



NEW WORLD

For Persons with disAbilities

May 2015

Californians for DisAbility Rights, Inc.

DCAD Edition

CDR ISSUES – WHAT TO DO?

By Susan Chandler

Did you know that just 45 years ago there were 5 brave people who realized that there had to be a global shift in the way things were done to allow people with disabilities to participate in society without physical barriers? There were many barriers for those using wheelchairs, walkers, and canes that prevented people with disabilities from being able to get out and around in the community. Public transportation was not accessible and neither were most buildings! So it was hard to shop or even to be able to apply for jobs!

In my research on CAPH (CDR's predecessor), I talked with one of the original members who, in 1942, at age 15 1/2 had a spinal cord injury; she couldn't go to school, so they sent a home teacher who only taught her to knit and crochet! This, to me, illustrates that most people had attitudes about people with disabilities which showed they did not value them as people who had a right to participate in society the same as anyone else! The Civil Rights Act of 1964 opened the eyes of people with disabilities when black people (another group devalued by society) had just been awarded their civil rights! They took note and said "Why not us too?"

ISSUE - WANING ADVOCACY & ACTIVISM: The problem is an age old one--no one wants to do the work to make sure that nasty laws don't pass to keep our access laws and civil rights intact. When these bad laws do pass and people find out that they're affected, they then scream bloody murder and want things fixed! WHY? Most people are so involved with their own day-to-day struggles to keep alive, they only think about fixing their own problems. They neglect to contribute to working for the greater good for everyone, period. How can we inspire them to help? How do we find those that want to help work for the greater good, they appear to be few and far between.

CDR has always been totally supported by members, no grants or government funding! We are also very lucky to have some very dedicated members who spend lots of their time and efforts monitoring proposed legislation in Sacramento. Randy Hicks is Legislative Chair and lives in Sacramento, and has his ear on the ground! Ruthee Goldkorn, in Moreno Valley, and Tony Goldsmith, in Los Angeles, both

work closely with Randy and the legislators. They travel to and from Sacramento to attend meetings and hearings; they talk with many legislators and staff members; they study bills and negotiate with legislators to make beneficial changes in proposed legislation; they write letters to legislators and committees; and they write email alerts to CDR members to rally them to take action to ask their legislators to vote for or against bills or even attend meetings or hearings. We always need more people who would like to be part in of these efforts to watch the bills being proposed and be ready to act or call people's attention to needed action. You can find Randy's info on page 2 to volunteer.

ISSUE: NON-PROFIT STATUS: We are registered and compliant with the Secretary of State, and considered a non-profit by the State of California, however some may know that we are not on the IRS list any more. We recently found out that the IRS had revoked CDR's IRS 501(c)4 and the Foundation's 501(c)3 tax exempt status because the yearly IRS tax forms had not been filed in a long time. Because we have to apply for reinstatement, the IRS wants information from the beginning of CAPH (California Association for the Physically Handicapped) in 1970 and CFPH (California Foundation for the Physically Handicapped) in 1975! I have been researching what they did in the early days. If you have any memories or history of old CDR/CAPH events, I would love to hear from you! Please send it to me via email or phone me (my contact information is on 2nd page).

We want and need members to discuss these issues and help resolve what to do with CDR. Please join others at the next CDR membership meeting Thursday, May 21st in Sacramento. We invite all members to attend in person or by phone*. It will be the day after the Disability Capitol Action Day, at 1415 L Street (the AARP building) in their 9th floor conference room, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

So again I ask you **WHY NOT YOU TOO? WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR ALL PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES and CDR?** I hope you think about this and consider what you might contribute to CDR's future. It would be a shame to lose such a valuable asset to all people with disabilities.

* To attend and vote you must be a current member. Please go to the CDR website, (Continued on page 2)

**NEW WORLD
DCAD Edition
Californians for Disability
Rights (CDR, Inc.)**

<http://www.disAbilityrights-cdr.org>

New World:

Susan Chandler, Kathleen Barajas,
Dawn Beattie

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805 528-4695-

barnonhill@aol.com

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disabilitydreamweaver@gmail.com

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kdbarajas@aol.com

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Ruthee Goldkorn -
knowbarriers@yahoo.com

Ben Rockwell -
rocky.ben@verizon.net

CDR Foundation Chair:

Shira Leeder
Shiraleeder08@gmail.com

Web mistress: Kathleen Barajas -
kdbarajas@aol.com

Legislative Committee Chair:
Randy Hicks -
rhfactor_98@yahoo.com

CDR Member's Exchange:

Co-Moderators: Kathleen Barajas
and Ben Rockwell

Immediate Past Presidents:
Laura Williams, Linda Hinchey

**CDR's Mission - To Improve the
Quality of Life for All Persons with
any Disability Through Education
and Training - By Working to
Remove Barriers Through Advocacy
and Change in Public Policy.**

Originally organized in 1970 as CAPH (the California Association of the Physically Handicapped) --with five members, CDR has grown to become an effective and widely respected cross-disAbility advocacy force.

www.disabilityrights-cdr.org, and renew your membership; when you do, you will be e-mailed the call-in number and passcode.

