noting it is critical to have our voice heard as well as serving to honor all Veterans who fight for our freedoms. Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) and the Self-Advocacy Advisory Committee (SAAC) presented reports.
- ◆ SCDD Co-Sponsored the Supported Life Conference in Sacramento on October 8-9th and attended a follow-up session with the committee members on December 8th to review the evaluations received from the conference and begin planning for next fall. The evaluations received for the keynote speakers were favorable. In all, evaluations were received from 30 people with ID/DD; 18 Family members; 41 Professionals; and 3 Other. In total, with 1 (Unsatisfactory) through 5 (excellent) rating options, overall ratings for all the keynote speakers averaged at 4.6. Mindy Oppenheim 4.6; Dmitri Belser 4.5; Ari Ne'eman 4.7; and Diana Pastora Carson 4.9. An overall rating of this conference was 4.5. The likelihood of people to attend the conference in 2016 rated a 4.3.
- ◆ Staff participated in outreach at a regular meeting of the Self Advocacy Council 6 . The meeting was held in Sutter Creek. Staff provided copy of a recent North Valley Hills news letter for the group to review and discuss. Staff asked that the group consider if they would have interest in having the next issue their news letter "The Chatter" accompany the next issue of the "North Valley Hills Connection" for email distribution. Staff also shared with the group a letter being mailed by the North Valley Hills Office of SCDD to families of children with developmental disabilities with information about the upcoming cycle of the Quality Assessment Project.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff was approached by San Andreas Regional Center who expressed a need for an Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) special education due process training for the families they serve as well as their service coordinators. Staff collaborated with OAH and the regional center to arrange for the training and staff marketed the training. ◆ Staff coordinates and participates in Butte County Coordinating Council in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center, Arc of Butte County, We Care A Lot Foundation, Youth For Change, Lighthouse Living Services, Housing Authority of County of Butte, Disability Action Center, Work Training Center, Butte College, Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy for discussion of or share information related to individuals with developmental disabilities in Butte County. The Butte County Coordinating Council (BCCC) periodically reports to the Butte County Board of Supervisors concerning individuals with developmental disabilities in Butte County. The goals of BCCC is to provide a forum for community discussion, education, and information on services and issues concerning individuals with developmental disabilities. At the 11-16-15 meeting, Kim Leeseman with We Care A Lot Foundation's (WCALF) reported on her project called "What's Next" Program. The program is funded through FNRC, supported by WCALF to talk to high school students that will be graduating. Kim explained that the program is about talking to the students about what options are out there and helping them with ideas to pursue after high school. Kim is reaching out to agencies and networking to obtain new contacts and resources throughout Region 2 to schedule speaking opportunities with students in other counties. She also reported that they are working on a new project on housing and options for a second presentation for students. They hope to have this ready by March 2016. Far Northern Regional Center will be having a conference on New Federal Rules in February 2016. The conference will also include training on Self Determination Waiver and Employment First. ◆ Staff attended the Yolo County Office of Education Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting on November 2nd. Honoring the 40th Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) this CAC voted to use People-First Language! The CAC consists of parents and/or guardians, consumers, and educators from Yolo County; Winters, West Sacramento, Woodland, Esparto and Davis). The SCDD office notified all 900 members of our mailing list of this event. The CAC appreciated our efforts to spread the word. The following topics were covered: Parent Empowerment Training, Forming a Dad's Group, Development of a Parent Handbook and, Updating the CAC Brochure. ◆ SCDD staff attended the Yolo County Office of Education training on "Understanding Your Rights and Working Positively with Your Child's IEP Team" presented by Elaine Talley, M.Ed., J.D. Ms. Talley has 20 years of experience as a mediator for IEP meetings statewide. This was organized by Yolo County's Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC). This event was in honor of the 40th Anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and presented to an audience of 18 parents and/or guardians, 12 consumers, and 15 	

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educators. The SCDD office notified all members of our mailing list of this event.

IEP Process: Start Up - Introductions and Purpose, Present Levels - What are the student's needs?, Goal Development - What do we hope the student can do a year from now? Placement and Services - What is needed so the student is likely to meet the goals? School District's Responsibility: Ideally, the entire team comes together and agrees on what is needed – consensus. However, if the team cannot reach consensus, the District has an obligation to make an offer of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to the student. Ms. Talley stated, the word 'appropriate' dilutes what the parent is in many cases requesting vs what the district is offering/recommending. Compliance and Due Process issues handled through: Compliance - California Department of Education, Due Process Hearing - Office of Administrative Hearings

- ◆SCDD hosted training on Assistive Technology 101 presented by Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK), the Parent Training and Information Center for Southern California, which has a comprehensive Assistive Technology Center that offers AT assessments, equipment rentals, and tech labs. This training focused on - Legal requirements of Assistive Technology; - Requesting AT assessments; - Documenting AT in a student's IEP; - Examples of Assistive Technology
- ◆Staff met with the Westside Regional Center (WRC) Acting Executive Director to discuss the needs of WRC in light of the termination of the previous director's contract. It was requested by the Acting Executive Director at this meeting that SCDD staff identify training topics that the WRC Board of Directors need to be provided. SCDD staff developed a list of training topics for the consideration of WRC.
- ◆Staff attended the Down Syndrome 101 for Educators Workshop sponsored by the Down Syndrome Information Alliance and the Center for Educational Rights, hosted by the UCD MIND Institute. About 150 parents and educators attended the event. Jennifer Cooper, MA Ed, Director of Parent Support and Education of the Down Syndrome Connection presented on what Down Syndrome is, how it develops, medical and educational issues, how these issues affect classroom and educational strategies, behavioral issues and strategies, communication issues and strategies, benefits of inclusive education, learned helplessness, social issues, and the power of Ability Awareness.
- ◆Involved Exceptional Parents Day Conference : Staff participated in the monthly planning meeting. The full committee reviewed, discussed and approved the workshop/speaker selection made by the program committee. Registration forms for the resource fair have gone out to vendors and committee members. Members in attendance were: San Diego Regional Center, parents, Exceptional Family Member Program-US Marine Corp, Neighborhood House Association, South County Special Education Local Plan Area, Home of Guiding Hands, Team of Advocates for Special Kids, Special Education Advocates and San Diego Unified School District.

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- ◆Imperial Valley Parent Conference: Staff coordinated and facilitated the monthly planning meeting for the 2016 parent conference, a three part training series on the IEP process and a sibling event. The group continued to discuss the planning details for each of the events. In addition to parents the following agencies participate in the conference planning: Imperial Valley SELPA, EFRC, TASK, Crimson Center, Home of Guiding Hands, Arc- Imperial Valley and the San Diego Regional Center.
- ◆Staff received request, offered support, and began working with the chair of Williams Syndrome support group to build awareness throughout the community by having a proclamation made on behalf of the governor or legislature of May being William's Syndrome Awareness month. Williams syndrome is a multi-system disorder. Medically, individuals with Williams syndrome can be effected by mild to severe (and sometimes fatal) cardiovascular disease, and kidney issues, as well as gastrointestinal, spinal and endocrine problems. Additionally, individuals with WS have mild to severe developmental delays and learning disabilities as well as neurological and emotional problems including impulsivity, anxiety, and depression.
- ◆Staff provided a presentation on Self Determination at the FERIA conference, a day-long event for Spanish speaking parents who have a child with special needs. The theme for the conference was "The Voices of Latino Families: Empowering Educators and Families, Children and Youth with Special Needs". The audience asked numerous questions regarding the implementation of self determination and were provided with a copy of the power point presentation as well as resources to go to for additional information.
- ◆Staff attended the Los Angeles Special Education Task Force meeting. Topics included updates on important due process hearing decisions, current issues with Los Angeles Unified, Pasadena Unified and Long Beach Unified School Districts and several legislative actions that will impact special education in California.
- ◆Staff provided a training in Spanish titled, "Evaluations: How to Understand Them & Get Services for Your Child," to 21 attendees. Additional materials were reviewed and provided to attendees such as DRC's publications "Your Baby & Toddler's Right to Receive Information & Services in Your Native Language from Regional Center under the Early Start Program" and "Your Rights to Receive Information & Services in Your Native Language from the Regional Center for Individuals Who Are 3 Years & Older".
- ◆As part of our ongoing effort to educate the community staff attended the Parent's Helping Parents, Parents of Adult Children with Disabilities monthly meeting and provided technical support for 14 families on areas of systems navigation, and transition services.
- ◆Staff facilitated a collaboration to provide tutorial for special education students attending the Boys and Girls Club at the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center. The collaborators are Grace Hudson Elementary School, Boys and Girls Club, Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center and teachers from Ukiah High School and Grace

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Hudson who are being paid by Ukiah Unified School District. The tutorial is needed as the kids can't stay after school at the high school and the elementary schools as they will not have a ride home and it is much too far to walk across town in at-risk neighborhoods making them targets for gangs and violence. The school is paying for two teachers to assist with homework after school for any kid who is served at the Boys and Girls Club during their power hour. An evening program is in the works to have two paid High School teachers tutoring two evenings a week for students that are low achieving or at risk of failing. These tutorial activities facilitate learning while keeping the kids in a safe place after school and within close walking distance of home.

- ◆ Staff provided training in Stanislaus County (Turlock) in collaboration with Family Resource Network. The training focused on special education rights and responsibilities, how to understand the Individual Education Plan process and how to participate effectively in an IEP meeting.
- ◆ Staff received an email from the executive director of a large day program in San Joaquin County. She shared that her agency is redoing its client complaint policy. She asked about the role of the State Council's North Valley Hills Office in providing advocacy or assistance to "individuals experiencing a problem they cannot resolve at the program and/or regional center level. Staff replied that the North Valley Hills Office can provide information/training on how to appeal regional center decisions in regard to the person's Individual Program Plan. Staff also shared that the SCDD North Valley Hills Office may provide referral to Disability Rights of California, the office of Clients Rights and the Self Advocacy Council 6 for more information and possible advocacy services.
- ◆ SCDD presented the 'Story Boards' of the Nevada Co. Disability Rights Movement at the following venues: SCDD Statewide Board of Directors meeting, Statewide Self-Advocacy Network meeting, and the SCDD Sacramento Office Regional Advisory Committee meeting to both inform, educate and celebrate the advancement of the disabilities rights movement in throughout California and the nation. There are specific examples to events in Nevada County as well. The presentation is self guided as there are 16 poster size Story Boards that tell the story of the evolution of the developmental disabilities system of services and supports. It is a quality visual demonstration with written explanations and authentic pictures and news articles. Nevada County programs celebrated their 30th Anniversary recently joining together with members of FREED's founding and current board, local people with disabilities, friends and family with the bounty of local farmers offering their harvest.
- ◆ Staff coordinated, created and facilitated Individual Program Plan/IPP Advocacy training for Employment & Community Options/ECO; Supported Living Services/SLS, Direct Care Staff. The training was held in ECO corporate offices located in the city of Redlands within the San Bernardino County area. The training was designed to educate the SLS direct care staff to be more informed regarding the

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IPP time lines and consumer rights therefore to be better advocates for the consumers they serve daily through the IPP process.

- ◆ Staff was invited to participate in outreach to parents in December 2015 to help parents learn more tools to help shape the future for their children as well as to help meet and mentor other parents who also have children with disabilities in our county. It was not well attended and those who did attend brainstormed way to increase participation by changing the time, having trained child care for parents, and getting food donated so parents do not have to deal with hungry children. The group also discussed other ways to outreach to families and how to increase participation.
- ◆ Staff gave a presentation to 18 members of the military's Exceptional Family Member Support Group on complaint and due process and rights for families of school age children.
- ◆ Eblast "USC UCEDD Webinar". Offering Policy issues in Intellectual & Developmental Disability - What Self-Advocates and Families need to know. In the webinar, Michael Beebe, Director of Public Policy & Research at United Advocated for Children & families will discuss: What certification entails, SB 614, the Peer Certification bill, and Peer certification accreditation for parents, family members consumers & youth with lived experience in the mental health, alcohol/drug abuse, foster care, juvenile justice & special education systems.
- ◆ Eblast the flyer of information for the 84th Annual Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. A local young boy from Sonora was selected and he receives services from VMRC. The flyer and info is in the common drive. Staff was unable to attend to the events of the day at Inland Regional Center.
- ◆ Staff and the H.E.A.R.T.S connection staff coordinate helping educate parents and parent mentors to navigate the special education system. "The H.E.A.R.T.S Connection Family Resource Center is staffed by parents and family members of children with disabilities and/or special health care needs Staff in the Family Resource Center provide families with parent to parent support, advocacy, training and assistance, resource coordination and information." The SCDD staff come in monthly to support and educate the communities by going over how to request services for children in special education and giving the H.E.A.R.T.S staff who attend the IEP meetings with families the tools that they need to advocate for the children that H.E.A.R.T.S serves.
- ◆ Involved Exceptional Parents Day Conference: Staff participated in monthly planning meeting. The committee decided on the time schedule for the day of the event. Sponsorships requests are going out and responses are coming in. The website is ready and will be up and running by sometime in January. All workshop/speakers have been confirmed. The registration packet is being worked on and will be ready by mid January. Agencies, businesses and organizations are signing up for the resource fair. Committee members in attendance were: Parents, Exceptional Family Member Program, US Marine Corp, San Diego Regional Center, South

Goal #2	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families become aware of their rights and receive the supports and services they are entitled to by law across the lifespan, including early intervention, transition into school, education, transition to adult life, adult services and supports, and senior services and supports.
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- County Special Education Local Planning Area, T.A.S.K, Home of Guiding Hands.
- ◆ Staff attended a training conducted by Cornell University along with Exceptional Parents Unlimited on "Truth About Person Centered Planning". The training focused on the six elements of person-centered planning. Five international presenters discussed how to build a community for people living with disabilities as well as the difference between Traditional System Orientation and Person Centered Orientation. Professionals that work with persons with disabilities can assist in developing plans that are centered on the individual, their unique needs, and desires, including social and personal responsibilities.
 - ◆ Staff met with the El Dorado County Office of Education's, Colusa County Office of Education Board Meeting and Yuba County Office of Education Special Ed. Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Director and Program Specialists to inform them of the NCI survey that will soon be sent from the SCDD office to all families who have children ages 3 to 18 years receiving services from Alta California Regional Center. SCDD staff offered information on the upcoming cycle of the NCI survey that will be mailed to families in January. SCDD recognizes the need for partnerships with the school system as their support to parents and children is essential for the success of NCI survey submissions.
 - ◆ Staff provided technical support to a self-advocacy group (SAC6) by way of making copies, a power point, and scripts, and handout for their November Area Meeting of Self Advocates in Stanislaus County. Over 250 self advocates from all 5 counties attended. Disability Rights CA and a representative from the ACLU provided a Voting Rights Training. They had handouts and an interactive presentation. Paul Billodeau, Executive Director from VMRC attended and SAC6 sold t-shirts as did the CHOICES Institute. The event was held at the Howard Training Center which has a Culinary Class for people with disabilities. This class made lunches for people to buy for \$6.00- over 175 people bought a lunch and many folks brought their own. Staff handed out copies for the upcoming CHOICES 2016 conference, and the North Valley Hills Newsletter. SSAN member- Robert Balderama- handed out the latest SSAN Newsletter.
 - ◆ Staff met with the chair of William's Syndrome support group to develop a plan of action to build awareness throughout the community. Staff agreed to assist the chair with contacting the local representatives to have issued a proclamation that May is William's Syndrome Awareness Month. Also, SCDD will arrange for William's Syndrome support members to present to various organizations throughout the catchment area.
 - ◆ Staff conducted a training to 68 family advocates and 4 professionals on Social Security Disability Benefits. Training objectives included: SSI for children and adults, Survivor's Benefits, Social Security Disability Income, Social Security Disabled Adult Child (SSDAC), evaluation of disability, work incentives, & information for representative payee

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- ◆ Staff gave a presentation to a parent group in Gilroy about strategies to organize and take action against the special education services provided by the district. The training included Due Process and Complaints. However, the group was informed on how to organize to promote positive change on a larger scale than just at the IEP level. The group is considering various strategies. SCDD offered to provide support as appropriate.
 - ◆ As part of our ongoing effort to educate the community staff attended the Parent's Helping Parents, Parents of Adult Children with Disabilities monthly meeting and provided technical support for families in the area of day and employment services.
 - ◆ Staff coordinated and collaborative tele-conference with the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy/OCRA to discuss and better understanding of the direct individual advocacy that is available to those with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as discussing potential future community outreach collaborations.
- Regional Office Technical Assistance:
- ◆ Staff received 2 calls for assistance with special education issues. All inquiries were answered by phone or email or referred to other community agencies providing resources and advocacy. All families were offered a list of community resources. All families were encouraged to join our email list and visit the SCDD website for additional information.
 - ◆ Staff responded to four (4) advocacy related calls. One call was an In Home Supportive Services issue. One call had to do with physical violence by a person with a disability toward another person with a disability. Two calls were regarding services through the San Diego Regional Center system.
 - ◆ Staff received 7 calls for assistance relating to special education concerns. Families were provided with a list of resources as well as information regarding their rights. Some families continue to report they had contacted the Office of Client's Rights Advocacy but were told OCRA was too busy to assist them.
 - ◆ Staff received 16 calls this month regarding Regional Center services and eligibility, adult services (work and ILS), SSI eligibility, Self Determination explanation, Medi-Cal assistance, seeking counseling and low-income housing. As appropriate, calls were referred to Disability Rights California, UC Davis, WarmLine and ACRC or questions were answered internally. Most callers received an emailed or mailed copy of our resource list.
 - ◆ Staff received 4 calls for assistance with special education issues. All inquiries were answered by phone or email or referred to other community agencies providing resources and advocacy. All families were offered a list of community resources. All families were encouraged to join our email list and visit the SCDD website for additional information.
 - ◆ Staff received three (3) advocacy calls: Two (2) calls were regarding special education. One (1) call was regarding Regional Center services.
 - ◆ Staff gave technical support to four families of school age children regarding having

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child request and receive special education services, to have a preschooler be fully included in the school's pre-k classroom, information regarding receipt of a home based waiver for a two and a half year old, and a post-secondary age student who was served notice of due process for not signing IEP. SCDD staff gave technical support to two adults regarding handling a notice of action from Regional Center, and making a request for tailored day services.

