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Carlsbad, CA 92008-1660

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Community Interface Services

directory of services

Detailed information on services may be obtained by calling the service contact person at (760) 729-3866 or by visiting our web site at www.communityinterfaceservices.org.

Vocational and Transitional Services *info@communityinterfaceservices.org*

Community Integration Training—

Vocational and community integration skills training in community based settings.

Contact: Kristine Simpson

Supported Employment—

One-on-one or group job development and coaching support in competitive paid employment.

Contact: Sherry Davison

Community Housing Partnership

housing@communityinterfaceservices.org
www.communityhousingpartnership.org

Assistance accessing Section 8 waitlists and individual home ownership; available to all Regional Center service recipients.

Contact: Bruce Willbrant

Community Living

info@communityinterfaceservices.org

Individually tailored support arrangements with a commitment to service recipient empowerment and choice. Services assist people with developmental disabilities to have lifestyles and living situations like those without disabilities.

Independent Living—

Skills training typically ranging from 2 to 65 hours per month.

Contact: Judy Jamell

Supported Living—

Support for individuals with comprehensive needs not typically met through independent living services.

Contact: Chris Lubinski

Fiscal Management Service

For individuals participating in Self-Determination for assistance with bill paying and employer of record services.

Contact: Kim Larsen

Social Support Facilitation

Promotes access to social and community recreational opportunities for adults and children with developmental disabilities throughout San Diego County.

Contact: Darcy Dahlen

IN ORDER TO ASSIST ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN REACHING THEIR INDIVIDUAL POTENTIAL FOR COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND INDEPENDENCE, THE MISSION OF COMMUNITY INTERFACE SERVICES IS TO PROVIDE QUALITY, INDIVIDUALIZED, COMMUNITY BASED SUPPORT AND TRAINING IN EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, COMMUNITY LIVING, AND OTHER RELATED SERVICES.

a publication of community interface services

Community Focus

december 2006

state news

The Department of Developmental Services to Cancel "CADDIS"

The California Disability Community Action Network reported on December 6, 2006, that "after years of delays and millions of dollars spent, the Schwarzenegger Administration announced yesterday that it will cancel the statewide computer project [CADDIS]—still not operational—that was suppose to improve tracking of expenditures and services of nearly 200,000 people with developmental disabilities."

"The controversial project has been under intense fire by the legislative budget committee members...and advocates who were angry at cost over runs and delays."

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) "made a special point to assure that no person will have any services interrupted as a result of the cancellation.... Many advocates for people with disabilities and many regional centers were also critical of the project and generally applauded" the cancellation.

"The cancellation of the controversial project comes at a time of growing concern among policy makers and advocates alike about how the State will bridge what is projected will be a budget deficit of over \$5 billion—and its impact on health and human services and the millions of people with disabilities, mental health needs, seniors, low income families and others who depend on those programs."

"Implementation of Self Directed Services was [also] tied to a successful roll-out of the CADDIS computer system" and DDS now says it 'continues to assess other mechanisms to implement [Self Directed Services] SDS by either modifying the current information systems or establishing a separate system for SDS.' "

"Self Directed Services is a version of 'Self Determination pilot projects' across the nation and more specifically 5 pilots that have been operating in the State, where persons with disabilities (or seniors) are able to choose or develop their own services and programs." Community Interface Services currently provides Fiscal Management Services for pilot participants throughout California.

agency news

CARF Survey Results in Highest Accreditation

CARF, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, awarded Community Interface Services' Supported Employment Program the highest possible accreditation rating attainable. This latest accreditation is Community Interface's third consecutive three year accreditation awarded after a CARF survey team conducted an exhaustive review of service outcomes, polices, and procedures. CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that strives to enhance quality of life for persons served.

YOU CAN REACH COMMUNITY INTERFACE SERVICES AT:

2621 ROOSEVELT STREET
CARLSBAD, CA 92008
VOICE (760) 729-3866
TOLL FREE (888) 676-3786
TDD (760) 729-7155
FAX (760) 729-8526
JOBLINE (760) 729-4295
info@communityinterfaceservices.org

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:

www.communityinterfaceservices.org



Community Focus

Editors

Rojane Jackson

Kim Larsen

Bruce Willbrant

We want to make sure that the news and information in Community Focus is as accessible as possible to everyone in the community.

We are glad to provide a reading service to individuals who need it.