CALTRANS LAWSUIT SUMMARY

In 2010, CDR resolved a class action lawsuit it had brought against Caltrans. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement in that lawsuit, Caltrans is undertaking massive investments and construction projects to improve the accessibility of the sidewalks and other pedestrian rights of way under its jurisdiction. To date, Caltrans has spent more than \$55 million on accessibility compliance pursuant to the settlement, and Caltrans will be spending at least \$215 million more before the year 2020 (with a commitment to continue to address access concerns with increasing annual obligations for twenty additional years after that) under the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

Additionally, because of the Settlement Agreement, Caltrans has created an online grievance process wherein individuals can report access concerns and barriers that arise in areas Caltrans controls. Caltrans has also created a formal response process for ensuring all such grievances are addressed. Using this information as well as Caltrans' own surveys, Caltrans has created a detailed plan that identifies and anticipates addressing barriers identified throughout the state of California. Caltrans has sought and obtained further support in undertaking this work, including hiring a consultant to evaluate many of the projects and provide guidance both before and during construction projects that Caltrans undertakes.

CDR actively monitors compliance with the Settlement Agreement through CDR's attorneys at Disability Rights Advocates. There is an extensive monitoring system required by the settlement that includes inspections of barrier removal work by outside experts, periodic reporting, and ongoing review of the access complaint system.

Although not required under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Caltrans created an Access Advisory Committee to advise it regarding ongoing and new access concerns that may arise statewide. CDR has representatives on this Committee, each of whom contributes to the overall efforts to meet the Settlement Agreement's requirements. CDR looks forward to this Committee's continued participation in the removal of access barriers in areas Caltrans controls throughout the state, and would like to see the Committee become more active and engaged, garnering even more attention than it has already been given by Caltrans employees and administrators. For more information, contact CDR officers Ben Rockwell or Linda Hinchey.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN CDR TODAY!

As CDR is funded solely by membership dues and donations, it is crucial that you keep your membership current, so that we can keep you updated through New Worlds and Members Xchange, and we can continue the work that we do.

Renew today at www.disabilityrights-cdr.org/membership.html or email Kathleen at kdbarajas@aol.com.

CDR FOUNDATION UPDATE

By Shira Leeder, Chair

Hi Everyone, Happy Spring 2015. We are pushing forward with our goals for this year. At the moment, the CDR Foundation board is working on the IRS re-authorization for tax-exempt status. It is a lot of work, but it is worth it for a good cause.

We will give out a new \$500 Laura Williams Memorial Scholarship this fall. The proposed deadline to apply for the scholarship will be in mid-October. Submissions are always being accepted, please refer people to the website: www.disabilityrights-cdr.org/cdrfoundation.html to get more details. The winner will be announced at the end of November.

CDRF's outreach efforts are always seeking potential board members and donators for the annual Laura Williams Memorial Scholarship fund, publishing the New World, attending EXPOs and the DCAD, and keeping the organization running.

We awarded the 2014 Laura Williams Memorial Scholarship to Ruth Welland. She used the scholarship to help pay for her final year's tuition at the University of San Francisco. Ruth is majoring in political science and hopes to attend law school and eventually "serve in the California State legislature as a policy research analyst". Last fall, she participated in an internship at a Senator's office in Washington D.C. Ruth is currently helping the Foundation board on its fundraising committee. The Board, wishes Ruth the very best in her academic success.

Access Services' New Online Reservation System

By Kathleen Barajas

Access Services has caught up with the times, and is preparing to launch its new online reservation service. Countless riders have been waiting for such a system for many years, and have been repeatedly going to Access Board Meetings to not only inquire about when the system might be implemented, but more so to stress the need for such a system.

I find this online reservation system a very long time in coming. An airport shuttle service which I often use offers online reservations. Their website is easy to use and understand, and it allows me to book my rides independently, without having to ask someone to call for me, because of my speech impairment.

Access Services provides independence to its riders by providing them transportation to places where they most likely could not get to on their own. By implementing an online reservation system,



DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCATES

A non-profit corporation

Striving to ensure dignity,
equality, and opportunity for
all people with disabilities

DRA represents groups of individuals with the full spectrum of disabilities in complex, system-change class-action cases to advance equal rights and opportunities for people with disabilities nationwide.

www.dralegal.org

Access is once again giving their riders independence to book rides on their own, without the need to have someone call for them.

