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STATEWIDE SELF ADVOCACY NETWORK MEETING INFORMATION



DATE: Wednesday, March 4 and Thursday, March 5, 2015



TIME: Wednesday, March 4th, 2015 10:00 am-5pm
Thursday, March 5th, 2015 9:30am-3:00pm



WHERE: Hawthorne Suites
321 Bercut Drive
Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 441-1200

Toll Free Call in Number: 1-800-839-9416
Participant Code 8703085

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in the meeting, should contact Thomas J. Johnson at State Council on Developmental Disabilities 1507 21st Street, Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95811 or by phone: 916-322-4302 or Email: thomas.johnson@scdd.ca.gov Requests must be received by 5 pm, on Thursday, February 25, 2015



AGENDA FOR DAY 1

March 4, 2015
10:00am-5:00pm



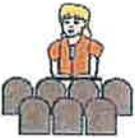
Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions
Cheryl Hewitt, Chairperson



Review and Approval of Agenda
Cheryl Hewitt, Chairperson
ACTION



Lanterman Coalition Presentation
Tony Anderson
ACTION



Public Comment
Public comment is welcome. Comment on agenda items is taken as they are discussed.



Review and Approval of Minutes Dec 2014
Cheryl Hewitt, Chairperson
ACTION



SCDD Update
Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director

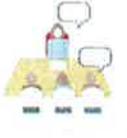


Lunch – 90 minutes. On Your Own



Member Action Reports

All
Discussion



SCDD Report
David Forderer
ACTION



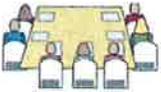
Break



SCDD Employment First Committee (EFC) Update
Kecia Weller, Employment First Committee Chairperson
Discussion



Nominations for Secretary
ACTION



Members Meeting



5:00 Adjourn



AGENDA FOR DAY 2

March 5, 2015
9:30am-3:00pm



Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions
Cheryl Hewitt, Chairperson



Review of Agenda
Cheryl Hewitt, Chairperson
Discussion



Public Comment
Public comment is welcome. Comment on agenda items is taken as they are discussed.



Candidate Speeches and Vote for Secretary
ALL
ACTION



Legislative Update
Bob Giovati, SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Planning
Nelly Nieblas, SCDD Legislation and Communication Manager



Capitol Action Day and YO! Presentation
Kirk Aranda, CFILC's Youth Organizer



Lunch – 90 minutes. On Your Own



Workgroups Meet
ACTION



Workgroups Report back to SSAN with Action Plans
ACTION



Review Member Action Plans/Assignments
SSAN Officers



Input for next SSAN Meeting
ALL



3:00pm Adjourn



Sharing Your Story

People With Developmental Disabilities

The Lanterman Coalition is a group of people that care about services for people with developmental disabilities living in California. The group agrees that vendors and regional centers are not paid enough to keep the system running well. More money is needed to help people with developmental disabilities to live in the community. We need you to tell Legislators how important this is. Here are some ideas about how to do that.

Telling Your Story

You can share your story in a meeting, a hearing, or a letter. You want to help the Legislators to see your point and what's important to you. Here are the steps to do this:

1. Thank the Legislator for their time.
2. Tell a little bit about the need for more money for services and give two examples from your own life.
3. Ask the Legislator to remember you when they vote.
4. Thank them again.

What to Talk About

Formulate an idea and in your own words explain why services from vendors and regional centers are important to you. Here are some ideas for things you might want to talk about. It's best to talk about only one or two of these each time:

- *It's better when the people working with you don't change all the time.*
Sometimes, the people who work with you have to find a different job that pays more money. Tell about a time that you have had support staff quit because they needed to make more money.
- *The services you get help you to be independent.*
Regional center and provider services help people to live more independently. Talk about how your services help you to live the life you want and deserve and make life more efficient for you.
- *It's important for you to keep getting services that you like.*
Sometimes, a day program or other service closes because it doesn't have enough money to stay open. If this has happened to you, talk about a time that you had to change services because the service provider went out of business.
- *The services you get help you live where you want.*
Tell the Legislator about how help that you get at home helps you to live more independently or on your own.
- *People you care about get help to work.*
Talk about a friend with a developmental disability that has a better life because of the help they get to work through supported employment.

We need your help. Your advocacy matters! Your story is powerful. This is your chance to improve your services.

*After you tell your story, please let us know how it went! Send an email to info@lantermancoalition.org and tell us **who you talked to** and **how it went**.*



Ten Things You Can Do (Individuals)

The Lanterman Coalition, made up of the 21 major stakeholders in California’s community-based developmental service system, is uniting around a single critical goal. Years of underfunding, cuts, rate freezes, old funding formulas, and inflation have hurt service providers and regional centers’ ability to ensure people with developmental disabilities and their families get the services and supports they need. To fix this, our system needs a 10% across-the-board funding increase now, and 5% increases yearly, until funding for provider rates and regional center services is reformed.

Your advocacy matters! Our system is facing a monumental challenge. It’s big, it’s complicated, and there are a lot of moving parts. But we have to start somewhere, and a 10% budget increase for our system is the first step the Lanterman Coalition is rallying around. To make that – and comprehensive reform – happen, we need you to stand up for people with developmental disabilities, their families, service providers, and regional centers. The system that supports people to live in communities of their choosing needs you. Every voice throws light on a part of this common problem we are facing, and we need you to let your light shine!

1) *Connect with your Legislator*

Unless you know who represents you, they won’t know they represent you! Look them up online, and you can learn the names of your Senator and Assemblymember. Once you know who to contact, do so! Send an email, write a letter, or make a call. Tell them what matters to you – in this case, supporting the Lanterman Coalition’s budget reform request. If you’re on Twitter or Facebook, consider sharing your message with your representatives directly! Respectful but honest tweets or Facebook posts can provide great ways to help your voice be heard.

2) *Ask your Legislator to talk to Senator Beall about his funding request*

Looking for a specific request that can help identify supporters of this reform effort? Senator Beall has authored a letter to Governor Brown asking him to make developmental services funding a priority. Ask your Legislator, whenever you contact them, to talk to Senator Beall about his letter, and ask him how they can help.

