

PIRS Hot Sheet

Advocacy & Services for People with Disabilities

URGENT: Important Notice on 20% IHSS Cuts

Facts:

- The 20% cut goes into effect 1/1/2012, unless a consumer gets approved for an IHSS Care Supplement.
- The IHSS Care Supplement application will be mailed to the consumer by 12/15/2011.
- The IHSS consumer must submit the IHSS Care Supplement application by the deadline to apply to keep the cut from happening.

The State will be sending out IHSS 20% reduction notices to consumers by December 15, 2011. Only consumers whose IHSS services are being reduced by the 20% will receive an IHSS service hour reduction notice. The State also will inform providers of the reduction with a statement on their time sheet.

IHSS consumers who apply for, and qualify for an IHSS Care Supplement will get back some or all of their reduced hours. IHSS services will continue at the same level if an IHSS consumer submits an IHSS Care Supplement application by January 1, 2012, or within 15 days from receiving the IHSS 20% reduction notice. This is called "aid paid pending."

State law says IHSS consumers can get an IHSS Care Supplement only if they are

at risk of out-of-home placement unless they get back some or all of their IHSS hours. "Out-of-home placement" means that the consumer would have to leave her/his own home and go live somewhere else, such as a board and care home, or a nursing home.

Some consumers will automatically receive an IHSS Care Supplement:

- Consumers who receive the maximum of 283 hours per month.
- Consumers who receive Protective Supervision.
- Consumers who receive services under a Home and Community Based Services Waiver, such as Acquired Immune Deficient Syndrome (AIDS) Waiver; Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled (HCBS-DD); Multipurpose Senior Services Program (MSSP); Nursing Facility/Acute Hospital (NF/AH) Waiver, or In-Home Operations (IHO) Waiver.

It is imperative that consumers fill out and return the IHSS Care Supplement application by the deadline.



Do you need minor modifications to make your home safer and more accessible?
Call Don Wixon, Coordinator of PIRS Minor Home Modification Program.
530-885-6100, ext 34

PIRS Calendar

Reasonable accommodations are available upon advance request to facilitate access to PIRS facilities and services.

In order to maintain a comfortable environment for everyone, we respectfully request that **no perfumes or other scented products** are worn when attending activities at PIRS. Thank you.

Deaf Awareness and Conversational American Sign Language:

⇒ **Advanced Class:** call for info.

⇒ **Beginning Class:** Monday, 1:00 – 2:00 pm
For more information on classes, call Virginia at TTY (530) 885-0326, or use CA Relay Service at 211 or 1-877-314-6025 and give the operator the TTY number.

Disability Peer Support Groups:

⇒ **Depression Support Group** – Friday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. at PIRS. This group is facilitated by Senior Peer Counseling Program of PCHHS, and it is open to all adults regardless of age.

⇒ **Women's Depression/Bipolar/Mental Health Disabilities Support Group** – Monday 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Call Leslie Brewer, ext. 13.

⇒ **Men's Disability Support Group** – Tuesday 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Call Jeff Cowen, ext 15, before attending.

⇒ **Women's Disability Support Group** – Wednesday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Open drop-in group. Call Facilitator Barbara Finn, ext. 26, for more information.

⇒ **Peer Support – New Program:** If you live between Applegate and Gold Run and would like to talk with a volunteer Peer Support Specialist, call Leslie, x13.

Auburn People First: self-advocacy for people with developmental disabilities

⇒ Call the Supported Life Institute, Self-Advocacy Coordination Project at 916-567-1974 for more information.

FREE Help with your healthcare services problems:

HICAP – Health Insurance Counseling for seniors and people with disabilities. Call Seniors First/SeniorLink at 1-800-878-9222 to make an appointment.

Health Rights Hotline, serving Placer, El Dorado, Yolo, & Sacramento Counties, regardless where you receive your health coverage. Tollfree (888) 354-4474 or TTY (916) 551-2180. In Sacramento, call (916) 551-2100. www.hrh.org.

HMO Help Center: State Dept. of Managed Health Care, free independent medical review (IMR) for denial of services. Assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call (888) 466-2219 or (877) 688-9891 (TTY). www.healthhelp.ca.gov.

DRA's Health Access Project: free publications about the health care and insurance rights and concerns of people with disabilities and serious health conditions. <http://dralegal.org/>, and click on "Projects".

