



California Supported Living Network 2009 Membership Appeal

Hello,

It is that time of year again, can you believe it, and 2009 is quickly approaching! We are looking for your continued support in the California Supported Living Network. Being apart of the Network brings you and your agency many opportunities. This year we began our Membership Trainings across the State of California. These trainings drew a large interest and the feedback was great! Many were interested in the ability to meet other service providers and gain knowledge and understanding from their peers dealing with the same issues. These forums give you the opportunity to great ideas shared and training for a nominal fee.

We have also invited the Independent Living Services (ILS) community to join our team! We are looking forward to spending time and working along side many new faces. There is hope that during these turbulent times, we can come together and support one another.

You are also able to attend our annual conference April 16-17, 2009 at a reduced cost, just for being a member. It is once again at the Catamaran Hotel and Spa, in San Diego and you can book your reservations at https://shop.evanshotels.com/ca_0413c9.html

This year our keynote speakers are Drs. Steve and Ruth Myers (formerly known as Dr. Ruth Ryan). They have been part of the disability field for many years and understand the needs of the people we support. Currently, Ruth is a staff psychiatrist at Park Nicollet Clinic in Burnsville, Minnesota. However, they are in our State at least every three months as they consult with several agencies during this time. Being someone that personally has been given the opportunity to be a part of their assessment process; they have given our agency insight that no other medical professional has. We are excited that the Network was able to secure them for our conference this year and will be extending you the opportunity to meet with and be a part of our Pre Conference Workshop on April 15, 2009, on the Whole Person Assessment (for a fee). They will be speaking throughout the conference on Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD) and two other break outs.

Supported Living Network Accomplishments for 2008

1. Leaders of CSLN continue to meet quarterly with Terri Degadillo, Director of Developmental Disabilities, whom we have invited back to this years conference, to elevate the concerns of the membership related to budgetary cut backs, IHSS, cost-effectiveness, and proposed changes to the SLS regulations.
2. In an effort to outreach to more of our CSLN members, Regional Forums have been organized in Northern California, the Bay Area, and in the South State. Feedback has been excellent and these forums will continue and expand next year.
3. The 2008 CSLN Leadership Conference in San Diego was our best attended conference, highlighted by the Director of Developmental Services, Director Terri Degadillo's keynote address. Tom Pomeranz inspired us in our efforts to reach higher in providing Supported Living Services.
4. CSLN became a 501C6 which will enable CSLN to have a stronger presence in disability rights and issues in the State of California through permitted lobbying activities. This will be crucial in 2009 given the projected state budget crisis as there is no other association in California dedicated solely to represent SLS.
5. The CSLN website and the list serv will be changing and will have even more information so that we can provide you with the most updated issues of concern related to business practices, legislative issue, and quality SLS service provision.

Thank you for your dedication to Supported Living and most importantly to those who rely on your supports to live successfully in their communities. We look forward to your continued membership in the Network and hope to see you at this year's conference! Be sure to check out our website at www.supportedliving.com and join us on the listserv.

Happy New Year!

Rebecca Burkhardt
CSLN Membership Co-Coordinator

Jennifer Lengyel
CSLN Membership Co-Coordinator