

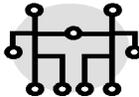
**Supported Life Institute & SCDD-Sacramento Office
 present our 30th Annual Conference**

Supported Life 2016: “Inclusion Is The New Standard”

Empowering All People with Developmental Disabilities to be Fully Included in the Community

SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Use Topic Icons to Help Choose from 36 Session Choices:

 Communication / AAC	 Organizational And Staff Development
 Employment	 Personal Power & Rights
 Family Supports/ Transition	 Policy & Legislation
 Health & Wellness	 Relationships
 Living / Community	 Schools

October 6 - 7, 2016
 CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL SACRAMENTO NORTHEAST

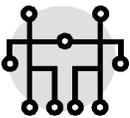


1A Systems Change: Competitive Integrated Employment. Carole Watilo, *Progressive Employment, Citrus Heights* In this session we will explore legislation impacting services in California along with ways we can respond to these changes. Attendees will learn about new laws and regulations impacting services, learn ways they can change to respond to these changes, and discover strategies for providing individualized person centered employment services.



1B Home Accessibility/Aging in Place. Steve Weaver, *EASE - Eagle Accessibility Solutions & Equipment, Auburn* Attendees learn about a variety of options to make their home safe and accessible for themselves or a loved one, regardless of abilities or age. Attendees learn about the resources available to assist with the expenses of making a home safe and accessible, as well as about the qualifications they should verify before hiring someone to do any work on their home. Specific questions and examples will be encouraged to help problem-solve during the session.

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1C The BFF (Best Friends Forever) Project. Trudy Grable, *Parents Helping Parents / Journey of Choice, San Jose* The BFF Project holds events that might called slow-motion speed-dating, to make meaningful friendships for those in need of supports. BFF Project opportunities are not simple single-topic events. There may be a costume party happening, video game reviews, art activities and other things occurring all at the same time! Attendees will see the importance of bringing people together around common interests; experience how easily this model can be replicated, and learn to replicate the model using person-centered approaches. The speaker shares tools and methods to ensure people will have a meaningful experience at a level comfortable for them.



1D Role of Whole Community in Preparing for Disasters, L. Vance Taylor, *California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Mather* No two disasters are ever the same; yet, virtually all incidents disproportionately affect individuals with disabilities and those with access and functional needs. Understanding this harsh reality, California leaned forward and established the Office of Access and Functional Needs (OAFN) within the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. The purpose of OAFN is to identify the needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs before, during, and after a disaster and to integrate disability needs and resources into emergency management systems. The OAFN Chief explains here the roles of OAFN, Service Providers, and Individuals in Preparing for disasters.



1E Special Needs Trust as an Advocacy Tool. Stephen Dale, *The Dale Law Firm, Pacheco* This disability rights advocate and attorney addresses developing a Special Needs Trust that will not only provide for long term care for a person with a disability, but also focus on maximizing quality of life. You will learn what to do to prepare for writing a Special Needs Trust. The session goes through a simple 4-step process that will ensure you have a document that will address all the issues and decisions that must be made in providing for your loved one with a disability. Learn how to focus on planning for independence versus preserving benefits.



1F Supporting AAC Learners to Use Their Communication Systems. Kristen Carroll, *CTEC / SLI, Sacramento (SLP CEUs)* Not being able to speak does not mean you have nothing to say! This statement encapsulates the philosophy of the Communication Technology Education Center (CTEC), focused on finding augmentative & alternative communication (AAC) strategies for individuals with complex communication needs. The work, however, does not end when a person receives a communication system or device -- it has just begun. Training is critical -- not only for the individuals using the system, but also for those who support them. This This speech/language pathologist provides strategies for team members (family, care-providers, professionals, friends) to help the AAC learner achieve communication success.



2A Our Journey of Becoming Empowered Employees. Robert Levy, *Orangevale* This presentation includes the stories of 2 self-advocates experiencing the world of work and employment services. Robert will talk about how it did not work for him when he worked at a workshop. He got an Employee of the Month award but the workshop wouldn't let him go into supported employment. But... he now has three competitive jobs in the community! How did that happen? The speaker describes how he got his jobs, what his job tasks are, and how his job coaches helped him succeed in these jobs. His co-presenter tells about how he (Andrew) uses an i-phone app to help him complete his job tasks, and the volunteer work he does. Andrew tells about how his job coach helps him with transportation and helped him find his volunteer jobs.