I have been fortunate to be part of Access' Focus Team to try this online reservation system and provide feedback, in order to make the system as user friendly as possible. Access' online reservation system proves to be easy to use and understand, and will contain some of the rider's trip history to make scheduling rides easier.

Initially this online reservation system will only be available when booking rides which originate from either the Southern region or the Antelope Valley. It is expected for this system to be implemented in other regions that Access Services operates in, once the system has proven useful in these two regions.

Finally this new online reservation system will be available to Access riders on May 25th, at which time riders have the option to either phone in or go online to book their ride.

SB 277 VACCINATION CONTROVERSY

By Ruthee Goldkorn

Ladies and Gentlemen, I know you have seen the news coverage of the mass hysteria about vaccinating kids. There is no science behind the claims that they cause developmental delays or autism. We all know this claim was exposed as a fraud years ago.

I have spoken with the office of Senator Jeff Stone, PhD., a pharmacist and one of the co-authors and they need help. They have only a handful of support calls. We know vaccinating our kids prevents disAbilities from preventable communicable diseases. If you stand on the other side, we and the Senators do need to hear from you. The disAbility community needs to be heard from, period. This is one of our issues and we need to speak up.

Senator Connie Leyva has questions about those who will keep their kids at home with home schooling. California has programs for that so, call and ask what the issue is. Senator Roth voted no in the Health Committee because he said the Health Department may add new vaccines to the list. Call his office and ask why this is an issue for him. Senator Caro Liu, Chair of the Education Committee wanted more information. Let's hope they bring it next week.

If you believe that all kids need to be vaccinated as a public health issue, please call Senator Dr. Pan's office and Senator Stone's office to offer your support.

We were all given these same vaccines as kids and we had them given to our kids!!! We need to make sure vaccinations continue.

The only difference with the Pertusis vaccine from the 1980's is that it is now pure and the seizure complication that was well documented was corrected with no documentation of any continuing complications.

Please respond to this request to stand up for vaccinations. This is not a black and white issue, but to have our kids vaccinated is six decades old. Where would we be without Jonas Salk and the polio vaccine, the tetanus vaccine, and all of the others? As older adults, we need to continue to get vaccinated against flu, pneumonia and Shingles. We must protect our kids now against chicken pox, so that the scourge of Shingles is not in their future.

For those who want to call the Senators, here is their info. You can look up the bill at http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277.

- Senator Carol Liu, Chair Education Committee - 916.651.4025
- Co-Author Jeff Stone, PhD. - 916.651.4028
- Author Senator Dr. Richard Pan - 916.651.4006
- Senator Connie Leyva - 916.651.4020



Join CDR at Disability Capitol Action Day in Sacramento to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act!

ADA Forum, Disability Resource Fair, and Education Rally will be featured. For registration and general information, visit DisabilityActionCoalition.org, or contact Christina Mills at christina@cfilc.org.

ADA LAWYERS

Serving All of California



Mark D. Potter
Attorney
Founder of

Call Toll Free 1(800) 383-7027

**THE CENTER FOR
DISABILITY ACCESS**



Enforce Your Right to Access!

If you have a question about what your rights are, please do not hesitate to contact CDA.

We are ADA attorneys.
We will enforce your right to access
at **NO COST TO YOU!**

Here's part of an article from our monthly newsletter...

Rental Car Companies and Auto Dealerships Must Provide Vehicles With Hand Controls

Generally, the ADA does not require car rental agencies or car dealerships to modify their vehicles. There is one exception that the Center for Disability Access has been advocating for and it has been a veritable slugfest. It has to do with vehicle hand controls. The Center for Disability Access is currently representing several wheelchair using clients who are in the market to purchase a new or used car. They discovered that although the car dealerships provide their customers with the opportunity to test drive the vehicles before deciding on the purchase, they will not accommodate wheelchair users who want to enjoy the same privilege. The solution is simple: ensure that your dealership has access to and will install temporary vehicle hand controls upon request.



