
Advocacy Director's Report

February 6, 2010 Report

This report primarily represents a summary of the work Disability Rights California advocacy programs and projects have reported through January 15, 2010; some activities on the legislative front may be more current. I'd like to thank those who provided the material to make this report possible.

COMMUNICATIONS

This quarter we publicized the importance of the class action suit filed in October to stop the Administration's cuts in In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and the subsequent injunction; and we published a series of fact sheets that explain each aspect of the IHSS and regional center budget cuts. The fact sheets outline in plain language budget cut changes in the benefits and services as well as legal steps that consumers can take to fight or delay the cuts. They were posted on our web site and were translated into several languages.

We worked on streamlining our complex publication listings and their posting on the website, experimented with new publication formats such as e-book and an interactive CD holding key publications in several languages; and worked with an ad hoc communications sub-committee of the Board on the 2009 annual report.

Communications Goals: 1, 2, 3

Public Education Goals: 1, 2

Disability Rights California Staff: Jeanne Molineaux, Sujatha Branch (fact sheets); Adam Borovkoff (publications); Michelle Garcia (annual media reports); Barbara Duncan and contractors Ruth Ordas and Hizuru Cruz (websites))

Grant/Funding Source(s): Trust Fund, PADD, Equal Access

Press Conferences and Releases

On October 1, we issued a press release and held a phone-in press conference about the filing of the IHSS case. The press conference was organized by the unions of homecare providers collaborating in the lawsuit. Twenty reporters attended and there were resulting stories in the press and on radio. This mode of press conference enables reporters to “attend” remotely from their desks or cell phones to obtain answers to their individual questions, or arrange for follow-up interviews. Lead counsel Melinda Bird provided an exclusive about one of the named plaintiffs to the LATimes, and other papers featured the facts of the case prominently as well.

But, by far, the most press coverage we received was prompted by the October 19, 2009 hearing in downtown Oakland, where the federal judge halted the IHSS cuts. Within an hour of the decision we issued a press release and two days following, our lawyers were swamped with media interviews and press phone calls, resulting in at least 30 stories on TV or radio and in daily and weekly press. Looking over the quotes in the coverage, it helped that the judge provided clear messages that the injunction was based on her belief that the cuts violated federal law and would cause irreparable harm, and that our spokespersons emphasized that a humanitarian disaster was being averted.

Subsequent IHSS press coverage

In November and December, we got additional coverage about the problems caused by the focus on IHSS fraud and the problems linked to new requirements for IHSS providers, including extensive background checks, fingerprinting, and lack of training and information provided to the counties about the changes. For example, Deborah Doctor was interviewed on radio (NPR) and participated in televised legislature hearings on the implementation of IHSS program changes. Many subsequent stories that appeared in local press focused on individuals adversely affected by the new rules.

Other Disability Rights California coverage

In December a Washington Post story referenced our lawsuit resulting in enjoinder of cuts to “adult day health care centers.” In November the LA Times quoted Catherine Blakemore in an investigative story about a California company, Social Vocational Services, that makes huge profits for its married owners by primarily serving regional centers. Ms. Blakemore pointed out that in this era of cost cutting - examples like this mean “People with developmental disabilities are going to have a much harder time getting the services they need.”

Communication Goal: 2

Disability Rights California Staff: Melinda Bird & Dara Schur; Deborah Doctor; Catherine Blakemore; Barbara Duncan

Grant/Funding Source(s): Trust Fund, Equal Access

Publications

Demand for our publications is gradually shifting from the printed format to new formats based on electronic and internet access, giving us the opportunity to provide materials faster and in more accessible modes. At the same time, Disability Rights California may be unique in its commitment to provide information on laws, rights and advocacy in multiple languages to people with disabilities and their families, some of whom can access only printed materials. During this quarter, substantial attention has been given to streamlining both processes – print and electronic—and developing, in response to consumer demand at our outreaches, test versions of condensed, low-cost CD’s of our most popular listings.

Public Education Goal: 2

Disability Rights California Staff: Adam Borovkoff, Margaret Johnson

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access

English & Spanish website visitors

In the last 3 months of 2009, the English website received just over 54,000 unique visitors and the Spanish website just over 1000.

Highest interest was shown in disability news, publications and our advocacy and legal work; this last probably reflecting that nearly all of our press coverage in those months was about our class action lawsuits.

