

# State Council on Developmental Disabilities

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SCDD Activities  
March 2020 – May 2020

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# SCDD's COVID Response

## In-Reach

- Proactive reaching into communities to identify need

## Inform

- Provide the information people need (or create it)

## Advocate

- Took what we learned and advocated

# SCDD's COVID Response

## In-Reach

- Reach into groups of self-advocates, family advocates, provider networks, regional center contact throughout each region
- Survey Council, RAC, SSAN
- Survey over 280 CBOs

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Inform Plain Language

- How to Stay Healthy
  - How to Stay Healthy from COVID-19
  - Plain Language Information By and For People with Disabilities (Green Mountain Self-Advocates)
    - Online Resources Related to Coronavirus
    - Create a COVID-19 Health Passport
- Top Questions
  - Top Questions from Self-Advocates
  - Top Questions from Family Advocates

# SCDD's COVID Response

**Inform**  
**Plain Language**  
**continued**

- Creating Community During COVID
  - Ideas for Activities While Sheltering in Place
  - 10 Tips to Support Someone During Times of Change
  - SCDD Phone Tree Tips
- Remote Meetings
  - Virtual Meetings: Getting Started
  - Virtual Meetings: Tips

# SCDD's COVID Response

Inform

Plain Language  
continued

- Special Education
  - COVID-19 and IDEA Part B Special Education
  - COVID-19 and IDEA Part C Early Intervention (Early Start)
- Money and Food
  - Have You Lost Your Job or Your Hours at Work?
  - CalFresh
    - Buying Food Online with CalFresh EBT Card on Amazon
    - Buying Food Online with CalFresh EBT Card on Walmart
- Coronavirus Scams and Fraud Alert

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Inform Spanish

- Preguntas Frecuentes que SCDD recibió de Personas con Discapacidades
- Preguntas Frecuentes que SCDD recibió de Padres y Miembros de Familia
- Recursos en línea relacionados con el coronavirus
- Estafas de coronavirus y alerta de fraude
- Consejos de SCDD para una red de teléfonos
- Cómo Mantenerse Saludable de COVID-19
- Información de COVID-19 por y para Personas con Discapacidades (Green Mountain Self-Advocates)
- Reunión Virtuales: Empensando
- Reunión Virtuales Consejos
- COVID-19 y IDEA Parte B Educación Especial
- COVID-19 y IDEA Parte C Intervención Temprana (Inicio temprano - Early Start)
- Ideas para Actividades Mientras Se Refugia en el Lugar
- 10 Consejos para Apoyar a Alguien en Tiempos de Cambio
- ¿Has perdido tu trabajo o has perdido horas en el trabajo?
- Información básica de CalFresh
- A partir del 28 de abril, puede visitar estas paginas de la red especiales para comprar en línea en Amazon y Walmart utilizando su tarjeta CalFresh EBT.

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Inform Videos

- Episode 1: How to Stay Healthy
- Episode 2: What Should I Do If I Think I'm Sick?
- Episode 3: What I Should Do If I Get Sick
- Episode 4: What To Do If a Caregiver or a Family Member Gets Sick
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- Episodio 1 – Cómo mantenerse saludable
- Episodio 2 – Lo que debo hacer si creo que estoy enfermo:
- Episodio 3 – Lo que debo hacer si estoy enfermo
- Episodio 4 – Lo que debo hacer si mi familiar o persona que me cuida se enferma



# SCDD's COVID Response

Advocate

Governor

March 23, 2020

- Create a cross-systems disability lead in Governor's Office
- Declare non-discrimination in COVID care
- Create Emergency IHSS Provider Registry
- Expedite approval of new IHSS & regional center providers
- PPE for all regional center and IHSS providers
- Make CalFresh eligible for online shopping
- Create remote check-ins to counter increase of abuse
- Increase contact with people receiving ILS
- Halt Medi-Cal terminations and re-determinations
- CDE should issue guidance on how to make sure online programs are accessible and
- Have remote check-ins to ensure students are receiving special education and related services