2B Living Life to the Fullest Over 40 and Beyond! Beverley Legault, *Creative Support Alternatives, Murphys* This session talks about living life to the fullest whether you are in your 40's, 50's, 60's, or beyond! The speakers share information about how they use a variety of supports to live on their own, become active in their community, work, volunteer, and enjoy life! Speakers will include time for audience participation, as well as Questions and Answers. Presenters hope their session will inspire people to accomplish what they want to do and encourage adults at all age levels to be active and involved in life!



2C Californians for SSI & the California Cash-out Policy. Chris Jensen, *Resources for Independent Living, Sacramento* Californians for SSI (CA4SSI) is a statewide coalition of over 200 members that formed for the purpose of getting the CA State Supplemental Payment (SSP) increased so that the combined SSI/SSP is at least the Federal Poverty Level, and to get an on-going Cost of Living Adjustment to keep it there. The session would be to explain the history of SSI/SSP in California, especially during the time of the Great Recession. The other topic is the California Cash-out Policy. It is the policy that prevents Californians on SSI/SSP from being ineligible for CalFresh. We would go over the history of Cash-out, and the implication of ending it.



2D Integrating Access & Functional Needs into Emergency Evacuation Plans. L. Vance Taylor, *California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Mather* This session explains how Staff & Disability Service Agencies can learn to more easily Start or Continue their Emergency Planning. Specifically addressed: how to plan, develop, institute & exercise an Emergency Evacuation Plan that incorporates the needs of individuals with disabilities & access & functional needs. This Chief of the Cal OES Office of Access & Functional Needs (OAFN) notes how critical this is, also dovetailing w/ OAFN's purpose, to identify the needs of people with disabilities (& others with access & functional needs) before, during & after a disaster, and integrate disability needs & resources into emergency management systems.



2E Getting Around the Community and Making Friends Bill Allen, *DDS SafetyNet, San Francisco* Want to explore your community and make new friends? Then this session is for you! Join the DDS SafetyNet discuss how you can stay safe when you're out and about. Whether it's riding the bus, walking around, or interacting with strangers, we'll talk about what you can do to stay safe. Once you know how to keep yourself safe, we'll talk about ways to make friends in your community and how to build healthier relationships. Join us to learn how to have a healthier, safer, and overall better everyday life!



2F Apps for Communication. Kristen Carroll, *CTEC / SLI, Sacramento (SLP CEUs)* This speech and language pathologist offers an overview and demonstration of selected iOS apps for communication used by individuals with complex communication needs. Features of the apps will be discussed relating to the needs of the individual, for example: layout, access, vocabulary, and customization options. The pros and cons of using "off the shelf" tablets vs. dedicated iOS speech generating devices will be explored, as well as the need for an evaluation to determine the most appropriate communication app for each individual.



3A Preparing for the Real World of Work. Chantal Sicile-Kira, *Founder, Autism College.com, San Diego* Temple Grandin says that her work is what gives meaning to her life. Not all individuals on the spectrum are as talented as Temple, but with proper skill-training and preparation, many can have productive employment or careers. This session addresses all different ability levels on the spectrum. An overview of the different types of employment structures currently available (including self-employment), in the community will be given, as well as a description of 10 top attributes employers are looking for in a potential employee.



3B Aging With a Developmental Disability. Lanita Henderson, *Parents and Friends Inc., Fort Bragg* As the population that we support begin to age, issues surrounding the aging process become a relevant component of the support process and how to effectively support our clients as they begin to age and experience cognitive deficits or diagnosis of dementia. This certified dementia practitioner and previous nursing home administrator with decades of experience in the health care industry discusses many aspects of managing developmental disabilities and dementia, "aging in place," and advocating for your clients in a medical setting.