The most popular publications on the English site were: *Special Education Rights & Responsibilities*, the IHSS and Regional Center fact sheets, *Rights under the Lanterman Act* and our Advocacy Services Plan 2008-2012. On the Spanish site, the top 5 were: *IHSS Fair Hearing & Self-Assessment packet*, *When can a Student Receive Medicine in School?*, *Special Education Rights & Responsibilities*, and the agency brochure in Spanish. On both websites, traffic was heavily directed to our materials explaining the budget cuts and what to do to keep IHSS and regional center services.

Communication Goals: 1, 3

Public Education Goal: 2

Disability Rights California Staff: Adam Borovkoff, Margaret Johnson, Barbara Duncan

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

NOTE: Legislative activities are current at the time this report is prepared, however, the legislature moves quickly and things can change overnight. For the most current information about legislative activities reported here, check our home page and legislative website: <http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/> and <http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/legislature/index.htm>

Budget

On January 8, 2010 Governor Schwarzenegger proposed a budget that again targets low-income Californians by reducing or eliminating crucial health and human services programs. Some proposals duplicate those of previous years, most of which were rejected by the legislature or voters. Some of the proposals approved by the legislature last year have been stopped by federal courts, yet the Governor is bringing them forward again.

The Administration attached savings to each proposal, but acknowledges that it has not factored in the costs, both human and financial, of the cuts. For example, the proposed dismantling of two key programs for Californians with disabilities including seniors – In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and Adult Day Health Care – will lead to:

- Harm to health, safety and independence;
- Increased use of more expensive hospitals and nursing homes; and
- Loss of least 385,000 jobs, including those of home care workers and of IHSS consumers who are able to work and pay taxes because of IHSS.

As before, poor Californians who depend on multiple programs for their health, safety and income will take many hits in services.

We have completed a preliminary analysis of the Governor's proposals, which can be found here:

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/legislature/Budget/2010/2010-1-12-prelim-analysis.htm>

Our advocates are currently evaluating the proposals while considering ways to minimize damage and reach the best possible outcomes. Throughout the process we will write letters, meet with legislative staff, testify at hearings, and work with advocates from other organizations to find common ground and fight the cuts.

Public Policy Goals: 3, 4, 6

Disability Rights California Staff: Evelyn Abouhassan, Deborah Doctor, Brandon Tartaglia, Margaret Johnson

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access, Trust Fund

2009 In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program Changes

Confusion and concern continue and increase as a result of the program changes in IHSS. Since the provider enrollment rules went into effect on November 1st, 2009, less than one-third the usual number of new providers have been able to enroll because most counties have not been able to set up and undertake the new procedures, including criminal background checks. Consumers have struggled to find providers who are already able to work and get paid, or have been paying providers out of their own meager resources, or have been going without needed services.

Unannounced home visits have started in some locations, despite the lack of guidelines, whose development was mandated by the budget bill last year. Staff have worked on responses to draft notices, for ourselves and for the IHSS Coalition, as well as responses to the 09-10 budget proposals. Legislators have held a third hearing about these serious implementation problems, including Disability Rights California staff as a panelist.

Public Policy Goals: 4, 6

Disability Rights California Staff: Deborah Doctor

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access

Other Legislative Advocacy

Long Term Care Budget Integration

We are promoting the concept of a universal budgeting for long term care, with a preference for home and community-based services, at every opportunity, including a recent hearing about the future of long term care. We believe that this is key to *Olmstead* implementation, as it would move funds from expensive and unwanted institutions and towards more integrated services.

DME Bill

We are discussing the re-introduction of a durable medical equipment (DME) bill, and hope to have a decision from an author soon. This bill would address the DME cap most insurance carriers have.

Waiver Renewal

We are participating in the 1115 Medicaid waiver renewal process. California's current Section 1115 Medicaid waiver, entitled Medi-Cal Hospital/Uninsured Care Demonstration, expires on August 31, 2010. The Administration and the Legislature have begun planning for a new, more comprehensive 1115 waiver. Last year's budget outlined the expanded goals of the waiver: strengthen California's health care safety net; reduce the number of uninsured individuals; optimize opportunities to increase federal financial participation; promote long-term, efficient, and effective use of state and local funds; improve health care quality and outcomes; and promote home and community-based care.

We participate in stakeholder groups and work with other organizations to maximize the possibilities of the waiver. We reviewed the administration's waiver concept paper and are currently working on addressing some major issues therein. One problem we are tackling is the administration's recommendation to mandate managed care for the elderly and people with disabilities. Another issue is the idea of a medical/healthcare home and how that is defined. We will advocate for the most flexibility possible to make

sure people with disabilities have choices available to meet their healthcare needs.