# SCDD's COVID Response

Advocate

Speaker Pelosi  
and Minority  
Leader

McCarthy

April 8, 2020

- Items for COVID 4
  - Increase HCBS funding
  - Increase production of PPE
  - Increase PPE for direct support professionals
  - Include caregivers into paid sick leave
  - Remove obstacles for stimulus checks for SSDI and adult dependents
- NACDD seeking \$100M supplemental increase for Councils
- I met with DC staff from both offices on Friday

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Advocate

Non-  
Discrimination  
in COVID Care  
and Rationing

- March 30, 2020 Governor, CDPH, and other departments issued guidance relating to non-discrimination
- April 25, 2020 CDPH issued guidance that would allow for “life years,” revised April 29

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Advocate

### Hospital Visitation

- April 29, 2020 SCDD signed national letter
- May 2, 2020, CDPH issued guidance allowing support professionals and another family or patient representative during hospitalization; allow for frequent video or phone calls

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Advocate

### PPE as Prevention

- May 1, 2020 sent letter to the Governor, Secretary, CDPH urging PPE guidelines prioritize regional center and IHSS providers giving direct in-person care
- Able to get it now if client is positive or showing symptoms, needs to be everyone
- Joined by over 350 organizations

# SCDD's COVID Response

Advocate  
Shop CalFresh  
Online

- CA expedited federal approval
- Program started April 28, 2020
- SCDD shared unique shopping links

# SCDD's COVID Response

Advocate

Use of Federal  
Funding

May 11, 2020

- Ways to use federal funding for people with disabilities
  - Disaster Relief Fund for PPE
  - Public Health Data Surveillance to collect better information on COVID impact on people with disabilities
  - Health Surveillance and Program Support Program for mental health impacts on people with IDD
  - Every Student Succeeds Act or Emergency Support Grants for best practices for remote learning

# SCDD's COVID Response

Advocate

Other Issues

- Regional Center communication
- School Lunches
- Fake letter from Agency



# SCDD's COVID Response

## Advocate Ongoing Issues

- State Budget
  - Principles
- Aging out of Early Intervention K-12 services (IDEA Part B)
- Health Care Rationing
- Data Reporting
- Great Plates Delivered
- Wildfires

# SCDD's COVID Response

Inform  
Upcoming

- IHSS Emergency Registry
- Participant-Directed Services
- Strategies for working with difficult behaviors

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Regional Office Specific Activities

- Intense Community In-reach
- Informal PPE Drives
  - 1,000 fabric face masks in Orange County to ILS/SLS providers
  - 400 fabric face masks in Auburn to ILS/SLS and day programs
  - 385 fabric masks to self-advocates in a day program
  - 225 fabric masks to agencies

# SCDD's COVID Response

## Community Feedback

- Better understanding of SCDD's role
- Seeing the impact in their lives
- In "awe" of the big picture work accomplished

# Impacts of Isolation

## Loneliness

- Self-Advocates expressed loneliness as soon as the first week

## Services

- How will the service system know of gaps in needs or changing needs

## Safety

- Increased risk of neglect and abuse

# SCDD Other Advocacy

## Advocate SCDD Sponsored Bills

- SB 1062 (Durazo) DDS and subminimum wage – not moving forward
- SB 1063 (Durazo) Codify federal CIE regulations in state law – not moving forward
- SB 1118 (Caballero) Housing – attempting through regs, 135 comments
- SB 1164 (Hurtado) Authorized Rep – still active
- Extension of LEAP Paid Internship

# SCDD State Plan

## State Plan Activity

February - March 2020

- 378,658 Californians received information or technical assistance
  - March TA = 10,142
- State Plan Surveys 6,328

# Questions?

All of this happened while the entire team adjusted to a telework schedule, managed their own fears and anxiety, and responded to health scares for themselves or in their family.

I'm proud of how SCDD functions as a team, with compassion and drive.