

CDCAN REPORT

CALIFORNIA DISABILITY COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK

ADVOCACY WITHOUT BORDERS: ONE COMMUNITY

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California Disability Community Action Network Disability Rights News goes out to over 50,000 people with disabilities, mental health needs, seniors, traumatic brain & other injuries, veterans with disabilities and mental health needs, their families, workers, community organizations, including those in Asian/Pacific Islander, Latino, African American communities, policy makers and others across California.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JOAN B. LEE, DONALD ROBERTS & BILL YOUNG.

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BREAKING NEWS

GOVERNOR SIGNS BUDGET PLAN – MAKES ADDITIONAL BIG CUTS IMPACTING SENIOR PROGRAMS, PUBLIC HEALTH AIDS PROGRAMS, IHSS

Makes Additional \$50 Million Cut to Regional Centers That Governor Says Can Be Made Up By Prop 10 Commission Funding

SACRAMENTO, CALIF (CDCAN) [Updated 07/28/09 12:55 PM (Pacific Time) - Calling the budget solution to close a \$26 billion deficit "the good, the bad and the ugly," Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed this morning (July 28) the revised budget bill approved by the Legislature last week that includes over \$15 billion in new spending cuts on top of what was in the 2009-2010 State Budget passed in February. The spending plan makes deep cuts to education, health and human services, local government, state employees, the state's prison system and also includes no new tax increases beyond the temporary tax increases that were included last February.

The Governor, using his line item veto power, made additional major cuts in spending including reductions that eliminate all State general funding for several programs, including those under the Office of AIDs, under the Department of Public Health and major cuts in spending to two senior programs under the Department of Aging (Linkages and Senior Community Based Programs) and also to In-Home Supportive Services and Child Welfare Services. The additional cut to IHSS essentially eliminated the exemption of persons under protective supervision, persons under paramedical care and persons who receive over 120 hours of IHSS per month from having their domestic and related services eliminated if their functional index ranking (different from "functional index score") is lower than "4" in that specific service.

The Governor also made additional cuts to developmental services (regional centers), though in the case of regional centers, requested that the additional \$50 million cut be replaced by funding from the California Children's and Families First Commission. The reduction would remain however even if the commission declined to makeup the cut.

The Assembly and State Senate passed the main revised budget bill (AB 1x4) [the "x4" means 4th special or extraordinary session) and a package of additional budget "trailer bills" [called that because it follows or trails the main budget bill, making necessary changes to state law to implement the cuts or other policy changes] after a grueling all night session that began July 23 and ended Friday on July 24th. Both houses adjourned for their summer recess and will return back to the State Capitol on August 17 at 12 noon.

SSI/SSP Grants Not Hit By Additional Governor Line Item Veto

No additional cuts were made to SSI/SSP (Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment) grants to persons with disabilities, the blind and low income seniors beyond what was already in the 2009-2010 State Budget.

Additional cuts that the Governor would want to make to SSI/SSP beyond what was already in the revised budget bill before him would have required changes to State law that must be approved by the Legislature first.

The revised budget bill that the Governor signed however did include an additional reduction to SSI/SSP grants that the Legislature did approve, that would lower grants to couples to the lowest level allowed by the federal government, and also reduce grants for individuals by another \$5 per month.

This reduction follows a 2.3% cut to SSI/SSP grants that went into effect July 1, 2009 (as part of the 2009-2010 State Budget that was passed in February), and the suspension of the State cost of living that was due June 1, 2009 (suspended as part of the 2007-2008 State Budget and the cut in the federal cost of living that was made effective May 1, 2009 (as part of the 2009-2010 State Budget passed in February). That means SSI/SSP grants were, after today's budget signing, cut four times in one calendar year (though in different budget acts).

One Budget Crisis Nears End – While Another Continues

While the Governor approved the revised budget and budget trailer bills that were, as a package meant to close most of the \$26 billion budget shortfall, the plan could fall apart within weeks if revenues continue to drop below what the budget projects, if spending grows at a faster rate and if lawsuits block certain cuts – like lawsuit threatened by cities and counties are successful in blocking the borrowing by the State of local government funds that is a key part of the budget plan. That doesn't include the impact of other lawsuits – including those that have blocked, at least temporarily, IHSS worker wages, and a lawsuit (to be heard on August 19th in federal court in San Francisco) that seeks to reverse the elimination of 9 Medi-Cal optional benefits.

