



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

AGENDA

Developmental Disabilities Council

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

10:00 AM

1025 Escobar St., Martinez |
[https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/96433584883?](https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/96433584883?pwd=bEtCdk9wM0NyZHFVaVl0N3U3Rm1mQT09)
[pwd=bEtCdk9wM0NyZHFVaVl0N3U3R](https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/96433584883?pwd=bEtCdk9wM0NyZHFVaVl0N3U3Rm1mQT09)
m1mQT09 | Call in: (646) 518-9805,
meeting ID 964 3358 4883, password
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Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Approval of March 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes

[25-1508](#)

Attachments: [DDC Minutes 3-26-25 draft](#)

2. Updates

Transportation Work Group

[25-1509](#)

Attachments: [Transportation Work Group Update](#)

3. Presentation: Specialty Health Ambassador Update

[25-1510](#)

Attachments: [SHA Program Update](#)

4. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 28, 2025.

5. Adjourn

The Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1220 Morello Ave, during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact: Vi Ibarra, vi.ibarra@cchealth.org or (925) 532-9047



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

Staff Report

File #: 25-1508

Agenda Date: 4/23/2025

Agenda #:

Advisory Board: Developmental Disabilities Council

Subject: March 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Presenter:

Contact: Vi Ibarra

Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 26, 2025

Board and Liaison Members Present: Alicia Jackson, Caroline Ortiz, Christine Rottger, Christy Lam-Julian, Estela Nunez, Karen Lingenfelter, Katherine Kreft, Laura Corbett, Nickole Bouslog, Pam Perls, Ramsay Mashy, Ria Mercado, Seth Hendricks/Co-Chair, Troy Russell, Will Sanford/Chair

Staff: Vi Ibarra

Board and Liaison Members Excused: Everyone was present

Guests: Rebecca Corbett Futures Explored; Aimee Vitug-Hom, VistAbility; Jacqueline Lopez-Padilla EHSD Comprehensive Services Bureau; Anna Cleese, District Representative, Supervisor Burgis D3 (East County); Alejandra Sanchez, District Representative for Supervisor Ken Carlson; Rosa Valledor, Parent; Denise Underwood, Fair Hearings Specialist RCEB; Ronke Sodipo, Director of Client Services at RCEB; Victoria Lacuesta, Home Host Coordinator from AbleLight; Alisa and Leo Rosillo, community members; Mateo Ibarra, Nora Lewis, Tyler Bohon, Kevin Costte, Jeremy Dunbar, Lisa Ribitch, Nicola Ifill Fraser, Nicole Strobel, all with Full Circle of Choices; Rebecca Nanyonjo, RCEB; Suzanne Anthony, parent; Daniel Fournoy, VistAbility; Matthew Ferrer, CSS Antioch; Craig Rose, VistAbility; Gabriela Solval, SCDD; and Caroline Francois, Congressman DeSaulnier's Office

Welcome, Establish Quorum, and Introductions:

Seth welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:02 a.m. Today's meeting was hybrid, with Council members and guests attending either in-person at Las Trampas in Lafayette or on Zoom. Abigail, the Spanish interpreter, gave instructions on how to choose between Spanish and English interpretation. Guests introduced themselves and those on Zoom were asked to enter their names and affiliations in Chat for attendance purposes. Vi took a roll call of board members and established a quorum.

There was one correction to the meeting minutes for February 26, 2025 - Ramsay should have been noted as present. The correction was noted and the minutes approved (M/Nickole, S/Laura). There were no changes to the agenda.

UPDATES:

RCEB - Rebecca Nanyonjo

Becky reported that she attended the ARCA trade association meeting that represents all 21 Regional Centers. California's budget season is approaching, and there's a lot of uncertainty.

The top priority is protecting the Lanterman Act. It's unclear what might happen if Medicaid funding is reduced, as Medi-Cal supports many services.

