

# PIRS Hot Sheet

Advocacy & Services for People with Disabilities

## URGENT: Important UPDATE on 20% IHSS Cuts

### IHSS Cuts on Temporary Hold

The cuts to IHSS mandated by the “trigger” in the current state budget and scheduled to take effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, are on hold. Due to a lawsuit, a judge has issued a temporary restraining order to the State, halting implementation. The issue is scheduled to be heard in court on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Pending the Judge’s decision after the hearing, which could take an unpredictable length of time, the cuts may be stayed (i.e. stopped), or reinstated.

If the cuts are reinstated, PIRS staff will be available to assist IHSS recipients with application forms for Care Supplement restoration of services. The forms will need to be submitted to the local Public Authority or other managing entity of the IHSS services being received.

### FREE ADA ACCESS CHECKLIST

An updated ADA checklist for readily achievable barrier removal is now available free of charge at [ADAChecklist.org](http://ADAChecklist.org). This checklist is based on the new 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. The updated checklist was produced by the New England ADA Center, a project of the Institute for Human Centered Design and a member of the ADA National Network.

## Think Beyond the Label

*Think Beyond the Label* has launched an online jobs portal that connects job seekers with disabilities to employers, including those that are actively seeking to hire disabled applicants. *Think Beyond the Label's* new job-search engine gives candidates with disabilities free access to nearly one million job listings from more than 90,000 vetted hiring employers in the private and public sectors.

The portal lets candidates directly interact with employers, and employers are notified when a job seeker applies for a job from the *Think Beyond the Label* website.

*Think Beyond the Label* is a private-public partnership that helps businesses and the public workforce system more effectively recruit, hire and retain job seekers with disabilities across 50 states. The partnership spans state health and human service and employment agencies; businesses; and Health & Disability Advocates, a national nonprofit organization that manages the *Think Beyond the Label* partnership. For more information please go to [www.thinkbeyondthelabel.com](http://www.thinkbeyondthelabel.com).  
[Source: [www.digitaljournal.com](http://www.digitaljournal.com)]

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 us at 503-885-6100, or 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 individually 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](http://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](http://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>

## PEDESTRIAN ACCESS BARRIERS

Disability Rights Advocates (“DRA”), a non-profit legal center, is investigating complaints throughout California regarding barriers that people with mobility impairments and people who are blind or low vision have encountered at areas of construction or other work zones along pedestrian pathways.

When pedestrian pathways, such as sidewalks, are closed or partially blocked due to construction, maintenance, or other conditions, any pedestrian detours or the unblocked remaining pathway must be accessible.

If you have a mobility impairment, are blind, or have low vision, and have experienced any of the following barriers when pedestrian pathways are affected by construction or other activities, DRA would like to hear from you:

- Pedestrian detours without ramps over sharp vertical steps, drop-offs, or curbs;
- Use of yellow tape to alert pedestrians to the detour or of the hazardous condition;
- Use of unsecured cones or A Frames to alert pedestrians of the temporary route or condition;
- Pedestrian detours that have steep slopes or cross-slopes;
- Lack of detectable warnings at pedestrian detours that cross roads or vehicle traffic;
- Objects protruding into the path of travel along the pedestrian detour;
- Pedestrian detours that are less than 36 inches wide;
- Narrowing of the existing pathway to less than 36 inches wide;
- Open trenches or other hazardous conditions that are not detectable, posing dangers to pedestrians;
- Use of signage that is only accessible to sighted pedestrians;

- Loose gravel, unsecured plywood, or other terrain that is not firm, stable and slip resistant;
- Other hazardous or inaccessible conditions along pedestrian detours.

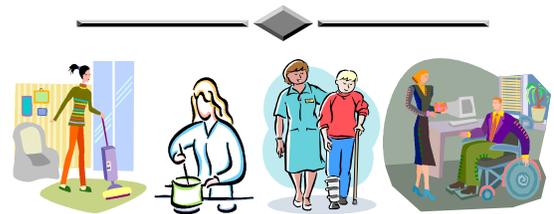
If you have encountered barriers like these, please let DRA know. Send a description of the barrier, along with any cell-phone or other photos you can take of the problem, to: [PedDetours@dralegal.org](mailto:PedDetours@dralegal.org), or call Zack Duffy at (510) 665-8644 to share your story. All communications will be kept confidential.