With revenues continuing to drop and one-time budget fixes not possible again, the State still will face a likely budget shortfall of over \$15 billion in the next budget year

(2010-2011), and even larger deficits beyond that with the temporary tax increases ending.

CDCAN SUMMARY OF GOVERNOR'S LINE ITEM VETOES

The Governor made several additional reductions using his line item veto power – and also added some additional provisions to the 2009-2010 State Budget – that impact people with disabilities, mental health needs, the blind, seniors, low income families, community organizations and workers who provide services and supports.

Some of those additional provisions have potential major impact – including one that calls for major review of the California Children's Services (CCS) Program (see below). Not included in this summary are additional cuts made to other programs, such as Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Parks and Recreation and other Education programs not specific to persons with special needs. Watch later today for full CDCAN Report on details of all the budget cuts and changes – including the Governor's line item vetoes impacting people with disabilities, mental health needs, seniors, low income families and others.

It is important to note that the Governor's additional cuts – and additional provisions are in addition to what is in the 2009-2010 Revised Budget (as contained in AB 1s4) and implemented through changes in state law in the package of trailer bills (see below). CDCAN will issue a full report later today covering all the reductions and changes:

Public Health Cuts that Eliminate All Funding for Several Programs

Governor used his line item veto power to make the following additional cuts to various public health programs that eliminate funding for several key programs:

- \$52,133,000 reduction that eliminates all State general funding for various programs administered by the Office of AIDS: Education and Prevention, Therapeutic Monitoring, Counseling and Testing, Early Intervention, Home and Community Based Care, and Housing
- \$16,337,000 reduction that eliminates all State general funding for the Domestic Violence Program
- \$9,000,000 reduction that eliminate all State general funding for the Adolescent Family Life Program
- \$3,003,000 reduction that eliminate all State general funding for the Black Infant Health Program
- Governor wrote in his line item vetoes of the funding for these programs that *“the effect of my action reflects the deletion of various legislation restorations for public health local assistance programs to increase the reserve and to reduce the state's structural deficit, consistent with my May Revision proposals. When making these difficult reductions to important program services, I have sought to protect the continued delivery of drug therapies to low-income individuals living with HIV and thus retained funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.”*

Senior Programs

Governor used his line item veto power to make following additional cuts to senior programs under the Department of Aging (total additional reduction of \$6,160,000) :

- \$3,879,000 additional reduction from the Linkages Program
- \$2,281,000 additional reduction from the Senior Community-based programs
- Also, related to the above two reductions, reduced a total of \$106,000 and 0.5 personnel years for the two programs under the Department of Aging (\$79,000 for the Linkages Program and \$27,000 for Community Based Programs)

Governor also used his line item veto power to make additional reductions under the Department of Public Health, adding a new provision to the budget act to Budget Line Item 4265-111-0001 of Section 2.0 that says *“the appropriation in this item for the Alzheimer’s Research Centers shall be used for direct services, including, but not limited to, diagnostic screening, case management, disease management, support for caregivers, and related services necessary for positive client outcomes.”*

Developmental Services (including Regional Centers)

Governor used his line item veto power to make the following additional cut to developmental services, specifically regional center funded services (beyond the over \$334 million in cuts in state general fund spending in the 2009-2010 State Budget, and not including on-going 3% cut in payments to most regional center providers and on-going 3% cut in regional center operations that went into effect retroactively to February 1, 2009):

- \$50,000,000 additional reduction for services to children up to age 5 though the Governor wrote in his veto message that he wants the cut made up with other funding because *“as these services are due to program growth and thus eligible for funding from the California Children and Families First Commission. I am directing the Secretary for the Health and Human Services Agency, the Department of Developmental Services, and the Department of Finance to immediately request funds from the Commission for this purpose.”*
- Governor indicated in his veto message that *“I do not intend to pursue separate legislation changing eligibility or services for these children for purposes of achieving these [the additional \$50 million reduction] savings. I urge the Commission to provide supplemental funding for the growth in these services”*