Reading service for Community Focus can be obtained in our office or over the phone. Please call (760) 729-3866 to make arrangements.



United Way
of San Diego County

COMMUNITY INTERFACE SERVICES
AGENCY NUMBER 6228

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COMMUNITY INTERFACE SERVICES
IS A NONPROFIT CORPORATION
AND AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYER.

kudos

Thanks to Comerica Bank!

Community Interface Services was honored this month with a generous \$1,000 donation from Comerica Bank. Headquartered in Detroit, Comerica Bank recently opened a branch in Carlsbad and is growing rapidly in San Diego County. The bank is committed to partnering with other community resources, and chose to invest in Community Interface Services after learning of its long history of support for persons with developmental disabilities.

Kimberly Larsen, Community Interface Services' Associate Director, attended the grand opening celebration on December 5 and received a check from branch manager Vignette Matthews.



"We are very grateful to Comerica Bank for this wonderful gesture," said Kim, "Without support of partners like Comerica Bank, Community Interface Services could not fulfill its mission of assisting people with developmental disabilities."

Vignette Matthews (left), manager of the new Comerica Bank branch in Carlsbad, presents Kimberly Larsen (right), with a very large check for Community Interface Services.

vocational services

Vista Entertainment Center— More Than Just a Bowling Alley

Many people in North County are familiar with Vista Entertainment Center as a local bowling alley, but service recipients in Community Interface's Community Integration Training program are lucky to know it for so much more. In July, a group of service recipients and staff members began to use the Entertainment Center as their "homebase."

Located right in downtown, just blocks from the Vista Village redevelopment area and on major transit routes, the Entertainment Center is ideally located. Activities and social opportunities abound, both at the Center and in the nearby community. The neighborhood is full of things to do and people to meet, and some service recipients volunteer at the church next door. Entertainment Center staff, including Sharon, Jessica, Eric, and Cherrisse, are very helpful. In addition, service recipients are able to meet and make connections with many people in leagues that use lanes there each day.

The Entertainment Center is also a great place to work on community safety skills and provides many opportunities for service recipients to learn social skills that will help them become more integrated in the community. Service recipients and staff are very happy with their new location, and had a chance to "strut their stuff" during San Diego Regional Center's recent Federal Medicaid Waiver audit, when the audit team visited their site. Community Interface Services thanks staff at the Entertainment Center for opening their doors!

supported employment

Service With a Smile

Anybody who works in retail or customer service knows how difficult it is. Philip Schmid-Schoenbein, however, makes it seem easy. Philip has received services through Community Interface's Supported Employment program for five years and has worked as a courtesy clerk at Vons in Carmel Valley for over four years.

During that time, Philip received so many perfect scores from "mystery shoppers" that it's hard to keep track of them all. Recently, however, he received an even higher honor. Philip was invited to an awards ceremony where he was presented with a "World Class Service" award. He has worked hard through his years at Vons to provide the best service he can, and it was great for Philip to have his dedication recognized.

Supervisors and coworkers consistently mention what a wonderful courtesy clerk Philip is and what a great guy he is to work with. Many regular customers wait in a longer line just for Philip to bag their groceries. Philip is modest and low-key about his commendations. His advice is simple but critical—customer service is most important, as it is what makes the customer want to come back.

supported living

A Stand-Up Kind of Guy

If you watched NBC's reality show "Last Comic Standing" recently, you may have caught a glimpse of a new rising star in comedy. Luis Rivera, who lives in Escondido and receives support through Community Interface Services' Community Living program, has honed his act in local comedy clubs for several years. He gets a kick out of public speaking and enjoys entertaining people with his life experiences. This year, he went for the big time and auditioned for the hit TV show.

Luis didn't make it into the finals, but he was seen in some early segments. Luis had a great time with the experience and no doubt got some new material to work into future shows. Unfortunately, Luis recently was sidelined by a serious accident and has spent several months recuperating, but now has a lot of time to work on his future plans. Luis is considering a move to Los Angeles to further his comedy aspirations. Community Interface applauds Luis and hopes he will continue to pursue his dream. Comedy club goers around North County should keep an eye out for Luis and have a laugh on him!