At the state level:

- Mike and the EBLC are encouraging people to write to their local congressional offices. Sharing personal stories can help influence decision-makers. The financial outlook isn't promising, but Becky advised us not to worry until we have more details.
- The rate reform implementation is almost complete. Providers are to sign and submit rate acknowledgment letters by March 30th. Reach out to RCEB if you have any questions about the information in your letter.
- A new directive on Health and Safety Waivers will include rate adjustments for transportation providers. The number of people served continues to grow!

The RCEB Board of Directors meets every third Monday of the month. Becky encourages anyone interested to attend.

Finally, Becky recently visited the Adaptive Living Center where she was able to meet Board Member Troy Russell. She enjoyed learning more about this provider and their clients.

SCDD Bay Area Office – Gabriela Solval

Those who are interested can subscribe to the SCDD Annual and Trainings calendars.

- [Upcoming statewide trainings](#)
- [SCDD Statewide Trainings for 2025 Flyer \[acrobat.adobe.com\]](#)
- [Entrenamientos Estatales de SCDD de 2025 Folleto \[acrobat.adobe.com\]](#)
- [upcoming SCDD Council and Committee Meetings](#)
- [Self-Determination Statewide Orientations](#) (*this month offered in English Hmong, Korean, and Spanish*):

A reminder, you can [share your story](#), for a chance to be featured in SCDD's Storytellers Blog and now you can [sign up](#) to get the latest posts of SCDD's Storytellers Blog Page straight to your email inbox.

To celebrate Developmental Disability Awareness Month 2025, the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is hosting a special webinar, The Choices We Make Together: Understanding Limited Conservatorships and Less Restrictive Alternatives

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM–5:00 PM (PDT)

[Register here](#)

Council Chairperson – Will Sanford

As an informational point, Seth is thinking about running for Chair in the next term to help build leadership over time. Any Board Members interested in joining the executive team can contact Will, Seth or Vi to discuss.

Executive Assistant to the Council – Vi Ibarra: No report.

Membership – Troy Russell

The board is looking for new members. There are currently five open seats. Two members, Caroline and Pam, will finish their terms this summer, and Karen Lingenfelter has one year left.

Board terms last three years, with the option to serve a second term for a total of six years. After a one-year break, former members can (and do!) return. To join, you need to attend three board meetings and the meetings don't have to be consecutive. Zoom meetings count! If you are interested, contact Troy or Vi.

Community Liaison Reports:

East Bay Legislative Coalition – Will Sanford

Will introduced Alisa Rosillo who, along with Nickole and Will, helped pass legislation in California to install adult changing tables in public facilities to improve community access. (AB 8622 requires all large public facilities to put in adult changing rooms and made it a part of building code.)

Alisa attended the President's speech to Congress with Congressman DeSaulnier. She shared her experience from the DC trip, calling it an incredible honor to represent the community. She connected with Nancy Pelosi and her guest, Elena Hung, founder of Little Lobbyists. During Trump's first term, Elena brought together about 30 people with complex needs to humanize proposed budget cuts. Alisa stressed the need to share your stories to highlight the impact of potential cuts. Congressman DeSaulnier is fully committed and used his platform to speak on national television, emphasizing that cuts must be avoided.

California's budget season starts today. The next EBLC meeting is on April 2. They'll review potential local and federal bills, focusing heavily on federal budget reconciliation. If both houses agree on a budget it becomes law. The House proposed over \$800 billion in reductions over 10 years. Personal stories about how funding supports essential services (like IHSS, Denti-Cal, CalFresh, and SSI) are critical, especially for people with significant needs.

Everyone is encouraged to share their stories and urge any friends in Central and Southern California to share the impact of potential cuts with their elected representatives. Last month, 17 states challenged Section 504. With DEI efforts fading, there are concerns about competition between special education and developmental services. Vi shared that Congressman DeSaulnier's office organized a recent roundtable with community representatives. Kashau King, a parent, and Sascha Bittner, a disabilities rights advocate, shared powerful stories about how cuts would affect them and their families. Vi thanked the Congressmans's office for connecting with the DD Council, and VistAbility for hosting and providing a tour.