3) *Meet your Legislator at their district office*

You know who represents you, and you’ve told them what you care about. But how much more of an impact does it make when you meet someone in person? A lot more! This can, in an instant, change you from a statistic into a friend – a real person with real stories, not just another person on the other side of a screen. Yes, letters count... but this type of meeting can make a lifelong impression. Contact their office and tell them you’d like to meet with the Legislator. When you get a meeting set, three things will help it be a success: know what you want to talk about (supporting the 10% budget

increase and talking to Senator Beall about his leadership in developmental services), be respectful (of them and their time), and follow up with a thank you.

4) Participate in an event they are sponsoring

Legislators – and candidates – will often have public meetings. “Office hours” at a local coffee shop, town halls, meet-the-candidate forums, and other events are all great places to meet with the people who represent you, and tell them about why Lanterman Act services and supports matter to you. Find out about these events by signing up for their mailing lists, following them on Twitter, or “liking” them on Facebook.

5) Invite them to meet you – have a site visit!

If you are looking for the one way to have the biggest impact, a site visit is it. You’ll get to meet your legislator, talk to them about what our system needs, and show them how Lanterman Act services and supports help people live fuller, more independent lives. This takes a bit more work, but it builds on everything above, and starts with contacting their office to extend an invitation.

6) Tell the press

Letters to the editor may seem old-fashioned, but they still have an impact, and can be done online. By getting your views out to the community, people around you will start to learn about your issues, and then care about them. People with developmental disabilities are our friends, our family, our co-workers, ourselves – and we are all part of our local communities. Write to your local paper and let your community know why something as abstract as a 10% increase for developmental services would have such a concrete effect on you!

7) Contact local journalists

So you’ve written in – but are you talking with, or talk to the local media? Contacting your local media outlets, particularly if there is a story coming up, can be a great way for your stories and lives to be shared with the public. Our issues regularly connect to timely, relevant news stories. When journalists know you, they can talk to you. And when they do, your story can become part of the bigger picture – or if may just become a story of its own!

8) Tell your friends and family

Can you tell ten of your friends, family members, or even neighbors about this effort, and ask them to join in? This message isn’t just about you, it’s about all of us. Something as simple as directly, politely asking someone for their help can have a profound impact.

9) Keep your network informed

Does social media have a place in your life? Share your story, and tell about this campaign, online! Facebook posts, tweets, and even Tumblr or other blog platforms can be a great way to spread the word. A list of Lanterman Coalition members with active Twitter accounts is at the bottom; you can start by connecting with them!

10) Keep yourself – and the community – informed!

Go to www.lantermancoalition.org to get the latest news. Also, while this is a grassroots push, any feedback you have will help us all better focus our work. Have any questions? Get a Legislator to send [a letter like Senator Beall’s](#)? Learn that they have a family member with a developmental disability? Told directly that this isn’t their priority? Sharing the intel will let us ensure everyone – including you – can make best use of their time and talents! Please go to www.lantermancoalition.org/contact and drop us a line!

The advocacy of individuals and families like you is how our system was created. And with that same advocacy, it can be renewed!

P.S. Please keep in touch, and let us know how it went! Go to www.lanterncoalition.org to get the latest news. Also, while this is a grassroots push, any feedback you have will help us all better focus our work. Have any questions? Get a Legislator to send [a letter like Senator Beall's](#)? Learn that they have a family member with a developmental disability? Told directly that this isn't their priority? Sharing the intel will let us ensure that everyone – including you – can make best use of their time and talents! Please go to www.lanterncoalition.org/contact and drop us a line, or email info@lanterncoalition.org!

Links

Legislator Finder – www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html

Senator Beall's Letter – www.lanterncoalition.org/docs/Beall.pdf



STATEWIDE SELF ADVOCACY NETWORK
MINUTES

December 15-16, 2014
 Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>
David Forderer Charles Horne-Nutt Jennifer Allen Regina Woodliff Robert Balderama Cheryl Hewitt Rebecca Donabed Mara Rupert Julie Gaona Chris Rogel Desiree Boykin Ted Jackson Robert Levy Joe Meadours Kecia Weller	Michael Arbios Kyle Minnis Nicole Patterson <u>Others Present</u> Mary Ellen Stives Vicki Smith Cindy Ruder Sarah May Sonya Bingaman Mary Agnes Nolan George Lewis Anastasia Bacigalupo Ron Usac Robin Rhoades Steve Ruder

DAY 1

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:05. Cheryl introduced the new representative from Regional Office 9, Mara Rupert. Cheryl congratulated Charles for being appointed the Regional Office 2 representative to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Review and Approval of Agenda

ACTION: Motion to approve by Kecia/Second by Regina. Motion passed.

Review and Approval of Minutes Sept 2014

ACTION: Motion to approve David F./ Second by Kecia. Motion passed.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

SSAN Self Determination Committee Report

Julie Gaona, SSAN Representative Region 10, reviewed the Self Determination powerpoint presentation. If SSAN then SCDD approves it, they will be able to use this to do presentations in the community.

ACTION: Motion to approve the Self Determination powerpoint by Charles. Second by Kecia. Kecia called for the question to the motion. Motion passed.

Discussion on Members' Support Needs to Get Input and Information from Regions

This is a follow up to the Member Action Reports at the September SSAN meeting. Jennifer Allen, SSAN Vice Chair led discussion. These suggestions were made:

- Kecia suggested Skype or Facetime.
- Joe Meadours suggested people could go to coffee places or other places in the community where they have free internet.
- Ted mentioned the Digital Access Program, which offers free hotspots to people who qualify. Jennifer said Wi-Fi isn't easy for her to use.
- Cheryl suggested sending information to the local Area Board offices to send out.

ACTION: Charles made a motion that Area Board offices and partner agencies print the materials and send to members who don't have email access or a printer. Second by Kecia. Motion passed.

SSAN Employment Committee Report

Rebecca Donabed, SSAN Representative Region 7, gave her report on the Employment Committee. Robert and Cheryl did a presentation on the draft

presentation to the SCDD Employment First Committee last week. The Employment First Committee sent their comments and suggestions to Cheryl and SSAN made changes to the powerpoint. If SSAN approves the presentation, it will go to SCDD for approval. After SCDD approves the presentation, then SSAN can use the presentation in their communities.

ACTION: Kecia made a motion to approve this powerpoint. Second by Rebecca. Motion passed.

