



ACCESS TO INDEPENDENCE

DEC. 2023 NEWSLETTER



Our 2023 year in review

As this year full of accomplishments comes to an end, we are excited to enter the new year with big goals and looking forward to the opportunities that 2023 will present us.

Here are some of 2023's highlights :)

January: We kicked the year off with a successful Krispy Kreme Fundraiser at our San Diego branch.

February: Our Program Manager, Hermes Castro, participated in the Brad Rich Invitational which sparked the idea of starting the Adaptive Sports program for North County.

March: Our managers attended the Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity in Honolulu, HI.

April: We became members of the San Diego AIS Advisory Council at the County Operations Center. The Aging & Independence Services (AIS) Advisory Council looks at ways to strengthen the aging support network and operations. It serves as the voice of consumers and community experts to maximize the delivery of AIS services.



May: Our San Diego branch held a “We serve all disabilities, they serve our food” fundraiser at Lazy Dog Restaurant! Our Hawaii branch participated in the Best Buddies Friendship Walk this month. This event is the leading walk in the county supporting inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

June: New board members were selected and we have representation from ALL of the areas we serve.

July: We hosted our annual Managers summer retreat and decided on which programs we’ll be offering for the next fiscal year!

August: Our Systems Change team traveled to Washington D.C. July 23- 27 to attend the National Council on Independent Living annual conference.



September: Access to Independence delivered a donation of hearing aids and hearing aid batteries to help those affected by the wildfires who are hard of hearing and deaf in Maui.

October: Our organization is currently being restructured and our very own Hermes Castro, Program Manager, will be taking over as manager of both our San Diego office and our Escondido office.

November: This month was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) and the City of Calexico, City of El Centro, San Diego, and Escondido issued a proclamation declaring this month as NDEAM and announced Access to Independence as one of the leading organizations that recognizes and celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities.

December: We are fundraising for our Annual Care Basket Fundraiser! For more information, scroll down to the next page :)

* Happy *
* New Year *



Access to independence provides 40 families who have received our services with a care basket for the holiday season. A \$50 donation will provide a family of 4 with a complete holiday meal but any donation will help us reach our goal of \$2000.

Please make your donations out to:

8885 Rio San Diego Dr. Suite 135 San Diego, CA 92108
(619) 293-3500

Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by the law.

Tax ID: 51-0197097

WE ARE HIRING!!

Hawaii Branch

1. Long Term Services and Support Coordinator

Pay: \$17 - 19 per hour

Job Type: Full-time

Under the supervision of the Program Manager, the primary goal of the LTSS Coordinator is to assist persons with disabilities reach consumer-driven goals related to enhancing, improving or maintaining their independence through the provision of programs as well as connecting consumers to community services and options. The LTSS Coordinator assists consumers navigate community resources, provides relevant information and referrals to community services, conducts risk screenings/assessments, navigates long-term and short-term care options and short-term case management.

To apply visit: <https://accessto independence.org/careers>

2. Information and Assistance Coordinator (Temporary)

Pay: \$17 - 19 per hour

Job Type: Full-time, Temporary

Under the supervision of the Program Manager, functions as the organization's receptionist; performs routine clerical tasks; expands and updates the information and referral database; and, provides referrals to contacts by multiple forms of communication that include email, phone, and referrals received through the organization's website.

To apply visit: <https://accessto independence.org/careers>

3. Community Organizing Coordinator (Temporary)

Pay: \$17 - 19 per hour

Job Type: Full-time, Temporary

Under the supervision of the Program/Systems Change Manager, the primary goal of the Community Organizing Coordinator is to recruit individuals to work together to build a group to address common problems through collective action. The Community Organizing Coordinator must have a local connection with the community, identify and understand real issues in the community, facilitate listening sessions, and have an open and unbiased attitude towards persons with disabilities and advocate for causes identified in the organization's work plan. The Community Organizing Coordinator works closely with the Program Manager to gather community support, work towards identified outcomes and collect and analyze data.

To apply visit: <https://accessto independence.org/careers>

WE ARE HIRING!!

Escondido and San Diego Branch

1. Information and Assistance Coordinator (Temporary) (Escondido)

Pay: \$17 - 19 per hour

Job Type: Full-time, Temporary

Under the supervision of the Program Manager, functions as the organization's receptionist; performs routine clerical tasks; expands and updates the information and referral database; and, provides referrals to contacts by multiple forms of communication that include email, phone, and referrals received through the organization's website.

To apply visit: <https://accessto independence.org/careers>

2. Community Organizing Coordinator (Temporary) (San Diego)

Pay: \$17 - 19 per hour

Job Type: Full-time, Temporary

Under the supervision of the Program/Systems Change Manager, the primary goal of the Community Organizing Coordinator is to recruit individuals to work together to build a group to address common problems through collective action. The Community Organizing Coordinator must have a local connection with the community, identify and understand real issues in the community, facilitate listening sessions, and have an open and unbiased attitude towards persons with disabilities and advocate for causes identified in the organization's work plan. The Community Organizing Coordinator works closely with the Program Manager to gather community support, work towards identified outcomes and collect and analyze data.

To apply visit: <https://accessto independence.org/careers>

Imperial Valley Branch

1. Community Organizing Coordinator (Temporary) (San Diego)

Pay: \$17 - 19 per hour

Job Type: Full-time, Temporary

Under the supervision of the Program/Systems Change Manager, the primary goal of the Community Organizing Coordinator is to recruit individuals to work together to build a group to address common problems through collective action. The Community Organizing Coordinator must have a local connection with the community, identify and understand real issues in the community, facilitate listening sessions, and have an open and unbiased attitude towards persons with disabilities and advocate for causes identified in the organization's work plan. The Community Organizing Coordinator works closely with the Program Manager to gather community support, work towards identified outcomes and collect and analyze data.

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Access to Independence is seeking your input!

If you are between the ages of 14-24 and have a disability or you are a parent of a child with a disability, we want to hear from you! Your feedback will help us improve our Youth Program to benefit our community in a meaningful way. For San Diego residents, visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YouthandParentYouthSurvey2022TYR57K6> to complete a brief survey.

For Hawaii residents, visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HawaiiYouthSurvey2022CQDL5NK>

Access to Independence is Hiring!

Open positions: Long-Term Supports & Services Coordinator - Imperial Valley

To apply, send your resume to jobs@accesstoindpendence.org

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