

SCDD Council Meeting Executive Director Report January 25, 2022

Aaron Carruthers
State Council on Developmental Disabilities



Quote

Where we are in the pandemic as we kick off 2022:

The Great Languishing

The Great Malaise

The Great Awkward

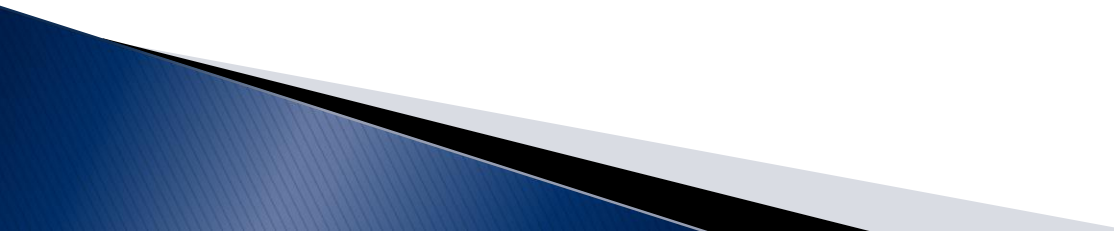
The Great Resignation

The Great Reset

“How do we help people be at their natural best?”

-Simon Sinek, author

Overview

- ▶ Honoring Matt Traverso
 - ▶ Preparing for Public Safety Power Shutoffs
 - ▶ Bill Contest and Legislation Update
 - ▶ SCDD Administration Update
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Honoring Matt Traverso



Honoring Matt Traverso

- ▶ Matt Traverso joined SCDD as a Policy Analyst in February of 2020.
- ▶ Matt came to us with over a decade of experience working in both the private and public sector organizing lobbying efforts and political advocacy campaigns, reviewing and analyzing regulations and laws, and collaborating with stakeholder groups.
- ▶ During Matt's tenure with SCDD, he took part in several pivotal assignments. Including, tracking more than 300 legislative bills ranging from access to services, special education and housing to training for law enforcement and professionals.
- ▶ Matt helped with the passage of SB 639, to end sub-minimum wage, and provided written testimony on behalf of several self and family advocates on the Council.
- ▶ Matt compiled and drafted the Employment First Report and sat on several workgroups and committees, including, the California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

Honoring Matt Traverso

- ▶ In his spare time, he volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, Volunteer for Reading Across America, Although Matt loved animals and being a part of a team, his passion was football. As an alumnus of the Stanford Football team and four-time letter winner and two-time team captain, Matt was also the recipient of the 2006 pre-season Mackey Award Watch List and was one of the top 25 tight ends in the nation.
- ▶ SCDD is saddened by this tremendous loss and wishes to express its deep appreciation for all that Matt accomplished during his time with us. He will be sorely missed.

Preparing for Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)

- ▶ Goal
 - Serve people with disabilities (access and functional needs) during public safety power shutoffs
- ▶ 3 ½ Years of Meetings with Investor Owned Utility (IOUs)
 - Pacific Gas and Electric
 - Southern California Edison
 - San Diego Gas and Electric
 - PacifiCorp
 - Liberty
 - Bear Valley
- ▶ CA Public Utilities Commission actively engaged, 2 hearings, meetings with President

Preparing for Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)

- ▶ Planned for a 2 day-in person meeting:
 - Move from triage, into comprehensive planning on 3 core questions:
 - Who with a disability is impacted by a PSPS
 - What do they need
 - How will an IOU provide it before, during, and after PSPS Goal
- ▶ Series of day-long zoom sessions with IOU Vice Presidents, 1/6, 2/1
- ▶ DRC, CFILC, CalOES, DREDF

Bill Idea and Legislation Update

- ▶ “There Should Be A Law” Contest
 - 100 responses
 - 80% ideas from self/family advocates
 - 20% ideas from professionals

Bill Contest and Legislation Update

▶ “There Should Be A Law” Contest

- 22 of the 37 Human Services Bill Ideas had to do with regional centers.
- 3 of the 19 Education Bill Ideas had to do with postsecondary education.
- 8 of the 9 Housing Bill Ideas had to do with a lack of available housing for individuals with disabilities.
- 10 bill ideas on accessibility policy, including six on expansion of the Brown Act and similar laws to allow for permanent virtual access to meetings

Bill Contest and Legislation Update

- ▶ “There Should Be A Law” Contest
 - Disability awareness trainings for workplaces
 - Expanding the statewide internship program so there’s no age limit
 - Have employers contribute to CalABLE accounts
 - Have Attorney General track and report settlement agreements for regional center sexual/abuse cases
 - Create a Registry of Caregivers Who Abuse
 - Require law enforcement to receive 8 hours of training on how to intervene with someone with IDD who has been sexually assaulted
 - Co-location of associated IDEA services

Bill Contest and Legislation Update

- ▶ Next Steps: SCDD Co-Sponsored Legislation
 - 1. AB 1663 (Mainschein) Probate Conservatorship Reform
 - NEXT STEPS – prepare for 1st policy committee hearing in March or April
 - 2. Unfair Hearing Process – fair hearing reform, pending confirmation of author
 - NEXT STEPS – working on finding a legislator to champion the bill
 - 3. Bill Contest – approximately 75 bills in the bill contest report
 - NEXT STEPS - working on finding authors

SCDD Administration Update

- ▶ Welcome!
 - Patricia Herrera, Manager, San Bernardino Region
 - Joe Hernandez, Statewide Self-Determination Program Trainer
 - Gabriela Soval, CPS II, Bay Area Region
 - Tina Rezler, CPS II, North State Region
 - Albert Feliciano, CPS II, LA Region
 - Jozette Elizadi, CRA, Porterville DC
 - Vacancy rate is approximately 14%
- ▶ Funding remains strong

SCDD Administration Update

► Appendectomy



Questions?