



Voices of SSAN

Newsletter of the Statewide
Self-Advocacy Network
Volume 6- June 2016

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 (SSAN)!



**The 4/23/16
Regional Self
Advocacy
Meeting
by both Robert
Levy and Lisa
Cooley**

There were a lot people

there, mostly from the Sacramento area. The sponsors were from ALTA Regional Center and from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Both Lisa Cooley and I from SSAN were there. ASAN Sacramento local chapter officers were there- Robert Levy-Treasurer Ashley Robertson –Secretary, Resmi Singh -Co-chair and Stacy Shaw - Chair. There were 20-30 people. Lisa Cooley and Sonya Bingaman talked about Self-Determination program. They showed the short video on Self Determination that Willy West, Maria Marquez and Nicole Patterson talked about the program. They highlighted topics like budgeting your money, living independently like living in your own place. Sandra Rose showed us a neat form to use when we go doctor. Daniel Meadows talked about voting. We had our picture taken and it will be available on ASAN facebook page and their website. Hopefully people learned a lot from Lisa's presentation about self-determination. She suggested people should contact their regional center services coordinator for specific questions about the Self Determination Program.

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(Levy/Cooley Continued from Page 1)

SSAN Members

- Charles Adams, North Coast
- Robert Balderama, North Valley Hills
- Desiree Boykin, ARCA
- Lisa Cooley, Sacramento
- Chen Curtiss, North Bay
- Rebecca Donabed, Sequoia
- David Forderer, SCDD
- Julie Gaona, Los Angeles
- Ramon Hernandez, Central Coast
- Cheryl Hewitt, Silicon Valley Monterey Bay
- Vacant, North State
- Ted Jackson, CFILC
- Arman Khodaei, San Bernardino
- Robert Levy, Orange
- Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute
- Paul Mansell, San Diego Imperial
- Joe Meadours, PFCA
- Nicole Patterson, DDS
- Marinda Reed- DRC
- Kecia Weller, UCLA Tarjan Center
- Regina Woodliff, Bay Area

The final activity of the day was the leadership game. It was a nice day for that meeting. The Regional Self Advocacy meeting took place at Lions Gate Hotel here in Sacramento over by McClellan Air Force base. The next Regional Self Advocacy meeting will take place sometime in October -More details as we get closer for that October 2016 date. It costs \$5 for the lunch meal.



**SSAN Region Highlight of the Quarter
- North Bay office
by Chen Curtiss**

Hello my name is Chen Curtiss. I'm from the North Bay. I live in Solano County.

My programs are based in Vallejo. I like that we have the Tomato Festival. We will be going to the jelly belly factory in Fairfield. I get excited about Selena Gomez coming to town. I enjoy the program that I'm at. I like my job at Walmart and also the Kroc Center that does everything over there. I like talking to the community and I like to be famous like my hat says.

**Thinking Out of the Box Conference-
by Cheryl Hewitt**

I attended the Thinking Out of the Box conference in L.A. on the 18th and 19th of February, 2016. The conference was hosted by Autism Society of L.A. They had a number of speakers regarding all aspects of self determination. They had consumers that were strong advocates in the community. They went over how to do a person's centered plan. They had individuals that were with groups of organizations that belong to health on the financial part of your person's centered plan.

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SSAN Partner Agencies

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

SSAN Officers

Cheryl Hewitt, Chair
Regina Woodliff, Vice Chair
Desiree Boykin, Secretary

Newsletter Editors

Robert Levy-chair
Desiree Boykin-vice chair

About Transition Planning and Training presentation talk by Regina Woodliff



The first thing is **Ability** and the second is **Dis** means determination, Independence and Self Determination. I had 60 students who attended my presentation. It took place at the Future goals for Adults in Lafayette, California being less than a 25 minute drive a bit east of Berkeley, California. I talked about my job, for the Job coaches and for the future explorer dynamics. I presented this presentation twice the first time was here in Sacramento on March 3, 2016 for the March 2016 SSAN quarterly meeting right after Carol Watilo did her presentation talk about PEC and being about Integrated Competitive Supported Employment. The second time that I presented this presentation talk was around April or May 2016 to build people's confidence and their Self Esteem. They all liked it and learned a lot and asked me a lot questions and clapped for me by doing a great presentation talk and hopefully I will be doing some more of this presentation talk with the future explorers again in the future.

(Hewitt- Continued from page 2)

There was information regarding the Federal status of our waiver and a number of vendors to gather information from.

The conference was a good opportunity for people to network with others and build resources. At the conference also, the local self determination boards met with Dr. April Lopez –chair of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). She is the chairperson of the SCDD Statewide Advisory Board on Self Determination.

SAVE THE DATES!!!!



SAVE the DATES: OCTOBER 6 - 7, 2016

30th Annual SUPPORTED LIFE CONFERENCE:

Supported Life 2016:
“Inclusion is the New Standard”
Crowne Plaza Hotel - Sacramento CA
Empowering All People with Developmental Disabilities to be Fully Included in the Community
Presented By Supported Life Institute & SCDD Sacramento Office

Hear a Variety of Important Speakers in the Field of Developmental Disabilities

“Inclusion is the New Standard”

<p>Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Early Childhood Social & Emotional Development ... Inclusive Education ... Valuing Diversity ... Community Based Instruction 	<p>Transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... To Independence ... To Jobs and Careers ... To Continuing Education ... To Adulthood & Adult Services ... From Early Start 	<p>Employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Customized Employment ... Inclusive Employment ... Innovative Job Development ... Microenterprise / Self-Employment ... Natural Supports
<p>Personal Power & Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Advocacy & Self-Advocacy ... Boardmanship & Facilitation ... Criminal Justice Issues ... Person-Centered Planning ... Rights & Responsibilities ... Making Your Own Choices 	<p>Communication / AAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Assistive Technology ... Computer Access ... Literacy ... Speech-Generating Devices 	<p>Living / Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Full Community Participation ... Housing / Accessible & Affordable ... Individualized Support ... Innovative Living Options ... Transportation Issues
<p>Family Supports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Early Intervention ... Retirement / Aging ... Siblings ... Navigating the System ... Trust Management ... Social Security & Health Benefits 	<p>Policy & Legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Community Organizing ... Meeting w/ Legislators / Lobbying ... Political Action ... Voting & Elections ... Grassroots Advocacy 	<p>Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Abuse Prevention ... Friendships ... Sexuality
<p>Organizational or Staff Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Grant Writing ... Fundraising ... Staff Retention ... Staff Training & HR ... Organizational Restructuring 	<p>Health & Wellness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Exercise / Diet / Nutrition ... End-of-Life Planning & Care ... Health Care Advocacy ... Positive Behavioral Supports ... Mental Health Services 	



At the last SSAN meeting the membership voted to open membership up to more disability organizations and create links and resources that will improve the advocacy for individuals with all types of disabilities throughout California. We are beginning to develop different policies and procedures to make this happen. Our By-Laws will have to be changed to include the changes that need to occur within the SSAN organization. Members will be given things that they are accountable for and the SSAN will monitor whether these things are being done at the local level. I'm very proud that SSAN as a body took this new framework as their focus.

- Cheryl Hewitt- chair