Public Policy Goals: 5, 6

Disability Rights California Staff: Marilyn Holle, Dan Brzovic, Deborah Doctor, Brandon Tartaglia

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access

Disability Capitol Action Day

Each year the Disability Action Coalition holds an event at the Capitol to draw attention to the current disability issues. Last year the theme of the event was the lack of implementation of the *Olmstead* decision, a Supreme Court decision that held keeping people institutionalized when they can live in the community with supports violates the Americans with Disabilities Act. As a partner in the coalition we will help choose the legislative and budget priorities, as well as provide support with the logistical planning of the event. The theme of this year will likely focus on the 2010-11 Governor's budget proposal and how it disproportionately affects people with disabilities; and the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Public Policy Goals: 4, 6

Disability Rights California Staff: Brandon Tartaglia, Deborah Doctor

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access

Sponsored Legislation

Legislation to Provide Safeguards on the Use of Restraint Techniques in Schools

AB 1538 (Ma, Chesbro) introduced in 2009 provides minimal protections from the use of student seclusion and restraint in schools. (For more information about this sponsored legislation, please see the December 2009 Advocacy Director Report.) During this quarter, we met with legislative staff and stakeholders, including representatives from non-public schools, to address stakeholder concerns, while working to move the bill out of the Assembly and to the Senate. Unfortunately, this bill did not make it out of the Assembly.

Representative George Miller (CA) introduced federal legislation on the issue, the Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act (H.R. 4247). We analyzed that measure, developed a side by side comparison to AB 1538, and are monitoring the progress of HR 4247.

Public Policy Goals: 2

Disability Rights California Staff: Evelyn Abouhassan, Leslie Morrison, Catherine Blakemore

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access, Trust Fund

Advocacy to Address Disability Rights California's Concerns with AB 1589: Regional Center Whistleblower Protection Bill

The Assembly Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review introduced AB 1589, which establishes safeguards to protect Regional Center employees and vendors against acts of retaliation, prevent conflict of interest, and encourage reporting violations of consumers' rights. While supporting the bill's aims, we had concerns about unintended negative consequences. If the language in the original bill were adopted, it would have limited Disability Rights California's access authority, which allows us to conduct our advocacy work and fulfill our statutory obligations. We also believed that the language in the original bill would violate consumer confidentiality laws. The author agreed to amend the bill in response to our concerns, so we are now neutral on the bill.

Public Policy Goals: 2, 3, 4, 6

Disability Rights California Staff: Evelyn Abouhassan, Catherine Blakemore, Lauren Giardina

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access, Trust Fund

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

Collaborative Projects and Disability Organizations in El Dorado County Work on Voting and Civic Participation Issues

We are continuing our work with El Dorado County Elections staff (EDC) to implement our recommendations about improving polling site access as a result of the May 2009 poll site monitoring project.

The EDC plans to make the recommended changes and eliminate sites where changes are not possible. We are also working with them on a grant they received to create a computer based poll worker training. The training's emphasis will be on assisting voters with disabilities.

We are working with people with the physical, developmental, visual, psychiatric disabilities on a poll monitoring project for the June Primary Election. This project will be expanded to include monitoring of polling places in South Lake Tahoe. We are working with voters with psychiatric disabilities, the County Elections Staff, and the County Mental Health Department to ensure that voters with psychiatric disabilities, living in Board and Care facilities and IMDs outside the county can cast a ballot privately and independently in the June Election.

We are meeting with people from disability organizations in western El Dorado County. They identified housing as an issue to work on and plan to hold a housing and self-advocacy training. They are focusing on how to work with elected officials to get the changes they want.

Collaborative Projects Goal: 1, Objective A

Disability Rights California Staff: Lori Shepherd and Nakida Gooden

Grant/Funding Source: PAVA

SELF ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

PEERS SELF ADVOCACY

PSA Group at the Canyon Manor Rehabilitation Center in Novato

A resident at Canyon Manor who is also a veteran advocated with the Veterans Administration to be transferred to a Veterans psychiatric treatment facility. He wanted to be treated there so his recovery could begin with others with the similar life experiences; through his self advocacy he was successfully transferred.

