

Fall  
2017



INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER

# Disabled Resources Center, Inc.

## Dear Reader



LAKEWOOD HIGH  
TODAY'S LANCERS.

Are you like me and can't wait for fall to begin? As **F. Scott Fitzgerald** wrote in *The Great Gatsby*, "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall." So many things start anew in the fall. Football teams kick off, symphony orchestra seasons start their music, and youth go back to school again.

Speaking of youth, here at DRC, we've been busy all summer with one of our most successful programs ever, the Summer Leadership and Advocacy Program (SLAP) for Transitional Youth (ages 16-21). DOR granted the Center one of 3 regional grants awarded statewide, to train youth with all disabilities in the skills of self-determination and self-advocacy, vital to their maturation into independent adults.

With **Gino Elliot** as Program Facilitator, and the Center's whole staff involved in the project, 48 youths attended one of a series of three 2-week sessions, learning by doing, through both interactive group projects and thought-provoking discussions. The students included 32 from the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD), which group met at Tucker School. The overwhelmingly positive feedback DRC received on all 3 sessions, from such diverse sources as DOR site visitors, Tucker School faculty, and the students themselves, proudly validated both DRC's program curriculum and the value and enjoyment gleaned by the students. (*See SLAP Flyer on page 3.*)

We're continuing that upbeat, empowering, and definitely "youthful" trend in the fall, thanks to a Transitional Youth Grant (to serve ages 14-24) just awarded to the Center by DOR. Here again, DRC received just one of 6 such \$200,000.00 grants conferred to ILCs across the state, this very competitive funding represents the largest individual grant ever received by DRC. Over a 2-year period, the funding will enable DRC to build and expand on the SLAP-proven curriculum and train more youths with disabilities, across a wider age range, in the transformative skills and knowledge that produce self-sufficient, confident, and contributing adult community members. As the song says, "We're so excited, we just can't hide it!" (*See new Youth Program flyer on page 3.*)

Under the same umbrella, September 13th, we're launching DRC's Gavel Club, bringing an ongoing program of monthly training in interpersonal communication and public speaking to serve both Transitional Youth, and

Employment Services consumers actively seeking work. Gavel Clubs bring the dynamic communications training programs of Toastmasters International, free of charge, to groups such as students, job seekers, and the Global Ambassadors of the Special Olympics Program. DRC's Gavel Club will be facilitated by DRC staff member **Gail S. Thomas**, an advanced speaker and longtime member of Toastmasters, with the assistance of DRC volunteer **Greg Kozlowski**, a Special Olympics athlete in golf and a Global Ambassadors Gavel Club member.

The dynamic trend continued at DRC this summer with our 41st Annual Awards Dinner, held on Thursday, June 15, at The Reef on the Water, a very successful and meaningful evening, honoring outstanding individuals and groups. (*See picture of awardees on inside page.*) In the middle of the program, retired **Supervisor Don Knabe**, 4th District, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, suddenly arrived, totally unexpectedly, and stepped up to the podium. Then, to my surprise, and my deep and heartfelt gratitude, and on behalf of DRC's Board of Directors, **Supervisor Knabe** presented me with a beautiful, crystalline, 3-D Laser Photo Cube, in recognition of my 25 years of service to the Center.

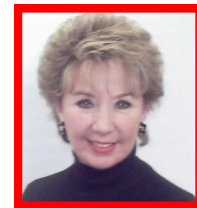
Tears of joy came to my eyes, and my heart filled with deep emotion, as I struggled to find words adequate to convey my gratefulness and appreciation, not only for receiving this signal honor, but for all our generous donors and funders that are listed on the enclosed goldenrod sheet.

As I write these words, I know all of DRC's thoughts and prayers are with those affected by **Hurricane Harvey**. I pray that autumn is, indeed, a season of new beginnings for the thousands of people with disabilities, as their needs are met in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

*Heartfully,*

*Dolores Nason,*

Executive Director



# Awardees from DRC's 41 Anniversary Dinner



Seated in front is **Frances Harris**, the Independent Living Awardee.

Standing behind her, from left to right, are: **Kevin Whitney**, Outstanding Military Veteran Scholarship; **Katie Wright**, **Helen Bologna**, **Peg Heglund**, **Craig Bowlby**, and **Gail Morrison**, all members of the HAT (Hearing Assistive Technology) Committee, Community Service Award; **Fran Itkoff**, Community Service Award; **Christopher Garner**, Civic Leadership Award; and **Dolores Nason**, Executive Director, DRC.



# DRC's new Youth Program begins this Fall

## Beginning this Fall

A curriculum module for youths with disabilities to address culture, leadership, identity & empowerment with diverse ages 14 - 24



DRC: Disabled Resources Center  
*The Key to Independence*

**Summer Leadership and Advocacy Program**



Gain knowledge and tangible skills that prepare students for competitive integrated employment.

