

DISABLED RESOURCES CENTER, INC.

Key to Independent Living

Summer Newsletter 2011

Dear Reader



"The task ahead of me is never as great as the power behind me."

Meet my power sources; DRC Board of Directors: **Cathy R. Parsa**, President, **Theresa May de Vera**, Vice President, **Shirley Hsiao**, Treasurer, **Rev. C. Kit Wilke**, Secretary, **C. Timothy Lashlee**, **Dora Hogan**, **Janice Liberti**, **Lloyd Saposnek**, **Mark Matsui**, and **Gail Morrison**. DRC Staff: **James Alusick**, Service Assistant, **Vincent Johnson**, AT Coordinator, **Finbar LaMontagne**, Job Developer, **Alice Bruns**, Job Developer, **Andrew Swinton**, ILS/Peer Support Coordinator, **Richard Hernandez**, Systems Change Advocate, **Myralynn Arzaga**, Office Assistant, **Donna Jackson**, Computer Instructor/Assistant Webmaster, **Khanny Ou**, Personal Assistant Coordinator, **Felicita Moges**, Benefits Advocate, **Mario Rodriguez**, Housing Coordinator, **Richard Burnett**, Ticket to Work Specialist/Job Developer, **Carolyn Rossi**, Special Grants Coordinator, and **Jeanny Sonoda**, Bookkeeper. All of these inspiring power sources are in addition to our wonderful volunteers. (page 2)

As I write this, summer is just around the corner. With summer comes DRC's Annual Awards Dinner. This event has proven to provide a special and fun evening in the past, and this year's Annual Awards Dinner promises to do so again. Please see the invitation on this page. Invitations went out the middle of May. If you didn't receive an invitation and are interested in attending or purchasing opportunity tickets, please call DRC at (562) 427-1000. We hope to see you in June!

Opportunity Tickets are \$1 each. Fill out name/address/phone on the back of each ticket purchased and return that portion with payment to DRC. Retain Opportunity Ticket stub.

1st Prize: 42" LCD Flat Screen TV

2nd Prize: iPad & Accessories

3rd Prize: \$500 Cash **Winner need not be present.**



Dolores Nason,
Executive Director

DISABLED RESOURCES CENTER, INC.

Annual Awards Dinner and 35th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday June 23, 2011
The Reef On The Water

Honorees:

Jerry Stein Memorial Independent Living Award
Dr. Jose Ramón Núñez,
Dean of the School of Language Arts
Long Beach City College

Civic Leadership Award
Warren T. Furutani
Assemblymember Representing the 55th Assembly District

Community Services Award
Larry Forester
Mayor of the City of Signal Hill

Volunteer of the Year Award
Mugi Miyazaki

"Special Recognition Scholarship to a Military Veteran"

Master of Ceremonies
David Sanfilippo
California State University, Long Beach

Music by Blue Coral Jazz

June 23, 2011
The Reef On the Water
Harborview Ballroom
880 Harbor Scenic Drive
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 495-8073

Reception 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Donation \$65 per dinner
Attire: Aloha Casual

DRC Volunteer Luncheon

DRC's Volunteer Luncheon was held on Friday, April 29, 2011. This is the time DRC awards the volunteers with a Certificate of Appreciation for their hard work and dedication to the Center. The staff and Board member, Gail Morrison, were so glad to have Cheryl Wilson in attendance to share in the awarding of certificates. In 2010, total volunteer hours worked equaled 4,350. Everyone enjoyed a tasty luncheon and a huge cake saying "Thank you 2010 Volunteers."



Pictures from the Volunteer Luncheon



Past Volunteer of the Year Greg, Dolores and Cheryl



This year's Volunteer of the Year Mugi, Dolores and Cheryl



DRC's newest employee Donna, Dolores and Cheryl



Cake Honoring 2010 Volunteers

Two Former Volunteers, Now Employees

DRC is happy to announce two former volunteers who have joined DRC's family. **Donna Jackson**, Computer Instructor and Assistant Webmaster started working on April 11, 2011. She has a knowledgeable background in computers and web design and is a great asset to the AT lab.



Andrew Swinton is our new Independent Living Skills/Peer Support Coordinator and began working on March 22, 2011. He recently facilitated the last Peer Counseling Class and did a tremendous job. Many of his students enjoyed him very much and some have decided to return to DRC and volunteer.