In-Home Supportive Services

Governor used his line item veto power to make the following additional cut of \$37,550,000 (beyond cuts and major policy changes already in the revised budget bill passed last week by the Legislature) impacting In-Home Supportive Services under the Department of Social Services:

- \$28,900,000 additional cut that eliminates the exceptions made by the Legislature exempting persons under protective supervision, persons with paramedical services and

persons with more than 120 hours of service per month from losing their domestic and related services (if their functional index ranking – different from function index score – is lower than “4” in any of those services) . The Governor wrote in his line item veto of this because of a “*determination that it is necessary to waive exemptions [included in AB 4x4, specifically paragraph 2 of subdivision (e) of Section 29] to maintain federal financial participation. Due to this determination, more IHSS recipients will be impacted by the reduction in services authorized*” in AB 4x4.

- \$8,655,000 reduction in funding for IHSS Public Authority Administration. Governor’s veto message says that “*This leaves \$10,000,000 General Fund available for the Public Authorities to provide assistance to recipients in finding IHSS providers, investigate qualifications of potential IHSS providers and offer training to IHSS providers.*”

Mental Health

Governor used his line item veto power to make the following additional cut of \$4,082,000 directed at the Caregiver Resource Centers.

- \$4,082,000 reduction, due to, the Governor wrote in his line item veto message “*I am reducing the item of General Fund appropriation in subdivision (e) of this section [Section 18.40] by \$4,082,000 as opposed to approving the item as presented without reduction.*” The reduction was made specifically to budget item 4440-111-0001 of Section 2.00, reduced by \$7,629,000 instead of \$3,547,000 which was in the revised budget passed by the Legislature last week.

Medi-Cal and Health

Governor used his line item veto power to make the following additional cuts to programs under the Department of Health Care Services:

- \$25,000,000 reduction to Primary and Rural Health programs saying in his line item veto message that “*This reduction is consistent with my May Revision proposal to eliminate General Fund grants for Community Clinic Programs. Many, if not all of these clinics, will continue to receive funding through remaining state programs, federal programs, local programs, and private funds. Increased federal stimulus funds are available to many of these clinics and will help to minimize the overall impact of this reduction.*”
- \$60,569,000 reduction to county administration
- Medicaid Funding: Adds to the 2009-2010 Budget Act new Provision 13 to Budget Item 4260-101-0001 of Section 2: “*It is the intent of the Legislature to actively pursue the receipt of federal funds within the Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Program which are past due from the federal government, including, but not limited to: (a) disability insurance benefits that resulted in state expenditures instead of federal Medicare expenditures, (b) the retroactive payment of Part B premiums due to systemic errors by the federal Social Security Administration, (c) needed adjustments to formulas that penalize California, such as the Medicare Part D “clawback”, and (d) receipt of federal funds due to California under various existing Medi-Cal waiver programs.*”

- California Children’s Services (CCS) Program Review: Adds to the 2009-2010 Budget Act new Provision 3 to Budget item 4260-101-0001 of Section 2: *“The State Department of Health Care Services shall convene a diverse workgroup as applicable that, at a minimum, represents families enrolled in the California Children’s Services (CCS) Program, counties, specialty care providers, children’s hospitals, and medical suppliers to discuss the administrative structure of the CCS Program, including eligibility determination processes, the use and content of needs assessment tools in case management, and the processes used for treatment authorizations. The purpose of this workgroup will be to identify methods for streamlining, administrative cost-efficiencies, and better utilization of both state and county staff, as applicable, in meeting the needs of children and families accessing the CCS Program. The department [Health Care Services] may provide policy and fiscal committees of each house of the Legislature with periodic updates of outcomes as appropriate.”*

Child Welfare Services

Governor used his line item veto power to make the following additional unallocated (meaning not specified how it will be achieved) reduction to Child Welfare Services.