PSA Goals: 1, Objective B

PSA Staff: Sharon Schmidt

Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Creekside Mental Health Treatment Center - Santa Rosa

The Self-Advocacy Group was successful in advocating that some residents attend self help groups at Interlink and the Wellness and Advocacy Center as part of their treatment plan. However, the ability to attend these self help groups is dependent upon the residents' privilege level. Group members will continue to advocate for all residents to have this opportunity because they do not want privilege levels to interfere with recovery.

PSA Goals: 1, Objective B

PSA Staff: Sharon Schmidt

Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

NVCSS Second Home Resource Center and the Crestwood Treatment Center - Redding

Both of these Self-Advocacy Groups have enjoyed some successes in the past few months. Three people from the Redding area were discharged from Crestwood Redding.

Attendance has been consistent at Crestwood Redding and Second Home Resource Center. Subjects studied included, patients' rights,

medication information, and Lanterman Petris Short (LPS) conservatorship. Additionally, the groups have been setting rules and taking charge of how they want the groups to be run.

PSA Goals: 1, Objective B

PSA Staff: Mark Olberg

Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Napa State Hospital PSA Group

Usually Napa group members just come to the self help office, do what they need to do for them, and leave. This quarter the group held a seasonal celebration where people sat down with each other and socialized. They discussed their various issues and cases and gave each other support and ideas for advocating for what they wanted.

An individual highlight is that a resident at Napa who has been there for 3 years as Incompetent to Stand Trial was released before the first of the year. While at Napa, he had assisted many other residents with their self advocacy goals.

PSA Goals: 1, Objective B

PSA Staff: Debi Davis

Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Asociación de Mujeres Unidas in Coalinga and Asociación de Mujeres Unidas - Huron

Both groups coordinated and held 2009's United Women's Conference held on Saturday, November 14th in Huron, Ca. titled "Rompe El Silencio Y Serás Libre" ("Break The Silence and You Shall Be Free").

The activities included: Mexican folk dances, peer awards, personal testimonies and presentations by peers. PSA staff and local community based organizations gave information about rights and services they provide. Ninety-seven people from the central San Joaquin Valley attended.

PSA Goals: 1, Objective B
PSA Staff: David Solis
Grant/Funding Source: PAIMI

New Wellness and Advocacy Center and Interlink Groups - Santa Rosa

Two new self-advocacy groups began, one at the Wellness and Advocacy Center in Santa Rosa, and the other at Interlink in Santa Rosa. The names of these groups are Interlink FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) and Wellness and Advocacy Center FAQ

Members of these groups worked on clients' rights issues, shared concerns and ideas, searched for options and developed resources, and created action plans. Group members learned about budget issues and IHSS cuts.

PSA Goals: Sonoma Contract goals
PSA Staff: Linda Kehoe
Grant/Funding Source: Sonoma Contract

Peers Learn About Voting Issues and Poll-Worker Trainings

We met with three Peer Center coordinators and the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Jefferson Transitional Programs (JTP) to plan and implement a voter registration drive for PSA self-advocacy group members at Peer Centers in Perris, Indio, and West Riverside County that are funded by the Mental Health Services Act. They developed a project plan that includes:

1. Contacting the local county voters' office, in collaboration with PSA staff and JTP, to provide transportation to the county elections office to allow group members interested in participating in a one-day training and orientation to become certified poll-workers for the primary election in June 2010.
2. Self-advocacy group members volunteering to research two voting measures, candidates for office, and/or state senate races in preparation for the upcoming election by the end of February. This will help group members become familiar with

computers and the Internet and also engage them in reviewing candidates and ballot measures.

3. Self-advocacy group members sharing what they learned with one another and reviewing a 1-2 page handout that will be developed by the PSA facilitator to provide up-to-date voting information in easy to understand language and that is accessible to everyone. The goal is to have this pamphlet reviewed by all self-advocacy group members, JTP and the Riverside County Mental Health administration for publication and distribution with other county advocacy publications.
4. Coordinating with the county elections office to make the JTP Peer Center an official poll-site. On January 11, 2010, JTP's Board Members and the CEO completed an application for certification and are currently awaiting a response from the county election office to schedule a site-visit for certification.

The overall goal of this advocacy project is to encourage as many interested self-advocacy group members as possible to take an active role in their community's election process.

