

ADVOCACY RESOURCES

ADVOCACY COUNCIL FOR ABUSED DEAF CHILDREN (ACDAC) c/o Five Acres (refer to the “Counseling and Rehabilitation Services” section)

(626) 844-1430 (Voice)

(626) 798-6793, ext. 3165 (Voice)

(626) 204-1375 (TTY)

Website: www.acadcdeaf.org

E-mail: jhunter@5acres.org

The ACADC was created to prevent the abuse of deaf children and to promote the development of appropriate and quality treatment resources for families with a deaf family member. The geographic focus is Los Angeles County and the surrounding areas.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (AAPD)

1629 K Street NW, Suite 503

Washington, DC 20006

(202) 457-0046 (Voice/TTY)

(800) 840-8844 (Voice/TTY)

Website: www.aapd.com

E-mail: aapdmemberservices@earthlink.net

The AAPD is the largest national, nonprofit, cross-disability, member organization in the United States. This organization is dedicated to ensuring economic self-sufficiency and political empowerment for the more than 50 million Americans with disabilities. AAPD works in coalition with other disability organizations for the full implementation and enforcement of disability nondiscrimination laws, particularly the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

ADA INTERAGENCY TASKFORCE

Website: www.disabilityaccessinfo.ca.gov/services.htm

In order to share and coordinate information about disability access issues among key state departments, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Interagency Taskforce (TF) was created in October of 2000. Its charge was to make recommendations on the allocation of one-time funds to increase architectural accessibility in state owned buildings and to develop a plan to identify any unmet access needs and recommend methods for meeting such needs. In addition to this website, the ADA TF has developed a series of bulletins addressing a variety of access issues, particularly for state government in California.

ADA WATCH

1201 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20004

Website: www.adawatch.org

E-mail: info@adawatch.org

ADA Watch is a project of the National Coalition for Disability Rights, a nonprofit alliance of hundreds of disability, civil rights, and social justice organizations united to defend and strengthen disability rights. ADA Watch mobilizes grassroots responses to threats to the civil rights of people with disabilities with online news and action alerts, reports, petitions, letters to policymakers and other advocacy activities.

CALIFORNIA DISABILITY ACCESS INFORMATION WEBSITE

Website: www.disabilityaccessinfo.ca.gov

The purpose of this site is to provide information and links on the major laws, regulations and areas of interest regarding disability rights and access for Californians with disabilities and other interested persons. You will find references to laws, resources for services and referrals to organizations that can help with access concerns.

CALIFORNIANS FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS (CDR)

909 12th Street, Suite 200

Sacramento, CA 95814

(800) 838-9237

(916) 447-2237

Website: www.disabilityrights-cdr.org

E-mail: cdr4info@aol.com

CDR is an advocacy organization of persons with disabilities in California. Originally organized in 1970 as the California Association of the Physically Handicapped--CAPH--with five members, CDR has grown to become an effective and widely respected cross-disability advocacy force. CDR represents all persons with disabilities in California and is guided by this trans-disability principle. Its members fight for the independence, dignity and equality of all disabled persons.

DISABILITY RIGHTS ADVOCATES (DRA)

2001 Center Street, 4th Floor

Berkeley, CA 94704

(510) 665-8644 (Voice)

(510) 665-8716 (TTY)

Website: www.drlegal.org

E-mail: general@drlegal.org

Disability Rights Advocates (DRA) is a non-profit law firm dedicated to protecting and advancing the civil rights of people with disabilities. DRA advocates for disability rights through high-impact litigation, as well as research and education at no charge to their clients.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC)

Disability Rights Office

445 12th Street SW

Washington, DC 20554

(888) 225-5322 (Voice)

(888) 835-5322 (TTY)

(866) 418-0232 (Fax)

Website: www.fcc.gov/cgb/dro

E-mail: fccinfo@fcc.gov

The Disability Rights Office at the FCC ensures that people with disabilities get the same opportunities as others in telecommunications issues. Information regarding: public notices and orders, telecommunication relay services, regulation of telecommunication manufacturers and service providers, closed captioning, access to emergency information on television, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (this national law protects persons with disabilities against discrimination), and other topics is available through this office. When experiencing a problem with a telephone company or other company providing telephone-related services, the FCC is the place to file a formal complaint. You can find information on filing a complaint at: esupport.fcc.gov/complaints.htm.

THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

California Department of Justice

Attorney General's Public Inquiry Unit

P.O. Box 944255

Sacramento, CA 94244

(916) 322-3360 (Voice)

(800) 952-5225 (Voice)

(916) 735-2929 (TTY)

Website: www.ag.ca.gov/consumers/pdf/disabled.pdf

This handbook discusses both California and federal laws that protect the rights of individuals with disabilities. California and federal law should be examined together to get a complete picture of the law on a particular topic. In some areas, California law provides more legal protection or is more comprehensive; in other areas, federal law is more helpful. At the end of the handbook, there is a Directory of Services that lists the type of complaint or lawsuit to be filed and the appropriate agency at which to file that complaint.

LET THEM HEAR FOUNDATION

Insurance Advocacy Program

149 Commonwealth Drive, Suite 1014

Menlo Park, CA 94025

(877) 432-7435

Website: www.letthemhear.org

This nationwide insurance advocacy program assists people in appealing denial of services, free of charge. Appeal support is provided for: cochlear implants (single or bilateral), bone-anchored hearing aid implantation, conventional hearing aids, balance disorders, and other hearing related surgeries.

HEALTH RIGHTS HOTLINE

519 12th Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 551-2100

Website: www.hrh.org

The Health Rights Hotline provides free assistance and information about your rights in health care. This information pertains to residents of El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties in California. The site provides some general information about your rights as a health care consumer. Although the information presented is based on California law, it may still be useful if you live in a different county of California other than those mentioned above. Their publication, "Appeal Rights in Medi-Cal Health and Dental Plans" provides useful information on how to file a complaint or grievance with the plan. This publication can be found at: www.hrh.org/cag/HRHappealrights.pdf.

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY, INC.

Administrative Offices

100 Howe Avenue, Suite 200-N

Sacramento, CA 95825

(916) 488-7715 (Voice)

(800) 776-5746 (Voice)

(800) 719-5798 (TTY)

Website: www.pai-ca.org

Protection and Advocacy Inc. serves Californians with a wide range of disabilities including: cognitive, mental, sensory and physical disabilities. This is achieved by guarding against abuse; advocating for basic rights; and ensuring accountability in health care, education, employment, housing, transportation and within the juvenile and criminal justice systems.