3C Major Changes Coming Impacting You And Your Community. Marty Omoto, *CDCAN (CA Disability-Senior Community Action Network), Sacramento* This sibling and long time disability and senior rights advocate provide the latest updates and information on the federal (Medicaid) Home and Community Based Services regulations and employment/work regulations and changes for people with developmental disabilities, families and workers. The session also seeks from the audience comments and will answer questions on various ideas the State and advocates are looking at in implementation of the federal regulations that will mean major sweeping changes to how people with developmental (and other) disabilities receive services and supports in the community and the impact to people and to organizations who provide those services and supports.



3D How Do We Support The Supporters? Mary Ellen Sousa, *Creative Support Alternatives, San Andreas* Known as direct support workers, facilitators, coaches, and many other titles, their work forms the very foundation upon which support services are built. Yet they are often under-paid, under-recognized, and under-appreciated. Join in this conversation and participate in learning and identifying specific ways we can step up and "support the supporters", showing just how valued they truly are! Attendees will learn at least 20 ways, big and small, to recognize and appreciate "Supporters"; how to support the professional growth and dreams of Supporters; and the importance of supporting these individuals to ensure high quality services.



3E The ABALE Act: Where do we go from Here? Stephen Dale, *The Dale Law Firm, Pacheco* This presentation will discuss the recently passed ABALE Act legislation in California and how it can be used to help people with disabilities have more financial options and more control over their lives. Through case study illustrations, participants will learn exactly what is involved with an ABALE account and walk away with an in-depth knowledge that will help them determine whether it is the right tool for their needs. This disability rights advocate and attorney compares special needs trusts and ABALE Accounts, explaining when using one or both options are appropriate, while educating persons with disabilities about all options to ensure quality of life.



3F Aided Language Input for Communication Support. Kristen Carroll, *CTEC / SLI, Sacramento (SLP CEUs)* This speech/language pathologist gives an overview and demonstrates 'aided language input', a method of modeling to teach individuals with complex communication needs how to use symbols to communicate. Using low-tech symbols, communication boards, and high-tech speech generating devices, words can be modeled to increase receptive and expressive language skills of individuals with complex communication needs. Aided language input can also increase verbal output of some individuals. Strategies to follow the lead of the individual will also be discussed in order to create opportunities in which to model language.



4A Competitive Integrated Employment: Real Jobs for Real Pay. Denyse Curtright, *CA Department of Developmental Services, Sacramento* Overview of the Competitive Integrated Employment Blueprint. Includes information on new federal requirements, new state programs to increase competitive integrated employment outcomes. Will include a look at the Employment Data Dashboard used to track effectiveness. Also a look at new online resources to help consumers, families, professionals, and educators to assist consumers to achieve their career goals. Join these representatives of the Department of Developmental Services, Department of Rehabilitation, and Department of Education for the State of California to learn the latest about Employment initiatives.



4B An Update on POS Disparities in Regional Centers. Barbara Wheeler, *USC UCEDD, Los Angeles* Dr. Wheeler leads this distinguished and diverse panel in providing an update on the implementation of WIC 4519.5 which requires regional centers to annually post Purchase of Service (POS) data by Age, Race, Ethnicity, and Language and to hold Public Hearings of stakeholder groups within 90 days of posting. Also, a description of a model implemented in Los Angeles to increase the number of Latino and Chinese regional center clients attending public hearings and engaging leadership of two regional centers will be provided.



4C Developmental Centers: Transitions and Transformations. Catherine McCoy, *CA Department of Developmental Services, Sacramento* California's era of Institutionalization for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is coming to an end, finally realizing the mission of the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Act. What are the timeframes for the closures? What is the transition process for the remaining residents at our Developmental Centers (DCs)? What types of resources are being created for their inclusion into our community? How can we keep the expertise of DC employees in our system? What could happen to the State land after the DC closes? These questions and more will be addressed during this session.



4D From LABEL to ABLE. Isabel Duncanwood *Voices Unleashed, Redding* This self-advocate leader will “show how even though we may have disabilities, we also have abilities.” She talks about “the purpose of labels” and describes “how labels can affect a person’s life in both a positive and a negative way.” The speaker tells “how we can dispel stigmatizing attitudes towards disabilities and “how to stand against stigma against persons with disabilities and our labels.”