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective B
Disability Rights California Staff: Garnet Magnus
Grant/Funding Source(s): PAVA

Self-Advocacy Group Members Help One Another with Discharge Planning

At Patton State Hospital, self-advocacy group members on all three compounds are assisting, planning and supporting one another with their discharge planning process. Group members have identified several major barriers, including lack of housing and referrals for parolees in San Bernardino County who are scheduled for conditional release hearings that are held every two years.

In order to assist three group members who had hearings in December 2009, we provided copies of local residential care facilities, board and care facilities, and room and board listings. Group members contacted at least two residential facilities on the list to help

residents obtain reserved beds prior to their hearings at Patton. As a result, two of the three group members have been released and were scheduled for discharge in January.

With group members' assistance, the third individual is researching supervised housing in Orange County, where there are more options for parolee's from state facilities. Self-advocacy group members have chosen to have a discharge planning group every three months so that other residents can prepare for release from the state hospital.

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective A
Disability Rights California Staff: Garnet Magnus
Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Learning to Take Responsibility for One's Own Health Care

Several members of the Spanish self-advocacy group at View Heights IMD were experiencing negative symptoms and side effects from their medications and didn't feel comfortable talking with their doctors. Group members supported one another by encouraging everyone to write down their feelings and side effects for their next doctor's appointment. As a result, when one of the group members experienced irritating itching symptoms, everyone in the group went to the nurse's station to ask for assistance. This was an important step for self-advocacy group members to gain confidence and the skills to talk with health professionals.

The PSA group La Hora del Café also learned about taking responsibility for their health. Many group members were feeling ill and discussed ways to prevent the spread of the flu virus, such as getting a flu vaccine. We provided information about emergency shelters around Skid Row for those who were homeless, especially during the rainy season. Group members also discussed the importance of knowing what kinds of medication they're taking and what the potential side effects could be so that they would be better informed and able to advocate for their needs when they meet with their doctors.

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective A
Disability Rights California Staff: Senobia Pichardo
Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Developing New Self-Advocacy Program for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Disability Rights California, the VETPSA self-advocacy group and the Department of Veterans Affairs's Cognitive Rehabilitation Program (Cogsmart), are developing a program plan for starting 5 new self-advocacy groups for returning veterans with TBI throughout San Diego county. The philosophy of this program is that peer support is an effective means for identifying and implementing interventions to help veterans overcome various systemic barriers that may prevent them from achieving their own self-advocacy and wellness goals. Some of the systemic barriers that will be addressed include homelessness, substance abuse, and issues related to the criminal justice system.

Another goal of this project is to develop a Veterans Peer Specialist Training Program that will train veterans to be role models and teach self-advocacy skills to veterans with disabilities returning from the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective A
Disability Rights California Staff: Michael McPherson
Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Outreach and Education about Peer Support and Employment

We conducted an outreach at the West Side Center for Independent Living where we gave an overview of services and resources provided by Disability Rights California and the PSA program. As a result, PSA staff was asked to give a self-advocacy workshop for the Peer Support and Employment Program, "Listos Para Trabajar," for monolingual Spanish-speaking peers. Attendees who were not familiar with Disability Rights California's services learned to identify the types of issues that our agency can assist with. We also provided information on mental health advocacy and resources that are provided by other agencies in the area. From this outreach and

workshop, Spanish-speaking monolingual peers were more informed and empowered through the education, skills and techniques they acquired by participating in these events.

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective A
Disability Rights California Staff: Rosy Tellez
Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

Development of a Crisis Prevention Training Manual

In response to resident concerns regarding the unnecessary use of seclusion and restraint methods for crisis intervention at the Sierra Vista IMD in San Bernardino, we developed a crisis prevention training manual that can be used for educating peers and PSA staff about strategies for avoiding crisis situations. Since a crisis can be traumatic for everyone involved, the manual discusses how the identification of unique triggers, warning signs and coping strategies can help prevent a crisis before it happens. The training manual also reviews the rules and regulations regarding the use of seclusion and restraint methods so that peers will be better informed about their rights in the event of these situations. Plans are being made to provide trainings to facility staff, law enforcement officials and anyone in the community who wants strategies for avoiding crisis situations.

