

## Redacted Membership Application

**MM-792**

Name: REDACTED

Address: REDACTED

County of Residence: **Orange**

Email : REDACTED

Phone: REDACTED

Race: Hispanic or Latino

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

**Are you a member of a nongovernmental agency that does not receive regional center funding?**

No

**Do you want to serve on the State Council:** Yes, I want to apply to serve on the State Council

**Do you want to serve on a Regional Advisory Committee:**

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

My interest and knowledge in the developmental disability field and service system stems from personal experience and active learning. Having a son with developmental disabilities has led to a deeper understanding and compassion for the challenges faced by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Caring for my son, I have had to navigate service systems, advocate for appropriate support, and continuously learn about best practices in care and education. This experience has given me a profound knowledge of the complexities within the developmental disability field, including understanding the importance of individualized care plans, the value of inclusive practices, and the need for ongoing support for families.

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

I am deeply interested in exploring various strategies for inclusion, such as modifications in teaching

methods and classroom accommodations, to create an environment that supports all learners. Additionally, I recognize the critical importance of early intervention services for children with developmental disabilities. I am committed to understanding the impact of various therapies and services available for young children. This knowledge is essential in shaping developmental outcomes. Moreover, I am passionate about family support and advocacy, acknowledging how crucial it is to support and empower families in caring for a child with developmental disabilities. My interest extends to learning about family-centered practices, advocating for rights and services, and understanding the dynamics of support networks, which are vital in creating a holistic approach to care and education for these children and their families.

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

My firsthand understanding of the unique challenges and needs faced by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families uniquely positions me to advocate effectively for this community. My advocacy is fueled by a commitment to representing those who often lack a voice in policymaking, making my role on the council or a committee an ideal platform to influence decisions and policies that directly impact their lives. Additionally, my participation allows for meaningful community engagement, where I can understand diverse perspectives and collaborate with various stakeholders, including families, service providers, and educators.

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

In the ever-evolving field of developmental disabilities, my adaptability and commitment to continuous learning are among my key strengths. I am always eager to learn and adapt to new information, ensuring I stay abreast of current research and best practices. This approach helps me ensure that the council or committee remains practical and relevant. My strong commitment to advocacy and equity is also fundamental to my work. I am dedicated to advocating for the rights and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and actively promoting equity and inclusion. This dedication fuels my passion and drives meaningful change in the field.