Comments and Questions:

A comment was made that the administration's rapid pace makes it hard to focus. One suggestion was to discuss the Department of Education at the EBLC meeting, on how to support

parents fighting for their children’s education. Executive orders often require Congressional action - early and strong advocacy leads to better outcomes. Another comment noted that caregivers may feel overwhelmed by information. We need better ways to talk about disability issues.

Emergency Planning Engagement – Aimee Vitug-Hom

For those wanting to learn more on emergency and disaster preparedness, all are welcome to Concord’s Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair. It will be held on September 4th at Todos Santos Park. Come for information, music, and the farmer’s market!

Transition Task Force

Vi reported on the Transition Conference held at DVC on March 15th. The event saw 300 registered attendees, featured 68 vendors at the resource fair, and included 16 presentations throughout the day. Spanish translations were provided for accessibility.

Thank you to the planning partners and presenters for their valuable contributions and support in making the conference a success!

Health Equity Work Group – Ria Mercado

Ria shared [these slides](#) for her update from the Health Equity Work Group.

A request for dental resources was made at the last Council meeting. Ria’s presentation slides includes resources such as university-based resources and specialists like University of the Pacific and UCSF. Also, she suggested checking with RCEB for services provided through community providers in residential facilities.

The workgroup will be meeting to determine next steps given what we’re hearing about at the Federal level, and will continue to make sure healthcare access stays at the forefront.

~~~~ A brief break was taken at 10:54 a.m. for networking and refreshments ~~~~

**\*\*\*\*\* Presentation \*\*\*\*\***

**New Person Centered IPP Form**

**Shawna Atkins, Regional Center of the East Bay**

Shawna introduced the new standardized statewide Individual Program Plan (IPP) and Person-Centered Planning (PCP) principles. Here is her [PowerPoint presentation](#) and some additional notes:

Some Key Components of the New IPP

- IPP Template: Easy, fillable template that can be done online or printed. It covers 12 life areas (previously 8).

- Agreement and Signature Page: Documents agreed-upon services and includes a new survey to capture the individual's or family's experience during the IPP process.
- Person-Centered Planning (PCP) incorporates tools to identify what's important to and for the person.
- Acknowledgements: Case managers will provide through email or hard copies on:
  - Self-direction
  - Participant-directed services
  - Whistleblower policy
  - Complaint filing
  - Voting rights
  - Transportation access plan