In response to a question about the impact of Employment First on people who have severe disabilities, Kecia said that there are quite a few people with severe disabilities who can work part time, and she knows many of these people. Kecia suggested they have a training by Sara Murphy from TransCen about how her agency helps people with severe disabilities to find jobs. Mary Agnes will check to see if there is money in the budget to ask Sara Murphy to attend the next SSAN meeting.

ACTION: Charles made a motion that they ask Sara Murphy to come and do a presentation on how to help people with severe disabilities get jobs. Second by Regina. Motion passed.

Ted suggested the SSAN do a Webinar using this powerpoint presentation.

Robert Levy requested that a presentation be provided on SB 577.

After the lunch break- Jennifer introduced Bob Giovati from the SCDD office, who is replacing Mark Polit as the Director of Policy and Planning. She introduced Mike Clark, SCDD Interim Executive Director, Aaron Carruthers, Deputy Director of Administration and Benita Baines, Deputy Director of Regional Operations. Cheryl thanked these staff for taking time out of their busy day to attend, and thanked them for their support of SSAN.

Member Action Reports

Charles from Region 2 - announced he has been appointed to the SCDD by the Governor. Region 2 is very active in Healthcare. Charles presented to four different groups during the last quarter. He is able to reach more advocates now and likes to present on the information he is learning here.

Regina Woodliff from Region 5- said that youth is her passion and focus. Regina believes that the youth are our future, and she wants to make sure we focus on giving them the information we learn.

Jennifer Allen from Region 3- She is planning on doing more presentations in this next quarter.

Robert Balderama Region 6 – attended a Holiday Health Fair and collected a lot of information. He found information on flu shots, dental care, etc. Robert collaborated with DRC and provided training on rights to a day program. He collaborated with AB 6 and had a booth at a multi-cultural fair about self-advocacy. Robert also attended the VMRC retreat and board meeting, as well as a transportation advisory board.

Cheryl Hewitt Region 7 – worked with Sacred Heart, which provides food and medical care for the poor and people with disabilities who cannot get these services. Cheryl spoke to the San Jose city council about affordable housing. Cheryl attended the Self-Determination conference in Los Angeles. She did a sensitivity training, and worked with IHSS about the over-time issue.

Rebecca Donabed Region 8 – On 1/29/15 they are going to have “Project Homeless” to help people with disabilities who are homeless.

Mara Rupert Region 9- Mara attended the People First Santa Barbara meeting, and shared their new brochure. She also attended the Board of Directors meeting at Regional Office 9.

Julie Gaona Region 10– reported they have been working very hard on Self Determination. They have been getting the word out, and Julie volunteers for other agencies, and have been telling them about Self Determination and the new health care initiatives with Medi-Cal/Medicare. She suggested if you know people who are having problems with their health care, they should contact HICAP or other organizations that are there to help.

Chris Rogel Region 12 – Chris wrote a letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein and requested reforms to the treatment of prisoners with disabilities. Chris received a letter back from Senator Feinstein, and she sounded sympathetic to the issues.

Desiree Boykin ARCA – Gave a brief overview of HIPPA.

Ted Jackson CFILC– shares healthcare resources on a regular basis. Covered CA has gotten better at their outreach events, but there still needs to be more changes made regarding accessibility. The DO network did some webinars on voting, and Ted did some in-person on how to register to vote, and getting out the vote. The deadline for the free hotspots has been extended until the end of the month, but people have to get on it quickly.

Robert Levy – UC Davis, MIND Institute – Robert talked about Supported Life and told the members to check the website for more information. Robert did a presentation with Kecia Weller and Gabriel Rogan on Employment First at the Supported Life Conference. THINK College

website is a resource he found, and www.meetupasa in Sacramento. www.artisticadvocacy.org is another resource.

Joe Meadours – CA People First - did two presentations at DDS Advisory Committee, was the keynote at region 8 in November, and led two sessions at the conference in November. Joe handed out a flyer on the upcoming CA People First Conference in June in Fresno.

David Forderer – SCDD - Attended the SCDD meeting last month.

Kecia Weller – UCLA Tarjan Center –Kecia talked about the changes to healthcare. Kecia writes an e-newsletter from the Tarjan Center – TAAC enews – goes out once a month, and updates the community on what is going on. Kecia did leadership training to SAAC officers; she did a presentation to the Hawaiian Council as well.

Legislative Update

Anastasia Bacigalupo, Regional Office 9 Executive Director and Bob Giovatti did a powerpoint presentation about:

- Starting January 1, 2015, regional centers can pay for independent living services (ILS) at your home, even if you are living with your family.
- Beginning January 1, 2015, Area Board offices will now be called Regional Offices of the State Council. The Boards of Directors at each Area Board will be called “Regional Advisory Committees”.
- The job of the State Council and the Regional Offices will not change.
- Starting January 1, 2015, people who have In Home Support Services will see some changes. People providing the service will have new timesheets, they will be paid for time spent traveling, they will be paid for staying with a person at a medical appointment, but they will also have limits on how much time they can work each week – 61-66 hours will be the range of hours they can work.
- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) will begin in July 2015. This law will limit putting people with disabilities at sheltered workshops, and will support people 24 years old and younger to get jobs earning minimum wage.
- The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE) will allow people with disabilities to use tax-free savings accounts. This money can be used to pay for college, housing, medical bills, assistive technology devices and other things. The money in the account will not be counted as income by the Social Security Administration so it will not affect your Medi-Cal or Social Security benefits.

Since SSAN cannot support legislation as a group without SCDD permission, it was suggested that each individual write or call to support this legislation, since a vote is going to occur at the end of this week.

SCDD Employment First Committee (EFC) Update

Kecia Weller, Employment First Committee Chairperson, gave the members a report on what the Employment First Committee did at their meeting last week.

- EF Meeting spent a lot of time reviewing the changes that WIOA will make.
- California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY) to promote integrated, competitive employment (ICE) for youth and all adults. CECY is having Community Conversations to help communities find ways to increase employment opportunities. Kecia invited members to contact her if they want to attend a Community Conversation in their area.
- Kecia also told the group that three regional centers have approved their own Employment First policies, and a fourth one is about to. The Committee will write a letter to these regional centers thanking them for their efforts to support employment.
- The committee also talked about possibly having a conference to teach people more about Employment First.
- Kecia passed out the flyer with information about Employment First, which will be available to give to members of the community when the State Council approves it.