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective A
Disability Rights California Staff: Robyn Gantsweg
Grant/Funding Source(s): PAIMI

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PEER SELF ADVOCACY

We provided 15 trainings, presentations and outreaches on a variety of topics such as: Abuse Prevention, Emergency Preparedness, Cultural Competency when working with people who have developmental disabilities, Individual Program Plan (IPP) Rights, Rights to Choice in Service Delivery Options and while Receiving Services, Effective Strategies for IPP Rights in Tight Budget Times, Changes to the Lanterman Act, Appeal Rights, Voting Rights and Civic Participation, in addition to outreaches regarding Disability

Rights California, OCRA and DDPSA to approximately 356 people and groups such as; The Almansor Center, Lincoln Training Center, Easter Seals, Innovative Rehab Services and North Los Angeles Regional Center and Lanterman Regional Center, Consumer Advisory Committees in Los Angeles, the Downs Syndrome Association of Orange County, Marysville People First, The Supported Life Institute Conference in Sacramento, Sierra Vista ICFDD in Yuba City, Capital People First in Sacramento, Thumbs Up and Community Compass in Sonora.

Developmental Disabilities Peer Self Advocacy: Goal 1, Objectives A-C

DRC Staff: Daniel Meadows, Maria Marquez, Marinda Reed, Scott Barron

Grant/Funding Source(s): PADD, PAVA

TW was Provided with Peer Advocacy Services to Explore Employment Service Options

Four people were provided with self advocacy services this quarter.

One person served was TW who wanted help understanding service delivery rights and options for employment opportunities. We met with TW several times to assist him with strengthening his self advocacy skills and gain better understanding about his regional center eligibility and employment service rights and options. TW was provided peer support and information regarding Department of Rehabilitation, supported employment and the ticket to work program while he explored the service options that would work best for him.

Developmental Disabilities Peer Self Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective A

DRC Staff: Marinda Reed, Daniel Meadows and Maria Marquez

Grant/Funding Source(s): PADD

Evolving Lanterman Act and Rights Changes

As a result of California's economic issues, many people served by the regional center system are facing unprecedented changes to their service delivery rights and options. This quarter we were asked to

make this an area of focus for our trainings. An example of one such training was one provided at the Supported Life Institute Conference in Sacramento. In collaboration with other Disability Rights California staff we trained 28 people on the most recent changes to the Lanterman Act and how these changes will affect their service delivery rights. Participants were provided with information and materials regarding what had and had not changed in the Lanterman Act, the appeal process, and strategies on how to maintain the greatest scope of choice in their service delivery in order to remain fully supported in the community in a way that preserves their right to inclusion, choice, health and safety.

Developmental Disabilities Peer Self Advocacy: Goal 1, Objective B

DRC Staff: Marinda Reed, Maria Marquez, Daniel Meadows and Scott Barron, OCRA and Lanterman work group staff

Grant/Funding Source(s): PADD

Networking Efforts with Self Advocacy and Other Community Partners

This quarter we continued efforts to liaison and network with self advocacy groups and other community partners on our mutual goal of advancing the rights of people with developmental disabilities. During the quarter we coordinated with and attended six meetings with the following groups; the Self Advocacy Coordination Project, The Consumer Advocate Network, the Self Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County and three regional center consumer advisory committees.

The Self Board of Los Angeles County submitted a grant proposal to work with us to develop a handbook for people served by regional centers in the Los Angeles area on locally available generic, low cost or free service. The grant proposal was accepted by the funding agency Area Board 10.

We are also working with the Self Advocacy Coordination Project to include one or more of their member self advocacy groups in our poll monitoring project during this year's elections.

Developmental Disabilities Peer Self Advocacy: Goal 2, Objective A

DRC Staff: Marinda Reed, Maria Marquez, Daniel Meadows, Jenny Olson, Alicia Mendoza, PSA staff, OCRA staff and legal unit staff.

Grant/Funding Source(s): PADD, PAVA, OCRA

CALIFORNIA MEMORIAL PROJECT

California Memorial Project Remembrance Day Resolution

We are working with Assembly Member Chesbro's office to introduce a legislative resolution to recognize the California Memorial Project's Remembrance Day. The purpose of the resolution is to promote community awareness and to honor and preserve the history of the individuals who died in state institutions. To align the official day of remembrance with the day the bill creating the project was signed, we chose the third Monday of each September to be proclaimed "California Memorial Project Remembrance Day". We are currently drafting the language of the resolution.

Public Policy Goals: 2

Peer-Self-Advocacy: Goal 2, Objective A

Developmental Disabilities Peer Self Advocacy: Goal 2, Objective A

Disability Rights California Staff: Brandon Tartaglia, Margaret Johnson, Rob Chittenden, Alicia Mendoza

Grant/Funding Source(s): Equal Access, Trust fund, PAIMI, PADD