Cheryl Wilson

Our thoughts and best wishes are with **Cheryl Wilson** who recently went through serious health issues. She held the position as Independent Living Skills/Peer Support Coordinator here at DRC, but could not return to work due to a long recovery.



DRC's New Volunteer

Gino Elliot is our newest member of the volunteer family here at DRC. He recently graduated in March from the Peer Counseling Class and has decided to dedicate some of his free time with us. Welcome Gino!

Job Club Was a Huge Success!



DRC's Stepping Stones to Employment program held a three-day Job Club in March and had a fantastic turnout! 12 consumers, referred by the Department of Rehabilitation, received valuable information, from the techniques of interviewing to resume writing, with the ultimate goal of finding permanent and meaningful employment.

On a related note, if you are an employer and have positions to be filled, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Carolyn Rossi, Special Grants Coordinator, with the details of your specific needs. 562-427-1000 ext 11

Calendar of Events

MAY

- 4th Women's Group-Make your Mother's Day with a card from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 5th Executive Director Paula Pearlman, Disability Rights Center visits
- 5th Co-Ed Group-Make your "Mother's Day" with a card from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 10th Medical/Medicare Workshop from 10:00a.m.-11:00a.m.
- 10th Personal Assistant Workshop from 1:30p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 11th Women's Group-Celebrate May as "Mental Health Month" With 10 Tools for Staying Well from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 11th DRC Advocacy Group meeting at NRC from 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.
- 12th Co-Ed Group-Celebrate May as "Mental Health Month" With 10 Tools for Staying Healthy from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 17th American Red Cross presentation at 10:30a.m.
- 18th Women's Group-Recipe Exchange from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 19th Co-Ed Group-Estate Planning from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 24th Union Bank presentation at 11:00a.m.
- 25th Mental Health Celebration at Long Beach Mental Health from 9:30a.m.-2p.m.
- 25th Capitol Action Day in Sacramento
- 25th Women's Group-Simple Exercises to Promote Mobility from 1p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 26th DRC Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- 26th Co-Ed Group-Identity Theft from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 30th Memorial Day Holiday (Center Closed)

JUNE

- 1st ILC Directors Meeting at CALIF from 10:00am-1:00pm
- 1st Women's Group-Lutheran Social Services Speaker Scheduled from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 2nd Co-Ed Group-Discussion and Games from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 7th Personal Assistant Consumer Workshop from 1:30pm-2:30pm
- 8th Women's Group-Hobbies for Health from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 8th DRC Advocacy Group meeting at NRC from 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.
- 9th Co-Ed Group-Hobbies for Health from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 15th Women's Group-Father's Day Card Creations from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 16th Long Beach Transit Meeting at LBT from 1:30p.m.-300p.m.
- 16th Co-Ed Group-Father's Day Card Creations from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 20th - 23rd CFILC/SCIL Statewide Meeting in Anaheim
- 22nd Women's Group-Volunteer Opportunities from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 23rd DRC 35th Annual Awards Dinner at The Reef in Long Beach
- 23rd No Co-Ed Group meeting
- 29th Women's Group-Budgeting from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.
- 30th Co-Ed Group-Cultural Tolerance from 1:00p.m.-2:30p.m.

JULY

- 4th Independence Day Holiday (Center Closed)
- 12th New Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Class begins from 1:00pm-2:30pm, every Tuesday for 8 weeks
- 13th DRC Advocacy Group meeting at NRC from 3:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

AUGUST

- 30th Peer Counseling/Stepping Stones to Employment Graduation



DRC: Disabled Resources Center
The Key to Independence

Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Long Beach, CA
Permit No. 828

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2750 E. Spring St, Suite #100
Long Beach, CA 90806

PHONE: 562-427-1000
FAX: 562-427-2027
TTY: 562-427-1366
E-mail: info@drcinc.org

Return Service Requested

Mission Statement:

To empower people with disabilities to live independently in the community, to make their own decisions about their lives and advocate on their own behalf.

We're on the web at www.drcinc.org

Consumer Comments:

"Thank you Mario for finding me a good home with Hugo. I enjoyed my time here at the apartment. Thank you for your support and understanding. I really appreciate it. I am doing pretty good now, interviewing and looking for a full-time job. Thanks so much for everything. I am giving back volunteering with American Cancer Society (Long Beach) Division. I really enjoy helping others. Have a wonderful day!"
-Theresa (Long Beach)

Ticket to Work Consumer says, "I wish I found this place a year ago!"
-John (Long Beach)

