

# State Council on Developmental Disabilities Outreach Application



Applicant: 225

Name: REDACTED Address: REDACTED

**County of Residence: California** 

**Region: Orange County** 

Email: REDACTED Phone: REDACTED

Race: White

**I am a:** parent, family member, legal guardian or conservator of a person with a developmental disability

Are you currently employed by, or a member of the governing board of an organization providing services to persons with developmental disabilities?" No

Do you want to serve on the State Council and/or a regional advisory committee?

Yes, I want to apply to serve on the State Council Yes, I want to apply to serve on the Regional Advisory Committee

### How did your interest in, or knowledge of, the developmental disability field and service system develop?

I was interested in teaching students who could learn or have a learning disability so I earned a degree in Learning Disabilities. I then gave birth to a child with special needs and became a consumer of the Orange County Regional Center. Many years ago my local Regional Center awarded me a scholarship to attend a parent advocacy training over a period of 3 months and I believe this training help mold me into the field of alternative education as well as education administrator for adults with special needs. So both my personal life and professional career were devoted to individuals with special needs.

## What are your areas of interest in the developmental disability field and service system?

I have a vast background of knowledge and interest in students with special needs from K through adult transition. When I was the principal of an adult transition

program I realized that this is an exciting age group of adults to work with and prepare for real life. I would be happy to serve in any capacity that you have a need for.

#### Please explain why you wish to serve on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, or on one of its Regional Advisory Committees:

As a parent of a special needs son as well as being a special education teacher, I have seen the mistakes we made educating students with special needs over the past 38 years in California. I have seen where we have been and where we need to go in serving individuals with special needs. I have written and revised California ed code and as a retired educator I would now like to provide my time and energy to support the work of our State Council on Developmental Disabilities and/or my local Regional Advisory Committee.

#### What strengths would you bring to the State Council and/or Regional Advisory Committee?

I have a background as a parent of a child with special needs, a special education teacher of students in K-adult transition education well as a high school and alternative education principal. I have served on the board of the California Consortium for Independent Study (the state organization that supports parents, teachers and students in independent study in California). As President of this board, I worked with lobbyists in Sacramento and have testified before the Senate Education SubCommittee to affect changes in independent study law. I believe my vast background brings strengths that few others possess.