- ◆ Staff provided technical assistance on 24 educationally related matters to individuals in Mariposa, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern Counties. Families were provided information on special education: Least restrictive environment/placements, behavioral supports, assistive Technology, speech services, speech services, Individual Education plan compliance and transition services. SCDD staff also helped parents request and understand assessment process for special education.
- ◆ Staff provided technical assistance to 35 unique callers: 13 calls regarding regional center placement options; 7 on special education issues, and 8 calls regarding Social Security disability benefits denials and questions; 3 IHSS questions regarding overtime, protective supervision; and 4 calls on general service delivery questions
- ◆ Staff gave technical support to four adults regarding handling a notice of action from Regional Center, and making a request for tailored day services, micro-enterprises, update on the ABLE Act, and strategies for filing a 4731 complaint.
- ◆ Staff gave technical support to 4 callers regarding regional center eligibility, parental rights over an adult self-advocate and a medi-cal v. private insurance wheelchair.
- ◆ Staff gave technical support to a family of a school age child regarding inclusion. A member of the SELPA CAC for District 2 was given assistance with systems navigation and a flow chart for services in California. The SELPA plans to add the flow chart to the school district's website

Goal #3	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families express the degree to which they are satisfied with their services and the extent to which they feel their needs are being met.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The SCDD Los Angeles Office staff attended the monthly South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) and SCDD Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on November 18th, 2015. The SDAC role is to meet to identify issues and propose possible resolutions throughout the phase-in, so that SCLARC can successfully implement the Self-Determination Program. The SDAC discussed the HCBS Waiver status (no update); reviewed the newly constructed SD flyer to be given to SCLARC consumers and families to generate interest; welcomed a Person Centered Planning presentation by Judy Mark with the Autism Society; and began discussion about the consumer profiles. The agenda items discussed for the January 2016 meeting will be HCBS Waiver update, outreach, and consumer profile discussion. The next SDAC meeting will be on January 13th, 2016. ◆ Staff provided technical assistance and hosted the Choices planning team meeting at our office. Conference Planning details worked on at this monthly meeting were Break out sessions, Speakers/panel T-shirt/video contest, art work and time lines. NVH staff will also be coordinating with self Advaoacte form Regional Center east bay to be part of panel discussion. ◆ SCDD Los Angeles Office staff drafted and distributed our e-newsletter #48 to 1,529 current subscribers on November 12, 2015. This edition's topics included: an announcement about the National Core Indicators (NCI) Child and Family Surveys being mailed; an upcoming California State Senate hearing on Denti-Cal Services; an article about the retirement of the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), Santi Rogers. ◆ North Coast staff is a member of the Child Care Planning Council that is funded by CA Child Development and Education Division and holds the responsibility of our local Child Care Planning Council to plan for child care and developmental services based on the needs of families in our local community. The Child Care Planning Council meets monthly and in committee meet the program mandates. The Local Child Care Planning Council serve as a forum to address the child care needs of all families in the community for all types of child care, both subsidized and unsubsidized. The work includes annual establishment of Funding Priorities for all subsidized care for youth aged 0-12; comprehensive county-wide child care needs assessment and strategic planning every 5 years; outreach to, and involvement of, the community in education, awareness and advocacy for quality, accessible care and in public policy/legislative action on early care, community, and after school care. The Child Care Planning Council administers two professional development stipend grants through our Subcommittees (AB212/ADVANCE for Title 5 funded early child care/preschool center staff; as well as the CA Transitional Kindergarten Stipend for teachers serving children ages 4-5 in the K-12 setting). The Child Care Planning Council will oversee the local First 5 IMPACT consortium grant application. Child Care Planning Council members include program representatives from Early Head Start and Head Start, State Resource & Referral Program, State Preschool, After School Education and Safety, Boys and Girls Club, State Council North Coast Office, Alternative Payment Program, Tribal Head Start Program and our Mendocino 	

Goal #3

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Community College, Mendocino County Office of Education. Council members will advise and oversee the IMPACT grant work, and disseminate information through our agency stakeholder list of IMPACT activities and opportunities.

- ◆ Staff provided friendly reminders to the chairs and regional center staff support for the Harbor Regional Center (HRC) and Westside Regional Center (WRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committees (SDAC) pertaining to compliance to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. A few key provisions of the Act were not implemented and so SCDD staff provided technical assistance in order to encourage compliance with it.
- ◆ SCDD Los Angeles Staff monitored and provided technical assistance to the North Los Angeles County Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee. They heard a presentation by ELARC staff member, Liz Harrell, on that regional center's experience with the SD pilot project and how they are proceeding with their SD committee. They discussed briefly their relationship with NLACRC including who is responsible for providing interpretation services and how the SDAC will convey their recommendations and information to the NLACRC board of directors and staff. These will be topics for their next meeting. SCDD LA staff provided some technical information to the committee during the course of the meeting.
- ◆ Staff participated in a resource fair for In Home Supportive Services providers and recipients. Information about the In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee was distributed as well as how to advocate for better services. Those in attendance: Care providers, consumers, health agencies, generic service agencies, Public Authority, Aging and Independence Services.
- ◆ A local self advocate, with whom we have worked previously, contacted the North Coast Office staff to invite us to a meeting that they had set with local legislative staff for Senator Mike McGuire and Congressman Jared Huffman. Key issues discussed at the meeting focused on supported living service standards and quality. The legislative staff heard the concerns of the constituent. North Coast staff will continue to provide technical support as requested and will present this issue to the local Regional Advisory Committee for their support to submit to the Council through the local input process.
- ◆ Staff provided training on self-determination to ELARC's family advisory committee. This was an overview. Attendees were encouraged to attend the Self-Determination Advisory Committee meetings for more in depth discussion of the various aspects of self-determination.
- ◆ Staff collaborated with North Bay Regional Center and DRC/Office of Clients Rights Advocacy to coordinate a meeting of the North Bay Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC). Staff drafted the meeting agenda and coordinated transportation for SDAC members who need transportation support. At the SDAC meeting, we reviewed the 5 principles of self determination, SD legislation, requirements of the SD program, the responsibilities of SD facilitators and financial management services, discussed electing a chairperson to participate in statewide SD meetings, discussed outreach activities to educate adults and families about SD,

Goal #3

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and made plans for the next SDAC meeting. After the SDAC meeting, SCDD NB staff and staff of DRC/OCRA identified programs to present the SD information to. Staff are currently contacting programs and have set up one presentation.

- ◆ Staff gave a presentation on self determination to the staff of Matrix Parent Network earlier this year. One of the Matrix staff members is the chairperson of the Sonoma Community Advisory Committee for Special Education and she contacted staff to ask for a presentation on self determination at a Sonoma CAC meeting. On Nov 17, 2015 staff presented information about self determination to the Sonoma CAC. The presentation covered the history of the SD program in California, the principles of SD, the SD process, the status of California's waiver, and how SD may benefit families and individuals.
- ◆ Staff facilitates the Supported living Service (SLS) vendors who may be interested in being part of the network. The network gives vendors an opportunity to come together, share ideas and or issues around supported living. The network is also planning an emergency preparedness event to be held in spring of 2016.
- ◆ Staff is supporting 3 parent advocates in Vallejo who have offered to help other parents with their Individual Education Plans (IEPs). The parents advocates requested a checklist for IEP meetings, and staff provided PEATC's checklist (http://www.peatc.org/peatc.cgim?template=spec_edu.other.cycle.Checklist). The parents and staff discussed an incident of a teacher discussing a student's disability in front of the class, the distress this caused for the student and family, and options for responses.
- ◆ Staff coordinated Vallejo Community Advisory Committee's Student of the Month awards. The CAC presents student awards to recognize the accomplishments of students who receive special education services, to encourage parent participation in the CAC, and to build collaborative relationships with teachers and administrators in the Vallejo school district. SCDD NB staff developed the student of the month nomination form, and the form was distributed to teachers by the special education director. In November 2015, 6 nominations were received for 2 elementary school students, 3 middle school students, and 1 high school student. SCDD NB staff made framed certificates for students, sent letters to their teachers and families to inform them of the awards, and presented the awards at the CAC meeting.
- ◆ Staff attended a meeting of the Westside Regional Center (WRC) Board of Directors on 11/4/15. Staff monitored board activity for compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies. SCDD staff informed the board that three items had been requested of them: 1) to research the termination of the contract for facilitation for self-advocates which was provided as an accommodation to enable participation; 2) to provide copies of the notice and transcripts of the vote to postpone the 10/12/15 WRC Board meeting; and, 3) a roster of the board members. At the board meeting, members provided a response to these three issues. Additionally, SCDD staff noted that members of the HRC Consumer Advisory Committee were present at the last board meeting to support WRC self-advocates.
- ◆ Staff provided support to SCDD appointees of the Westside Regional Center (WRC)

Goal #3

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Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) at a meeting on 11/10/15. Staff monitored the WRC SDAC meeting as well as provided technical assistance as appropriate.

- ◆ Staff attended the VMRC Foster Grandparent & Senior Companion quarterly meeting. At this meeting, VMRC discuss the project and give an overview of their budget and possible training areas. SCDD has provided training at their October training for the past 5 years. Members of the advisory committee are from local school districts, SAC6, foster grandparents and senior companions, VMRC staff and SCDD.
- ◆ Staff collected and sent VMRC input to their performance measures. RAC members could not make it to the Public Meeting VMRC held so information was collected and shared with VMRC via email.
- ◆ Staff completed the North Valley Hills Connection Winter e-newsletter. It was disseminated to our five counties and has been posted on our web page on SCDD's website. The articles and information included the following: List of Regional Advisory Members, explanation of the changes from AB 1595, State Plan Survey link, Direct Advocacy changes, Resource list for individual advocacy (VMRC, DRC, FRN, SAC6, DRAIL) , National Core Indicators, Self Advocacy Council 6, Facebook contact info, Save the Date for CHOICES 2016 conference, Information on the VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee, Employment First SCDD info sheet, SSAN info, CHOICES T-shirt & video contests, VMRC Micro Business Fair, Autism Support group and calendar of events.
- ◆ Staff researched and developed presentation materials on the Federal Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) act. This act will have a substantial positive impact on many people with disabilities, helping them save money and step out of poverty. This topic will be advertised on our training flier, in social media and newsletter.
- ◆ Staff coordinated the second meeting of the Creating Sustainable Support Systems group on December 1, 2015 at the SCDD Los Angeles Office. Representatives from six service provider and advocacy organizations attended. The group participated in a webinar provided by Ari Ne'eman of the Self-Advocacy Support Network. Mr. Ne'eman has developed a web-based system called MySupport.com. MySupport.com gives users with developmental disabilities in need of support services a way to find direct support professionals who will meet their individual needs and preferences. The service also provides a way for different service provider organizations to find potential employees and to share those employees with another provider if necessary. Several regional centers have contracts with Mr. Ne'eman to offer MySupport.com to the individuals they serve. The entire group felt that MySupport.com would be very helpful to participants in the Self-Determination Program when it becomes available. The group agreed to meet at the SCDD Los Angeles Office on an ongoing basis in the coming year. The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2016.
- ◆ Staff attended Central Valley Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting at CVRC. 8 committee members, and two members of the public were present. The chair of the SDAC was not present, Reva Guimont chaired the

Goal #3

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meeting. The following topics on the agenda were discussed. - The previous minutes were approved - Waiver update was provided. CMS has 180 questions that need to be answered by the State so we are awaiting that process. - Presentation conducted by Premier Healthcare Services on Self-Determination Program Financial Management Services. The training focused on the two different models of FMS. FMS Co-Employer and FMS Fiscal Employer Agent (F/EA). - Outreach events are scheduled for 12/18/15 in Hmong, Spanish, and English and will be attended by SCDD Sequoia office. January informational workshops are pending confirmation alongside SCDD Sequoia office. -No public comment - Meeting calendar - 1/19/16, 2/16/16, 3/22/16

- ◆Emailed the VMRC Winter Edition Newsletter to our communities. The newsletter contained information about the Micro Business fair and the fact that then Area Board 6 was involved in the planning of this annual event, information about an SCDD co-sponsored event on Employment and information about the next cycle of the SCDD QA project.
- ◆Staff participated in the ELARC SDAC meeting. Training was provided by ELARC staff on the principles of Self-Determination. Additionally, ELARC and SCDD LA staff discussed the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The committee received an update on the status of the waiver submission as well as ELARC's steps to establish community partnerships for the dissemination of information on self-determination. Dates and training topics for future meetings were decided upon as well.
- ◆Staff drafted and distributed the SCDD Los Angeles Office E-newsletter #49 to 1,524 current subscribers on December 16, 2015. There were two articles in this edition, one entitled "Getting Ready for El Nino" that provided information on how residents of Los Angeles can register to receive information during and after an emergency, and the other entitled, "Important Survey Now Being Sent to Parents" reminding subscribers of the National Core Indicators survey that was recently mailed to parents of children ages 3 to 18 who are served by a regional center.
- ◆Staff has been collaborating with other agencies and the recreation center to facilitate the use of the center for day programs serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The first group of 15 users from the ABC Program met at the recreation center and participated in a variety of activities. The first meeting they had a workshop and focused on self advocacy. Other activities they will participate in are movie day, karaoke, a sign language class, games, and arts and crafts. Other fun activities include ping pong, soccer, basketball, futbol, volley ball and more. The current collaborators are Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center, ABC Program, Ukiah Valley Association for Habilitation, Northern CA Adaptive Living Program and another programs are considering joining in. We have been meeting twice a month to get this activity going. At any given time about 15 to 20 individuals will join in a variety of activities from a variety of community programs that serve the disabled in our community. The groups will use the building once a week for a few hours. The clients will also be helping to clean the site once a week to offset the rental cost by picking up debris, bottles and cans and pulling weeds from around the center. More

Goal #3

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programs will use the facility as the word gets out. The project is in the initial phase and began the first week of December.

- ◆ Staff presented on the National Core Indicators (NCI) project for the entire service coordinator staff at Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center on December 14, 2015. In addition to presenting on the NCI, staff also gave an overview of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities responsibilities and organizational structure and gave examples of the activities the SCDD Los Angeles Office focuses on.
- ◆ Eblast- staff sent out information for a guide on language used when reporting about people with disabilities. The National Center on Disability and Journalism at Arizona State University has released a second, expanded edition of their “one-of-a-kind” style guide for professionals who write about people living with disabilities. The guide provides readers with advice on almost 70 disability-related terms, such as “people-first language” and “able-bodied,” and mentions instances in which disability organizations disagree on the usage of a particular term. The NCDJ also released a companion piece titled, “Terms to Avoid When Writing About Disability.” The style guide can be accessed here <http://ncdj.org/style-guide/> on the web or as a printable PDF, and the companion piece can be accessed here. <http://ncdj.org/2015/09/terms-to-avoid-when-writing-about-disability/>
- ◆ Staff was contacted by a parent interested in Self Determination and she wanted to know when the trainings for this program are to begin. Staff informed the parent of the DDS website with updated information on the federal waiver. Staff also informed her of the next VMRC Self Determination meeting. She was concerned that she had missed the training and she really wants her son to be considered for this program.
- ◆ Staff supported the The Redwood Coast Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee as they held their regularly scheduled meeting (the group has decided that they will meet quarterly until the waiver is approved). SCDD staff provided technical support regarding the election and provided information regarding the added importance of the chair in their roll as the representative to the Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee. Additionally, as a result of the Department of Developmental Services issuing a memo to the regional centers that these leadership committees fall under Bagley-Keene, the committee requested State Council staff to provide information about the act since the majority of members: regional center staff, self and family advocates on the committee have not been subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Govt code sections 11120-11132) meeting law requirements. The power point presentation and summary sheet that was developed by SCDD staff for the training was well received and the participants were engaged in the presentation, asked excellent questions and they were very grateful for the clarification of the process of agenda development, types of meetings, communication allowances etc.
- ◆ Staff supported the North Bay Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting. North Bay Regional Center staff reported that the majority of the 24 people who have thus far indicated an interest in the self determination program are family members. Additionally, the North Bay SDAC needs additional self advocate

Goal #3

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members to balance the membership on the committee. SCDD NB staff contacted 2 self advocates to discuss the SDAC with them and provide them with the application form for SDAC. Working in collaboration with DRC/OCRA, NBRC NB staff identified programs to approach about doing presentations about self determination. Thus far, 2 presentations have been scheduled at programs for January. SCDD NB staff has already given presentations on Self Determination to 5 family groups, 3 programs, and has coordinated self determination presentations at 2 regional self advocacy meetings. Staff also supported a participant in the self determination pilot project to write an article on self determination for SCDD NB's self advocacy newsletter.

