


DMC TESTIMONIAL

Scarlett K. VonThenen
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Orange County Office

Through my capacity at the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, I've had the pleasure of partnering with Dayle McIntosh Center over the past 15+ years. I am grateful for their advocacy work, their mission driven purpose, and highlighting the intersectionality of disability.

My first recollection of our partnership was in 2007, working with DMC's Aging and Vision Loss Program, I+R Coordinator, and Executive Director for a multi-agency collaborative called CEAID (The Orange County Collaborative to End Abuse of Individuals with Disabilities). Together, we hosted a series of emergency preparedness workshops and conferences that yielded media attention, 300+ attendees, and countless hours of working together before, during and after the conferences. DMC was at the forefront of this collaboration, even being the fiscal agent, and these events cemented for me the good work of the ILC and investment in the community.

After these series of successful emergency preparedness workshops, SCDD and DMC were being asked by national organizations to co-present on emergency preparedness for persons with disabilities. We then took the "show on the road" and SCDD and the then Aging and Vision Loss Program Coordinator co-presented for the Williams Syndrome National Conference in 2008. I only wish we took pictures, as we had FUN!



◆ CEAID ◆
The Orange County Collaborative to End Abuse of
Individuals with Disabilities presents:

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Workshop for Special Populations

Featuring Ana Marie Jones from CARD
(Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disaster)
and a panel of community experts

Friday, April 27, 2007
Anaheim Downtown Community Center
250 East Center Street, Anaheim, CA 92805
OR
Saturday, April 28, 2007
Fairview Developmental Center Auditorium
2501 Harbor Blvd. Costa Mesa, CA 92626

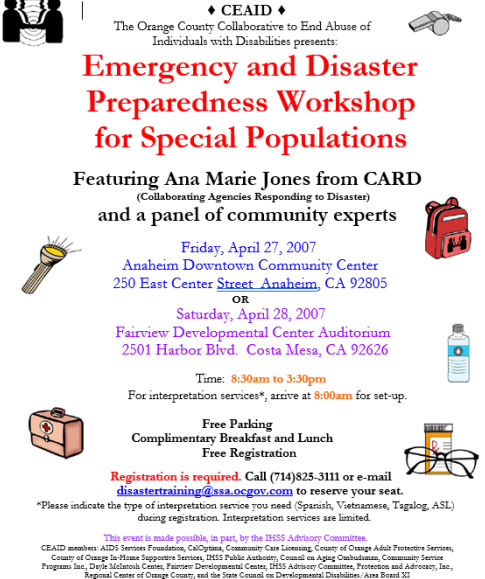
Time: 8:30am to 3:30pm
For interpretation services*, arrive at 8:00am for set-up.

Free Parking
Complimentary Breakfast and Lunch
Free Registration

Registration is required. Call (714)825-3111 or e-mail
disastertraining@ssa.ocgov.com to reserve your seat.

*Please indicate the type of interpretation service you need (Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog, ASL) during registration. Interpretation services are limited.

This event is made possible, in part, by the IHSS Advisory Committee.
CEAID members: AIDS Services Foundation, CalCypres, Community Care Licensing, County of Orange Adult Protective Services, County of Orange De Home Supportive Services, DHS Public Authority, Council on Aging, Daishidama, Community Service Programs, Inc., Dayle McIntosh Center, Partner Development Center, IHSS Advisory Committee, Prevention and Advocacy, Inc., Regional Center of Orange County, and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities / Area Board XII





In addition to these larger scale events, DMC has always made their presence in the community known through various resource fairs and outreach events. At many of these, we even shared the table due to our shared goals of access and equity by, and for, people with disabilities and older adults. I am grateful that DMC staff demonstrates the independence and power of persons with disabilities in telling their story, their success, and the impact on the community, whether indirectly or directly, impact is made.


The collaboration between SCDD and DMC has ebbed and flowed depending on the community's needs and our respective agency projects. But, I can always count on Dayle McIntosh Center and that is what matters. It is not the frequency by which we collaborate, how often we meet, but having a trusted partner that is there when we collectively need to take action.