New Social Support Project

Community Interface Services is pleased to announce its new Social Support Facilitation project, funded by San Diego Regional Center, and intended to promote access to social and community recreational opportunities for adults and children with developmental disabilities throughout San Diego County. The project does not provide direct social activities, but will seek to increase involvement and inclusion of persons with developmental disabilities in existing social and recreational activities. The new service is accessed through a San Diego Regional Center service coordinator. Once service is initiated, the project coordinator will work directly with the service recipient, his or her family as appropriate, and the service coordinator to determine just what social and recreational activities to pursue.

Attending a Supported Living orientation is required for service recipients or families who are interested in securing Regional Center funded Supported Living services. The orientation provides an excellent opportunity to learn more about Supported Living services, as well as to meet various Supported Living service providers.

All orientations are held 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the San Diego Regional Center Board Room at 4355 Ruffin Rd., Suite 100, San Diego.

To register for an upcoming session, please call the SDRC Training Line at (858) 576-2805, or contact a SDRC service coordinator for more information.

If an interested individual is unable to attend a scheduled session, the service coordinator can arrange for a special orientation to take place.

LOCAL HOUSING AGENCIES

To request Section 8 rental assistance information, an application, or to update your existing application, please contact the housing authority office for the area in which you live.

CARLSBAD (includes La Costa)
CARLSBAD HOUSING AGENCY
2965 ROOSEVELT STREET, SUITE B
CARLSBAD, CA 92008
(760) 434-2934

WWW.CI.CARLSBAD.CA.US/CSERV/HOUSING.HTML

Due to federal cuts in Section 8 funding, Carlsbad's Section 8 waiting list was closed effective 10/1/05.

ENCINITAS (includes Leucadia, Cardiff, and Olivehain)

ENCINITAS HOUSING DEPARTMENT
505 S. VULCAN AVENUE
ENCINITAS, CA 92024
(760) 633-2723

WWW.CI.ENCINITAS.CA.US

OCEANSIDE

OCEANSIDE HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
321 N. NEVADA STREET
OCEANSIDE, CA 92054
(760) 435-3360

WWW.CI.OCEANSIDE.CA.US/HOUSING/DEFAULT.ASP

SAN DIEGO CITY

SAN DIEGO HOUSING COMMISSION
1625 NEWTON AVENUE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92113
(619) 578-7305

BY MAIL: P.O. BOX 129017
SAN DIEGO, CA 92112-9017

WWW.SDHC.NET/HARENTASSIST1.SHTML

(LISTINGS CONTINUE ON PAGE 5)

service array

Program Evaluations Detail Quality Services

Community Interface Services is committed to continual improvement in its service delivery and ability to achieve optimal outcomes for persons served. In order to ensure the highest quality services are delivered, data is consistently gathered from a variety of internal and external sources and then aggregated, analyzed, and used to make decisions about its services. At the end of each fiscal year, Community Interface Services publishes results of a thorough evaluation of all its services. Here are a few highlights:

Independent Living

Independent Living Services provide community-based support that emphasizes improvement in quality of life through maximizing independence, community inclusion, and personal growth. Two hundred and seventeen service recipients were enrolled in Independent Living during the year, and 90% of those individuals maintained an independent living situation. One hundred percent of service recipients who completed Satisfaction Surveys reported being happy with the services they receive.

Supported Living

The ultimate goal of Supported Living Services is to assist adults with developmental disabilities to become as independent as possible while receiving necessary supports to live in their own communities. This goal can be met through any number of different support arrangements and exact support structures vary based on individual needs and desires. A total of 31 persons received Supported Living services in the report period. Of individuals who completed Satisfaction Surveys, 100% reported being happy with the services they receive and that they are developing skills they want.

Community Integration Training

Community Integration Training provides participants with a day program of integrated community activities, which includes paid and volunteer work experiences. The program is actually made up of two services: CIT V (a five hour day), and CIT VI (a six hour day). A total of 156 individuals received services through CIT V and CIT VI during the fiscal year. Individuals worked at a great variety of community worksites, such as the Wild Animal Park, Quail Botanical Gardens, Escondido Humane Society, Fallbrook Baptist Church, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Women's Resource Center, Ivey Ranch, YMCA, and Brengle Terrace Senior Center.

Supported Employment

The Supported Employment service supports adults with developmental disabilities in identifying desired outcomes, overcoming employment barriers, and attaining productive, meaningful, and rewarding paid work. Supported Employment services are provided either individually in an Individual Placement (IP) or in a group as a Group Placement (GP). A total of 130 individuals participated in Supported Employment during the fiscal year.