- ◆ Staff participated in outreach at an open house at the facility of a supported living vendor in San Andreas. Staff met with and had conversation with several self advocates and their support. Staff shared a letter created by the North Valley Hills office outlining the next phase of the Quality Assurance project. Staff also had conversation with 2 members of the Calaveras County Council of government re the impact of the Butte Fire on individuals with disability and ongoing efforts to stabilize the affected communities in light of a projected heavy winter..
- ◆ Staff discussed the January 19, 2016 VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee with the executive director of VMRC. The Agenda, minutes from last meeting and other handouts were put together and staff emailed all the members of the committee and VMRC posted the agenda on its website and staff contacted SCDD to post in North Valley Hills webpage as well.

Goal #4	Public safety agencies, other first responders and the justice system get information and assistance to be knowledgeable and aware of the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities so they can respond appropriately when individuals with developmental disabilities may have experienced abuse, neglect, sexual or financial exploitation or violation of legal or human rights.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ SCDD staff attended a 4-day Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training in Woodland, hosted by the Woodland Police Department and facilitated by Michael Summers - Disability Response. This training was sponsored by the Yolo County Department of Health and Human Services and County Mental Health. There were 30 trainees consisting of 26 Police/Sheriff, 3 Mental Health professionals, 1 SCDD staff. Based on the MEMPHIS MODEL, the training covered additional skills and resources available to police officers and other public safety personnel in responding to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. Topics covered: Mental Illness overview, Adolescent Mental Health, Elder Suicide, Veterans Cultural Competency, Suicide by Cop, ID/DD, Excited Delirium, Patrol, writing reports, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and Managing Stress in the workplace. Presentations from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and role playing from professional mental health staff. ◆ Staff sent to law enforcement organizations a survey requesting data on the number of cases involving disabilities. Also a letter was sent to the two area police training academies introducing SCDD and offering to provide Disability Awareness Training. At present, 7 surveys were returned with indications that 1 to 7% of the cases involve people with disabilities. ◆ Staff facilitated training report held in Mendocino and Humboldt Co. Police, Sheriff, Fire, Office of Emergency Services, Cal Fire, Fire Departments, Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, Hospitals, Ambulance Companies, Redwood Coast Regional Center, Emergency Medical Technicians, Colleges, Red Cross and other non-profits. The workshop were held at the Mendocino County Sheriffs Office Training Center and Humboldt Fire Training Center. The Training center did not charge us for the use of the site. The cost would have been about \$500. Many lives were saved due to the training provided by the North Coast SCDD Office, Office of Emergency Services, Voluntary and Organizations Active in Disaster this past year. Four lives were lost to the fire. Due to quick action by the community first responders, Redwood Coast Regional Center, and programs that provide services to the disability community only one disabled woman died as she would not go with her In-Home Support Worker and they were not able to get to her later. ◆ Outreach to 81 law enforcement agencies in the Los Angeles County to identify trends and needs regarding law enforcement interactions with people with disabilities. ◆ Staff continues to receive from law enforcement organizations throughout the state, surveys requesting data on the number of cases involving disabilities. In January, the results will be compiled into a data base.

Goal #5**Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.**

- ◆ Staff presented a 2-hour training on Emergency Preparation to a group of 18 self-advocates and 2 staff at DDSO Employment Plus Program. I was invited by a self-advocate, Zach Miller, to come speak to his Advocacy Class at program. I used a Powerpoint presentation title Be Prepared for an Emergency developed by our office, which includes 2 videos and many pictures, and questions/answers throughout. The group was very attentive and asked many questions. The Feeling Safe, Being Safe Personal Safety Materials from DDS were handed out along with Preparing for Emergencies, A Checklist for People with Mobility Problems, Ready.Gov's Prepare for Emergencies Now: Information for People with Disabilities, Emergency Preparedness Flyer by SCDD, Home Safety for People with Disabilities by NFPA. and Ready.gov's Get a Kit of Emergency Supplies flyer. Attendees were asked to fill out a pledge form pledging to Make a Plan and Make a Kit. They were also asked to fill out training evaluation forms. The group asked that I return in 1-month to review what they had put together and accomplished toward their goal of being prepared.
- ◆ Staff posted one link on Facebook to the National Fire Protection Agency's webpage on fire readiness for people with disabilities.
- ◆ Staff coordinated with supportive living services/SLS provider New Living Options/NLO to facilitate an Emergency Disaster Preparedness training for self-advocates who reside independently and receive supportive services. The training was held at the agency holiday party/training in the city of Corona within Riverside County area. The training utilized DDS curriculum Feeling Safe, Being Safe to include the packet with personal safety booklet, personal safety large magnet and accompanying DVD. Also, a portion of curriculum used was from SCDD, "Let's Get Prepared" as well as information pulled from FEMA website regarding earthquakes, wild fires and flash floods. The attendees were encouraged to work with their supportive living staff to complete the personal safety booklet, and magnet and to watch the DVD and prepare a "go-kit" filled with everything that that they may need in case of an emergency.
- ◆ Staff wrote an article for its monthly newsletter entitled, "Planning for El Nino." It included a brief overview of selected planning tips and precautions, resources, and a link to the City of L.A. and L.A. County's emergency notification registries. The newsletter goes out to approx 1524 individuals.
- ◆ Staff coordinated with supportive living services/SLS provider Community Integration Network (CIN) to facilitate an Emergency Disaster Preparedness training for self-advocates who reside independently and receive supportive services. The training was held at the agency holiday party/training in San Bernardino City within SB County. The training utilized DDS curriculum Feeling Safe, Being Safe to include the packet with personal safety booklet, personal safety large magnet and accompanying DVD. Also, a portion of curriculum used was from SCDD, "Let's Get Prepared" as well as information pulled from FEMA website regarding earthquakes, wild fires and flash floods. The attendees were encouraged to work with their supportive living staff to complete the personal safety booklet, and magnet and to watch the DVD and prepare a "go-kit" filled with everything that that they may need

Goal #5

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.

in case of an emergency.

- ◆ Staff presented a 2-hour training on Emergency Preparation to a group of 18 self-advocates and 2 staff at DDSO Employment Plus Program in November, today was a follow-up session to review consumer's plans and kits. The group was very attentive and asked many questions. The Feeling Safe, Being Safe Personal Safety Materials from DDS were handed out along with Preparing for Emergencies, A Checklist for People with Mobility Problems, Ready.Gov's Prepare for Emergencies Now: Information for People with Disabilities, Emergency Preparedness Flyer by SCDD, Home Safety for People with Disabilities by NFPA. and Ready.gov's Get a Kit of Emergency Supplies flyer. Attendees at the November session were asked to fill out a pledge form pledging to Make a Plan and Make a Kit. Today was a follow-up on this pledge. Several consumers have begun to put kits together, and several have begun to prepare their plans, others are still needing to take these steps. The teacher also stated they had not had time yet to go to the dollar store to purchase some supplies for kits. Discussion was open and current events such as the San Bernardino massacre, recent house fires in the area and weather related emergencies were presented and discussed. Several consumers are planning to fly during the holidays so we discussed "safe travel tips".
- ◆ Staff attended a meeting of the City of Los Angeles' Emergency Management Department's Disability Stakeholder Coalition Meeting. L.A. City staff shared their varied preparations for the upcoming El Niño rains, including arrangements for homeless individuals, water rescue teams, mental health coordination, use of the City's disaster warning registries, and their public information campaigns. They are in the process of planning a meeting specifically for the deaf and hearing impaired community. SCDD staff asked if one for L.A. regional center staff and providers could also be arranged, to address the unique needs of the people we serve. They indicated a willingness to do so. Following the meeting, SCDD staff contacted the two emergency planning liaisons for L.A. County regional centers to ask if they felt such a meeting was needed. Since the countywide group of regional center disaster liaisons just met, the timing would not work out. However, at least 2 L.A. regional centers will hold their own meetings with their staff, their providers, and L.A. City/County emergency planners, likely in January. SCDD staff offered to assist in any way, and also provided copies of informational materials about El Niño to them. Number of organizations involved, coalitions/partnerships (who were at 12/1/15 meeting) = City of Los Angeles, L.A. City Commission on Disability, Los Angeles Community College District, Epilepsy Foundation, Echo Park Neighborhood Council and SCDD L.A. = 6. Also Lanterman Regional Center and Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center were contacted afterwards about doing El Niño preparation trainings in their areas = 2. So $6 + 2 = 8$.
- ◆ Staff attended the last of 5 "town hall" meetings attended by Mayor Eric Garcetti and a collaboration of 12 City and County of Los Angeles Departments to inform and prepare the public about El Niño. Approximately 80 members of the public were in attendance. Although there was no sign-in sheet or list of names, SCDD staff seemed to be the only audience member representing people with disabilities.

Goal #5

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.

SCDD staff took advantage of the opportunity to address such a large cross-section of 12 city and county department leaders/policymakers and requested they strongly consider the special needs of all types of disabilities in every aspect of emergency planning, whether it is people with physical, developmental, mental illness, visual or hearing impairment, or other less obvious impairments.

Goal #6	Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.
<p>◆ Staff coordinates and participates in Butte-Glenn Partners in Transition in collaboration with Glenn Butte Community College, Glenn County Office of Education, We Care A Lot Foundation, Mains'l Services, Work Training Center, Butte County Office of Education, Disability Action Center, Goodwill Industries, Far Northern Regional Center, Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy. The purpose of the committee is to educate students, schools, staff, supporting agencies and the community on opportunities for transition aged youth focusing on employment and college. During the 11-12-15 meeting, updates were provided by various agencies on information important for and/or related to transition. Butte Community College provided an update on progress of new program being developed that will offer classes for certificates for students with disabilities. The update is that the classes have been approved and is back at the Chancellor's Office for final approval. A new Disability Specialist has been hired under DSPS - Disability Students Program and Services department; a new grant was posted for Butte College, Student Equity Grant and will be hiring a part-time Disability Specialist for the grant. New changes and guidelines at Community Colleges in California and there will be 15 Pilot Programs created. Butte College will be one of the pilots. Colleges are pushing non credit classes and looking to redefine non credit classes for earning a bachelor's degree equivalent and a career development college preparation program. Glenn County Office of Education (GCOE) reported that Butte Community College location in Orland continues to have a positive impact on GCOE Adult Education and GCOE will be applying for AB 86 Adult Block grant with Butte College which is November 16, 2015. GCOE provided update on The Rusty Wagon and the success of the Associates with developmental disabilities and storefront. We Care A Lot Foundation reported on "What's Next" Program which goes into schools to talk to students that are preparing to transition out of high school about options around college, employment, etc. The trainer is a self-advocate and presents throughout the region. The program will be developing a presentation for students on housing options too.</p> <p>◆ Staff facilitated the meeting of the local interagency transition team and reviewed the groups vision and purpose. Vision: All young adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities exiting our inland transition programs (Community Transition Program and Community Learning Center) are contributing members of our community. The Group Mission: To bring agencies and schools together to: collaborate to support successful transition services/systems, share transition-related information, ideas, curriculum and activities, learn from each other and review what works and what doesn't, advocate for transition-aged youth with intellectual/developmental disabilities Goals: -Support systems and families that teach and encourage self-advocacy and self-determination in our youth and young adults, -Support systems and families that promote the exploration of available transition-related resources, services and options in order to enable youth and young adults to make informed choices that lead to a quality adult life including access to work and recreational activities -Support systems and families that facilitate youth and young adult participation in community activity (e.g. People First, volunteer activities, recreational</p>	

Goal #6

Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

activities) -Provide cross-training that promotes coordinated student-led interagency transition planning for all students in CTP and CLC -Support collaboration between students, families, teachers and the adult agency representatives who will remain part of the students' life after they exit the transition program. In attendance: Community College (Mendocino), High School Transition Program Staff (Ukiah and Willits), Redwood Coast Regional Center, Association of Behavioral Consultants.

- ◆The Orange County Adult Transition Task Force (OCATTF) is a monthly collaboration where leaders from education, business, service agencies and family advocacy groups come together to share resources and address programming concerns specific to the successful transition of individuals with disabilities from school to work and community living. The following topics were discussed: 1. Discussion of the ABLE Act – AB 449 – Income Taxation: Savings Plans: Qualified Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Program – handout 2. Coordinating Instruction with Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes – Video 4. DOR / RCOC Referral Process & Timelines. 5. Follow Up of October Meeting Topics i. Employment First Initiative, ii. Job Development - Work-Based Learning Opportunities iii. DOR – Notice of Public Hearing Feedback / Workforce Innovation Opportunities Act (WIOA) / Workforce Investment Act (WIA – revised) SCDD staff provided participants with a list of the trainings we offer as well as information on upcoming events and the relaunch of self-advocacy in Orange County.
- ◆Last fiscal year, Matrix Parent network received a grant from CaPromise to provide trainings to transition-aged students and their families. SCDD staff collaborated with Matrix Parent network to coordinate and host the trainings. Matrix received the grant from CaPromise for the current fiscal year and asked SCDD NB to collaborate with them again. Last month we set up trainings on Independent Living Centers for January 2016 and North Bay Regional Center services for February 2016. This month we secured the presenter and meeting location for a training on Legal Services in April 2016. SCDD NB staff created the flyer and will distribute the flyer closer to the training date.
- ◆The Post-Secondary Education Transition Consortium (PSETC) meetings are to help develop and provide educational tools that support adults with disabilities as they contribute to a productive workplace, exercise self-direction, and positively impact the community. Transition leaders from Anaheim Union High School District, North Orange County Community College District, Workability programs, Cypress College, Tustin Unified School District, Fullerton Unified School District, Regional Center of Orange County, and the SCDD Orange County office are all represented in this consortium. The consortium discussed the following: (1) Disability Awareness Conference at Cal State Fullerton - the conference was a success and the coordinators decided to make it a yearly event. The SCDD Orange County office will follow-up about possibly being part of the conference coordinating panel. (2) Disabled Student Services Updates - Service Provider updates; a few agencies discussed the new pilot program that involves Department of Rehabilitation, Regional Center of Orange County and Irvine, Tustin, Anaheim, Fullerton school

Goal #6

Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

districts. The pilot program uses a questionnaire to determine if a student would be a good fit for Regional Center transition services or the Department of Rehabilitation services. (3) Workability III updates - The Program received an augmentation in funds although it is considered a new program since it has been in existence for two years. The program will now be looking at providing services to 90 students. (4) College 2 Career update has also received a few awards and has been successful with getting their students employed. The Adult Education Block Grant Program provides adult education funding to county offices of education, school districts, and regional consortia to support Assembly Bill 86 specified programs.

- ◆ Representatives from various service organizations came together to discuss the possibility of creating a symposium focusing on transitions. One of the predominant areas of need in regards to understanding the complexities of transition was that of individuals who are considered medically fragile. As a result of the meeting organizations who are interested in helping to put together a symposium for parents and providers on that issue will meet again in December to start planning an event.
- ◆ Staff in collaboration with the Disability Collaborative, and Parent's Helping Parents hosted the Transition Summit and presented to families the two roadmaps that can be used for navigating residential services, and day and employment services. The Collaborative met after the summit to discuss the participant evaluations and plan for next steps based on those evaluations. Overall participants scored the presentations at 4 or 5. The participants expressed interest in future trainings on financial planning and management of benefits. SCDD staff conferred with PHP staff and received training on how to move Roadmaps to Services from power point presentations to an interactive website
- ◆ Students from SUSD came to the office to learn work skills. This month they assisted putting together the 30 SCDD SSAN packet and they continue to assist with the Quality Assurance Project by attaching the labels in the correct position.
- ◆ Staff met with member of the Transition Committee to continue the dialog and planning of a central website for families to use when needing to navigate the system of developmental services.
- ◆ Staff participated in the regular meeting for the Stanislaus County Transition Task Force. Team discussed agency activities, upcoming SELIT meeting and meeting schedules for upcoming Stanislaus Transition Taskforce meetings. Crafted meeting notes, emailed to team 12/25/15. Meeting room provided by Howard Training Center for the purpose of the meeting. Problems with delay in processing Department of Rehabilitation referrals for employment in Stanislaus County. Valley Mountain Regional Center representative agreed to refer issue to the Clients Rights Advocate.