The IPP puts an emphasis on inclusivity and offers flexibility to use first-person or third-person language. Completing the IPP may take longer for individuals without strong support circles, and who might rely more on case managers or providers. It can be shared in advance with individuals and their support circles. Shawna will confirm if they are available on the RCEB website.

Links to the resources in Shawna's presentation:

- Child's Plan: [https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Your\\_Childs\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Your_Childs_Plan.pdf)
- Youth's Plan: [https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Your\\_Youths\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Your_Youths_Plan.pdf)
- Adult Plan: [https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Your\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Your_Plan.pdf)
- DDS Individual Program Plan Information: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/ipp/>

Questions and Comments

- A question was asked about language availability: IPP documents are available in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and other languages upon request. Ronke added that post-meeting translations can be arranged and in any language.
- Another question was asked about case manager training: Training began in November 2024. Some attendees noted that not all case managers are fully aware of the new IPP. Shawna offers quarterly training sessions.
- A comment was made that at least one life area must be identified to justify RCEB-funded services, based on a needs-based assessment according to the individual's and team's vision of the future.
- A comment was made about individual responsibility and that process should include discussions on the individual's role in achieving desired outcomes.

Public Comment and Announcements: None.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

|                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------|
| The next meeting will be held on April 23, 2025 |
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Respectfully submitted by,  
*Aimee Vitug-Hom*  
 VistAbility





# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-1509

**Agenda Date:** 4/23/2025

**Agenda #:**

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Advisory Board: Developmental Disabilities Council

Subject: Transportation Work Group Update

Presenter: Alicia Jackson

Contact: Vi Ibarra

# Transportation Work Group

Update to DD Council  
April 2025

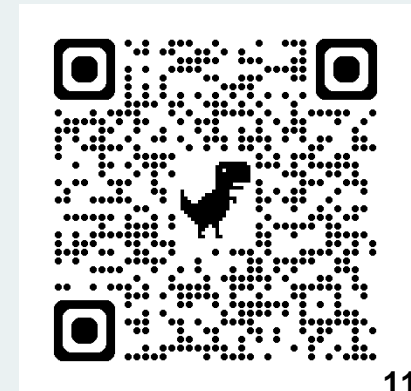
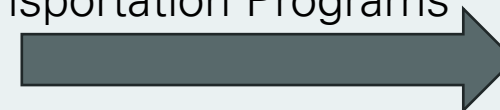
# Seeking Out Resources:

[Walnut Creek Transportation Program](#) – offers 3 programs

## 1) Walnut Creek Mini Bus

- Eligibility: resident of WC, 60+ years of age, or age 18+ with a disability, have your own phone and valid email address
- Cost: free
- Availability: only locations in WC, Tues-Thurs from 9am to 2pm
- Ambulatory only, no wheelchair access

For information on the WC  
Transportation Programs



# Seeking Out Resources:

## Walnut Creek Transportation Program, continued

### 2) Lyft Self Access

- Eligibility:
  - resident of WC, Concord, Clayton, Pleasant Hill or Martinez