SSAN Newsletter

Cheryl Hewitt passed around a sample newsletter for the members to review.

ACTION: Regina made a motion to accept the idea of a newsletter, and Rebecca seconded the motion. Motion passed with abstention by David F.

Nominations for Secretary

Robert Levy and Charles were nominated and accepted the nominations. Speeches and election will be held on day 2.

Cheryl also asked members to check their personal contact information to make sure it is all accurate. A reminder about the questions that Molly Kennedy, Chair of SCDD, will be asking the SSAN members tomorrow. ADJOURNED Day 1.

SSAN DAY 2 Minutes

Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions

Cheryl called the meeting to order at 9:32. Cindy Ruder has helped out while Mary Agnes Nolan was out, and Cheryl wanted to thank her for all of her help and support. Mary Agnes gave her thanks to Cindy and all as well.

Cheryl Hewitt, Chairperson Discussion

Accomplishments of Day 1:

- Voted to ask Regional Offices and partner agencies to mail hard copies of information to members who do not have email access or a printer.
- Voted to ask Sara Murphy to come to SSAN and explain how to customize jobs for people who have severe disabilities.
- Approved the SSAN Employment First powerpoint
- Approved the SSAN Self Determination powerpoint
- Voted to have a SSAN Newsletter
- Members signed letters of support for the ABLE Act
- Nominated candidates for Secretary of SSAN

Public Comment

No public comment

Council Vision Discussion and Council Chair Updates

Cheryl introduced Molly Kennedy, Chair of the SCDD. Molly told the group that the SCDD is going to be beginning the process of gathering information to create a new 5 year State Plan.

- AB 1595 was passed to make the Lanterman Act in line with the Federal Developmental Disabilities (DD) Act. In January, 2015, changes caused by 1595 will begin. Because of this there will be a reorganization of Regional Offices and Regional Advisory Committees. Staff will be staying where they are for now, but how SCDD does things will change quite a bit. The new State Plan will be from 2017-2022.
- Molly let people know SCDD is one organization with one Council, and the Regional Offices will be doing the work from the policies set by the Council.
- Molly reassured the members that the Council will continue to fund the SSAN as long as they have money.

Molly moved into the Visioning Session asked the following questions:

Question 1 – Three Recent Council Accomplishments:

- Employment First law and committee.
- Elections for new officers.
- Self-Determination

Question 2- How can the Council establish itself as a model leader in CA and through the nation?

- To speak up for/with people who cannot speak for themselves.
- To have strong leadership, strong ideas.
- To have the Self Advocates and family advocates be leaders in taking the forefront in leadership positions at the Council.
- To educate the youth, and they will be the future.
- To network with all types of disabilities, so we are not closed off, and we have a bigger voice. Aging and minority populations have common issues. Poverty, healthcare, etc. are issues we all have.
- To involve our legislative leaders with us more. We need to educate them about our issues and priorities.

Question 3: What uniqueness can the Council bring to improving the CA Developmental Disabilities System?

- Take it from a social model, and put it in a person first model
- The Council and SSAN needs to partner more with the Independent Living movement and become more a part of the philosophically and spirit of the IL movement – part of this involves listening!
- SCDD is unique because of the number of Self Advocates on the Council (leadership opportunities)

Question 4: How does the Council want to improve and impact the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families in the next 10 years?

- More people living on their own
- Help people to get jobs, and train the youth, and help them get jobs
- More employment
- Educate others about Developmental Disabilities (DD) by starting with the teachers and staff at all levels of education, including colleges
- Mental Health issues
- Emergency Preparedness
- Abuse issues

All comments would go back to the Council. Cheryl thanked Molly, and said the SSAN is looking forward to working with SCDD more closely.

Discussion on SSAN Becoming a Nonprofit

Cheryl began the discussion on the SSAN becoming a Nonprofit.

ACTION: A motion by David F that SSAN will not pursue nonprofit for 2-5 years. Charles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

SCDD Report

David Forderer, SSAN Representative from SCDD updated the SSAN members on the activities of the State Council:

- Announced that elections were held at the last meeting
- Reviewed the corrections that federal government (AIDD) wants them to make.
- Received a presentation by Tierra Del Sol in Southern California, about how difficult it is for them to keep their doors open because of the low rates they receive.
- SCDD also approved changes to the By-laws because of AB 1595.

ACTION: Charles made a motion that SSAN do a presentation at the January 22, 2015 SCDD meeting to update them on what SSAN is doing. Kecia seconded the motion. Motion passed.

ACTION: Charles also made a motion that Jenny Yang, who is chair of the Self Advocates Advisory Committee, attends the March SSAN meeting to share the work of the SAAC. Motion passed.

Discussion of SSAN Committees

Kecia requested people consider setting up a website committee to get their own information out to the public. Ted recommended that the Newsletter committee be changed to a *Communication Committee*, and when they get the newsletter completed, they could tackle the website.

ACTION: Charles made a motion to form a Newsletter/Communication Committee, Robert B. second. Motion passed.

Cheryl asked if people liked her weekly summary, and people said they did. Cheryl requested that members send her information they would like to see included in this weekly summary. Cheryl asked people to fill out the Presentation and Outreach form when they do any trainings or presentations. She passed out a form and Kecia requested it be sent electronically so they can send to Mary Agnes electronically.

Election of SSAN Secretary – Speeches and Roll Call Voting

The candidates running for secretary gave their speeches and Charles was elected Secretary.

Committees Meet

Self Determination – Julie, Cheryl, David F. Mara, Chris: This workgroup decided to follow up on the latest updates on self-determination to see where it is, when it will officially start, etc. They will communicate with each other on the changes and updates. 1-9-15 will be the first conference call, at 2:00. Mara is the chair of this committee.

Employment: Kecia, Rebecca, Cheryl, Regina, Ted: Ted reported that Rebecca would be the chairperson. They are waiting for the SCDD to approve the PowerPoint provided yesterday. 1-28-15 will be the next meeting; the chair will report progress to the executive committee.