Goal #7	Children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their families receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff participates on The Department of Public Health Biobank Community Values Panel who met for a full day on 11-20-2015. Materials covered included an update on AB 170, Newborn Screening Regulations, a Federal Update on the Common Rule used by IRB's, and the impact upon Biobanks and Research Projects as well as two presentations on research projects, one on Acute Myeloid Leukemia and Down Syndroms, and one on Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and Down Syndrome. There were updates reviewed on the fact sheet regarding storage and use of leftover Newborn Screening blood spots, and other educational materials were reviewed. There were small groups that met to discuss identifying gaps in prenatal, inpatient and pediatric resources for parents and providers, which re-grouped as a whole to share and discuss the ideas generated in the small group settings. ◆ Staff developed and presented a PowerPoint on "Early Intervention to School Services: Transitioning at Age 3" for 8 CHS childcare providers, teachers, and childcare center directors. The presentation focused on: (1) the early intervention transition process, (2) regional center eligibility and services, (3) special education eligibility and services, (4) resources right for you. It also included information on what someone can do now if they are interested in SDP. The PPT was adapted, with permission, from the Los Angeles and Central Coast office. ◆ Staff developed and presented a PowerPoint on "Intervencion Temprana a Servicios Escolares: La Trancision a los 3 Años for 18 CHS childcare providers, teachers, and childcare center directors. The presentation focused on: (1) the early intervention transition process, (2) regional center eligibility/services, (3) special education eligibility/services, (4) resources. ◆ Staff collaborate with Rolling Start Center for Independent Living of San Bernardino County and coordinated to provide training on "Your First IEP; The Basics" for the new staff. Materials handed out to all attendees was a copy of the power point presentation, "Early Intervention and Transition", "IEP Basics" and the tri-fold brochure from the Office of Administrative Hearings/OAH "Solving Special Education Disputes between Parents and School Districts". In addition, SCDD "Then & NOW" and a copy of the 5 year plan. ◆ Staff posted two articles and one website link on Facebook about early start/early education. The articles are titled: Growing Early Friendships ; Growing preschool program welcomes all, embracing kids with special needs; Link: Maryland is offering on-line training for child care providers on working with children with disabilities. ◆ Staff developed and presented a PowerPoint on "Accommodations, Modifications, and Class Strategies used in classroom or daycare settings" for 10 CHS childcare providers, teachers, and childcare center directors. The presentation focused on: (1) assessments (2) related services (3) accommodations and modifications, and (4) accommodation strategies using assistive technology. Children's Home Society contracts with 2,474 childcare providers in Orange County, yet there are only approximately 122 infant preschool providers and 103 school-aged (4-12 years) providers are listed as providing "inclusive childcare," even though the ADA 	

Goal #7

Children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their families receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential.

mandates that all child care centers/programs are to make every effort to accommodate the needs of children with disabilities. The providers who attended the training said that there is "fear" in serving children with disabilities and not being able to adequately respond/provide for the child's unique needs. Some providers were also concerned that they would have to fundamentally alter their program in order to serve children with disabilities.

- ◆ Staff created a brochure of support resources for parents of young babies who have or may have a developmental disability. The importance of Early Start programs and support from Family Resource Centers and parent groups is stressed. These brochures will be enclosed in a mailing with our new Pediatrician Outreach Flyer and sent to pediatricians in Los Angeles County in January/February 2016. (We are waiting for the Spanish translation to enclose in the packet as well.) The intent is for pediatricians to be able to hand it to families of babies at risk of or newly diagnosed with a developmental delay, to provide them some immediate resources for support.
- ◆ Staff created a 2-sided outreach flyer for pediatricians. One side is a brief explanation of developmental disabilities, regional centers, and a reminder about the benefits of Early Start programs. The other side is a list of "reasons for concern" pertaining to deficits in reaching milestones in the areas of behavior, hearing, seeing, moving, communicating, and thinking. Coupled with a newly created brochure, "Support for Parents" (see separate AR 7.1) which is awaiting Spanish translation, a packet will be sent to Los Angeles pediatricians registered with the Los Angeles Pediatric Society. The mailing is expected to go out January and February 2016.
- ◆ Staff is assisting with the promotion of the following trainings/topics: 1) Stepping Stones Positive Parenting Program = (Triple P) parents and caregivers of children with disabilities come together to discover positive solutions to common, and not so common, child behavior problems. 2) Positive Parenting Group-Kids don't come with instructions. At some time or another, parents need a little support. This series includes strategies to: raise happy, confident kids, manage misbehavior, set rules and routines, encourage behavior you like, take care of yourself as a parent, feel confident you're doing the right thing.

Goal #8	The State of California will adopt an Employment First policy which reflects inclusive and gainful employment as the preferred outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff shared with the provider community involved in micro-enterprises the http://www.btizzy.com/ website. This is an online store for the sale of products created by individuals with disabilities. The number of students in transition and post secondary programs are diagnosed with autism, however day and employment services are not prepared to meet the specific needs of this community. Families are wanting to be more influential in the number and type of services that will be available for their children as they transition to adult services. ◆ Staff listened to an informational webinar on Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program (EFSLMP) which was structured to augment the technical assistance areas of primary focus in Employment First systems change (Capacity Building, Provider Transformation, School-To-Work Transition, Employer Engagement, and Policy/Funding Alignment). The State of California's Employment First policy reflects inclusive and gainful employment as the preferred outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities. It is the intent of SCDD staff to gain knowledge and to identify strategies towards implementation of the Employment First policy. Some possible funding resources: -HCBS waiver – Employment -California Department of Education (CDE) -Social security -Grant Funding -Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) ◆ Staff participated in the first of a 2-part national webinar pertaining to transforming from a sheltered workshop to a community employment model entitled: " Provider Perspective: What Does it Really Take for "Provider Transformation"? Speakers were from a sheltered workshop in Tennessee that closed its doors in June, 2015 (SRVS Memphis) and a speaker from a supported employment program in Massachusetts (NEBA) that is moving to a more integrated model. Emphasis was on finding a champion(s), handling family and community pushback, doing a self-assessment, creating a sense of urgency, finding creative and diverse funding streams, developing reasonable time-lines, and maintaining open communication. This information and these speakers are potential resources for programs in the Los Angeles area that may be considering a similar change in service model. ◆ Staff and North Bay Regional Center collaborated to host an Employment Summit meeting on Transforming Day Services on Nov 17, 2015. Representative from the Department of Developmental Services and the Department of Rehabilitation presented on statewide trends and issues. Two provider agencies - Progressive Employment Concepts and integrated Resources Institute, discussed how they provide customized employment services. Redwood Empire Industries, a North Bay agency that received consultation from TransCen through a PDF grant, talked about their new program providing customized, wrap-around services. NBRC and SCDD NB plan to continue to collaborate to support providers as they transition their services to meeting CMS requirements. ◆ Staff participated in a wrap up meeting to review the Jobtoberfest Employment Fair and what changes/improvements can be made for next year's job fair. The Jobtoberfest committee is a subcommittee of the San Diego Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities which is in the process of becoming a non- 	

Goal #8

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profit entity with the same mission: employment of people with a disability. This would allow the committee to be eligible to apply for grants that would enable the committee do more in the area of employment of people with disabilities. Members present were: Dept of Rehabilitation, San Diego Regional Center, Employment Development Dept, Arc of San Diego, Mental Health Systems, Goodwill Industries, Outreach Consulting, Inc., Deaf Community Services, San Diego Workforce Partnership, Episcopal Community Services and Career Services, Inc.

- ◆ Staff collaborated on the upcoming Employment Training with VMRC and CLASP. SCDD staff communicated with the speaker- Sara Murphy from TransCen- Sara received a Cycle 37 from SCDD/North Bay Office. SCDD staff put the flyer together and disseminated it out widely.
- ◆ Staff posted two articles on Facebook about Employment First. Link to State of California's Employment First Employment Data Dashboard; Counterpoint: 11 ways we can strive to hire the disabled - All stakeholders must take responsibility for greater job opportunities, starting with the policy that focuses on employment as the preferred option.
- ◆ Staff participated in the quarterly taskforce group meeting. The taskforce has formed committees to work on various aspects of employment for transition students with disabilities. The four committees are: Competitive Integrated Employment, Transportation, School District Collaboration and Business Partner Collaborative. I have joined the Transportation Committee. Committee reports for the previous quarter were given. Each committee regrouped to strategize for the upcoming quarter. The Taskforce is also working on a website page on the North Coastal Consortium for Special Education website. Committee members in attendance were: Access to Independence, A Better Life Together, Casa de Amparo, AVID, Community Catalysts, Community Connections, Community Interface Services, Dept of Rehabilitation, San Diego Regional Center, Creel Industries, local employer, North Coastal Consortium for Special Education, Easter Seals of Southern California, Employment and Community Options, Escondido Education COMPACT, Goodwill Industries, Job Corp, Mountain Shadows Outreach Services, People's Care, The Arc of San Diego, Youth Employment Opportunity Program, San Marcos Unified School District
- ◆ E-blast- the VMRC Micro Business Fair flyer was disseminated through our email and put on our Facebook page to encourage people to attend this awesome event! Hard copies were passed out at the SAC6 Area Meeting of Self Advocates on November 6.
- ◆ Staff facilitated a meeting of individuals interested in improving employment practices in the Valley Mountain Regional Center catchment. Provided a meeting room and took meeting notes. Team discussed best practice in job development and job coaching methods and procedures and techniques.
- ◆ Staff participated in a regular meeting of the Think Transition work group. Team discussed and shared resources that promote transition from education to adult resources. Also team discussed employment related trends and resources. Staff

Goal #8

The State of California will adopt an Employment First policy which reflects inclusive and gainful employment as the preferred outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities.

shared with the group the upcoming training offered by a collaboration of the North Valley Hills Office of the State Council, Valley Mountain Regional Center and the Coalition of Local Area Service Providers (CLASP). The training investigates and discusses day program models that are focused on successful employment outcomes for participants. The meeting was made possible by utilizing \$150.00 in leveraged funds through UC Davis. The support provided room space and telephone conference ability.

- ◆ Staff assisted the CA Department of Developmental Services (DDS) who contacted the office and asked for successful employment stories to feature. SCDD staff provided DDS with 15 stories from around the state, highlighting consumers who successfully have achieved Integrated Competitive Employment (ICE). DDS plans to feature some of the stories on their website at www.dds.ca.gov. There is a memorandum of understanding between The California Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), and the California Department of Education (CDE). Jointly “the Departments” agree that opportunities for integrated, competitive employment (ICE) shall be given the highest priority for working age individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (“I/DD”) regardless of the severity of their disabilities. ICE is intended to be the first option considered by planning teams for working age individuals, but individuals may choose goals other than ICE, including postsecondary education, technical or vocational training, and internship programs that are means to achieving ICE or career advancement. The CDE, DOR and DDS mutually agree upon the following definition for and goal of “competitive integrated employment.” Opportunities to participate in or prepare for competitive integrated employment shall be given the highest priority for working age individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The term “competitive integrated employment” means work that is performed on a full-time or part-time basis (including self-employment) – for which an individual: 1) Is compensated at a rate that shall be not less than the minimum wage; 2) In the case of an individual who is self-employed, yields an income that is comparable to the income received by other individuals who are not individuals with disabilities, and who are self-employed in similar occupations or on similar tasks and who have similar training, experience, and skills; and 3) Is eligible for the level of benefits provided to other employees.
- ◆ Staff arranged and held the Day and Employment Work Group meeting. At the meeting staff from San Jose Unified School District gave a presentation on how she invites individuals and families from the various district’s post-secondary programs to go on tours of day and employment programs. The day and employment work group will develop strategies to involve more families, day programs, and more school districts on these tours.
- ◆ Staff participated in the second of a 2-part national webinar pertaining to transforming from a sheltered workshop to a community employment model entitled: " Part 2 Implementation: What Does it Really Take for "Provider Transformation"? Speakers

Goal #8	The State of California will adopt an Employment First policy which reflects inclusive and gainful employment as the preferred outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities.
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were from a sheltered workshop in Tennessee that closed its doors in June, 2015 (SRVS Memphis) and a speaker from a supported employment program in Massachusetts (NEBA) that is moving to a more integrated model, and a speaker from ARC Westchester New York that recently closed its 4th and last workshop in 2014. Emphasis was on decreasing piece rate work while introducing community activities, redefining "pre-vocational" to be true employment preparation, re-training staff to become job coaches or sales and marketing specialists, community outreach, developing an accurate database tracking progress, and gradually making plans to address obstacles and barriers. This information and these speakers are potential resources for programs in the Los Angeles area that may be considering a similar change in service model.

- ◆ Staff was on a hiring panel for SJ Behavioral Health Services Activity Center who were hiring a new manager for their Stockton location. Staff was asked to be the expert on the Employment First policy to ascertain what the applicant knew about the policy and how they would implement it at the Activity Center. There were 5 applicants and only 1 was aware of the policy and had ideas on how to implement it. This experience proved that there is still work to be done on not only informing people about the policy but support in implementing it.
- ◆ Staff participated at the VMRC Micor Business Fair in which SCDD/North Valley Hills is a part of the planning team of this annual event. There were 15 micro business owners selling their wares at the event which was held at VMRC. People from the community and the five counties came by this event. Approximately 300 came by during the course of the day.

Goal #9	Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ On December 3, 2015, a one day conference was offered to self-advocates, family members, service providers, transition teachers and students as well as regional center staff. The title of the conference "Leading the Charge" reflects the intent of the conference, which is to offer information and education regarding the upcoming changes in the system of services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As such, we had Catherine Blakemore from Disability Rights CA open the conference and provide an overview of upcoming CMS changes, Employment First legislation, Self-Directed Services, the Work Innovation and Opportunity Act, etc., and how services to people with disabilities will change because of these. The remainder of the day offered workshops on: the ABLE Act, Advocating With Your Elected Official, Boardmanship, WIOA; Work Incentive Planning and Benefits; College Options; The 25th Anniversary of the ADA and the Impact on Employment; Innovative Services Panel, which consisted of a self-advocate run LLC, an author who has a micro-enterprise, and a software testing program recently adopted by the Department of Rehabilitation, which was originally started by a couple with a son on the autism spectrum. There was opportunity for people to mix and mingle, network, and learn about new and exciting options in our system. ◆ Staff attended UCD Think Transition meeting at UCD Mind Institute, Sacramento. The purpose of this meeting is to explore resources and best practices for individuals with ID/DD transitioning into independent living and work. Upcoming workshops were discussed and will take place at the UCD Mind Institute: 1/20/16 Alternatives to Conservatorship; 3/17/16 Social Security and Work implications; and 5/17/16 Financial Literacy workshop. The following webinars will be presented: 12/14/16 Series on Employment First and on 12/16/16 Provider Transformation. Discussion about best practices were noted and located at the following websites: -Texas A&M Bridge to Career: This program works in collaborations with an Independent Living agency to provide qualifying students with ID/DD access to a post-secondary education program along with special educational supports, which will prepare them for employment in the field of health and human services, specifically to become Direct Support Professionals. -Think Work at the Institute for Community Inclusion, Univ. of Mass Boston. This project is home to research, training, and outreach activities that promote employment for individuals with ID/DD. -Access to Integrated Employment Project has described trends in day and employment services and outcomes for individuals with ID/DD, and explored the factors that contribute to employment outcomes at an individual, employment support practice, service provider, and state policy level. -Ask Earn has information on actions that company leaders can take include adopting formal expressions of commitment and intent related to the recruitment, hiring, retention, and advancement of qualified individuals with disabilities. SCDD continues to research employment opportunities and access to inform individuals/agencies of resources. Fact noted today - All agencies/business who receive federal grant funding must include people with ID/DD and hire at least 10% on staff. ◆ Staff is collaborating with We Care A lot Foundation and Far Northern Regional Center 	

Goal #9	Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.
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to plan a training, Benefits & Employment 2016, on January 27, 2016 for consumers, families and service providers. Michael Walling, M.Ed. will be the presenter. Staff has worked with Far Northern Regional Center and We Care A Lot Foundation in the past to bring speaker to area. Michael Walling, M.Ed., is nationally known for his knowledge of the Social Security benefit programs and associated medical benefits. He is highly regarded for his teaching skills in presenting this information, and relating the material to employment for persons with disability. Michael will be discussing the following topics: Can I work and still receive benefits? employment affect my benefits? H

working on securing location and affordable price of facility, food costs for attendees to stay at the facility for short lunch break, finalizing Save The Date flyer and registration logistics. The next planning meeting will be December 7, 2015 at 2pm at Far Northern Regional Center.