  - 60+ years of age, or age 18+ with a disability
  - have valid email address, smartphone and ability to use Lyft app
- Cost:
  - \$60 annual membership fee, (or \$30 for July-December). Scholarships available, apply 1<sup>st</sup> Mon in Dec.
  - You pay the first \$5 of each ride. The City of Walnut Creek will cover up to \$10 per ride. After \$10 is applied, you are responsible for additional charges for any ride that is more than \$15.
  - Up to 10 one-way rides per month (or 5 round-trip rides per month)
- Availability: only locations in WC, Concord, Clayton, Pleasant Hill or Martinez, rides between 8am and 9pm
- Ambulatory only, no wheelchair access

### 3) Lyft Concierge Pass- Same as above, except

- **70+** years of age, or age 18+ with a disability, and **unable** to use the Lyft app
- Rides are scheduled by **calling the reservation line** rather than self-scheduling thru Lyft app

# Attending Various Transit Meetings

- [County Connection Advisory Committee](#)
  - First Thursday of the month, starts at 1:30pm
- [BART Accessibility Task Force](#)
  - Fourth Thursday of the month, starts at 2:00pm
- [CCTA Paratransit Coordinating Council](#)
  - Third Monday of every other month, starts at 2:00pm
  - Will sunset at some point this summer, Accessibility Advisory Committee to be established

The Transportation Work Group will continue to meet biweekly on Thursdays at 9:00am, with the next meeting tomorrow, April 24.



# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET  
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

## Staff Report

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**File #:** 25-1510

**Agenda Date:** 4/23/2025

**Agenda #:** 3.

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Advisory Board: Developmental Disabilities Council

Subject: Specialty health Ambassador Program Update

Presenter: SHA Team

Contact: Vi Ibarra



# Bridging Gaps, Building Trust: The SHArp Approach

Specialty Health Ambassador (SHA) Program Update

*Presented to the Developmental Disabilities Council*

*Nicola Ifill Fraser, Program Director*

*Lisa Ribitch, Workforce Essential Skill Training Instructor*

*Tyler Bohon, Senior SHA*



# SHArp

SHArp stands for **Specialty Health Ambassador Resource Personnel** - trained individuals with lived experience of IDD who connect underserved community members to critical services, support, and health education



Bridging Gaps



Education



Lived Experiences



*"I didn't even know services like this existed until SHA explained it step by step." — Senior SHA Tyler*



# The SHArp Model

## What Makes the SHArp Model Unique?

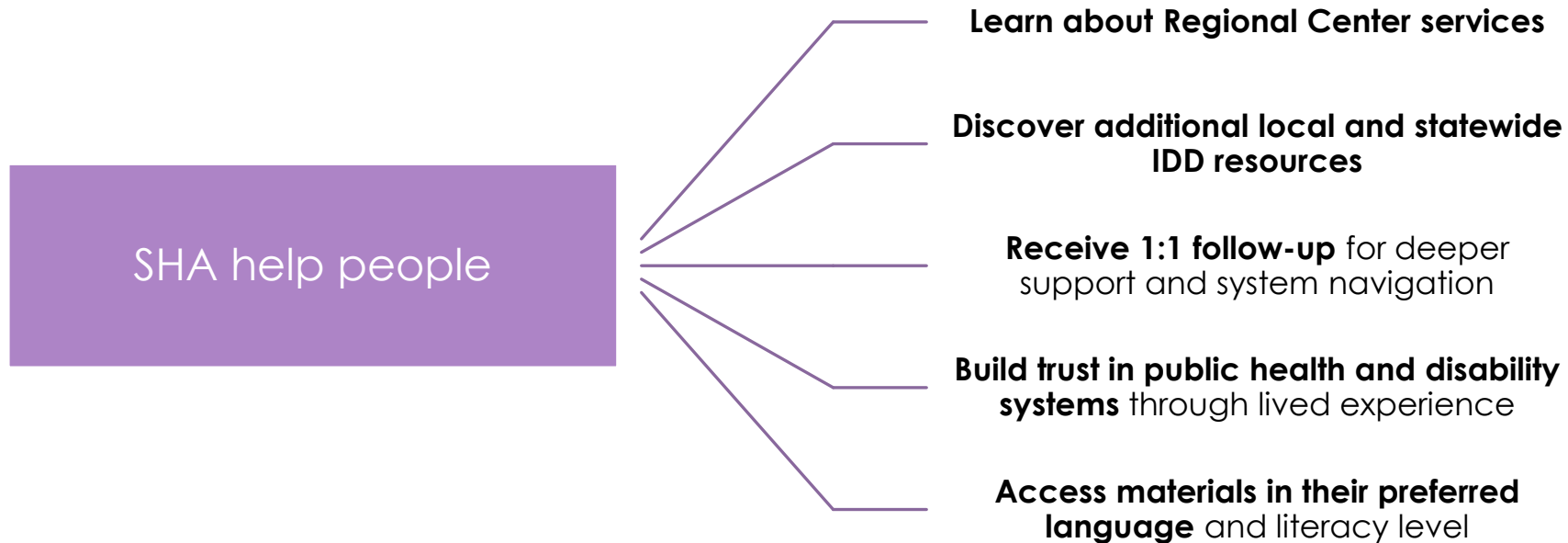
- Grounded in **lived experience**
- **Culturally responsive** and community-based
- **Accessible outreach** using plain language, visuals, and translation
- **Connection beyond the flyer**
- Ongoing **training and wellness support** for Ambassadors



*“Because I’ve been through it, I know how to explain things in a way people understand. That’s why they trust me.”  
— SHA Ambassador*

