

Examples of recent activities

- Oakland staff participated in Mien Children's Cultural and Health Fair Training
- Clients' Rights Advocates helped 15 year old Jorge Balcazar to regain his eligibility for medical therapy from the California Children's Service
- Class action status granted in Capitol People First lawsuit; filed so people with developmental disabilities can receive services in the community
- Sponsored a bill to provide services for people with brain injuries—signed into law by Governor
- San Diego staff participated in a Veterans Stand Down
- Television investigations supported our reports on the use of restraint & seclusion of children in schools
- LA staff participated in Greater Los Angeles Agency for Deafness (GLAD) trainings
- Class action suit settled against San Francisco's Laguna Honda Hospital—will result in more accessible housing
- Spanish language website launched (www.disabilityrightsca.org/espaol)
- With support from the Peer/Self-Advocacy and Developmental Disabilities Peer/Self-Advocacy Unit California Memorial Project dedicated a monument in Stockton in honor of people who died in institutions

Where can I get services?

We have staff who speak Spanish and several other languages.

Toll-Free Statewide

1-800-776-5746 (Voice)

1-800-719-5798 (TTY)

Sacramento Regional Office

1-916-488-9950 (Voice)

Legislation & Public Information Unit

1-916-497-0331 (Voice)

Bay Area Regional Office

1-510-267-1200 (Voice)

Fresno Office

1-559-476-2000 (Voice)

Los Angeles Regional Office

1-213-427-8747 (Voice)

San Diego Regional Office

1-619-239-7861 (Voice)

Office of Patients' Rights

1-916-575-1610 (Voice)

Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy

1-800-390-7032 (Voice)

1-877-669-6023 (TTY)

1-916-575-1615 (Voice)

Peer/Self-Advocacy Unit

(916) 488-7787 (Voice)

Developmental Disabilities Peer/Self-Advocacy Unit

(916) 488-7787 (Voice)

Featured artwork by artists with disabilities



California's Protection and Advocacy System



“Self Portrait” By Lourdes Ferrer

After 30 years of achievements, Protection & Advocacy, Inc., has changed its name to Disability Rights California to more accurately describe its work.

Our vision is a barrier-free, inclusive world that values diversity, culture and each individual.

Reaching Californians with disabilities throughout the state

We are the largest disability rights organization in California

The more than 200 staff and Board members have a wide array of legal and advocacy expertise, and have developed innovative programs for Californians with disabilities. We collaborate at the state and federal levels with other advocacy groups throughout the U.S.

Annually, we directly serve around 25,000 Californians with disabilities. Through community outreaches, trainings, publications, class action suits and system litigation, we reach hundreds of thousands more.

The majority of the Board members and nearly 40% of our staff are people with disabilities.

We are financed by federal and state grants, private donations and attorney fees to provide services to designated populations with disabilities. We are a 501c(3) organization.



Artwork by
Brenda Stewart

To donate, please visit our website:
www.disabilityrightsca.org

10 critical services we provide free of charge:

- 1) **Tell people with disabilities** about their many legal, civil, and service rights;
- 2) **Provide technical assistance, training, publications and advocacy support** for Californians with disabilities, their families and representatives;
- 3) **Advocate** to make sure that laws benefit Californians with disabilities;
- 4) **Investigate complaints about** serious physical and sexual abuse and neglect - related deaths in institutions;
- 5) **Outreach** to traditionally underserved ethnic and disability communities;
- 6) **Provide peer-self advocacy** services for people with psychiatric or developmental disabilities;
- 7) **Provide patients' rights advocacy** for state psychiatric hospital residents, and technical assistance and training for county advocates;
- 8) **Provide rights advocacy** for clients with developmental disabilities who are receiving services at the state's 21 regional centers;
- 9) **Bring impact litigation** and act as amicus curiae in disability-related cases; and
- 10) **Represent individuals**, based on our priorities and case selection criteria.

Find out more:

Visit our website: disabilityrightsca.org for disability news; a calendar of events; success stories, legislative principles and advocacy; and hundreds of free publications.

How will Disability Rights California decide whether to represent me?

In deciding whether we can represent you directly, we will consider:

- the merits of your claim;
- your ability to advocate for yourself;
- other advocacy sources you could use;
- whether your problem falls within one of our priority areas; and
- availability of our resources.

If we decide that we cannot help you and you disagree, you can file a grievance.

Advocacy Priorities



"Cindy Mills" by Joanne Anger

Our priorities for 2008-2012 are: abuse and neglect, discrimination, benefits, education for children and youth, the Lanterman Act, mental health, peer and self-advocacy, collaborative projects, patients' rights advocacy and clients' rights advocacy. (For details, request a copy of our Advocacy Plan, or go online to: www.disabilityrightsca.org/pubs/540201.pdf)