As Supported Employment helps individuals find and maintain paid work, the quality of the work, supports provided, and relationship with the employer are all keys to success. Employer satisfaction surveys indicated that 96% of employers felt CIS does a good job of providing supports and services. Stable long-term employment is a goal of Supported Employment, and of participants who had been employed for more than a year, 100% said they were satisfied with their jobs.

Good News From Sacramento

In a major victory for California renters, Governor Schwarzenegger recently signed into law AB 1169, which reinstates a 60-day notice requirement for no-fault evictions. Previously, only 30-day notice was required, and it took a yearlong struggle by tenant's advocates to increase the eviction notice period to 60 days. Low-income renters, especially those with special needs, are often unable to find another apartment within 30 days. In recognition of the needs of people with disabilities, Governor Schwarzenegger said, "Being asked to move involuntarily is never easy, and moving is especially difficult for the elderly and persons with disabilities... I believe AB 1169 strikes a reasonable balance between the needs of tenants and those of property owners."

Tenants should be aware, however, that a 60-day notice does not apply in all cases. Tenants may still face a three day "for cause" eviction in cases where there are gross violations of the lease, such as nonpayment of rent. Renters must still abide by all terms of their leases, but the new law offers more security for those tenants who follow rules and still may face unexpected evictions.

In other good news, California voters last month approved Proposition 1C, the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006, also known as the housing bond. Prop 1C will generate \$2.85 billion for new housing initiatives. Among the funds to be allocated:

- \$345 million for a Multifamily Housing Program, to be used for new construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of permanent and transitional rental homes for lower income households.
- \$195 million to fund rental homes with support services for persons who have a disability and are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.
- \$50 million for emergency shelters and transitional homes for homeless individuals and families.
- \$300 million for CalHome downpayment assistance, home rehabilitation, counseling, self-help mortgage assistance programs, and technical assistance.
- \$200 million for California Homebuyer Downpayment Assistance Program to assist first-time homebuyers.

Funds from the housing bond will be allocated to city and county housing agencies to dole out locally, or will be available through grant applications at the state level. Community Interface Services will continue to monitor these funds for any opportunities that may benefit persons with developmental disabilities.

MORE LOCAL HOUSING AGENCIES

SAN DIEGO COUNTY (includes Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, Escondido, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Poway, San Marcos, Santee, Solana Beach, Vista, and the unincorporated areas of the county)

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
3989 RUFFIN ROAD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92123-1890
(877) 478-5478
WWW.CO.SAN-DIEGO.CA.US/SDHCD/INDEX_RENTER.HTML

NATIONAL CITY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
140 E. 12TH STREET, SUITE B
NATIONAL CITY, CA 91950-3312
(619) 336-4250
WWW.CI.NATIONAL-CITY.CA.US

Just Ask Us...

Community Interface Services welcomes input from the public regarding its services. If you have questions about what we do, how we do it, or suggestions about how we could do things better, please reach us using the contact information on the front page.

The San Diego Housing Commission and the County of San Diego Department of Housing and Community Development have published a great resource on affordable housing in San Diego County. In one book, 2006-2007 AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESOURCES, gathers together information on Section 8 rental assistance, public housing, shared housing, homeownership assistance, and property repair and rehabilitation. The publication covers all of San Diego County, and is a great starting point for persons looking for affordable housing in the area. A link to this great new resource can be found online at www.communityhousingpartnership.org.

in review

Memories of 2006

Community Interface Services recently asked service recipients, family members, and staff to share their favorite memories of the year gone by. Here are some of the things people shared at the agency's recent holiday party:

Zack B. started a great new job at Eternal Hills Mortuary, and received two glowing thank-you letters from families he helped.

Fawn C. was commended by coworkers as a great team player and received a gift certificate from her employer.

Steve V. received a Letter of Commendation from his supervisors at the Dove Library.

Tom P. was recognized on the WalMart "Thank You Board" for doing a great job.

Peter C. received an \$829 bonus from his employers at La Costa Glen.

Alison H. celebrated her five year anniversary at PetSmart, and received a raise.

Mary Ann F. flew to Florida on her own to visit her sister.

Randy S. went to Iowa to compete in Special Olympics Basketball National Championships.

Carol G. took a plane ride all by herself to visit her family for the holidays.

Margaret B. had two art shows at her home to promote her business.