Mental Health America
In Crisis? 1-800-273-TALK
Pensar en Suicida?
1-800-SUICIDA (784-2432)
(Ellos son Latinos y hablan Espanol)

California AgrAbility Project serves agricultural workers with disabilities and their families. Call (530) 752-1613 voice; Toll free: 1-800-477-6129; fax (530) 752-2640.
<http://calagrability.ucdavis.edu>

CALIFORNIA
Blind Advisory Committee
Advancing Employment, Economic
Opportunities, and Access
for Blind or Visually Impaired
Californians

**The Department of Rehabilitation is
seeking nominations to serve on the
Blind Advisory Committee.**

The Blind Advisory Committee (BAC) provides advice to the Dept. of Rehabilitation on means to increase competitive employment, enlarge economic opportunities, enhance independence and self-sufficiency, and in methods of improving services for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

The committee develops, in conjunction with stakeholders, an annual work plan to identify and address areas for improvement in services provided by the division to persons who are blind and visually impaired.

The BAC consists of no more than thirteen members who represent the wide and diverse interests of blind and visually impaired rehabilitation consumer constituencies. The majority of the members shall be blind or visually impaired. Members of the committee who are not blind or visually impaired shall have experience in services to the blind.

All qualified applicants are urged to apply. If interested, please contact PIRS to obtain instructions and

application, or contact Joe Smith at 916-558-5489 or fjsmith@dor.ca.gov.

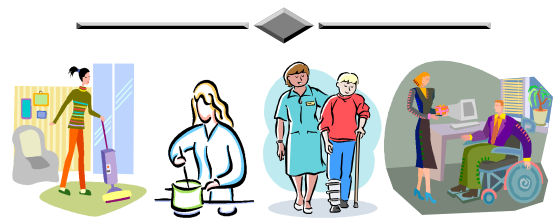
- This recruitment is for the vacant membership representation of: two at large members; one service provider of services to the blind and visually impaired; one member experienced in the education of blind and visually impaired youth; two positions who are Department consumers; and one California Council of the Blind nominee.

To apply for appointment by the Director to the BAC, complete the application and provide your resume by E-mail to Joe Smith, Blind Advisory Committee, at fjsmith@dor.ca.gov.

Send your signed application and resume to:

Department of Rehabilitation
Older Individuals Blind Program
721 Capitol Mall
Sacramento CA 95814

**All applications should be received
no later than December 30, 2011.**



**Do you need to hire an in-home personal
assistant or care provider?**

**Are you a professional care provider?
Apply to join PIRS Personal Assistants
Registry/Referral Service. (No fee)**

**To hire a provider, or to join our Provider
Registry, call Tim Cooper at PIRS -
530-885-6100, x15.**

ADA CORNER

US Justice Dept has settled with Equity Homes Inc and Shane Hartung for violating the Fair Housing Act (FHA) by failing to provide features that would make their six multi-family housing developments in Iowa accessible to people with disabilities as required by the Fair Housing Act. The defendants will modify the six apartment complexes to make them accessible and will pay \$41,500 in monetary damages to those harmed by the inaccessible housing. They also must undergo training on the requirements on the Fair Housing Act and provide periodic reports to the government. The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability and familial status. Anyone believing they may have been victims of housing discrimination should call the Housing Discrimination Tip Line (1-800-896-7743), or email the Justice Dept. at fairhousing@usdoj.gov, or call U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development at 1-800-669-9777, or go to www.hud.gov. More information about the Civil Rights Division and the laws it enforces is available at www.justice.gov/crt.

Free Technical Assistance:

- Pacific Disability and Business Technical Advisory Center (DBTAC) – Hotline provides free detailed explanations on ADA questions and Guidelines. 1-800-949-4232. www.adapacific.org.
- Dept of Justice ADA webpage: www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm
- Equal Opportunity Employment Commission – non-discrimination in employment: www.eeoc.gov.
- Job Accommodation Network (JAN): lists examples of accommodations that may be

appropriate for various types of disabling conditions. www.jan.wvu.edu

- www.access-board.gov – US Access Board publishes access guidelines based on research about best practices.
- www.DisabilityInfo.gov is a cross-government portal on disability, and is easily accessible.
- www.ncaonline.org- National Center on Accessibility promotes access to recreational facilities, focusing on universal access and practical solutions by linking designers with users.
- www.firstgov.gov – a one-stop source to find any federal agency and other information.
- Federal Transit Administration – ADA Assistance line: 1-888-446-4511 or www.fta.dot.gov/transit_data_info/ada/
- Information on the U.S. Dept of Education enforcement of education rights (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA). www.ed.gov/offices/OCR/index.html
- Discrimination in air transportation and related services. Hotline at 1-800-778-4838 (voice) or 1-800-455-9880 (TTY) to obtain assistance. Complaints must be submitted in writing. <http://airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/>



Advocate for Your Rights!