- ◆ Staff hosted the Business Advisory Council (BAC) planning meeting on November 4th. There were 8 members from various partner agencies including: UC Davis Mind Institute; InAlliance; Futures Exp; Progressive Employment and parent advocate. The purpose of our meeting today was to reflect on the Invitational Northern California Business Advisory Council's workforce development event that took place on October 28th at the California Automobile Museum. The Invitational event was a success and included speakers from Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) and the California Automobile Museum. It was a collaborative effort to promote a partnership between local businesses/employers and employment and training programs, a goal of the Northern California Business Advisory Committee. Business partners are recruited to share their insight and expertise specific to their company and the industry sector they represent. Collaboration and networking with businesses, both private and public is critical for the success of expanding employment options and opportunities for individuals with ID/DD. Current supported employment agencies benefit from collective brainstorming for outreach to businesses, it is the hope of this Northern California Business Advisory Council to provide information and describe concerns or misconceptions companies may have about employing people with disabilities. Events are to take place 4 times per year.
- ◆ Staff collaborated with local agencies to plan this year's College with a Disability Conference. This conference is an opportunity for students with disabilities, aged 14 and up, and their families to learn about the array of resources and supports available at the college level. This is the fifth straight year that the State Council has supported this event. Today's meeting was to discuss how the event went. Survey results were discussed by the team. The presenters, the venue, the food, resource materials and audience attendance were the main topics of discussion. This team plans to reconvene next spring to plan for next year's conference.
- ◆ The Future of Day Services Committee met again to discuss further the changes coming about due to the CMS regulations, as well as the Employment First Policy adopted by the State of CA in 2013. Staff shared information from the Workforce Development Partnership Conference, as well as the ODEP Webinar. Staff had also

Goal #9

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

sent the LEAD Center link previously which allows a person to scan over a map of the US to learn about the Employment opportunities available in each state. On this website, you can get a snapshot, learn about any legislation that has been passed, executive orders, policy, partnerships, etc. This is a great site to gather information on Training and Capacity Building, so information and material was distributed to this committee for their review. Of the 21 regional centers, 13 have adopted their own Employment First policy, but the San Diego Regional Center has yet to do so. There are over 550 self-advocates accessing the Tailored Day Services available locally, so clearly there is dissatisfaction with the more traditional services available. At this meeting, there were 8 agencies represented, but none of them seemed eager to embrace the inevitable changes that will be occurring in the near future.

- ◆ Staff supported two self-advocates to give a presentation at Deer Valley High School on independent living and Employment First. This presentation provided 30 transition aged students a look into living independently and being employed as an adult.
- ◆ On 11-19-15, several members of the Leading the Charge Committee met at the hotel where the conference will be held on December 3, 2015. In addition to touring the rooms where the keynote speaker and break-out sessions will be conducted, we insured all the necessary equipment would be in place, resolved the issue of parking, reviewed the food and award, looked at numbers of people registered, last minute program changes, swag items, time to get the presentations to the individual responsible for putting them on the flash drive, resource tables, volunteers, etc. were finalized.
- ◆ Staff participated in the Orange County Employment Advocacy Network (OCEAN) collaborative that meets monthly to identify issues and develop solutions to the changes that are occurring with respect to employment and day services. At this meeting, the following topics were discussed: Regional Center of Orange County updates (hiring a new consumer office aide and employment first vendorization process), Department of Rehabilitation updates, and establishing a subcommittee to plan for OCEAN employment events for 2016, including holding an employment/job development resource fair. Subcommittee meeting held on 11/18/2015 with IRI and Easter Seals Work First. Discussed plans for employment event to occur in September 2016 - resource fair and employment presentations. OCEAN, established in 1991, is a professional association that assists members and employers in creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The monthly meeting reviewed the "Code of Ethics" that was developed in conjunction with the team of students from the University of San Diego; reviewed the marketing materials, and discussed ways that would be most effective to distribute these materials; took a last look at the application that will be sent; reviewed the committee structure and roles; talked again about the reunion of the 2015 cohort that will be held in January; planned the next meeting agenda.
- ◆ Staff participated with more than 500 educators, job seekers, career counselors, economic and workforce development professionals, and policymakers gathered at

Goal #9

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

the San Diego Workforce Conference 2015: Identifying, Tackling and Closing the Skills Gap. The San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) and the San Diego and Imperial Counties Community Colleges Association held the one day conference to release three reports covering in-depth workforce data on small business, middle-skills jobs, and workforce-related initiatives that address the skills gap in San Diego County's five Priority Sectors. The conference included an overview of each report with panel discussions from industry experts and employers, including representatives from Kaiser Permanente, Port of San Diego, GroundMetrics, and more. Discussions included: - Small businesses' hiring needs - Challenges small businesses are facing in finding qualified employees - Types of skills, educational attainment and experience required by employers - Challenges of earning a self-sufficient wage in San Diego County - Middle-skill job opportunities in Health Care, Information and Communication Technologies, and Advanced Manufacturing that provide a self-sufficient wage - Trends in public-private initiatives aimed at closing the skills gap.

- ◆ Staff posted eight articles on Facebook about employment and post-secondary education for people with disabilities. AUCD - Embracing a Culture of Accessibility in the Workplace -- Sheltered: How Minnesota is failing the disabled - The state is segregating thousands of disabled adults in isolating jobs and homes. Many feel trapped, unable to lead independent lives. -- Applebee's Stiffs Autistic Employee—and It's Hardly Alone - An Applebee's in Rhode Island failed to pay an autistic young man for a year—making it just the latest U.S. company to profit off disabled workers. -- Financial Aid for Students With Learning and Attention Issues -- Greater Transparency Urged For College Disability Services -- Small Business & Disability Employment: Steps to Success | AskEARN.org -- IRS Relaxes Rules For New ABLE Accounts -- 2015 Holiday Gift Guide: Supporting the Disability Community - Words I Wheel By
- ◆ Staff provided technical assistance to support 3 workability students learning various job skills such as shredding, and sorting material removing staples, paper clips, anything with sticky adhesive for preparation for shredding. Training on teaching high-speed scanning.
- ◆ Staff hosted the Business Advisory Council (BAC) planning meeting on December 9th. There were 8 members from various partner agencies including: UC Davis Mind Institute; InAlliance; Progressive Employment; Department of Rehabilitation; California Employment and Training Agency and parent advocate. The purpose of our meeting today was to plan for the January 17, 2016 Northern California Business Advisory Council's Business Partners event which is a collaborative effort to promote a partnership between local businesses/employers and employment and training programs. The goal of the Northern California Business Advisory Committee is to do outreach to businesses so they can share their insight and expertise specific to their company and the industry sector they represent. In sharing this insight and expertise, the California Business Advisory Council planning team members learn what businesses need in their workforce and what skills people with ID/DD can

Goal #9

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

provide. Collaboration and networking with businesses, both private and public is critical for the success of expanding employment options and opportunities for individuals with ID/DD. Current supported employment agencies benefit from collective brainstorming for outreach to businesses, it is the hope of this Northern California Business Advisory Council to provide information and describe concerns or misconceptions companies may have about employing people with disabilities.

- ◆SCDD staff invited the DDSO Employment Productions staff, Dennis C. and Richard G., cast to present "Gettin' DOWN", a web cast series telling a story about some people who happen to have Down Syndrome, illustrating that they are more than people may think. The web cast is created and directed by Dennis Curry and the cast is made up of 3 people with Down Syndrome. DDSO Employment Plus is making a positive impact in the lives of those with ID/DD; helping to create a new confidence, new skill sets, and furthering the integration and inclusion of all we serve into the community at large. Employment Plus has presented this topic to over 9 WebFest contests throughout the world, including Australia, Germany, Italy, Florida, Spain, Brazil and Ireland. People with disabilities are a major untapped source of qualified candidates for employers. People with disabilities have a wide range of skills to offer, which differ from individual to individual, as with everyone else. They can bring to the job, loyalty, dedication, and commitment. People with ID/DD tend to remain on the job and maintain better levels of attendance. Employees with ID/DD are not absent any more than employees without disabilities, and safety records of employees (with or without disabilities) are known to be identical.
- ◆Eblast "Life After High School Event". The Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa ROP WorkAbility I program is holding an event "Spring 2016 Life After High School". In collaboration with local WorkAbility I programs and Inland Regional Center. The mission of WorkAbility I is to promote the involvement of key stakeholders including students, families, educators, employers and other agencies in planning and implementing an array of services that will culminate in students' successful transition to employment, lifelong learning, independence, and quality of life. This special night will take place on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at Colton-Redlands-Yucaipa Regional Occupational Program from 5:00pm-7:00pm. Day programs, public service agencies and pre-vocational programs will also be in attendance. The purpose of this event is to inform parents and students of the educational opportunities and services available after exiting high school.
- ◆Staff participated in a collaborative meeting to partner with employment trainings for consumers and families in the Coachella Valley, and support the need for WIOA and Competitive Integrated Employment as it affects the individuals that have intellectual and developmental disabilities. Department of Rehabilitation has monthly

Goal #9

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

orientations at the one-stop location, and receives referrals for supported employment consumers at that time. Workforce also screens consumers during their intake process for additional services and supports they may need in terms of work, social security, and other trainings. Collaboration efforts to provide SCDD trainings (primarily on dress for success and SSI benefits and Wages) to consumers and the public to be scheduled per these efforts, and as they present themselves during the intake and referral processes. The trainings will be in groups of 10 or more and may occur monthly or bi-monthly as the need is determined. Training flyer provided and it will be posted at one stop, and provided to staff.

- ◆ Staff assisted the Behavioral Health and Recovery Board by disseminating the community survey regarding Mental Health Services Act Workforce, Education and Training funding priorities to the community and key stakeholders in Mendocino County. The purpose of the survey is to provide direction to policy makers regarding local training priorities.
- ◆ Staff participated in the Orange County Employment Advocacy Network (OCEAN) collaborative that meets monthly to identify issues and develop solutions to the changes that are occurring with respect to employment and day services. In addition to a holiday potluck, the following topics were discussed at this meeting: outcome of subcommittee meeting on November 18. OCEAN employment outreach and resource fair to be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 5:30-8:30pm.
- ◆ Project College met today to finalize plans for a reunion of the 2015 Project College cohort in January. Since many of the students that went to college will be on break at this time, the focus of the reunion will be for them to share information with both staff and fellow students that will be entering college next year. We developed a very brief survey to gather information regarding what classes in particular assisted them in being successful in college, what was missing, and what needs to be emphasized more. This "reunion" will also provide an opportunity for the students to re-connect, since some may have lost touch since the week ended back in June.
- ◆ Staff researched changes to supplemental security income especially with respect to the impact of work and savings on the SSI cash benefit and MediCal eligibility. Information gathered was used to update the SCDD LA booklet, "Why Work is Better." Given the recently-enacted ABLE act, it was a pertinent and timely update.
- ◆ Staff collaborated with East Valley Special Education Local Plan Area/SELPA to provide training for the Transition Partnership Program/TPP students. SCDD staff then coordinated with the TPP teachers, explained topic "Dress For Success" training and the focus on the importance of appropriate appearances and hygiene for employment. SCDD staff then facilitated the training to the TPP students at Carter High School in Rialto within San Bernardino County. The power point presentation of "Dress for Success, Appearances DO Matter" discussed essential hygiene tips and was very well received by the students.

<p>Goal #10</p>	<p>Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff participated in a public forum on the Behavioral Health Transition from Regional Centers to Medi-Cal managed care. Additionally, staff connected with the Autism Health Insurance Project regarding the train the trainer program which they plan to offer to family resource centers, regional centers and others, such as SCDD staff, who would benefit. Staff is awaiting further information as to when the trainings will occur. ◆ Staff participates in Butte County In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Committee. Staff is a member and Chairperson. The meeting on 11-10-15 included discussion about the Federal Labor Standards Act (FMLA) and overtime bill that passed for IHSS providers. The change in California will take place February 1, 2016. There will be a three month period for providers to learn the new implementation procedures without violations. Training will be available through IHSS to correct violations. Each provider can work up to 66 hours maximum per week. They will receive overtime for 26 hours at time and a half. Training for the new timesheets, hours allotted, travel time will be coming out in December. New minimum wage of \$10/hour will take effect on January 1st, 2016. ◆ Staff is active member of planning committee for December 1, 2015 Medi-Cal Managed Care Town Hall in collaboration with other Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN) members Disability Action Center, Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy, Far Northern Regional Center. During the 11-1 to them in advance. The committee contacted the speakers requesting a short bio and most of them received. Discussion on layout of the information and how that would be distributed to the attendees. Agenda of the program was finalized for breaks and transition between the panel speakers. Planning committee will meet a couple more times to ensure planning logistics are completed. The dollars leveraged is \$640.00 total. The grant monies from The SCAN Foundation are housed with Disability Action Center and covered the all costs including: facility room = \$500, printing cost = \$70, coffee, paper products, food = \$70.6-15 planning meeting, questions for speakers were finalized and will be provided ◆ Staff participate in monthly Regional Coalition, Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN), in collaboration with Disability Action Center, Area Agency on Aging Passages, Legal Services of Northern California, California Health & Wellness, Office of Client's Rights Advocacy, Far Northern Regional Center to discuss issues related to health care and changes to systems of healthcare on behalf of consumers who are Medi-Cal/Medicare recipients. At the 11-12-15 DAN meeting, presentation from Reina Hudson, Manager of Community Programs, California Health & Wellness, on Case Management Services. Presentation included a review of when California Health & Wellness (CH&W) was established (2013) through awarded contract by Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and Imperial Board of Supervisors to serve Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Imperial County and awarded contract from DHCS to serve Medi-Cal beneficiaries in 18 Counties. CH&W is a subsidiary of Centene Corporation. The CH&W Purpose and Beliefs were reviewed as well as training objectives: Provide understanding of the Case Management process and provide 	

Goal #10	Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.
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understanding of how to refer a member to the Care Management Department. Clinical Operations includes: Utilization Management, Care Management and Quality Improvement. Responsibilities of each area were reviewed and discussed. Case Management Process and Physical and Behavioral Health were thoroughly reviewed. Care Management and programs within Care Management reviewed and are divided into three distinct integrative teams: Behavioral Health Case Management, Comprehensive Case Management and Special Programs. Care Management Referral and how to make referrals, including contact information was provided. A training packet was provided that includes detailed information and useful resources.

- ◆ Staff participate in monthly conference calls, in collaboration with Disability Action Center staff who is the project manager of Regional Coalition, Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN) which is part of The SCAN Foundation's Community of Constituents initiative, "building a statewide movement to transform the system of care that all Californians can age with dignity, choice and independence." Staff and DAN project manager participate in the monthly Regional Coalition conference calls along with the other 17 Regional Coalitions projects that exist across the state of California. The 18 regional coalitions are all funded by The SCAN Foundation.
- ◆ Staff participated as an exhibitor at CalOptima's 20th Anniversary Health and Wellness Community Event/Fair on Saturday, November 14, which hosted more than 70 community healthcare and social services organizations. Exhibitors offered free resource information on aging, behavioral health, cancer, child development, disabilities, education, hospice, nursing care, housing, and much more. Free flu shots, blood pressure, glucose, and cholesterol screenings were provided as well as children's dental and vision screenings. SCDD provided information on disability resources, including information on Medicaid Waiver and free and low cost health resources. CalOptima serves more than 750,000 members with a network of more than 7,000 primary care doctors and specialists, as well as 30 hospitals.
- ◆ Eblast "San Bernardino Free Clinic." FREE full service primary care provided by medical practitioners, medical students, nurse practitioners, undergraduate students, and community groups. Grand Opening November 7, 2015 9am-1pm, open the first Saturday of every month. Located at 401 E. 21st Street, San Bernardino, CA 92404. Spanish translators will be provided.
- ◆ Staff reviewed with family and California Child Services employee the transition of CCS to Medi-Cal managed care. AB187 and the 12 month delay in transitioning administration of the service were reviewed. Staff informed CCS staff that SCDD staff remains available for ongoing dialog.
- ◆ E-blast to inform of trainings about the transfer of ABA services to Medi-Cal and to inform them of Medi-Cal Task force on Dental needs was meeting and patients were encouraged to share their stories to the task force through State Council.
- ◆ Staff assisted in the outreach and at the Annual Health and Wellness Leadership Symposium. 50 individuals participated in the event. The training was divided into four sections: stress/relaxation, exercise and a making healthy food choices. The day

Goal
#10

Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.

ended with a raffle and all participants were given a bag of a variety of materials relating to health and wellness.