Here is DMC's Systems Change Advocate, front and center, and SCDD in 2018 at a Community Alliances Forum in which we both presented on "Supporting Children with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families."



Fast forward to 2020, with the Census in motion, SCDD and DMC collaborated once again on a Disability Rights Workshop entitled “Claiming the Power of the Count.” This free day long workshop and resource fair stressed the importance of why everyone, including people with disabilities, must be counted! This workshop showcased the accessibility features in the new voting process, the importance of an accurate 2020 Census count and when, where, and how to respond to the Census. I am grateful DMC always rises to the occasion especially in moments such as this with the importance of everyone being counted.

Orange County
Disability Rights
Workshop



Claiming the Power of the Count!

Did you know about the changes coming to Orange County residents in 2020 about our elections and the 2020 Census? Do you want to know about opportunities to get involved in the community?

WHO SHOULD COME:
Orange County residents with disabilities, family members and friends, disability organizations and service providers.


LEARN ABOUT:
Changes to Orange County's elections
Accessibility in the new voting process
The importance of an accurate 2020 Census count
When, Where, and How to Respond to the 2020 Census

Refreshments and Lunch Provided. Requests for documents in accessible formats, interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or other accommodations should be made by January 24, 2020.

WHEN:
Friday, January 31, 2020
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

WHERE:
Anaheim Downtown Community Center
250 East Center Street
Anaheim, CA 92805

Hosted By:



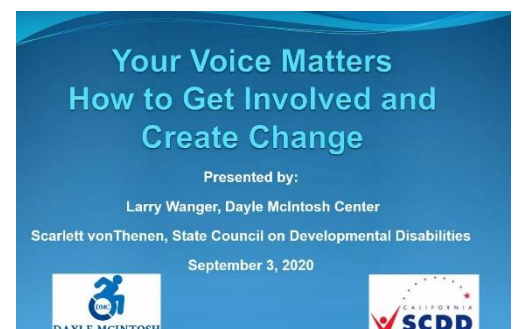
For more information:
Phone: (714) 558-4404 Email: charles.nguyen@scdd.ca.gov
RSVP: www.surveymonkey.com/r/5T2Z93Y



In response to the Disability Rights Workshop on Census and Voting and the need for the US Census Bureau Partnership Specialists and enumerators to have more experience counting persons with disabilities, SCDD and DMC quickly coordinated, hosted, and trained approximately 30 US Census Bureau staff, Partnership Specialists, and field personnel on disability etiquette in February 2020. This training was conducted by DMC staff covering topics such as disability etiquette overview and invisible disabilities, multiple disabilities, etc.



In March 2020, the world changed as a result of COVID-19. DMC and SCDD collaborated once again to ensure that persons with disabilities were at the table in the important discussions involving staying safe during the pandemic and beyond. In September 2020, we co-presented and co-hosted a training on “Your Voice Matters: How to Get Involved and Create Change.” Then, both of our



agencies got to work and started distributing mass amounts of personal protective equipment. We shared supplies with one another during this time and ensured that all persons with disabilities had access to needed PPE through our networks.



As of recently, our work has intertwined through the Orange County Disability Coalition, a coalition started by DMC in 2017 to bring together Orange County based organizations with a disability focus to build collaborative relationships, share information, and discuss topics of mutual concern. The Coalition relaunched in 2022 with SCDD and DMC both partnering to shift the coalition's efforts to pertinent disability initiatives, policy work, and systems change advocacy. Through this relaunch, SCDD has been able to work closely with DMC's Systems Change Advocate who has truly been instrumental in keeping the group focused and grounded.

And so here we are in 2023... I write all this to share why I, and the larger community, are grateful for Dayle McIntosh Center! It is about access, equity, meeting people where they are at in their journey and collectively, making broader systems change advocacy to change policies, practices, and legislation that improve the lives and outcomes for persons with disabilities.

I am grateful for the ongoing partnership, collaboration, fun, and the CHANGE we make together.

Scarlett K. VonThenen
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Orange County Office