Five 2-week sessions

June 19-June 30

July 3-July 14

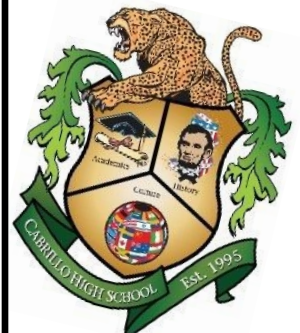
July 17-July 28

July 31- August 11

August 14- August 25

2750 E. Spring Street, Ste. 100 Long Beach, CA 90806 (562) 427-1000

Reasonable accommodations. Scent free center.



# Calendar of Events

Non-Profit  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Long Beach, CA  
Permit No. 828

## ONGOING EVENTS

\*WEEKLY GROUP ORIENTATION for new consumers  
Every THURSDAY@ 9:00 AM

HOUSING WORKSHOP EVERY FRIDAY @ 9:00 am

\*WEEKLY SUPPORT GROUP SCHEDULES:

MEN'S, WOMEN'S, AND CO-ED SUPPORT GROUPS- Every TUESDAY,  
THROUGH FRIDAY FROM 1:00PM-4:00PM

TRANSITIONAL YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP (AGES-14-24)- Every  
WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY FROM 1:00PM-5:00PM

COMPUTER CLASSES ARE ON WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY FROM 9:30 AM-  
11:00 AM OR 1:30PM-3:00PM



## SEPTEMBER 2017

- 4th —Labor Day (Center Closed)
- 5th —Site Visit, Care 1st /Blue Shield, Yolanda Tenorio and Social Services Team
- 6th —Homeless Coalition Meeting @ Goodwill Industries @ 9am
- 8th —Site visit by Jennifer Kumiyama, office of Councilmember Lena Gonzalez, 1st District, Long Beach
- 8th —DRC Advocacy Group Meeting @ Neighborhood Resource Center (NRC) 2:30pm-4pm
- 11th —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class starts from 10:00am-11:30am
- 11th —PASC Board Meeting @ Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration @ 1:00pm
- 12th —LB Transit STAR Group Initiative Project Advisory Group

- Meeting @ LB Convention Center
- 12th —Measure M Policy Advisory Committee @1:30pm at Metro Headquarter
- 13th —South Bay Disability and Senior Collaborative @ Molina Healthcare @ 9:00am
- 13th —DRC Gavel Club 1st Monthly Mtg @DRC @ 6pm
- 14th —CACoD Meeting @ Long Beach Council Chambers @ 1pm
- 18th —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class from 10:00am-11:30am
- 19th —All DRC staff First Aid and CPR Training and Recertification @ DRC
- 21st —Mobility Training @ Cambodian Association of America @ 10:00am
- 25th —Access Board Meeting @ LA Metro
- 25th —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class from 10:00am-11:30am
- 28th —DRC Board of Directors Meeting @ 5:30pm
- 29th —Social Security Workshop @ DRC @ 2:00pm



## OCTOBER 2017

- 2nd —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class from 10:00am-11:30am
- 2nd —PASC Board Meeting @ Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration @ 1:00pm
- 3rd —Measure M Policy Advisory Committee @1:30pm at Metro Headquarters
- 4th —Homeless Coalition Meeting @ Goodwill Industries @ 9am
- 8th —Disability Pride Parade @ East LA Civic Center @ 10:00am
- 8th-11th —APTA Annual Meeting @ Atlanta, Georgia
- 9th —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class from 10:00am-11:30am
- 9th —Mobility Training at Ernest McBride Center @ 10:00am
- 11th —South Bay Disability and Senior Collaborative @ Molina Healthcare @ 9:00am
- 11th —DRC Gavel Club Monthly Meeting @ DRC @ 6pm



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Return Service Requested

- 12th —CACoD Meeting @ Long Beach Council Chambers @ 1pm
- 13th —DRC Advocacy Group Meeting @ Neighborhood Resource Center (NRC) @ 2:30pm-4:00pm
- 16th —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class from 10:00am-11:30am
- 16th-17th —CFILC Statewide Meeting @ Long Beach
- 19th —Mobility Training @ Elderly Abused Preventive Team (EAPT) @ 10:00am
- 23rd —Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class Graduation from 10:00am-11:30am
- 23rd —Access Board Meeting @ LA Metro
- 26th —Board of Directors Meeting @ 5:30pm
- 26th —CACoD DEAM event @ 1:00pm
- 31st —HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



## NOVEMBER 2017

- 6th —PASC Board Meeting @ Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration @ 1:00pm
- 7th —Measure M Policy Advisory Committee @1:30pm at Metro Headquarter
- 8th —South Bay Disability and Senior Collaborative @ Molina Healthcare @ 9:00am
- 8th —DRC Gavel Club Monthly Meeting @ DRC @ 6:00pm
- 10th —Veteran's Day (Center Closed)
- 23rd-24th —Thanksgiving Holidays (Center Closed)
- 30th —Access Annual Meeting @ California Endowment Center

Happy



Thanksgiving

### DRC's Mission Statement:

To empower people with disabilities to live independently in the community, to make their own decisions about their lives and to advocate on their own behalf.