- ◆ Staff participated in a public oversight hearing on the future of the California Children's Services. Program included information and perspectives from legislators, state and county officials, families, health advocates, community based organizations, and health care providers. Panelists provided information and perspectives to a standing-room-only crowd on the California Department of Health Services (DHCS) proposal to shift specialty care for children with CCS into traditional Medi-Cal managed care. Senate Health Committee Chair Ed Hernandez, O.D. and Senator Richard Pan, M.D., heard testimony from CCS providers, county officials, advocates, health plans, and parents of children receiving CCS services, as well as DHCS Director Jennifer Kent. Questions and Concerns: Both Senators asked questions about the DHCS plans for transition, oversight, quality, and accessibility to CCS specialists, continuity of care, and transparency. Senator Hernandez expressed concern that health plans could make treatment decisions based on cost, "Will care coordination truly coordinate care or be a gatekeeper?" he asked. He also said he doesn't want to see the transition occur outside the normal legislative process, such as in a budget trailer bill. Dr. Pan referenced a UC Davis study that found cancer patients with Medi-Cal were less likely to get the recommended treatment for cancer and have lower survival rates than those with other types of insurance. "Why would we want to roll kids with cancer into a program that is failing in treating cancer?" he asked. Dr. Pan said health plans should adhere to minimum standards to protect patients as commercial plans do under Knox-Keene. Both Senators said case management, eligibility determination, and treatment authorization should continue to be made by a financially disinterested party; and that the new model should not be implemented until there is research proving it will provide the best quality of care.
- ◆ Staff posted four articles on Facebook about health and mental health issues for people with disabilities. Announcement: State Hearing to Focus on Denti-Cal Services -- Annual health checks for adults with Down Syndrome checklist - This useful and concise checklist covers health checks for people with Down's syndrome -- Workshop announcement: Redefining Trauma: A Journey of Hope -- Helpful Tips to Avoid Meltdowns this Holiday Season - CDI Kids
- ◆ E-blast for the USC UCEDD webinar on Autism and Insurance.
- ◆ Staff participated in a teleconference discussion with 8 individual advocates, attorneys, dental coordinators and providers to discuss the new Denti-Cal Bulletin which is a new policy of DHCS beginning January 1, 2016. It would require RDHAP (hygienists in alternative practice) to have to x-ray and obtain pre-authorizations prior to deep cleanings they do in care homes and Skilled Nursing Facilities. A Treatment Authorization Request was not previously required. It will require clients to have 2 visits instead of 1 and there is no additional reimbursement for the RDHAP. It will delay access to care, and once again, limit access to this service as fewer providers will be able to complete the work to get the TAR. Many clients will also not tolerate the additional visit, x-rays, and exams. This may put more pressure on these

Goal
#10

Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.

individuals to seek hospital dentistry rather than procedures that were previously completed in their care facilities. Terence McHale -private attorney and advocate with Aaron Read & Associates led the discussion with recommendations to not file a law suit at this point but to keep attempting to contact and work with DHCS to change this soon-to-be-implemented policy. Senator Don Perata has been involved in dental discussions in the North Bay area. He is trying to communicate with Director Kent at Dept. of Health Care Services to discuss this issue. Don Richard Perata is a California Democratic politician, who was President pro tempore of the California State Senate from 2004 to 2008.

- ◆Staff sent out an e-blast from Disability.Gov with many helpful tips for closing out 2015 in regarding to health and peace of mind. Emailed was sent to our list in all five counties including our RAC members.
- ◆Staff met with Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center (ARRC) staff in Dec to continue planning for the project of teaching intellectually and developmentally disabled to ride a bicycle. The ARRC Recreation Center Director and 3 family advocates are participating in the project planning. The "Cycle Without Limits" Bike Camp provided by United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay called "Play Without Limits will be offered in the Spring or Summer of 2016. It is one of the new projects that will be offered at the Open ARRC Recreation Center. This project would provide an instructional program that teaches children with a variety of disabilities on how to ride a conventional two wheeled bicycle without the use of training wheels. This new cycle activity will provide a variety of health benefits as well as recreational and improved social skills and will help build self esteem for participants. To date about \$5,100 has been raised. The Recreation board asked local doctors for a donation. The Primary Redwood Medical Group donated the \$2,000 for the project. Staff from the Health Dept has taken the training to be able to assist with the training course along with Sonoma County trainers using their adaptive equipment to provide the training here in Mendocino County. The Recreation Center will be the sponsor and host for the training. This activity would provide an opportunity for many youth and adults to engage in learning to ride a bicycle. This activity has never been offered before in our service catchment area. The closest is in Sonoma County.
- ◆Staff attended the Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee (MCDAC) meeting at First 5 Sacramento Commission. About 35 agencies, medical establishments, dentists, family members, and advocates attend. DHCS representatives stated that they are doing everything they can to increase access to treatment. Members mentioned examples such as the recent department "memo" which has resulted in health plans, particularly Anthem Blue Cross denying most claims. One dentist mentioned that he now encourages anyone with Anthem to change to another plan. Barbara Aved reported on a Dental Study titled "Sacramento Children and Dental Care: Better Served than 5 Years Ago?" which her agency completed. It will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors. In general, there have been improvements. Utilization rates for 0-20 year olds has increased from 20% to 40%, and Utilization of 0-3 year olds has increased 250%. There are still many issues that require attention.

Goal #10	Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.
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Reimbursement rates, hospital dentistry, and preventive services are still a challenge. And accessing families and encouraging them to bring their child in, is still an issue. 78% of dentists said higher reimbursement rates would be helpful. Dr. Bughao stated that Anthem is denying all claims for hospital access. His OR time is extremely limited. He is having trouble finding a place to treat children with disabilities. He is working with other surgery centers to increase access. The facility fees need to be increased. He also stated that TARs were taking 45 days to get approved, which is too long when children are in pain. There was discussion that Anthem is denying claims due to their concern about achieving every bullet point of treatment on the "memo" before approving treatment. DHCS said this was the first they had heard of this and will follow up.

<p>Goal #11</p>	<p>Individuals with developmental disabilities have access to affordable and accessible housing that provides control, choice and flexibility regarding where and with whom they live.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ E-Blast to 400 people informing them that Butte/Glenn Section 8 has Open Wait List between November 1- November 20, 2015. This is a valuable housing resource for qualifying people as it has been years since the list was open. staff maintains a collaborative relationship with Housing Authority of County of Butte, additional information was provided. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to limited funding availability, not all applicants will be placed on the Wait List. Applications will be selected and ordered using a random lottery system. The number of applicants placed on the Wait List this year will be set at 1,000. The plan is to have a one year supply of Wait List applicants, and re-open the Section 8 Wait List annually every November. • Time and date of receipt of the application online during the Wait List opening will have no bearing on whether the application will be selected for the Wait List. There is no need or advantage to apply immediately. • Online application assistance for persons with disabilities (or elderly) will be provided, if requested as a reasonable accommodation. • There is no fee to apply for the online HACB wait list (last time the list opened, some applicants ran across fraudulent websites that charged fees.) • HACB has a unique phone number for wait list inquiries: 530-717-2121 TDD 800 735-2929. • Announcement information, instructions and the application are available on our website: www.butte-housing.com ◆ Staff met with self advocates and staff at Solano Diversified Services - Fairfield to discuss supported living services (SLS). Staff discussed individuals' right to choose their living arrangement, their right to receive needed supports to live where they choose, typical services provided by SLS agencies, and the steps to take to obtain SLS services. Self advocates and staff asked how they could overcome concerns of family members who did not support the individual moving out of the family home to live in their own place. SCDD staff showed how individuals could lead their own planning meetings, and provide peer support to try to get desired services. Staff also provided information about DRC/Office of Clients Rights Advocacy. As a result of this meeting, two self advocates requested assistance to prepare their own powerpoints to lead their own meetings. ◆ Staff posted on Facebook an updated housing resource list and a video on new, integrated housing established by a local consortium. Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center, WORKS, CitiBank and others joined together to build Teague Terrace, housing for people with developmental disabilities, veterans and homeless folks. This video captures a few scenes from move in day. Revised Housing resources list ◆ Staff reviewed the LA Office Housing Resource List to update and add information. The revised list was posted on Facebook. ◆ Staff received Rural Housing Resource Information from fellow SCDD staff and the information was sent via email to our rural communities and agencies. 	

Goal #12	Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff was asked by the Regional Center to participate on their Request for Proposal (RFP) Committee for a Specialized Residential Facility (SRF) for children with ID/DD with co-occurring mental illness. Staff participated in the first RFP process which involved the review, interview and selection of the housing provider. Staff participated in the second portion of the RFP process which is focusing on the service provider. Staff has reviewed the proposals and will be part of the the committee who determines which provider, if any, will be awarded the start-up monies. Interviews scheduled for early November. ◆ Staff collaborated alongside local non-profit, Foundation for Affordable Housing (FFAH), to influence future housing developments they have pending to ensure the needs of individuals with I/DD will be represented. FFAH works alongside State, County, and Local Housing Authorities through the construction, acquisition, & operation of low-income/senior housing. The resident services at the facility will focus on I/DD and VA populations. ◆ Staff participates with The Behavioral Health and Recovery Board who discussed creating new ad hoc committees and identify 2016 Brown Act compliant tasks for each committee. North Coast staff was reappointed to the housing committee for 2016 that will oversee the progress of the Rural Community Housing Development Corp. housing projects in Mendocino County. North Coast staff is assisting the committee to advocate for more accessible housing and discouraging Not-In-My-Back-Yard (NIMBY)-ism. ◆ Staff in collaboration with Housing Choices Coalition attended a public hearing on housing of special needs populations hosted by the Santa Clara County Housing Authority. At the meeting the needs of those with developmental disability were clarified and because of the unique attributes of this community housing needs are not similar to other populations that often face homelessness. Nonetheless the housing needs of the IDD community are critical. SCDD is identified as a stake holder and will participate in future planning meetings. ◆ Staff posted on Facebook a call from the Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing to oppose the proposed cuts to the federally-funded HOME program, the primary source of funding for low-income housing development. ◆ Staff attended the Nonprofit and Affordable Housing Symposium hosted by the California State Board of Equalization. The purpose was to become more informed about the current state of affordable housing development as well as the process and challenges in developing affordable housing. Additionally SCDD Staff sought out information on pending or possible legislation that would impact the development of affordable housing though very little was discussed in this area and questions about it did not yield useful information. However, it is evident that the demise of the Community Redevelopment Agency and several other cost-saving measures taken several years ago by California have had a devastating effect on the development of affordable housing. Additionally, federal monies from the HOME program, a significant share of affordable housing funding, are under constant threat of being discontinued by our current congress. Finally, staff learned about the complexity of utilizing multiple funding mechanisms to finance affordable housing development. It 	

Goal
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Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

requires robust partnerships and expertise in multiple arenas. SCDD LA staff connected with a policy and development analyst at Neighborhood Housing Services of LA County with the hope of learning more about advocacy opportunities in this policy area.

- ◆Eblast "Rural Housing: Housing Repair Loans & Grants". The Rural Housing Repair Loans and Grants program provides loans and grants to very low-income homeowners to repair, improve, modernize, or to remove health and safety hazards in their rural dwellings. Loans are arranged for up to 20 years at 1 percent interest. Grants may be arranged for recipients who are 62 years of age or older and can be used only to pay for repairs and improvements to remove health and safety hazards. Loan/grant combinations may be arranged for applicants who can repay part of the cost. In order to be eligible for the loan program, you must be a homeowner who has very low income, and you must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who lives in a rural area. In order to be eligible for the grant program, you must meet the above requirements, and also be aged 62 years or older. Loans of up to \$20,000 and grants of up to \$7,500 are available. A real estate mortgage is required for loans of \$7,500 or more. Full title services are required for loans of \$7,500 or more. Grants may be recaptured if the property is sold in less than three years. Loans and grants can be combined for up to \$27,500 in assistance. To apply for a loan or grant online or you may contact your State's Rural Development field office
- ◆The Behavioral Health and Recovery Board reappointed SCDD Staff from the North Coast office to the housing committee. As part of this activity staff is following the progress of the low income housing projects in the county. The 42 unit project being built in Ukiah for seniors and disabled by an out of county non-profit is moving forward. There were 20 board members and family advocates and 5 self advocates at the board meeting. The 42 unit project is in the phase of notifying the public of the intent to build. We have had clients interested in the application process and staff has followed up with the company to see what their application process is and when applications will be accepted for the 42 units. Funding for the development of the Tiny House Project is being provided by county redevelopment funds. The Tiny House project is in the initial stages of acquiring funding from the county and received 1,000,15,000 and going through the County Planning Zoning and Building Department approval process. This funds will build the main center with bathroom and showers an office space for managers. Redwood Quality Management Corporation, the lead agency in the Tiny House project, brought the proposal to the Behavioral Health and Recovery Board to get support and funding for the project. The Rural Community Housing Development Corp. is also being funded with 1.3 million to provide housing for special needs and individuals and families with mental illness. They are currently looking for match funds through state and federal resources and tax credits and are hoping to find matches up to 4.6 million. A piece of property owned by the City of Ukiah and located in Ukiah is being considered as a trade for a piece of property that the Rural Community Housing Development Corp. owns. This would help with funding the match as well as providing a new housing project in Mendocino County. The land has already been approved for housing units

Goal #12	Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.
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and was paid for by redevelopment funds. The contractor filed bankruptcy and the city now owns the property so is a perfect trade as it meets all federal and state requirements for HUD housing. Staff will oversee the progress of the three new Rural Community Housing Development Corp. housing projects in Mendocino County for 2016. North Coast staff is assisting the board and the housing committee to advocate for more accessible housing and discouraging NIMBYISM.

- ◆ Staff attended a public hearing on the City of San Jose housing plan known as Envision. The housing needs of the IDD community are critical. SCDD attended to insure that members of the task force are aware of the housing needs of the community. Housing is extremely limited for individuals with developmental disability and other low income communities. The Developmental Services System does not have a suitable statewide plan to attend to the housing needs of our community.

Goal #13	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff was approached by a branch manager from the San Jose Public Library regarding initiating a library program targeting adults with developmental disabilities. The library has a great deal of interest in offering education and activities to individuals with I/DD as part of their library programming. Staff agreed to assist with both outreach as well as providing training to (a) library employees regarding disability awareness and (b) individuals with I/DD on self-advocacy. ◆ Staff attended the ACRC Board of Directors meeting on Nov. 19th to collaborate and stay informed about services and supports in our 10-county catchment area. Phil Bonnet, Executive Director presented and reported on the contents of ACRC's contract with the Department of Developmental Services noting that ACRC is within the states average in all goal areas. Also, in his report was Governor Brown's decision to link future funding to the imposition of a Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax stating this is a matter of great concern for advocates of the regional center system and ACRC's nearly 300,000 consumers. Mr. Bonnet explained ACRC's current status with the Self Determination program, reporting that the Department of Developmental Services has submitted the required paperwork to CMS and thus far CMS has not rejected nor returned the waiver. ACRC staff have been updated on Self Determination to date and an informational flier on Self Determination was presented at the meeting. The flier was developed by the ACRC Self Determination Advisory Committee. The community placement plan (CPP) unit is continuing it's development planning due to consumers moving from Sonoma Developmental Center. ACRC has been awarded significant funding from DDS through CPP to develop new resources for consumers who require special arrangements in order to be treated. ◆ E-blast was sent to self and family advocates informing the community of an upcoming Holiday Dance at Sunnyvale Parks and Recreation as well as a list of communications and behavior training for families through the KIDPOWER organization and finally note about grants being made available to low income families for Apple iPads. ◆ Staff presented an introduction to the ABLE Act to 15 families receiving services from a local provider. ◆ The Annual Community Winter Formal committee met on November 17, 2015 from 3:00-5:00pm at Clovis Unified School District. The meeting covered topics such as the facility, food, registration, invitations, pictures, volunteers and decoration. The main purpose of the meeting was for all agencies to give updates on the status of the services they were providing. Everyone reported that they were on track. The only concern was that attendance might be down this year due to the fact that The Winter Formal was on a Thursday night this year. In prior years The Winter Formal Event was held on Friday night. Each agency was given a copy of the guidelines to be adhered to regarding the rental of the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building. Our office staff will participate on the day of the event by arriving for set up prior to the event as well as helping serve meals to approximately 300-400 consumers during 	

Goal #13	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.
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the event, and clean-up. The Winter Formal will be held on December 17th, 2015 at the Clovis Veterans Memorial Building from 5:00-9:00pm. The cost will be \$17 per person with Dinner, Dancing and Pictures included. Sponsors include The ARC Fresno/Madera Counties, Patch Farms, Central Valley Regional Center, Central California Mennonite Residential Services, Wayfinders Fresno State, Clovis Unified School District, East Fresno Kiwanis, EPU, Tahoe Joes, Kyko Photography, and Family Options.