Never take your independence for granted. Never ignore discrimination. Speak out and defend your rights to access housing, education, employment, transportation, health care, telecommunications, recreation, and all the other benefits our society enjoys. Get involved! Stay informed! Get PIRS advocacy bulletins by mail or email:

Email: <jcowen@pirs.org> and put "Subscribe Advocacy List" in the subject line;

Call – Jeff - 530-885-6100, ext.15; or

Write: Advocate, PIRS, 11768 Atwood Rd. Ste. 29, Auburn, CA 95603.

To Contact Your Legislators online:

President: www.whitehouse.gov

Governor: www.governor.ca.gov

US Senators: thomas.loc.gov, then choose "Senate Directory" at top.

US Representatives: thomas.loc.gov, then choose "House Directory" at top.

State Senate: www.senate.ca.gov

State Assembly: www.assembly.ca.gov

Placer County: www.placer.ca.gov

El Dorado County: co.el-dorado.ca.us

Alpine County: www.alpinecountyca.gov



PIRS Board of Directors is seeking new members. In particular, if you are of Latino, Asian, or African-American descent and have a disability, or have legal or accounting expertise, please consider joining our Board.

Please call for an application:
530-885-6100, in Auburn
1-800-833-3453 outside of Auburn area
530-885-0326 TDD
530-885-3032 Fax

PIRS Board of Directors

Dawn Davidson, President
Paul Opper, Vice President
Robert Hancock, Treasurer
Dan Roye, Secretary
Becky Baker, Director
Michael Cummings, Director
Terry Scott, Director
Linda Wisdom, Director

PIRS Board Meeting:

Third Wednesday, 5:00-6:30 p.m. at PIRS.

Disability Rights Organizations:

www.ADAWatch.org: Advancing the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities

National Council on Independent Living:
www.NCIL.org

Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living: www.april-rural.org

CA Foundation for Independent Living Centers: www.cfilc.org

Mental Health: www.Bazelon.org

Advocacy for persons with developmental disabilities: [The ARC.org](http://TheARC.org)

Disability Rights California: www.drc.org

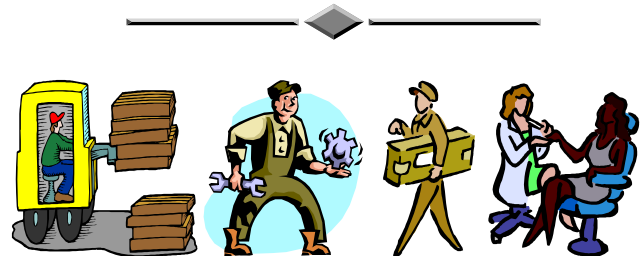
Disability Rights Education Defense Fund:
www.dredf.org

Not Dead Yet: opposing physician-assisted suicide. www.ndy.org

Disability Rights Advocates: dralegal.org

American Association of Persons with Disabilities: www.aapd.org

California Disability Community Action Network (CDCAN): Advocacy Without Borders: www.cdcan.us



www.disabilitybenefits101.org

Information on employment, health coverage and other benefits, and how it all relates to working. There's a unique "calculator" that will help you figure it out. You can work!

Placer Independent Resource Services
11768 Atwood Rd., Ste. 29
Auburn, CA 95603

Non Profit Organization
US Postage PAID
Auburn, CA
Permit #130

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PIRS Hotsheet is available online at
www.pirs.org
Or in alternative formats. Call us at:
530-885-6100 (v); 530-885-0326 (tty)



Merry Christmas,
Happy Channukah, and
Happy Kwanzaa!!

*Please Include
PIRS in Your Will.*



PIRS is funded by grants from the US Dept. of Education/Rehabilitative Services Administration; State Dept. of Rehabilitation; Area 4 Agency on Aging; United Auburn Indian Communities; City of Roseville; Community Technology Foundation of CA; James & Virginia Benson Fund for the Elderly of Placer County of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation; by contract with the Pacific Disability & Business Technical Assistance Center; and by private donations.

We need your support. Please make a donation to PIRS today. Thank you!

PIRS is a Certified Agency of United Way California Capital Region: **Agency # 5751**