# Program Overview

The SHA Program bridges the gap between underserved communities and disability services.



*“Before this job, I never thought I could speak in front of a crowd. Now I present in front of large crowds.”*  
— Nora, SHA Ambassador

## SHA Voices – “Meet an Ambassador”



*“Lived experience isn't just relevant—it's transformational” — SHA Ambassador*



# WEST Curriculum – Workforce Development

**The WEST curriculum builds real-world job and life skills.**

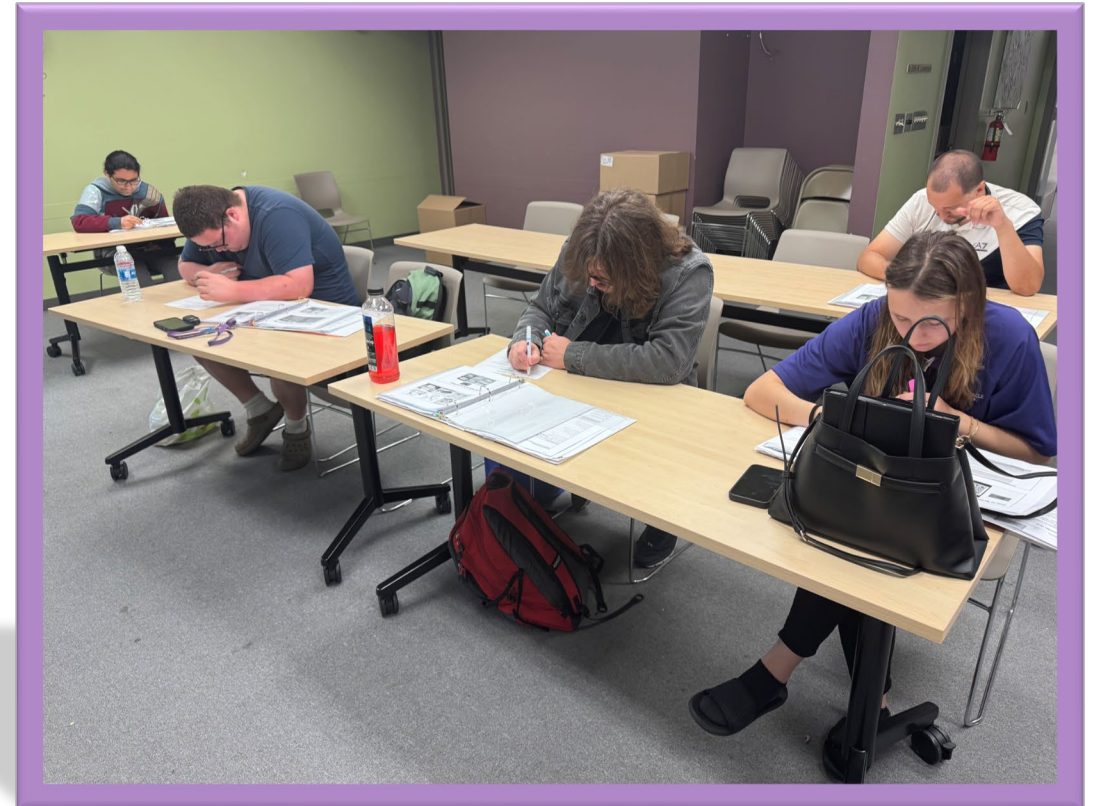
SHA participate in bi-weekly training

**Topics Include:**

- Communication & public speaking
- Conflict resolution & professionalism
- Workplace etiquette & community safety

**We've Seen:**

- Growth in confidence, independence, and leadership
- Measurable gains through pre- and post-assessments
- Ambassadors using skills to apply for jobs, internships, and further education



*"Thanks to the WEST classes, I speak more clearly and confidently. I even practiced how to introduce myself at a job fair—and it worked!" — SHA Ambassador*

# Community Engagement Impact

**SHA Ambassadors are actively embedded in the communities they serve.**

**In the 2 past year, we have:**

- Reached nearly **6,500 individuals**
- Participated in **259+ events**: health fairs, disability conferences, school functions
- Focused outreach on **African American** and **Spanish-speaking communities**
- Offered **1:1 support** to help families connect to services for persons with IDD

## **Why It Matters:**

Outreach is more effective when it's done by people who reflect the community, speak their language, and share their lived experience.

*“People actually listen because we’ve been through it too. That’s what makes us different.”*  
— Tyler, SHA Ambassador

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— Tyler, SHA Ambassador



# SHA in Action – Tabling Video

**Video Title:** SHA in Action: Community Outreach

*“At first, I didn’t think I had anything to offer. Now I see the difference I make every time we table.” — SHA Ambassador*

# Lessons Learned

Over the past two years, we've learned a great deal

Community  
Trust Takes Time

Ambassadors  
Needed Time  
to Grow

Paperwork is a  
Barrier

Representation  
Matters



*"What I've learned isn't just for the job—it's made me a better communicator, advocate, and teammate."*  
— SHA Ambassador



# Best Practices



Hire from within the communities serve



Pair outreach with skill-building and professional development



Provide 1:1 follow-up and trust-building



Use feedback from Ambassadors and the community to guide growth



*“My experience as a SHA gave me the opportunity to share resources with people who might not know they exist. It’s helped me grow—and I’ve developed better communication and social skills along the way.”*

— Seth, SHA Ambassador



# Ambassador Spotlight: Mateo

## Milestone Internship – HERU

**Our first SHA internship proves how individuals with IDD can shape inclusive systems.**

- Mateo interned with the Health Emergency Response Unit (HERU), helping plan for emergencies that impact vulnerable groups—including people with IDD and AFN.