- ◆At the Bi-Monthly meeting of the Developmental Disability Provider Network numerous organizations share information about upcoming events and discuss issues that affect the community of service recipients. As an ex officio member, staff reported on the upcoming Leading the Charge Conference and the speakers that will be doing presentations. Information about possible legislative issues was discussed, as well as the future of the Legislative Forum typically organized for the spring, prior to the release of the Governor's May revised budget.
- ◆Staff organized a presentation on Down Syndrome and disability awareness to the 25 7th grade (regular education) children at the private Sacramento Waldorf School. The teacher had approached us and asked if we could present about disabilities to her class. Dennis Curry, Program Director of Employment Plus, and Richard, a self-advocate with Down Syndrome, presented a video called "Getting Down, 101 on Down Syndrome" that their program developed. After the video, Richard, Dennis, and SCDD staff talked about what Down Syndrome is and how it affects children and adults. The focus was on how we are all more alike than we are different. The class was very attentive and asked many good questions. 4 of these students will be selected to assist with refreshments at the 2015 Award Recognition Celebration on November 19th. They will also study the stories of the 10 individuals who are receiving awards. A handout on Down Syndrome facts was shared.
- ◆E-blasts about the San Diego People First Quarterly meeting and upcoming event information; the San Diego Community College District College 2 Career Open House information; Downs Syndrome Association Comedy Ball, "How to Start a Business" offered by Able/Disabled; registration information on the Leading the Charge conference sponsored by the Developmental Disability Provider Network; the Little Hoover Commission meeting regarding dental services; Introduction to Launching a Not for Profit Organization/Business offered by the Disabled Businessperson Association; the 10 for 10 Rally in Sacramento; a walk to raise awareness of 22q Deletion; and a Gingerbread Kids Event sponsored by the Epilepsy Foundation.
- ◆Staff of the North Coast office has been collaborating with other agencies and the recreation center to facilitate the use of the center for Day Programs serving intellectually and intellectually disabled. The First 5 program is allowing the programs to use their space to provide recreation activities to watch movies, play games, do karaoke, have a sign language class, and do arts and crafts. Other fun activities include ping pong, soccer, basketball, futbol, volley ball and more. The current

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collaborators are Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center, ABC Program, Ukiah Valley Association for Habilitation, Northern CA Adaptive Living Program and another program is considering joining in. We have been meeting twice a month to get this activity going. At any given time about 15 to 20 individuals will join in a variety of activities from a variety of programs that serve the disabled in our community. The groups will use the building once a week for a few hours and the rental cost would be \$250 per use but First 5 is allowing them to use it for free. The clients will also be helping to clean the site once a week to keep debris, bottles and cans and garbage from around the center. The cost of the rent would be about \$1,200 per month or \$14,400 per year but clients will be cleaning the grounds in exchange for use. More programs will use the facility as the word gets out. The project is in the initial phase and begins the first week of December.

- ◆ Staff attended the Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative/IEDC held at Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino County. The collaborative has hundreds of members made up of self and family advocates along with professional agencies that work to assist individuals with all disabilities navigate the system, utilize resources and have better access to the community. During the meeting SCDD, San Bernardino office staff was asked to present information regarding SCDD during "Spotlight your Agency" portion of the meeting. Along with providing the general overview of SCDD, staff went into detail regarding the specific community outreach training events the San Bernardino office provides and distributed 30 flyers listing the types of training topics with SCDD contact information.
- ◆ Staff participates on the IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee. At this meeting the big topic of discussion was about the recent changes made by the state in regards to paying overtime wages again. Last year OT was taken away for IHSS providers. Since its coming back the committee wanted information about how public authority (PA) would be informing Providers and telling them know what they need to know. We discussed an outreach plan and committee members provided the Public authority (PA) with input and suggestions.
- ◆ Staff participated in the monthly In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee meeting. The committee finalized review of the Aging and Independence and Public Authority roles and responsibilities. A very informative presentation on dementia and Alzheimer's was given. Status of the Fair Labor Standards Act regarding overtime, travel time and medical time waiting was given by the executive director of the Public Authority. Staff gave a report on the monthly In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance teleconference call. Those in attendance were: Public Authority, Aging and Independence Services, consumers and providers.
- ◆ Staff was contacted by self advocates, family advocates, and others for assistance on these issues: A support staff requested guidance on obtaining occupational therapy and speech therapy for 3 adult self advocates. SCDDNB staff provided information on providers and pursuing funding using Impairment Related Work Expenses if Medi-Cal denied these services. A self advocate asked for information about

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reporting income to social security. Staff provided information about the local SSA office and provided resource information from DRC and www.DB101.org. A staff person asked for information on supporting self advocacy. Staff provided this information: Boardsmanship: http://www.dds.ca.gov/ConsumerCorner/docs/Boardsmanship_Eng.pdf CMS: <http://autisticadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Guide-for-Advocates-and-Families.pdf> Leading a meeting & meeting prep: <http://pacific-alliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/FantasticFacilitation.pdf>

- ◆ Staff participated in Regional Center of the East Bay's Request for Proposal process by discussing potential service providers to be interviewed for new community group homes who would be serving individuals moving out of the Sonoma Developmental Center. RCEB requested proposals for 10 projects looking to serve the adult movers from Sonoma Developmental Center. Staff was part of the team that scored the proposals for the 10 projects. Staff collaborated with RCEB clinicians and community placement staff along with a representative from Sonoma Developmental Center. The team discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the potential service providers to narrow the field and decide who should be asked to come in for interviews.
- ◆ Staff attended the monthly meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Disability Collaborative on November 12, 2015. The San Gabriel Valley Disabilities Collaborative consists of service organizations from all over the San Gabriel Valley who are all dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities and seniors. The collaborative meets the second Thursday of each month. At this meeting Ben Green from the American Red Cross presented on disaster preparedness for people with access and mobility access issues. The next meeting will be held on December 10, 2015.
- ◆ Staff participated on grant review and scoring committee to award grants totaling \$104,000 to local nonprofit agencies that provide public transportation services to people with disabilities and elders.
- ◆ Staff provided technical assistance to 6 regarding generic services such as DSS, Medical, & EDD. 7 calls where RSVP to upcoming trainings. On Regional Center related matters: 6 calls where referred to OCRA , 2 DRC & 1 T.A.S.K. On Educational matters: 1 call was referred to OCRA 2 calls referred to T.A.S.K 1 call was sent via USPS IEP material, 1 call emailed OCRA & T.A.S.K brochures.
- ◆ Staff participated in the monthly tele-conference of the Paratransit Riders' Coalition (PRC). There was a much welcome update about a federal transportation funding bill (H.R. 3763) which passed through the Senate and then was modified in the House early this month. It is expected to go to Conference Committee in late November. The issue of making an exception to large paratransit entities representing more than 40 municipalities (such as Los Angeles) and allowing them to maintain a coordinated 2-tier fare (a ruling which Los Angeles has been seeking from FTA) was rolled into this non-controversial transit bill. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D - CA 32nd District) is credited with getting this included in the bill. Riders have been seeking this outcome for months and are hopeful it might be

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signed by the President by the end of this year. This would avert the complicated dynamic fare system which would be implemented by Access Paratransit on 1/1/16 if a resolution to this ADA-non-compliance issue is not found. There was additional discussion about customer service rudeness, shared ride problems, Access' complaint investigation process, and ways to get more riders involved in the PRC.

- ◆ Staff participated in the Bi-Monthly Vendor Advisory Committee on Thursday, November 19th, 2015. The San Diego Regional Center provided an update on their budget and fiscal issues, stating that they have been able to provide an increase to the pay provided their staff. While members of the committee understand the necessity, there was some conversation regarding the need in the provider community to do the same. It was stated that during the 2016/2017 CA budget year there is a billion dollar deficit likely. The Overtime issue regarding IHSS and supported living staff was discussed, as DDS is withholding the money that was earmarked to supplement provider rates to cover this expense until February, even though the law went into effect on October 13, 2015. Additional conversation was held regarding the impact the increase in minimum wage will have beginning January, 2015, an update on the Leading the Charge Conference was provided by Staff, as well as an update on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities leadership changes.
- ◆ E-blast of the Stanislaus Public Transit un-met needs hearings- the flyer was in English and Spanish and was emailed to our email list that included VMRC, Family Resource Network and the Self Advocacy Council 6 (SAC6)
- ◆ Staff participated in Alta California Regional Center's Santa day December 18, 2015. There were 500 people in attendance to enjoy food, fun, holiday festivities, and a picture with Santa. This annual event is organized by Alta California Regional Center. SCDD staff assisted in the preparation as well as with the games for all who came to celebrate. Many consumers, their families and service providers were in attendance. Cookie decorating, face painting, a visit from Santa, and playing games are a few ways to get in the festive spirit this holiday season and Alta Regional Center provided that for anyone who wanted to attend the "Holiday Party".
- ◆ Staff researched the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) as they have at their core a partnership between an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and an Independent Living Center (ILC), as well as other organizations depending on specifics of the local community. These Core Partners are joined by a network of "extended" partners. Collectively, ADRC partner organizations become recognized as sources of comprehensive, trusted, and objective information, counseling, and assistance. ADRC's empower consumers to consider all options, make informed decisions, and access community long term services and supports (LTSS) that help them meet their personal goals for independence – regardless of the source of financing (Med-Cal, Medicare, private insurance, federal or state-funded programs or consumer fees). While California's ADRC designation criteria place considerable emphasis on the importance of localism, ADRC partners are expected to meet these

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- criteria relative to ADRC services to consumers and the basic ADRC structural features.
- ◆ Several agencies including the SCDD along with The ARC Fresno/Madera Counties and Central Valley Regional Center coordinated the Community Winter Formal "Winter Wonderland" event. 367 Individuals attended the Winter Formal 40 of the participants were non-disabled peers. This event was unique in that many of the purchases made for this event were purchased from agencies that promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The poinsettias that were used to decorate the tables came from Patch Farms. Patch Farms is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide individuals with developmental disabilities an interactive, agricultural experience to cultivate educational, employment, and social skills. Clients work the land and will plant flowers, vegetables, fruit etc. This agency was selected because of their mission.
 - ◆ Provided technical support and referrals to UCEDD-USC to help recruit presenters for a Community Education conference titled Co-Occurring Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health Issues in Transition Aged Youth focusing on stigmatization, discrimination and suicide prevention in teens and young adults with developmental disabilities. The conference is scheduled in March 2016. The following referrals were provided: 1. LA County Department of Mental Health hosted a "Saving Lives: Suicide Prevention Summit" in 2011, and you may find information on presenters at http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh/our_services/services_detail/?current=true&urile=wcm:path:/dmh+content/dmh+site/home/our+services/our+services+detail/psp+news+and+updates 2. Alma Family Services provide support and mental health services to individuals with I/DD, and they may help identify presenters covering this topic. 3. Mayra Mendez, PhD – her contact information can be accessed at <http://california.providence.org/saint-johns/find-a-doctor/m/mendez-mayra/> 4. Bruce Gale, PhD – his contact information can be accessed at www.bgalephd.com 5. Nora Baladerian, PhD – her contact can be accessed at www.norabaladerian.com
 - ◆ E-blast providing information on an upcoming presentation on Alternatives to Conservatorship, upcoming celebration on the 50th year of Lanterman Act, and an upcoming training on dementia and developmental disability. An email was sent to SCDD SV/MB mailing list about a public meeting about the City of San Jose Housing Plan called Envision. An email was sent to SCDD SV/MB provider mailing list of a request for Employment Stories that can be added to the DDS Employment First Newsletter. SCDD SV/MB sent to members on the mailing list a notice that all families of children under the age 18 were likely to receive a NCI survey and completion of the survey will be appreciated.
 - ◆ Staff attended the San Andreas Regional Center Board meeting to report progress of the SV/MB office and to participate in discussion of SARC business including the recent adoption of the SARC Employment First policy.
 - ◆ Staff emailed information on "IHSS Overtime and Related Changes," as published by Disability Rights California, to our email listserve of 1000 people. This

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announcement includes information on the new rules that will be imposed as of 2/01/2016; current issues as reported by DRC; how to contact your local assembly member, senator and Governor to push for exceptions to the new rules; and the two types of exemptions from the 66-hour week limit.

- ◆Eblast "Info on Candlelight Vigils and Resources". The Autism Society Inland Empire hosted a private candlelight vigil Friday night 6:45pm in Murrieta Town Square Park. Also provided Helpful Tips for Teens and Adults with ASD: How to talk to kids about tragedies in the media and Parent tips on death and grieving, This is in light of the events that occurred at Inland Regional Center on Dec 2, 2015.
- ◆Staff participated in the monthly In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee meeting. An update on the Fair Labor Standards Act was given explaining the most recent decisions on implementation of the OverTime, waiting time and travel time policies and procedures. Staff gave a report on the monthly California In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance conference call. Those in attendance were: Public Authority, In Home Supportive Services, consumers, local health care agencies, care providers and family members.
- ◆Staff presented to the Imperial County SELPA at their meeting on December 8, 2015. The meeting was attended by 4 parents, the SELPA Director, the Early Intervention Specialist, and a school psychologist. Staff was able to share the information and letter regarding the Quality Assurance Surveys that will be sent soon, as well as information about the upcoming series of special education trainings, and the meeting dates for the planning committee meetings for the upcoming sibling event and the parent training to be held later in the year. Additionally, staff was able to gather ideas and information from the community regarding what other types of trainings they would be interested in, which are the ABLE Act, What "Inclusion" really means, Special Needs Trusts and Conservatorships, as well as how to work with an advocate. One parent stressed the need to offer these trainings in the evenings or Saturday as well as during the day, since many people are working during the scheduled trainings. During the meeting there was a discussion of the Early Intervention Program, the ESSA Act, a Circle of Friends update, and the CAC discussed possible recommendations they wanted to make to SELPA Executive Board for Special Education improvement. Applications for membership on both the SCDD San Diego Imperial Regional Advisory Committee and the Self-Determination Advisory Committee were also distributed, and information regarding both committees was shared. Later in the week all 17 Superintendents will meet, and the SELPA Director stated that he would share all of the information provided with them at that time.
- ◆Staff participated in the development and implementation of the "Leading the Charge- the 2nd Annual Conference" Staff from other regional offices attended the conference to promote collaboration for effective services to individuals with I/DD and their families. Training topics include Changes That Promote Inclusion and Choice for Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families and Supporters; ABLE Act;

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<p>Work Innovation & Opportunity Act; Advocacy; Work Incentives Planning & Social Security; College Options for Post-secondary Education Success; ADA and the Impact on Employment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Staff participated in the 6th Annual "OC Autism Breakfast with Santa" event on Saturday, December 12. There were 1,500 people in attendance to enjoy food, fun, holiday festivities, and resource sharing. The event is organized by OC Autism, a non-profit agency created by a local Speech and Language Pathologist and BCBA. Local elected officials, including Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez and Former Senator Lou Correa were in attendance. The mission of OC Autism is to "ensure the highest standard of care in our community" through education, resources, and advocacy, especially for the minority and underserved communities. The following agencies, including SCDD, participated in the resource sharing: Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy, Law Offices of Mark Woodsmall, Regional Center of Orange County, Beacon Day School, TASK, Autism Speaks, Penny's Party Props, etc. ◆ Staff participated in the monthly tele-conference of the Paratransit Riders' Coalition (PRC). In early 2016, the PRC would like to schedule a meeting with a representative from each of the 5 sub-contractors who provide services for Access Paratransit. Much of the 12-1-15 meeting was focused on developing an agenda for such a meeting of issues common to all areas, including customer service, communication, problem-solving, late rides, and negotiated rides, among others. ◆ Staff attended the Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative/IEDC held at Indio Senior Center within Riverside County. The collaborative has hundreds of members made up of self and family advocates along with professional agencies that work to assist individuals with all disabilities navigate the system, utilize resources and have better access to the community. Some of the agencies present were Inland Empire Health Plan, IEHP, Molina Health Care, Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program/HICAP, Oasis Behavioral Health, Next Step Resources Inc., County of Riverside University Health System Behavioral Health, Justice in Aging, Riverside County Office on Aging, Riverside County Department of Social Services, Department of Rehabilitation, Guide Dogs of the Desert, Community Access Riverside County, United Cerebral Palsy and National Alliance on Mental Illness. During the meeting SCDD, San Bernardino office staff was asked to present information regarding SCDD during "Spotlight your Agency" portion of the meeting. Along with providing the general overview of SCDD, staff went into detail regarding the specific community outreach training events the office provides and distributed 22 flyers listing the types of training topics with SCDD contact information. ◆ Staff met with Team of Advocates for Special Kids/TASK within the San Bernardino regional office to discuss and have a better understanding about the types of services and supports provided by their agency and to discuss a possible collaboration on community outreach training topics within the communities we serve.