4E Inclusion for Sabrina - One Child's Journey. Nelia Nunes, *Parent Advocate, Folsom* When Sabrina turned 3, she was placed in a separate classroom for children with moderate-severe disabilities. Her parents advocated to have her in a regular general education classroom at her neighborhood school. She is now 10 and is in her 4th year in general education. These parent advocates portray the benefits and challenges that have been encountered and how Sabrina’s parents working with the IEP team have made inclusion for a child with a significant intellectual disability work.

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4F Email, Txt, Telephone, and Video Communication with my AAC Device Jamie Crum, *CTEC / SLI, Sacramento (SLP CEUs)* Communication devices used to only be used for fact to face communication. Now even the most basic communication systems can include the ability to have a phone conversation, send a txt, or even help you make a Skype video call. Attendees will learn which devices can be used on a phone call and acquire skills to support an AAC user using distance communication. Medicare guidelines on funding devices with distance communication features will also be covered and national organization ASHA’s position on speech vs distance communication is explained.



5A "Making the Transition": From Student to Employee. Ben Praker, *InAlliance, Placerville* This session covers how a Student coming out of the School at age 22 moves into an Adult Services Program and engages in the "Competitive Integrated Employment: process. Learn about Competitive Integrated Employment from start to finish of the job development and employment process. Learn the basics of job skill and interest assessment, job development, the application process, interviewing, innovative job coaching, natural support building, and job-longevity skill-building.



5B Life After Death: Carrying on After Losing a Loved One. Steve Weaver, *EASE - Eagle Accessibility Solutions & Equipment, Auburn* Losing a loved one... an honest, open, & real look at this chapter of a journey. Whether you're a family member, caregiver, or professional, the ones you love do not always outlive us. This interactive session explores the impact of loss & ways to celebrate a life, giving meaning to the care, advocacy, & work we do. A true "Work in Process", this session will explore the very real experiences of a father who is doing his best to celebrate his daughter's life. Talking with someone who is living this journey may provide insight into what is inevitable for all of us, & hopefully provide for a perspective of celebration rather than sadness.



5C CMS Settings Rule: How Can My Agency Move Toward Inclusion? Laura Brackin, *Brackin & Associates, Louisiana* The Federal Government, which plays a key role in funding most Regional Center funded services, issued a Rule in 2014 regarding appropriate settings for consumers to receive community services. Agencies supporting people with disabilities are expected to come up with a plan in the near future to meet these new federal expectations of integrated work, community living situations, etc. Our morning keynote speaker will give an overview of the CMS Settings Rule, offering ideas, strategies, and tools service providers can use to evaluate their services and work toward compliance with the Rule, utilizing a Person-Centered Planning approach - which she says is the key to helping the Rule create inclusion for people we support. The primary target of this session is provider agencies and staff who want to be proactive in meeting rule requirements, but even more, those agencies who want to identify other ways to provide quality services.



5D Emergency Preparedness - What to Know! Sonya Bingaman, *SCDD - Sac. Office, Sacramento* This session will be an overview of the most common emergencies in California. Speakers will talk about how to assess an emergency, how to make an emergency plan, and how to prepare a "go" kit for your use in an emergency. Using a variety of materials, powerpoint, and "Feeling Safe Being Safe" materials, attendees will learn how to plan ahead and be ready in the case of an emergency or disaster.



5E Multi-Cultural Collaborations to Improve Access to Special Education. Irene Martinez, *Fiesta Educativa Inc., Los Angeles* Reaching Hispanic & Chinese Parents is a Community Parent Resource Center funded by the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) of US Dept. of Education. This collaboration of two community-based organizations to address needs of parents from two different cultures is now in its 3rd round of funding and has been recognized by OSEP as a model for multi-cultural collaboration & partnership to increase knowledge of parents from both ethnic groups to understand their children's rights to education & effectively use the IEP process in culturally palatable ways. Presenters discuss what Latino & Chinese parents have in common culturally, how this collaboration meets the needs of each cultural group yet maximizes their impact in accessing services, & the ongoing staff development needs of this multi-cultural collaboration.