- He managed inventory, assisted in preparedness plans, and served as a community liaison at safety fairs.
- Mateo used his lived experience to help improve systems that support people like himself.

*“The SHA program helped me become more social. I used to be very shy and would stutter, but now I communicate better—especially while out in the workforce.”*

— Mateo, SHA Ambassador

# The First Cohort Prepares to Exit

The first group of Specialty Health Ambassadors is completing their journey.

## 👏 2 Years of Impact

- Over **100 community events**
- Linked families to IDD services
- Gained confidence in **public speaking**
- Built **job readiness**: training, resumes.

## 🎯 Current Focus

- Supporting each Ambassador's next step:
  - Jobs, education or new opportunities



*"I have financial independence now. I don't have to depend on my parents for money. I pay my rent, buy my own food, and even saved up for an Apple Watch!"— Troy, SHA Ambassador*



# New Cohort Incoming



## What's New

- Streamlined onboarding based on Cohort 1 feedback
- Targeted outreach for individuals with:
  - Lived experience
  - Cultural fluency
  - Passion for service

This next cohort will carry forward the mission with **new energy, diverse voices, and a strong foundation to build upon**

*"Before SHA, I didn't think I could do something like this. Now I'm helping people and getting paid for it."— SHA Ambassador*



# WE ARE HIRING!

SPECIALTY HEALTH AMBASSADORS

- ☀️ Do you have an intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) and are passionate about helping others?
- 🌍 Want to make a difference in your community?

**Join a team that supports individuals with IDD!**

## We Are Looking For:

- ✓ Individuals with experience or interest in presenting at community events
- ✓ People who advocate for themselves or others
- ✓ Regional Center Clients ready to make an impact

## Details

- ✓ Hiring for the Next Two-Year Program Cycle!
- 📅 Program Starts: July 2025
- ✓ Application Period: May - June 2025
- ✓ Part-time, approximately 20 hours per week
- ✓ Competitive hourly wages

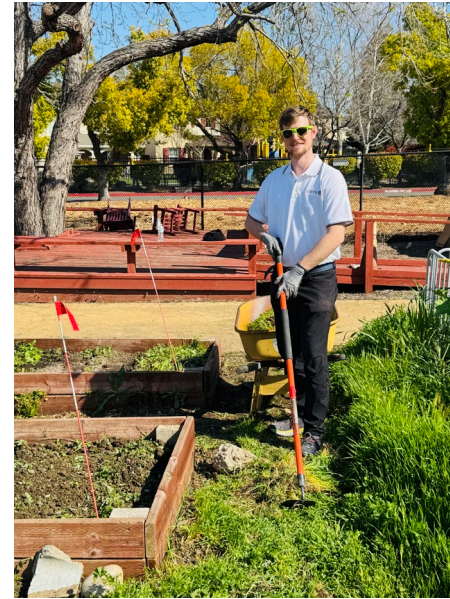
**APPLY NOW**

✉️ Email your resume today!

[SHA@fullcircleofchoices.org](mailto:SHA@fullcircleofchoices.org)

**More Information:** (925) 326 0089





**Fun Fact -  
We have a Community Garden!**

# Sustaining & Expanding the SHA Program

**We're seeking continued funding to sustain and grow.**

## Identified Need

Many people with IDD qualify for services but don't complete the application process due to:

- Complex forms
- Language barriers
- Lack of support navigating the system

## Our Expansion Goal

Launch a new series to provide **hands-on application assistance**, led by trained staff.

This is not currently offered by SHAs—but the need is clear.

*"There are so many more people out there who need this kind of help. We've just scratched the surface."— SHA Ambassador*

# What's Next



**Expand the SHA  
Program**