- Reduction of \$19,075,000 to Title IV-E Waiver (Program 26) unallocated reduction in the Child Welfare Services Program
- Reduction of another \$60,881,000 from Budget Item 5180-151-0001 (also impacting Child Welfare Services)

Education

Governor used his line item veto power to make additional reductions to Education, including one that impacts specifically children with special needs:

- \$3,894,000 reduction for State Special Schools for student transportation allowances.
- Governor wrote in his line item veto message that *“This item would provide \$3,894,000 Proposition 98 General Fund for student transportation at the State Special Schools. However, the Legislature subsequently provided special education federal funds (Provision 11 of Item 6110-161-0890) for the same purpose with the understanding that this Proposition 98 appropriation is no longer necessary. Therefore, on a technical basis, I delete this item to remove duplicative funding for student transportation at the State Special Schools.”*

Healthy Families

Governor used his line item veto power to make following additional reduction to the Healthy Families program (the program that provides – with federal matching funds – health care coverage for low income children not eligible for Medi-Cal):

- \$50,000,000 additional reduction [on top of what was already approved in the revised budget bill] to the Healthy Families program, writing in his line item veto message that *“While this is a very difficult reduction, the Healthy Families program is not an*

entitlement and is a program that can be reduced during this difficult economic period. I hereby direct the Health and Human Services Agency to continue to work with the California Children and Families Commission, with local commissions, foundations, and other interested parties to provide additional resources to supplement General Fund appropriations and provide health care coverage for as many children as possible.”

- The Governor added to the 2009-2010 Budget Act an additional provision related to Healthy Families (Provision 2, to Budget Item 4280-101-0001 of Section 2): *“It is the intent of the Legislature, during these unprecedented fiscal times, to maintain the integrity of the Healthy Families Program to continue to provide health, dental, vision coverage to low-income children. However, assistance from philanthropic organizations and other sources will be necessary in order for California to obtain its full allotment of federal funds to support this program. In the event funds are not available, it is the intent of the Legislature for the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board [the agency that oversees the Healthy Families program] to utilize its existing authority to establish a waiting list of children for enrollment in the program”.*

REVISED BUDGET BILL AND TRAILER BILLS

See separate CDCAN Report later today (July 28) for more details of what is in the budget trailer bills that have significant impact to children and adults with disabilities, mental health needs, people with traumatic brain and other injuries, people with MS, Alzheimer’s and other disorders, seniors, community organizations and workers who provide services and others. Copies of all the trailer bills below are on the CDCAN website at www.cdcan.us

CDCAN Note: *“x4” stands for the 4th extraordinary or special session. The main revised budget bill (AB 1x4) and most of the budget trailer bills take effect immediately after the Governor signs it and it is officially filed (“chaptered”) by the Secretary of State. However many of the provisions in the budget trailer bills have different dates when certain cuts or policy changes take effect. Majority vote bills take effect 90 days after the end of the special session (which is different from regular session majority vote bills approved by the Governor take effect the following January 1).*

MEDI-CAL (HEALTH) TRAILER BILLS

- Health Trailer Bill (AB 5x4) that includes Medi-Cal, adult day health centers, long term care facilities
- Medi-Cal Managed Care Trailer Bill (AB 6x4) contains authorization for Department of Health Care Services to take steps to expand Medi-Cal managed care plans.

IHSS – ALSO CALWORKS, SSI/SSP TRAILER BILLS

- Human Services Trailer Bill (AB 4x4) includes In-Home Supportive Services reductions as agreed to by Democrats in late June; grant reduction to SSI/SSP, reductions to CalWORKS, Child Welfare including Adoption Assistance and Foster Care Programs, Community Care Licensing.

- In-Home Supportive Services Reforms Trailer Bill (AB 19x4) – contains the reforms including mandatory fingerprinting and background checks for IHSS workers – and also mandatory fingerprinting of persons receiving IHSS, changes regarding time sheets.
- CalWORKS Reform (AB 8x4) includes reforms and reductions to the CalWORKS program – most of which was proposed by the Governor.

REGIONAL CENTERS & DEVELOPMENTAL CENTERS TRAILER BILL

- Developmental Services Trailer Bill (AB 9x4) – includes reductions to regional centers and developmental centers. This bill is nearly identical to AB 45x3 that Democrats passed (but never went to the Governor) in late June.