Gerry E. was approved for a home repair loan to make some much-needed repairs on his home.

Jean T. was able to move closer to her family and friends.

Eddie S. moved into his first apartment with his beloved dog, Daisy.

Kenyetta P. and **Mark P.** have been living together in their apartment successfully for four years.

Dan S. lost 50 pounds!

Manny C. celebrated his fourth year on the job.

Terry A. was able to rent an RV with his roommates and travel to Texas to visit his 85 year old father. Terry loved the trip and spent the whole 11 hour drive reclined in a sleeper chair.

"I was able to become a cashier—thanks to job coach Amy and assistant manager Will for believing in me, and to CIS for their support."
-**Johnny M.**

Gabby L. got her Section 8 on Valentine's Day. She moved into her own apartment and decorated in nicely. She also got to travel to Iowa with her family to see her brother's football game.

"I was glad to meet Suzanne and Katie at New Song Church, and begin helping them with the Hospitality Café after the services."

-**Annette A.**

"I've been working my job for six and a half years, and traveled to Europe in September."
-**Steve V.**

Shallan V. got her first real job ever at Bally's Total Fitness. She rides the bus to and from work, and is really happy with her job.

Patty T. has a new grandson, a new apartment, and has been working at Rite-Aid for three years.

Joe R. made many new friends at his job at the Wild Animal Park. He also moved to a new apartment closer to work. He went to a Halloween Party at his apartment clubhouse dressed as "Safari Joe!"

Recent Employees of the Quarter



Marjorie Mina joined Community Interface Services as a job coach in Supported Employment about two and a half years ago after she completed a degree in Human Development. Marjorie is a great addition to the team, and she quickly learned her job and built strong relationships with service recipients and employers. She is a model of quiet, hardworking efficiency, and she helps out whenever she can. Thorough and detail-oriented, Marjorie can always be counted on to complete her paperwork, a strength noted in the recent CARF survey. Marjorie is also a great help training new staff persons. She stays positive no matter how crazy things may get, and helps to bring new staff people on board by

referring a lot of job applicants to the agency. Marjorie is well liked by her service recipients and coworkers, and has earned the respect of family members and service coordinators too.



Stephen Anderson has been with Community Interface Services three and a half years now and has made an incredible difference in his service recipient's quality of life. As a live-in support person in Supported Living, Stephen shares an apartment with a gentleman with a developmental disability. It's a demanding job, really more of a lifestyle than just a job, but Stephen takes commitment and responsibility all in stride. He helped his roommate overcome fears and learn to socialize more appropriately, so that the service recipient will actually open the door for visitors, answer questions, and hold a conversation. That may not sound like much, but it is a lot of progress for this

particular gentleman. Stephen and his roommate have overcome many obstacles, and the service recipient has been able to experience and enjoy things he never tried before, such as camping, traveling by train, and dealing with crowds. Stephen treats his roommate with utmost dignity and respect, and strives to help him live a life just like anybody without a disability.

Sabbatical Program Helps to Avoid Burnout

Community Interface Services' founder and Executive Director Rojane Jackson was recently honored as the recipient of a Sabbatical Program grant from The California Wellness Foundation (TCWF). The leadership support program provides a grant to cover a leader's salary and expenses during a sabbatical, typically about three months long.

The Sabbatical Program seeks to improve the long-term effectiveness of health-focused nonprofits by enhancing organizational capacity and providing long-tenured executives with the rest and rejuvenation they need to continue their organization's missions. Community Interface Services (and especially Rojane!) is very grateful to TCWF for its generous support and looks forward to this opportunity to strengthen the agency's leadership.

2007

CPR/FIRST AID

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2007
SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2007
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2007
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2007
SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2007
SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2007
SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2007
SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2007
SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2007
SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2007
SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2007
SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2007
SATURDAY, JULY 28, 2007
SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2007
SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 2007
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2007
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2007
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2007
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2007
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2007
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2007

All classes are open to the public and are held at the Community Interface Services office. All CPR classes start at 10:00 a.m., first aid classes start at 12:00 p.m. Call Cheryl Carman at (760) 729-3866 to register.

*The cost with preregistration is:
CPR \$17,
First Aid \$17,
combined CPR/First Aid class \$30.*

*The cost without preregistration is:
CPR \$20,
First Aid \$20,
combined CPR/First Aid class \$35.*