Please include any details about the barrier that you can provide, including:

- The location of the barrier;
- When you encountered it;
- Whether the barrier seems very short term or longer term;
- Who appears to have created the barrier; and
- Who has jurisdiction over the blocked pathway.

**\*\* Please be sure to include your name and contact information.**

Thanks for your help in this important area of accessibility and safety.



**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**

The U.S. Access Board has released for public comment a second Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) with a revised draft of updated accessibility requirements for information and communication technology (ICT) covered by Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act and Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The draft rule addresses access to computer hardware and software, websites, media players, electronic documents, telephones and cell phones, PDAs and other ICT products. This latest version includes changes made in response to public feedback received on an earlier draft issued last year. It also includes a discussion to explain changes and highlight other topics where public comment is sought. The deadline for comments is March 7. The draft rule and related information are available at [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov) and also is posted on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), which allows visitors to submit or view comments. For further information, contact Tim Creagan at [creagan@access-board.gov](mailto:creagan@access-board.gov), (202) 272-0016 (v), or (202) 272-0074 (TTY).

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### **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](http://www.adapacific.org).

• Dept of Justice ADA webpage:

[www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm)

• Equal Opportunity Employment Commission – non-discrimination in employment: [www.eeoc.gov](http://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](http://www.jan.wvu.edu)

• [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov) – US Access Board publishes access guidelines based on research about best practices.

• [www.DisabilityInfo.gov](http://www.DisabilityInfo.gov) is a cross-government portal on disability, and is easily accessible.

• [www.ncaonline.org](http://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](http://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/](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

Governor: [www.governor.ca.gov](http://www.governor.ca.gov)

US Senators: [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov), then choose "Senate Directory" at top.

US Representatives: [thomas.loc.gov](http://thomas.loc.gov), then choose "House Directory" at top.

State Senate: [www.senate.ca.gov](http://www.senate.ca.gov)

State Assembly: [www.assembly.ca.gov](http://www.assembly.ca.gov)

Placer County: [www.placer.ca.gov](http://www.placer.ca.gov)

El Dorado County: [co.el-dorado.ca.us](http://co.el-dorado.ca.us)

Alpine County: [www.alpinecountyca.gov](http://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](http://www.ADAWatch.org): Advancing the Civil Rights of People with Disabilities

**National Council on Independent Living:**  
[www.NCIL.org](http://www.NCIL.org)

**Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living:** [www.april-rural.org](http://www.april-rural.org)

**CA Foundation for Independent Living Centers:** [www.cfilc.org](http://www.cfilc.org)

**Mental Health:** [www.Bazelon.org](http://www.Bazelon.org)

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

**Disability Rights California:** [www.drc.org](http://www.drc.org)

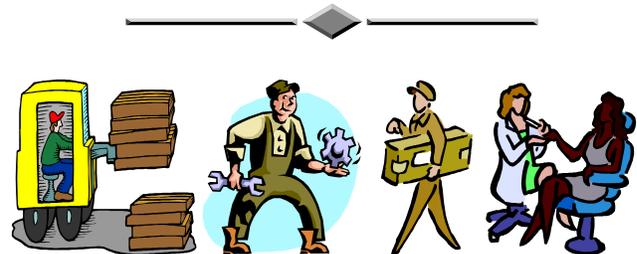
**Disability Rights Education Defense Fund:**  
[www.dredf.org](http://www.dredf.org)

**Not Dead Yet:** opposing physician-assisted suicide. [www.ndy.org](http://www.ndy.org)

**Disability Rights Advocates:** [dralegal.org](http://dralegal.org)

**American Association of Persons with Disabilities:** [www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org)

**California Disability Community Action Network (CDCAN):** Advocacy Without Borders: [www.cdcan.us](http://www.cdcan.us)



**[www.disabilitybenefits101.org](http://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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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



*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**