**Build New  
Partnerships**



**Innovate for  
Impact**



**Improve  
Ambassador  
Experience**



**Secure Sustained  
Funding**

*“Now that I know what's possible, I want to keep learning and keep giving back.”— SHA Ambassador*



# Fun Fact! Hard Skills

- ▶ All the ambassadors are **First Aid/CPR certified**
- ▶ Some are certified/ and or trained in
- ▶ **Stop The Bleed**
- ▶ **Fire Extinguisher Training** ,
- ▶ **County CWS Alert System** and **Three Steps to Disaster Preparedness**
- ▶ Two are **Instructors for Basic Life Support (CPR and AED)**



# What the Community is Saying

## Quote from Community members testimonials

*"The Ambassadors didn't just hand me a flyer—they explained the resources and followed up. That made a huge difference."*

*"I already had some services, but SHA helped me understand what was really available—like CalABLE and asking for more respite hours."*

*"There are so many things Regional Center offers that I didn't know about—especially for when my son gets older. SHA helped me think ahead."*

*"Thanks to you, I now know my child won't be left behind at 18. You helped me see that Regional can continue to support him through every stage."*

*"Nobody else sat down with me and walked through the programs like that. It wasn't rushed—it was personal."*

*"If it wasn't for you all, I wouldn't have known about CalABLE. That alone was an A+ blessing for my family."*


*"You made me feel like a real adult, capable and informed. That means everything when you're raising a child with special needs."*

# Stay Connected

Let's continue the conversation and explore ways to partner or support the next phase of SHA.

 **Nicola Ifill Fraser**

[Nicola@fullcircleofchoices.org](mailto:Nicola@fullcircleofchoices.org)

 925-326-0089

➤ [SHA@fullcircleofchoices.org](mailto:SHA@fullcircleofchoices.org)

- Presenting at events
- Collaborating on funding and program development



## Specialty Health Ambassador Program



The Specialty Health Ambassador Program is a grant-funded initiative supported by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB), designed to:

- Educate the community about intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).
- Connect individuals with IDD to critical resources and services, such as Regional Center support.
- Provide professional development opportunities for Ambassadors to lead and inspire.

### What we do

#### For The Community



Host educational presentations on IDD awareness.



Bridge gaps between families and available resources.



Participate in outreach events to connect underserved populations to services.

#### For The Ambassadors



Offer training in communication, advocacy, and public health skills.



Provide career development and leadership opportunities.



Create pathways for personal growth and community impact.

### Why it matters

The Specialty Health Ambassador Program:

- Promotes inclusion and empowerment for individuals with IDD.
- Increases awareness of community resources.
- Supports underserved populations in navigating systems of care.