Newsletter/Communication: Kecia, Cheryl, Joe, Desiree, Robert L: Robert L is the chair of this committee. They will request each workgroup submit an article about their committee. By 6-5-15 meeting, they will have this information ready. They will have the newsletter organized hopefully by March, but June at the latest. Robert will contact all the SSAN members by email by 1-7-15. There will be a conference call on 1-7-15 at 10:00 am.

Legislative/Policy Workgroup: Cheryl, David F, Robert B and Charles: Charles was selected as the chair of this group. The first topic will be bullying. Charles encouraged everyone to submit a story for the newsletter. Charles will send his story to Cheryl.

Input for next SSAN Meeting

1. Contacting Sara Murphy to come and do a presentation.
2. David F asked for a presentation on abuse.
3. Cheryl suggested a training on medical equipment by a gentleman that has been able to get regional centers to pay for some equipment.
4. Regina suggested Ki Power to do the training on abuse; Rebecca suggested the police could come do the training on what to do if you are abused.
5. Ted thought a planning session to do something at Capital Action Day. A flash mob or something would be fun. Capital Action Day would be a great opportunity to market this group, and maybe have a booth, promote SSAN, tell people about this!

Schedule of 2015 SSAN meetings

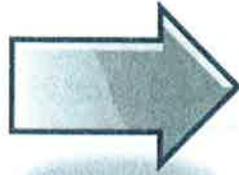
A "Save the Date" flyer was handed out with the requested SSAN dates but they have not been firmed up yet. Meetings will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Hawthorn Suites in Sacramento.

Cheryl asked the members to complete the evaluation forms.

Rebecca Donabed was chosen as the member that contributed the most at this meeting, (way to go Rebecca) and was given a "Minion" for her hard work! She will bring this back for the next meeting.

Cheryl adjourned the meeting at 2:42pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by SCDD staff



Report from SCDD Meeting TO SSAN by David Forderer
Highlights from the January 2015 Council Meeting in Sacramento

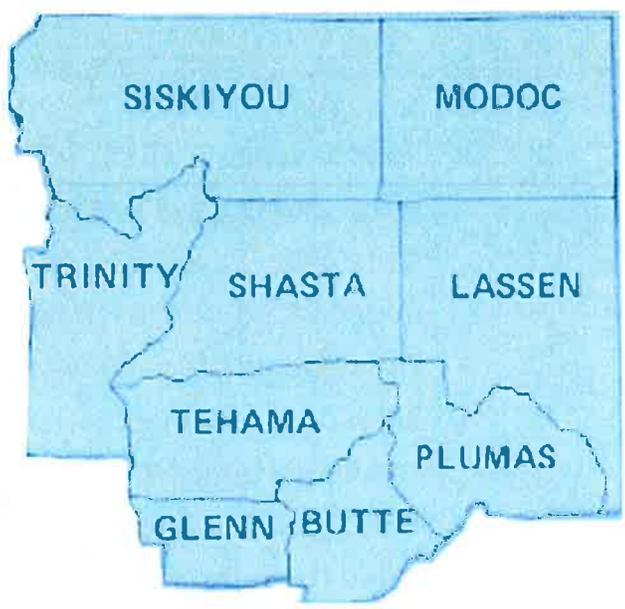
- Reports were given by the SCDD Leadership. The reports told the members about all the work each person has been doing for SCDD.
- There was an update about the MTARS report- SCDD has done well making all the corrections that the federal government (AIDD) wants them to do and 33% of the material has been submitted.
- Due to changes in Bagley Keene Open Meeting rules, member's votes need to be accurately recorded. Council members voted by raising their hands and how each member voted was recorded.
- There will be an election at a future meeting for the SCDD vice chair. Molly Kennedy was elected chair at the last meeting but Molly has resigned from the Council. April Lopez became the chair so a vice chair needs to be elected. The interim vice chair will be Jenny Ning Yang.
- David Forderer will chair the nominating committee to elect vice chair candidates. David has also been elected the SAAC chair, replacing Jenny Ning Yang.
- A state budget update was provided. The decision on the IHSS Overtime Rules has been put on hold due to appeal. (This is the new federal overtime law, intended to give in home care workers overtime protections, will likely have a negative impact on consumers and their families by limiting hours that an in home care worker can work and by limiting how many hours a consumer can use in a week)

- As of January 1, 2015, SCDD will operate 13 regional offices. Each regional office and its staff will have a primary focus to carry out the goals of the state plan. Each SCDD Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) shall advise the Council according to the goals of the State Plan.
- The regional offices have new names. Please see the attached document.
- Bill Moore provided two presentations, one on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and one on the Promise Grant.
- The Legislative and Public Policy Committee recommended and the Council voted to endorse the Lanterman Coalition's proposal of a 10% rate increase system-wide for California's community based developmental services system.
- The video, "Abuse- A Silent Epidemic" was shown and talked about the different types of abuse individuals with disabilities may be subject too. (Financial, Physical, Psychological, Sexual, and Domestic.)
- David Forderer gave a report on our December SSAN meeting.
- Cheryl presented the two power points SSAN worked on. Unfortunately the Council lost a quorum and they were not able to approve the power points for distribution. They will review them again at the Executive Committee meeting on February 24, 2015. David will provide an update at the March SSAN meeting.
- The next SAAC/Council meeting is on March 24-25, 2015 in Sacramento

1
NORTH COAST



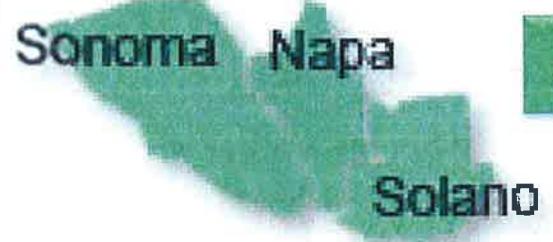
2
NORTH STATE



3
SACRAMENTO



North Bay



4



North Valley Hills

5



BAY AREA



Silicon Valley Monterey Bay

7



8

SEQUOIA



9

CENTRAL COAST



10

LOS ANGELES



11

Orange County

13

SAN DIEGO IMPERIAL



12

SAN BERNARDINO

California's Employment First Policy

Signed into law on October 9, 2013 by Governor Edmund G. Brown
The Lanterman Act, Section 4869(a)(1)



"It is the policy of the state that opportunities for integrated, competitive employment shall be given the highest priority for working age individuals with developmental disabilities, regardless of the severity of their disabilities."