TRANSPORTATION TRAILER BILL

This trailer bills changes existing State law to allow for fund shifts and reductions dealing with transportation – including transportation programs that directly impact people with disabilities, mental health needs, seniors.

- Transportation Trailer Bill (AB 10x4) contains changes in State law to implement reductions to transportation.

EDUCATION TRAILER BILL

- Education Trailer Bill (AB 2x4) contains education cuts including those impacting students in special education (suspension of the California High School Exit Examination for students with special needs); cuts to community colleges that impact students with special needs in Disabled Students Services Program.

LIST OF BUDGET BILLS PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES & ACTED ON BY GOVERNOR

The main revised budget bill (AB1x4 and cuts impacting education in AB 2x4) and budget trailer bills, passed by both the Senate and Assembly July 23 and July 24. Below is list by bill number. Copies of the main revised budget bill – and also the budget trailer bills impacting people with disabilities, mental health needs, seniors, low income families are on the CDCAN website at www.cdcan.us

AB 1x4 - Main Revised Budget Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 27 to 13 and Assembly 54 to 21

CDCAN Note: *revises the existing 2009-2010 State Budget passed last February.*

AB 2x4 - Education/Higher Education Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 29 to 6 and Assembly 54 to 15.

CDCAN Note: *contains education reductions and changes.*

AB 3x4 - Education 2008-2009 Reversion/Certification Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 27 to 13 and Assembly 55 to 19.

CDCAN Note: *this final vote came around 3:31 AM Friday morning.*

AB 4x4 - Human Services Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 35 to 5 and Assembly 68 to 0.

CDCAN Note: *Contains changes in state law to implement spending cuts to SSI/SSP, adoption assistance and foster care programs, CalWORKS, IHSS. See also AB 8x4 (CalWORKS Reforms and Cost of Living Adjustments) and AB 19x4 (IHSS Reforms). Senate vote came at 5:48 AM Friday morning and Assembly vote came at 10:43 AM Friday morning (July 24th).*

AB 5x4 - Health Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 29 to 11 and Assembly 54 to 18 (7 not voting).

CDCAN Note: *includes Medi-Cal, adult day health, long term care facilities quality assurance fees.*

AB 6x4 - Medi-Cal Managed Care Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 39 to 0 and Assembly 74 to 2.

AB 7x4 - Centralized Eligibility Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 25 to 15 and Assembly 42 to 24.

CDCAN Note: *This is a majority vote bill that if approved by the Governor, takes effect 90 days after the official end of the special session. This bill would authorize the Department of Health Care Services and Department of Social Services to take steps to centralize eligibility for CalWORKS, Medi-Cal, and food stamp programs.*

AB 8x4 - CalWORKS Policy & Fraud Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 21 to 18 and Assembly 41 to 20.

CDCAN Note: *This is a majority vote bill that if approved by the Governor, takes effect 90 days after the official end of the special session. This bill includes permanent suspension (or elimination) of cost of living adjustments for several programs including SSI/SSP.*

AB 9x4 - Developmental Services Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 28 to 10 and Assembly 61 to 13 (5 not voting).

CDCAN Note: *Includes details on how over \$334 million in reductions in State general fund spending will be achieved during 2009-2010 State Budget year, including cuts to Early Start.*

AB 10x4 - Transportation Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 27 to 12

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** Assembly 54 to 24.

CDCAN Note: Assembly final vote came at 10:45 AM Friday morning (July 24).

AB 11x4 - Resources Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 31 to 7 and Assembly.

AB 12x4 - General Government (includes state employees) Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 27 to 12.

STATUS 07/24/09: PASSED Assembly 54 to 12.

AB 14x4 - Proposition 1A Suspension and /Redevelopment Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 27 to 13 and Assembly 54 to 25.

CDCAN Note: Assembly final vote came at 2:18 PM Friday afternoon.

AB 15x4 - Proposition 1A Payback (to local governments)

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 28 to 9 and Assembly 57 to 12.

AB 17x4 – Revenues #1 – Taxation & Withholding Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 22 to 16 and Assembly 45 to 31

CDCAN Note: *This is a majority vote bill that if approved by the Governor, takes effect 90 days after the official end of the special session.*

AB 18x4 - Revenues #2 - Tax Enforcement Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 23 to 16) and Assembly 46 to 31.