5F Artful, Effortless & Empowering AAC w/QuickSteps Language Suite. Bruce Fleming, *Talk To Me Technologies, Cedar Falls, Iowa (SLP CEUs)* Share thoughts, feelings, opinions, questions and humor with access to hundreds of phrases and fringe vocabulary. Or, produce a unique message via core words and sentence building strategies. Past, present or future, Talk to Me Technologies' QuickStep Suite of Vocabulary page sets allows Beginning and Context Dependent Communicators the ability to experience rich conversations & communicate with maximum independence. Learn 3 unique features, the color coding system, and ways to integrate "Distance Communication".



6A Work Pays. Karen Shrawder, *Department of Rehabilitation, Sacramento* People with disabilities, who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), need to learn how to make informed choices about working and benefits while increasing their financial independence through the use of Work Incentives and employment supports. Participants in this session will: 1. Compare the work incentives available to beneficiaries of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI); 2. Compare Myths about what will happen if a beneficiary goes to work, with the Facts; 3. Learn about plenty of resources that they can share with family members, friends, caregivers, and other professionals with whom they live/work



6B “Blocking the Punches” Personal Safety Training. Jane Singer, *Blocking The Punches, Venice, CA* This presenter notes: “The mission of Blocking the Punches is and always will be helping our students who have a wide spectrum of challenges—autism, Downs Syndrome, mental illness— prepare for, anticipate and respond to situations that may endanger them. Expecting the unexpected—the dangers of the natural and unnatural world around us is not to be feared, but to be prepared for whether it is a verbal or physical assault. As well, we are stressing the importance of avoiding physical conflict and the use of respectful, non-confrontational language through use of basic self defense moves and verbal responses that teach boundaries and learn to defend from bullying. Our students are frequently victimized and are always at risk.”



6C Self-Determination - Is It Right for You? Sonya Bingaman, *SCDD - Sac. Office, Sacramento* Learn about this new way to plan and choose what services you need, as it continues to be finalized by the federal government as an option in California. The basics of Self-Determination in California will be presented in this session, including information on the Person Centered Plan vs. the IPP; what is an Independent Facilitator and a Fiscal Management Service?; How is the individual Budget determined? How will services look different? And is it right for you?



6D ‘Inclusion is the New Standard’: My Story. Joe Delgado, *Disability Resource Agency for Independent Living, Sonora* This self-advocate speaker says: “As far as I can remember, I was told you can't do this and you can't do that. With the right guidance, I was able to prove them wrong. I was officially diagnosed with Aspergers' Syndrome, a form of Autism at UCSF at eight years of age. Back then, in 1990, the professionals' thinking was dramatically different than it is today. They told my mom I would never drive a car, never be able to hold a job, not be able to attend regular Ed. Classrooms, live on my own, or socialize with people. Boy, were they wrong...”



6E Operation Sister: The Sibling Advocacy Experience. Mariko Peshon, *Sibling & Special Education Advocate, South Lake Tahoe* The inherent experience of sharing life with any sibling is naturally special. The experience of sharing life with a sibling with disabilities is a powerful dynamic that holds the potential to create opportunities to conduct advocacy through a unique approach. This session will provide insight into the sibling advocacy experience and the ways in which supports and services can benefit from an inclusive, family perspective. Participants will learn about the lived experience of a sibling advocate and find out how to actively engage in sibling-based activities to increase awareness of the potential for unique sibling advocacy around special education and community services.



6F Video Supported Communication Systems. Jamie Crum, *CTEC / SLI, Sacramento (SLP CEUs)* Adding Video Clips to AAC systems (communication apps and devices) has shown to be a powerful tool that can jump start an individual's engagement, initiation, and accuracy when introduced to a new communication system. Individuals with sensory and developmental disabilities previously unable to look at or reach toward an AAC app were motivated to make intentional choices from a field of many buttons on a AAC device. Session will include video examples, implementation strategies and review of video accessible communication apps.