What Does This Mean?

It is now the state's highest priority to make integrated competitive employment a real choice for people with developmental disabilities. Integrated competitive employment is a job at a workplace among individuals with and without disabilities. It will be a full or part-time position at or above minimum wage. Self-employment is another option.

Getting Help

Students need to ask the school to prepare them for getting a job in their community making at least minimum wage. Students can ask for integrated work experiences. These goals should be in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Transition Plan (ITP). People can ask their regional center service coordinator to put integrated employment supports in the Individual Program Plan (IPP). The service coordinator can assist people to request employment supports from the Department of Rehabilitation. After leaving school, the regional center can purchase services which will help people obtain and maintain integrated competitive employment.

Getting Work

It can be a lot of work to get a job. It is a good idea to find out: What am I good at? What do I like to do? What kind of workplace will I do well in? Higher education and vocational training can be used to prepare for a job you want. Volunteer work or job exploration is a good way to see if you like a particular job. With the right help, you can get a job and get paid well.

MORE INFORMATION on the Employment First Policy can be found on the website of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities at www.scdd.ca.gov/ef. This site also has information on how well California is doing making employment a real option for people with developmental disabilities. In depth information on the affect of employment on public benefits, such as SSI and Medi-Cal, can be found at www.ca.db101.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUR OWN OPTIONS, contact your school, regional center or the Department of Rehabilitation and ask what they can do to support you or your family member to work, earn, and contribute.



"Having this job makes me successful because I have learned a lot of things. This job makes me happy because even though I'm the person that I am, they accept me here for who I am, and they give me support."

~ Seleste
Lawrence Berkeley
National Laboratory



"Being in school will help me get a better job. I like the teachers too. They're very nice. They help me with what I need"

~Jasmine
East LA College

What the Employment First Policy Means to *Families*

- With the right supports, children with developmental disabilities can get an integrated full or part time job that pays at least minimum wage.
- With proper planning, public benefits such as SSI and Medi-Cal can be protected (see www.ca.db101.org).
- People with all types of disabilities can make money, contribute, be involved citizens, meet people, and make friends through their work.
- Families can talk about work and career around the dinner table, give their children responsibilities at home to develop a work ethic, help their children explore their interests, and encourage schools to prepare students for work or for higher education.

What the Employment First Policy Means to *Regional Centers*

The first option to consider in the IPP is integrated competitive employment. Regional centers must inform people that integrated work at regular pay is a real option and discuss available services and supports to help people become employed. Regional centers and providers have services to support people with developmental disabilities who want to work. To see great examples of people having the supports they need to succeed, go to www.scdd.ca.gov/ef.

What Employment First Policy Means to *Schools*

- Prepare students for transition to work no later than 14-16 years of age.
- The IEP and ITP should include work experiences.
- People with developmental disabilities require an education that prepares them for integrated competitive employment, or prepares them for post-secondary education. There are great examples (see www.scdd.ca.gov/ef) of students with developmental disabilities having work experiences, transitioning to post-secondary education and integrated competitive employment.

Duties of Secretary and Election of Officers (from SSAN By Laws)

Duties of Secretary

1. As a member of the SSAN Executive Committee work along support staff to prepare meeting agendas.
2. Perform all duties of Vice Chair in their absence.
3. Takes roll call to establish quorum.
4. Works with support staff to prepare and distribute minutes of meetings.
5. Keep track of motions, votes and actions at meetings.
6. Act as parliamentarian.

Requirements of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

1. Attends SSAN meetings regularly.
2. Serve as a mentor for new members
3. Know SSAN By-Laws and meeting procedures.

Election of Officers

The SSAN will nominate and vote for their officers. Members cannot nominate themselves but must be nominated by another member and seconded by another member and the nominee has the right to refuse the nomination.

Nominations will be made on day 1 of the meeting, speeches and elections will be done on Day 2 of the meeting. The results of the elections will take effect that day.

Speeches with a five minute time limit will be allowed but if there are 10 or more candidates for all offices combined the SSAN members may vote to reduce the time limit.

The nominated member receiving the most votes will hold the office for a term of two (2) years. An officer is limited to serving only one (1) time in the same office consecutively but may run for that office after sitting out for one term.

The chair does not vote in elections unless there is a tie and then the chair will break the tie unless the chair is running for that office. Then, we will have a run-off election without speeches between the top two candidates.



Statewide Self Advocacy Network
MEMBER ACTION REPORT
March 4 & 5, 2015

Member name: _____

Agency or Regional Office: _____

Please provide a story on bullying.

Did you give trainings or work with any agencies or organizations?

Have you done any presentations or outreach to new self advocates?

Have you found any new resources?

Thank you!



Presentations & Outreach by SSAN Members

We want to make sure everyone knows about the good work being done by SSAN members! Can you provide us with the information below whenever you do a presentation or do outreach? This information will be included in the SSAN Annual Report.

Regional Office #/Partner Agency: _____

Name of Presenter: _____

Date of Presentation: _____

What did you talk about? _____

Was there a website or link to the presentation? If yes, what is it? _____

How many people were at the presentation? _____

What kind of follow-up is needed? _____

How many new self-advocates were recruited? _____

Did people like your presentation? _____ How do you know they liked it? _____

What other agencies did you work with? _____

In a few brief sentences, please share what you did and how it went. If any new issues came up, please explain what they were. _____

Can you share a story about the experience? _____

Please attach any handouts you used. You can either send this form to the SSAN Chair, the Self Advocacy Coordinator at SCDD or bring it to the next SSAN meeting. Thank you for your work to help Californians who have developmental disabilities have better lives!



Voices of SSAN

Newsletter of the Statewide
Self Advocacy Network

SSAN's Mission

The Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) promotes leadership and builds bridges that strengthen advocacy among disability communities by focusing on policy change.

"We have a voice! The strength of our voice needs to be heard by all individuals in California. Our job is to make their voice loud as well. As we strengthen those voices they will be empowered to speak up and express what is needed to improve their lives."

*~Cheryl Hewitt,
SSAN Chair*

From Cheryl Hewitt, SSAN Chair

Welcome to "Voice of SSAN," a newsletter of the Statewide Self Advocacy Network. This newsletter will help us bridge the gap between those members who don't have day-to-day internet access. It will also show the great things the network is doing in their local areas, hopefully with a lot of pictures.