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CDR, INC.
BUDGET REPORT
For Year Ended December 31, 2015
As of April 30, 2015

INCOME	2014 Actuals	2015 Proposed	2015 Actuals	%
Ad Sales	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	100%
Credit Card Rewards	12.00	15.00	-	0%
Member Donations	747.00	800.00	133.13	17%
Memberships	1,685.00	2,000.00	165.00	8%
New World Grant (Repayment from Foundation)	423.00	1,045.00	395.00	38%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3,117.00	\$ 4,110.00	\$ 943.13	23%
EXPENSES	2014 Actuals	2015 Proposed	2015 Actuals	%
Abilities Expo / DCAD	Included in Outreach	\$ 250.00	\$ 107.50	43%
Fees	\$ 196.00	250.00	5.25	2%
Insurance	608.00	610.00	95.34	16%
New World	857.00	900.00	199.76	22%
Office Overhead	32.00	150.00	21.56	14%
Officer's Expenses	45.00	850.00	45.00	5%
Outreach (brochures, business cards)	674.00	700.00	151.78	22%
PayPal Fees	26.00	50.00	2.06	4%
Postage	141.00	100.00	46.50	47%
Rent	110.00	130.00	50.00	38%
Secretary of State	-	20.00	20.00	100%
Website	83.00	100.00	83.35	83%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,772.00	\$ 4,110.00	\$ 828.10	20%
CDR FOUNDATION'S PROJECTED SHARE OF EXPENSES		2015		
Insurance		\$ 305.00		
New World		900.00		
Outreach		350.00		
Postage		75.00		
Website		50.00		
TOTAL SHARE OF EXPENSES		\$ 1,680.00		
CDR FOUNDATION SHORTFALL				
Shortfall for 2014			\$ 1,782.06	
Plus: New World - Abilities Expo		\$ 199.76		
Outreach		75.89	275.65	
Minus: Payments			(395.00)	
BALANCE OWED			\$ 1,662.71	
CREDIT CARD				
Credit Card Payoff		\$ 248.13		
Credit Card Balances (as of date of report)				
Union Bank		\$ 317.00		
CHECKING ACCOUNT				
Union Bank Balance		\$ 893.34		

CDR MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Below is the current membership count by category (January 2013 to present):

- Family: 5 members
- Lifetime: 92 members
- Regular: 41 members
- Student/Low Income: 61 members

Total membership count: **199**

CDR FOUNDATION BUDGET REPORT For Year Ended December 31, 2015 As of April 30, 2015

INCOME	2014 Actual	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	% of Budget
Donations:				
Memorials				
Scholarships	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 393.25	39%
General	1,100.90	1,538.00	385.00	25%
Memberships				
Fundraisers:				
Good Search				
Ramps	200.00	100.00		
EXPO Raffle (San Jose)	69.00			
United Way	13.30	150.00		
Macy's	250.30	500.00		
Network for Good				
Refund from Office Depot			70.36	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,833.50	\$ 3,288.00	\$ 455.36	14%
EXPENSES				
	2014 Actual	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	% of Budget
Administration: Copies for IRS		\$ 100.00	\$ 91.70	92%
CDR Inc. Grant: New World		1,000.00		
Fees (bank)	\$ 25.00	20.00		
**Foundation repayment of 2013 expenses to CDR, Inc.	458.00	1,900.00	395.00	21%
Insurance business (CDRF pays 1/2)		305.00		
Outreach (brochures, scholarship recruiting)	92.09	250.00		
Abilities Expo LA	250.00	305.00	85.00	28%
Abilities Expo SJ (not 2015)	389.00			
Capitol Action Day		90.00	62.50	69%
Scholarships	500.00	500.00		
Website (CDRF pays 1/2)		50.00		
Secretary Of State	20.00	20.00		
Transportation	45.40			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,734.09	\$ 4,540.00	\$ 634.20	14%
Opening Account Balance as of 3/4/2014	\$ 1,016.81			
Beginning Bank Balance as of 3/31/2015	\$ 1,019.54			
Bank Balance as of 4/30/2015	\$ 1,467.05			

Californians for DisAbility Rights, Inc.

C/O Kathleen Barajas

1410 Simmons Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90022-4221

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you would like this newsletter in Word or PDF format,
please contact Kathleen Barajas at kdbarajas@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE!

**CDR & CDR FOUNDATION'S
MEMBERSHIP MEETING!!!**

Please mark your calendar and participate in CDR's very important meeting, which will decide our future!

Date: Thursday, May 21st - the day after Capitol Action Day

Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: AARP Conference Room

1415 L St, 9th floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Teleconference: Contact Kathleen at kdbarajas@aol.com for call-in information

All CDR/CDRF members are invited to join us either in person or via teleconference.

You must be a current member to participate in the meeting. Contact Kathleen if you are unsure of your status, or if you wish to become a member. You can also join or renew by visiting <http://www.disabilityrights-cdr.org/membership.html>. All new memberships and renewals will be valid until June 30, 2016.

Please RSVP and get the teleconference call-in number and passcode by contacting Kathleen at kdbarajas@aol.com or Susan Chandler at barnonhill@aol.com