<p>Goal #14</p>	<p>Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ During a public forum, staff along with a parent spoke with a representative from Senator Monning's office as well as with Senator Jim Beall about concerns within the special education system. Senator Jim Beall shared he is currently working on strategy to resolve special education concerns and would welcome further input. ◆ Staff distributed E-Blast to 400 people on 11-14-15 to provide information about federal regulations that require the payment of overtime wages for certain home care workers. Following consultation with consumer advocates and unions representing providers, the Administration is moving forward on a variety of activities that together will enable the payment of overtime wages in biweekly payrolls for certain home care workers who work more than forty hours in a workweek beginning on February 1, 2016. These activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training the State's nearly 400,000 service providers and 500,000 home care services recipients in how to fill out and approve the new timesheets, • Implementing workweek agreements for providers serving multiple consumers, • Preparing county staff to assist with workweek agreements and resolve timesheet errors, • Finalizing changes to the automated case management and payroll system to enable overtime payments, and • Adding a new IHSS service category for accompaniment to medical appointments, and enabling payment for travel incurred while serving multiple recipients on the same day. In addition to the activities above, recipients and providers will be notified of associated program changes in advance of the February 1 date, to allow time for them to identify additional service providers if necessary. As many providers serve and are paid in more than one program under the home care service system, all programs will commence regular payment of overtime and travel on February 1, 2016. ◆ Staff participated at CLASP . Staff shared information about upcoming training opportunities available for providers about becoming more informed about Employment First and what they can do to prepare. Staff also shared information and web link for NVH newsletter and provided an update on the QA project. ◆ Eblast "ACL Seeks Comments on Independent Living Proposed Rule". The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) is now open for public comment through the Federal Register and Regulations.gov. The rule will not take effect until after all comments are reviewed and a final rule is released. This proposed rule consolidates and streamlines prior regulations and provides details regarding new requirements included in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This NPRM is a starting point, now we want to hear from you. Submit a comment by January 15, 2016 to let us know what you think of the proposed rule and how it can be improved in ways that are consistent with statute. In order for us to give thorough consideration to all public input, comments must be submitted through Regulations.gov, a fully-accessible central hub for information on the development of federal regulations. ◆ Eblast "You Can Help Shape Our Disability Policy." Social Security requesting the help from the public, They are asking for responses to an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on how we should modernize our vocational rules, which we first published in 1978. These are the rules our disability decision makers use to 	

Goal
#14

Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

decide whether a severe disabling condition can do any job in the national economy. The Social Security Act sets out a strict definition of disability. Our agency pays benefits to eligible people who can't work because of a disabling mental or physical condition expected to last at least one year or result in death. This medical condition must prevent the person from doing not only their previous work, but any other substantial work. On Friday, November 20 in Washington DC, Social Security will host a National Disability Forum. The meeting will focus on the realities of employment for individuals with severe disabling conditions, especially for those who are older, have low skills, or low education levels. The purpose is to gather insight on circumstances such as age, education, and work experience, helping us understand the effect these may have on an individual's ability to work and to adjust to other work. Comments presented during the forum, panel, and open discussion period will be included in the public record for the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rule-making, which is available in the Federal Register. To review and provide written comments, go to www.regulations.gov and enter SSA-2014-0081-0001 in the search box. Comments will be accepted until December 14.

- ◆ Staff met with the Public Authority, Social Services Director and Deputy Director of Humboldt County Social Services, to discuss the upcoming In Home Supportive Services Advisory Board meeting. It was determined that with multiple changes within the IHSS program and also the change in local leadership at the Department of Health and Human Services, Public Authority and Adult Services, the advisory group would benefit from having a "in-service" to go over details in more depth and have an open discussion on where the disabled population will face the most hurdles and how to mitigate the changes-thus preventing a risk to their health and safety in the community. Some of the items that were discussed included long/short range planning, setting goals, team building, responsibilities, participation in local and statewide activities, future outreach activities, outreach to the Latino population, newsletter idea's and utilizing the mail outs to keep the IHSS community informed of changes, care provider registry, CICA, CAPA as well as the presentations from the public Authority, Social Services Director and IHSS program updates. Staff arranged and facilitated the 4 hour meeting.
- ◆ Staff attended a legislative breakfast hosted by Central Valley Regional Center, representatives invited were State Senators: Tom Berryhill, Anthony Cannella, Andy Vidak and Jean Fuller; US Senators: Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer; Congressmen: Devin Nunes, David Valado and Jim Costa; Assembly Members: Frank Bigelow, Adam Gray, Jim Patterson, Devon Mathis, Henry T. Perea and Rudy Salas. This event was put together by Central Valley Regional Center to discuss the needs of people with disabilities and to inform the representatives about the current services, supports and on-going projects related to people with disabilities.
- ◆ Staff participated in legislative discussions hosted by Marty Omoto of CDCAN regarding the upcoming budget cycle and strategies to approach the legislators to improve funding of developmental services. Identifying more detailed understanding of crisis in services and designating funds towards those services were discussed.

Goal #14	Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.
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- ◆ Staff presented a document of emails from parents/providers around the State to the Commissioners at The Little Hoover Commission's Public Hearing on Denti-Cal at the State Capitol on November 19th. An email about the event was shared with over 12,300 individuals Statewide. About 100 people attended, representing many providers, dentists, clinics, and advocates. 3 family members and 2 consumers also attended at the invitation of SCDD staff and with some encouragement, they spoke for several minutes each during Public Comment. The public hearing included testimony from the following stakeholders: Laura Smith, President and CEO, Washington Dental Service Foundation; Dr. Jared Fine, DDS, MPH, Former Dental Health Administrator, Alameda County Public Health Department; Nina Machado, ED, First 5 Amador; Dr. David J Stone, Pediatrician, Sutter Amador Pediatrics Center; Mindy Epperson, RN, Sutter Amador Pediatrics Center; Billi Millwee, Former Texas Medicaid Director; Dr. Rosa Arzu, DDS, AltaMed Health Services; Sean South, Assoc. Director, California Primary Care Assoc.; Dr. Paul Glassman, DDS, Professor of Dental Practice and Director of Community Oral Health, University of the Pacific School of Dentistry. About 20 members of the public spoke. The focus of this hearing was to learn about projects in various counties or states that were successful. The Commission wants to explore all options for ideas to improve California's service delivery system.
- ◆ Staff maintains a Facebook Page to connect with our local community and inform them of resources, trainings, legislative issues, policy changes, and various issues pertaining to people with I/DD and their families in our 10-county catchment area. 8 posts were made this month which were seen by a total of 1,953 individuals. We currently have 270 followers to our page. Posts were in the following topic areas: Special Education (1), Health (2), Policy (1), Recreation (2), Transition (1), Disabilities (1), Employment (1). Some examples of posts include: Futures Explored Film crew, Special Ed Advocate, KVIE TV Arts Showcase, Caring and Competence Conference, Education Department - Announces New Guidance to help Students with Disabilities and ACRC /SCDD Awards Ceremony.
- ◆ Staff attended a meeting of Westside Regional Center's Political Action Committee on 11/4/15, provided technical support, and promoted the Council's key policy objectives and the "10%" agenda. Council staff also promoted the Council's goals, services, and mission at this meeting and provided an announcement regarding the state budget's impending release.
- ◆ Staff shared Able Act fact sheet with Supported Living Vendors via email. Approximately 300 staff will receive the information and it will be shared with consumers.
- ◆ Staff was contacted by Joel Reyna, field rep for Assemblymember Eggman. He wanted information of local private schools that utilized the ABA model and services for a constituent. He was wanting to learn more about this in our area. I sent him an email with the information which is contained on the next page of this report.
- ◆ Staff participated in a legislative discussion hosted by Marty Omoto of CDCAN regarding the upcoming budget cycle and strategies to approach the legislators to

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improve funding of developmental services. Identifying more detailed understanding of crisis in services and designating funds towards those services were discussed.

- ◆ Staff participated in a webinar on the Second Extraordinary Session, Conference Committee on SBX2 2 and ABX2 1 regarding the Managed Care Organization Tax. Speakers included Senator Ed Hernandez, O.D. and Assemblymember Rob Bonta, Chairs; Felix Su, Legislative Analyst; Mari Cantwell, Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs (DHCS); Nick Louizos, VP of Legislative Affairs, Calif. Assoc. of Health Plans; Senator Holly Mitchell. There were 112 people listening in on this webinar. MCO Tax includes complex issues. MCO tax is where states impose taxes on healthcare providers. Mentioned were Federal Government Rules: 1. tax should be broad based; 2. tax should be uniform; and 3. The state cannot provide assurances what they would be paid back. MCO tax "structure" is an issue. There are two options, Tiered and Flat Tax. Tiered Tax raises equability issues as it taxes different plans but brings in more revenue. Flat Tax would tax \$5.56, a uniform rate on enrollment meaning the whole industry pays more. Issue mentioned with the Flat Tax is that it doesn't tax medical enough, resulting in less revenue. Protections proposed of the MCO tax to help assure its success: 1. 3-year sunset; 2. Fed. Gov. approves tax before collected; and 3. Funding to improve program not supplant current services. 4. Departments cannot raise the tax w/o going to legislature. The Assoc. of Health Plans hopes for Federal (CMS) approval of the MCO Tax. Assoc. of Health Plans states that the funds due to increase rates for providers would be used for program improvement.
- ◆ Staff participated on the webinar "Parent, Peer, and Family Certification: Providing Support to Other Families" hosted by USC UCEDD. This webinar, presented by Michael Beebe, Director of Public Policy and Research at United Advocates for Children and Families, covered the peer certification accreditation for parents, family members, consumers, and youth with lived experience in the mental health, alcohol/drug abuse, foster care, juvenile justice, and special education system. It discussed the Peer Certification Bill (SB 614), what certification entails, and using the certification to provide support to others.

<p>Goal #15</p>	<p>Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to information and resources in ways that reflect their language and cultural preferences.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆Staff in collaboration with the Disparity Task Force put together a database of parent groups within the four counties of the Monterey regional office. The data will be helpful for outreach purposes. At a financial planning training held among the Vietnamese training, a recruitment flyer was distributed to participants in an effort to improve representation of Vietnamese community members on the Disparity Task Force. ◆Staff met with leaders of the African American Community at a leadership meeting. SCDD staff discussed best methods of outreach to the community in a culturally informed way. ◆Staff attended and managed a resource table at the Annual Tercera Conferencia Educativa Del Sur Del Condado in Soledad. Families were informed of SCDD services, system's navigation, and rights. SCDD staff gave a training that was translated into Spanish about the Complaint and Fair Hearing process for Special Education. Staff also assisted with a presentation on Self Determination. ◆Staff hosted a training for the Orange County chapter of Fiesta Educativa on Social Security Disability Benefits, presented by the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy. The training focused on SSI eligibility, the rules for maintaining SSI benefits, and an overview of SSDI benefits. ◆Staff conducted a training on "Behavior Strategies in Special Education" for the Orange County chapter of Fiesta Educativa, an agency founded in California in 1978 to inform and assist Latino families in obtaining services. This training focused on requesting behavior assessments, timelines, common behaviors and replacement techniques/strategies, behavior services, suspension, and expulsion. ◆Staff participated in the planning and implementation of the FERIA conference for Spanish speaking parents who have a child with special needs. The theme for the conference will be "The Voices of Latino Families: Empowering Educators and Families, Children and Youth with Special Needs". The conference was a success with 250 for people in attendance. ◆Staff provided training on self-determination to ELARC's family advisory committee. The presentation was interpreted into both Spanish and Chinese. The handout was also provided in Spanish. ◆Staff posted on Facebook two articles about multi-cultural issues and disability Proyecto Visión — World Institute on Disability: Proyecto Visión, the first national technical assistance center to increase employment opportunities for Latinos with disabilities. And, Racial health disparities start early in life – Futurity. ◆Staff and the Inclusion Institute initiated discussions with Fiesta Educativa and Fuerza about co-sponsoring a seminar in February 2016 just for Spanish speakers about Self-Determination. Both agencies agreed to co-sponsor it. A phone conference was held with a representative of each organization on 11/20/15 to discuss details related to location, creating a flyer, promoting the seminar, etc. The group will meet again in December to finalize plans. Although the SCDD L.A. office and the Inclusion Institute have held previous seminars on Self-Determination with Spanish translation provided, there have been few requests. By partnering with these organizations who 	

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primarily serve Spanish speakers, we hope to bring this important and timely information to many more underserved people and families.

- ◆ Staff participates on the Monterey Bay Regional Office Disparity Taskforce which met to report on its ongoing projects, including researching the promotora model, scheduling video shoots for the training program being developed, and coordinating attendance at the upcoming meetings about 2015 SARC Disparity Report. The most recent regional center disparity report indicates those from non-white and bi-lingual communities receives purchase of services is ~33% of the white community. To address the need SCDD has formed a disparity task force to review the need and develop an action plan to attend the issue.
- ◆ Staff and another member of the Disparity Task Force spoke with staff and instructors at the Middlebury Institute, a post-graduate language university. Arrangements were made for SCDD SV/MB to be available to accept requests for interpretation and arrange for translation services for organizations in the Monterey Bay Area. SCDD will coordinate requests and assist as appropriate with any necessary arrangements. Middlebury stated, they are likely to offer assistance for two to four events over the course of an academic year.
- ◆ Staff in collaboration with the Disparity put together a database of parent groups within the four counties. The data base was shared with members of the task force and those on the data base. Those receiving the database were asked to review and make any necessary corrections. Once reviewed, SCDD will forward the database to the provider community and its larger mailing list.
- ◆ Staff participated on the The Fiesta Educativa Advisory Committee which met to finish last minute details for the Fiesta Navidena event on Friday, December 11. Fiesta Navidena is a free event to families that have a child with a disability. They offer gifts to the children, live entertainment, and advocacy resources for parents. Fiesta Educativa was founded in California in 1978 to inform and assist Latino families in obtaining services and in caring for their children with special needs. Fiesta Educativa was formed by family members and professionals who recognized the need to provide assistance and advocacy to these Spanish-speaking families. As an ongoing collaboration between the two agencies in an effort to serve monolingual Spanish-speaking families in Orange County, the SCDD Orange County Office hosts all of Fiesta Educativa's parent support group and committee meetings.
- ◆ SCDD staff met with the Fiesta Educativa Coordinator to recap the December 11 Fiesta Navidena event that drew in 350 monolingual Spanish-speaking parents and children with disabilities. While the event was better organized this year, the increased expense of catering/food and the lack of private donations resulted in a net loss. At the upcoming Advisory Committee meeting, the Fiesta Educativa Orange County Coordinator will ask that all members increase their participation in seeking out private and store donations in an attempt to break even for the next annual event in 2016. Each year, the Orange County chapter of Fiesta Educativa host a toy giveaway, music, and holiday festivities for monolingual Spanish-speaking families and their children with disabilities. SCDD Orange County office is on the

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Fiesta Educativa Advisory Committee and helped plan this event. The event resulted in a net loss due to the lack of donations and increased event costs (primarily associated with food). If additional funding is not generated for the upcoming year, Fiesta Educativa Orange County may have to scale back the event to something smaller and hence, serving less children. Several of the families who attend Fiesta Navidena are low-income and this event gives them an opportunity to get free gifts for their children, a nice meal, and connects them to local resources who may be able to help them year-round.

- ◆ Each year, the Orange County chapter of Fiesta Educativa host a toy giveaway, music, and holiday festivities for monolingual Spanish-speaking families and their children with disabilities. SCDD Orange County office is on the Fiesta Educativa Advisory Committee and helped plan this event. There were 350 parents and children in attendance and 10 resource vendors, (1) Regional Center of Orange County, (2) Law Offices of Edwin Egelsee, (3) Premier Healthcare Services, (4) GSG Respite Services, (5) State Farm Insurance, (6) Disability Rights California, (7) Melaluca, (8) H&R Block, (9) Sergio Moya, and (10) Fiesta Educativa.
- ◆ Staff translated "Parents Support Brochure" developed by Los Angeles Regional Office into Chinese to outreach to Asian parents with children ages 0 to 3 with developmental delay. The brochure provides information in Chinese on how to access the needed services via Family Resource Centers within the seven Regional Centers in LA County, or other available supporting organization/agencies.
- ◆ Staff continue to coordinate efforts to present a seminar on Self-Determination for Spanish speakers, co-sponsored by Fuerza, Fiesta Educativa and the Inclusion Institute. A date has been set for February 27, 2016. Fiesta Educativa is working on finalizing a venue and creating a simply-worded flyer in Spanish. Fuerza will assist with RSVP's in Spanish. All organizations will help promote the event beginning next month. The SCDD L.A. office staff also began discussions with FUERZA about conducting a similar presentation on Self-Determination for Asian-language speakers. The FUERZA representative will bring the idea to the Opening Doors Multi-Cultural Coalition's January meeting which includes representatives from the Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese communities. A possible date of March 19, 2016 will be suggested. FUERZA already has a room rented for that date and is willing to use it for this purpose.