Hi this is Julie Gaona, from Region 10. The person who inspired me to be an advocate was my mother, Linda Dixon. My whole childhood she always encouraged me to live my life to the fullest regardless of

my disability. Even when I didn't want to do things such as drama or school dances, she'd make me go do these types of things. No matter what, the word 'no' was not in her vocabulary.

She broke down a lot of barriers for me to be independent, such as making sure ramps were built at school and I had assistance during classes, like taking notes and getting my work completed. Later on, when I grew up, I had the confidence she had given me and the knowledge to be an advocate.

I attended college after high school. I was not very successful with that, so God put me on a path to work for an independent living agency. Lucille Walls the old executive director from an independent living center called Community Access gave me a chance to work at the center and I took it. I knew I could accept this challenge because of the confidence and knowledge my mother instilled in me.

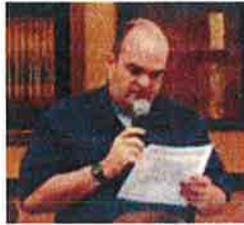


SSAN Members

- Jennifer Allen, Region 3
- Michael Arbios, Region 4
- Robert Balderama, Region 6
- Desiree Boykin, ARCA
- Rebecca Donabed, Region 8
- David Forderer, SCDD
- Julie Gaona, Region 10
- Cheryl Hewitt, Region 7
- Charles Horne-Nutt, Region 2
- Ted Jackson, CFILC
- Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute
- Joe Meadours, PFCFA
- Kyle Minnis, Region 11
- Nicole Patterson, DDS
- Chris Rogel, Region 12
- Kecia Weller, UCLA Tarjan Center
- Regina Woodliff, Region 5

SSAN Officers

Cheryl Hewitt, Chair
Jennifer Allen, Vice Chair



Hello my Name Is Charles Horne-Nutt.

The person that most inspired me to become a Self Advocate is a gentleman by the name of Steve Connors. I met Steve through my ex-wife about nine years ago. Steve became my Independent Living Skill Instructor through an agency called Do It Leisure.

The things that inspired me the most about Steve is his accomplishments. Steve has worked through Do It Leisure for the last 30 years helping individuals with disabilities and he has also helped the students as a Special Education Instructor for the last ten years. Steve's most recent accomplishment is that he has done so well helping individuals with disabilities that he has opened his first care home. The accomplishments that Steve has made inspired me. I follow his example as a positive role model for me to be able to grow in a positive and productive way.

The Accomplishment that I have made is that I was Vice President of the People First of the Paradise Chapter. I held that position only for a short time but I learned some valuable things during that time about leadership. After I was Vice President a few years went by. I was married and was in an abusive relationship and Steve helped me cope and learn some valuable tools to be more productive with my life. Steve has helped me accomplish goals that I set out for myself. He has taught me how to live on my own in my own place. During the time as Steve being my ILS Instructor I accomplished getting my driver's license, living on my own, and becoming my own payee. These things are what help me to be my own Self Advocate.

(continued on page 3)

Self Advocacy is not the same for everyone. I feel that self advocacy is different for everyone. Self advocacy in my opinion is based on goals that individuals set up for themselves. When an individual accomplishes that goal that makes the individual feel good about themselves and they want to accomplish more. An individual might have some struggles during that time but if they stay motivated and on track on accomplishing that goal they will always succeed and become a valuable asset to others in the world.

During the last two years through my road to success I have held positions through Butte College. I was a member of Sigma Alpha Pi, I earned the presidential award through the Honor Society, I also earned the Excellence achievement award. I was Treasurer of the Inter Club Council and also was the Satellite Campus Director through the Associate Students of Butte College.

After Butte College I wanted to do more so I asked my Far Northern worker if there was anything that I could do to help others with my achievements that I have made. What is weird but cool at the same time is that she received an email about SSAN through the State Council and this where I learned about this position. I also became part of the Area Board 2 as an appointee from the Governor. I know that God has a lot more training and lessons for me to learn and that I am not done going through all my trials and tribulations. I am going to do my best at what ever God throws my way to learn and I know that God will never give you more than you can chew.

Thanks for taking the time to hear what makes me a positive and productive advocate.



SSAN Partner Agencies

- Association of Regional Center Agencies
- California Foundation of Independent Living Centers
- Department of Developmental Services
- Disability Rights California
- People First of California
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities
- University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) UC Davis MIND Institute
- UCEDD UCLA Tarjan Center
- UCEDD USC

Desiree L Boykin: I

learned about the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) in 1998 and how it helps the developmentally



disabled community. I quickly became a part of the Self Advocacy group and went to my first People First of California and Supported Life Conference in 1998. I was able to receive more information about the Self Advocacy movement. I became President of the Self Advocacy group at SCLARC in 1999-2003 and I was able to be a part of the Board of Directors in 2000. I served on the board three different times 2000- 2003, 2006-2008, 2008-2011. I was the President of SCLARC's CAC from 2008 to 2011. I went to many self advocacy conferences to learn about different topics: the Lanterman Act, Relationships, how to take care of your health. I hold a B.A degree in Human Services from California State University Dominguez Hills (CSUDH). I've volunteered at Cedars Sinai Medical Center for three years. Then started part time as the Consumer Advocate in December 2011 and was able to move into fulltime position the following year. The person who inspired me to be a self advocate is my late maternal grandma Eloise R. Kirksey.



Cheryl Hewitt . My story about who inspired me to become a self-advocate: Actually there are two people, the first is Cathy McAdam. She was my field supervisor for my masters program during my last year of graduate school. The school initially gave me the hospital placement that was too far away from home and would cost too much for a taxi cab so I asked for a placement near to my home. The school made arrangements with the

Rehabilitation Institute for me to do an internship there and assigned Cathy as my field supervisor. The one thing unique about Cathy was she was totally blind. I would hold onto her guide dog and she would push me down the hall. Cathy was a real tough supervisor. She would make me do things over several times until she said I got it right. One time she even sent me home for not being dressed appropriately. She kept scrutinizing my paperwork until she said I got it right. One time I sat down and asked her, "Why are you being so picky?" She stated I'm being picky because I have been where you are, you have a severe disability and people are going to scrutinize you and expect you to do 110 % while they do 90 % and get away with it. I finally got what she was trying to teach me, even showing up for work during snow storms. One time during a bad snow storm only me Cathy and I showed up for work. The doctors asked us why we showed up and not any of the able bodied staff showed up. We stated we couldn't answer that question. Because of that experience I've been able to hold down employment for over 20 years. Everything Cathy taught me was valuable. She taught me to always remember where I came from and to help others achieve the same things that I have.