CDCAN Note: *This is a majority vote bill that if approved by the Governor, takes effect 90 days after the official end of the special session.*

AB 19x4 – IHSS Reforms Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 25 to 15 and Assembly 42 to 27.

CDCAN Note: *This is a majority vote bill that if approved by the Governor, takes effect 90 days after the official end of the special session. See also AB 4x4the human services trailer bill that includes IHSS spending cuts. Final vote in Assembly came at 9:44 AM Friday morning.*

AB 20x4 - Boards Consolidations/Eliminations Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 39 to 0 and Assembly 75 to 0.

AB 21x4 - Procurement Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 38 to 0 and Assembly 69 to 1.

AB 22x4 - Asset Management Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 37 to 0 and Assembly 73 to 3.

AB 23x4 - Tranquillon Ridge Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 21 to 18.

CDCCAN Note: This bill would authorize oil drilling in Santa Barbara

AB 25x4 - Cash Management Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** State Senate 39 to 0 and Assembly 63 to 10.

AB 26x4 - RDA Shift Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 21 to 17 and Assembly 41 to 23.

CDCCAN Note: bill was amended into a majority vote bill just around 4 AM when it was clear there were not 27 votes for it. Assembly vote came at 1:58 PM Friday afternoon.

SB 13x4 – Judicial/Public Safety Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** Assembly

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 29 to 8.

SB 16x4 – Cash Deferrals Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/23/09: **PASSED** Assembly

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** State Senate 33 to 6.

Regular Session Trailer Bills

SB 63 - Integrated Waste Management Board Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** Assembly 47 to 18 and State Senate 21 to 15.

CDCCAN Note: *Majority vote regular session bill, meaning if approved by Governor, would take effect the following January 1 (in this case, January 1, 2010). Final Senate vote occurred at 5:28 AM.*

SB 90 – Supplemental Appropriations Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** Assembly 55 to 19 and State Senate 29 to 3.

CDCAN Note: *this is Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (prisons) deficiency bill to cover shortfall in this department's budget for the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 State budget years. Senate approval came at 5:36 AM Friday morning.*

SB 116 – Revenue Anticipation Warrants (RAWS) Trailer Bill

STATUS 07/24/09: **PASSED** Assembly 54 to 16.

CDCAN Note: *Assembly vote occurred at 5:05 AM Friday morning (July 24).*

PLEASE HELP CDCAN CONTINUE ITS WORK!!!

I am back. And I will not go away. And neither will the work of CDCAN and the thousands connected to it through their work and advocacy. But we need your help.

CDCAN Townhall Telemeetings, reports and alerts and other activities cannot continue without your help.

To continue the CDCAN website, the CDCAN News Reports, sent out and read by over 45,000 people and organizations, policy makers and media across California and to continue the CDCAN Townhall Telemeetings which since December 2003 have connected thousands of people with disabilities, seniors, mental health needs, people with MS and other disorders, people with traumatic brain and other injuries to public policy makers, legislators, and issues.

Please send your contribution/donation (make payable to "CDCAN" or "California Disability Community Action Network):

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paypal on the CDCAN site is not yet working – will be soon.

MANY, MANY THANKS to **SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA**, Hope Services in San Jose, FEAT of Sacramento (Families for Early Autism Treatment), RESCoalition, Sacramento Gray Panthers, Easter Seals of Southern California, Tri-Counties Regional Center, Westside Regional Center, Regional Center of the East Bay, Friends of Children with Special Needs, UCP of Orange County, UCP of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, Alta California Regional Center, Life Steps, Parents Helping Parents, Work Training, Foothill Autism Alliance, Arc Contra Costa, Pause4Kids, Manteca CAPS, Training Toward Self Reliance, UCP, California NAELA, Californians for Disability Rights, Inc (CDR) including CDR chapters, CHANCE Inc, , Strategies To Empower People (STEP), Harbor Regional Center, Asian American parents groups, Resources for Independent Living and many other Independent Living Centers, several regional centers, People First chapters, IHSS workers, other self advocacy and family support groups, developmental center families, adoption assistance program families and children, and others across California