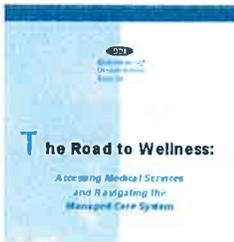
The next person is Christine Smick. I met Christine when I was on the Board of CIL in Detroit. She was a little person. I was always amazed at her because she was married to a man who had cerebral palsy and they successfully adopted a daughter with severe disabilities. Her attitude in life was, 'I deserve everything an abled bodied person deserves and I'm going to get it no matter what I have to do.' She was polite in her tactics but she still got what she needed. And was always sticking up for other disabled groups and teaching them how to be an advocate by pushing the

boundaries but not breaking through them. Christine taught me that I could be vocal with my concerns and to be honest and upfront with what I thought was going on. That is one thing I will always thank Christine for. These two people are no longer here but both have left a lasting impact in my life.



Resources

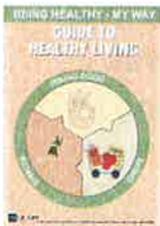
Here are some health care resources from SSAN:



The Road to Wellness: Accessing Medical Services and Navigating the Managed Care System
<http://www.dds.ca.gov/Wellness/docs/medicaldirectorybklt.pdf>
How to get Medi-cal, what Medi-cal covers, what to do if you have a problem.



Far Northern Regional Center's Live Well
www.fnrclivewell.com
Internet Safety, Bed Bugs, Preventing Heat Illness, & more.



Guide to Healthy Living
http://www.dds.ca.gov/ConsumerCorner/docs/GuideHealthyLiving_English.pdf

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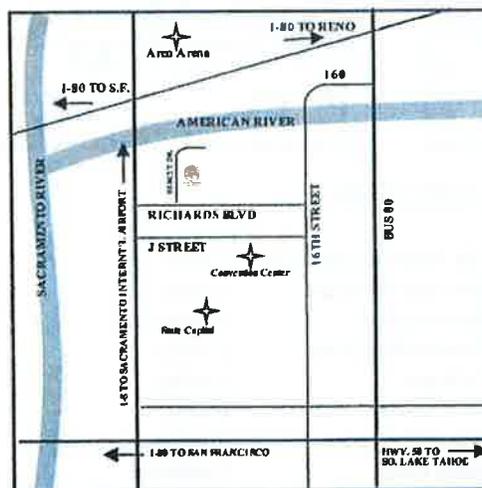
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- Fitness Room
- Pet Friendly (with \$50 pet fee per stay)

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From Airport:
Exit airport and follow I-5 South to Richards Blvd.
Exit and turn left. Turn left on Bercut Drive, hotel on right.

From Downtown:
I-5 North. Exit Richards Blvd. and turn right. Proceed into left lanes
and turn left onto Bercut Drive, hotel on right.



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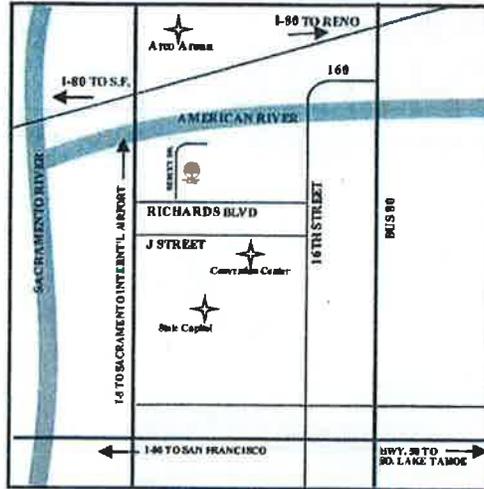
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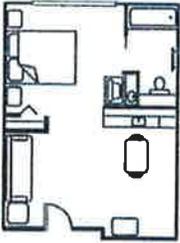


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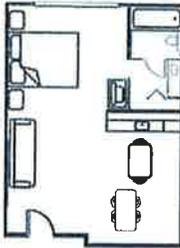
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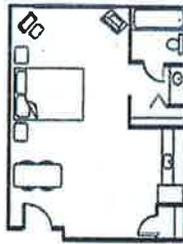
ACCESSIBLE STUDIO UNIT



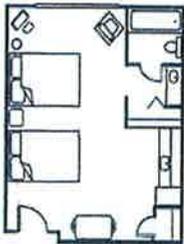
STUDIO UNIT



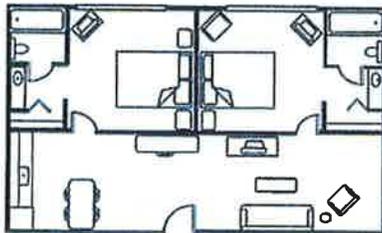
STUDY STUDIO UNIT



DOUBLE QUEEN STUDIO UNIT



TWO BEDROOM UNIT



ATTRACTIONS

- Old Town Sacramento 1 mile
- Railroad Museum 1 mile
- State Capitol 2 miles
- Convention Center 2 miles
- Cal Expo 5 miles
- Arco Arena 2 miles
- Sac. Int'l Airport 7 miles
- Raley Field 2 miles
- CSUS 5 miles

- Complimentary airport Shuttle
- Complimentary Downtown and Old Sacramento Shuttle
- Complimentary parking
- Guest laundry facilities
- Business Center
- New Fitness Center
- Sports court

MEETING ROOM INFORMATION	Square Feet	Theater	Rounds	Classroom 6x18 Table	Classroom 6x30 Table	Hollow Square	U-Shape	Conference
Capitol Room	1470	180	100	75	64	56	40	40
Sutter Room	1260	150	80	56	48	48	33	30
Standard Room	1260	150	80	56	48	48	33	30
Huntington Room	708	50	30	24	16	30	25	22
Hopkins Room	708	50	30	24	16	30	25	22
Crocker Room	285	Board of Directors Permanent Set Up for 10 to 12 People						