

ACCESS TO INDEPENDENCE

SEPT. 2023 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

Hawaii Branch

Event #1: Aina Wellness Workshop

Description: This workshop is designed to provide a space for people living with disabilities to converse about important topics related to independent living at home and in our communities. We invite all our consumers to join this conversation with us, guest speakers, and with other consumers in a non-judgmental space and just have fun while learning.

Date: 09/08/2023

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM HST

Location: Zoom Room & In Person 200 N. Vineyard Blvd #508, Honolulu, HI 83617

Contact: Maria Igros, LTSS Coordinator, 808-369-9525, migros@accessto independence.org

Event #2: Youth Peer Support

Description: Access to Independence welcomes all youth between the ages of 14 - 24 who have a disability to join us in this monthly event as we discuss various topics relating to transitioning into adulthood, experiences of living with a disability, coping strategies, and any other issues that you feel are relevant. We hope that you will see this as a safe, non-judgmental environment that can help you along your transition all while making friends in the process. Our program will be filled with guest speakers, skills building, recreational activities, and more in order to serve as a steppingstone for you to achieve your independence and be successful in life. Staff from the State of Hawaii Office of Elections will be providing a voter education presentation.

Date: 09/15/2023

Time: 10:00AM - 12:00 PM HST

Location: 200 N. Vineyard Blvd #508, Honolulu, HI 83617

Contact: Brock Lyle, Youth Services Coordinator, (808) 756-9595, blyle@accessto independence.org

Upcoming Events

Hawaii Branch

Event #3: Emergency Preparedness Workshop

Description: Join us for our monthly Emergency Preparedness workshops to learn about the different types of natural disasters and the steps you can take to stay safe. We will learn how to create an emergency plan, how to locate your nearest evacuation shelter, how to prepare an emergency preparedness kit, and more! All consumers who attend will receive one free emergency preparedness kit. Remember, hurricane season is July to December!

Date: 09/25/2023

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM HST

Location: Zoom Room & 200 N. Vineyard Blvd #508, Honolulu, HI 83617

Contact: Brock Lyle, Youth Services Coordinator, 808-756-9595,

Blyle@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #4: Vision Access Club

Description: Access to Independence welcomes all consumers who are visually impaired and completely blind to a peer support group that is non-judgmental, as we learn how to thrive while blind/visually impaired and navigate our environment. The intention of this club is to learn how to be a self-advocate, explore success stories, build lasting friendships, see things in a positive view, mentorship for newly blind and gain empowerment among peers. So, please join us as we learn about Career Choices, Decision Making, Structured-Discovery, Assistive Technology, Software Training and more!

Date: 09/20/2023

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM HST

Location: Zoom Room & In Person at 200 N. Vineyard Blvd #508, Honolulu, HI 83617

Contact: Keao Wright, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 808-731-0878,

kwright@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #5: Access Youth Recreational Activity

Description: Join us for a fun and engaging activity for consumers to practice their social skills. Making friends among fellow consumers will not only increase your participation of the Opio program but will allow you to make great strides towards achieving independence!

Date: 09/23/2023

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM HST

Location: Hawaiian Humane Society, 2700 Waialae Ave, Honolulu, HI 96826

Contact: Brock Lyle, Youth Services Coordinator, (808) 756-9595,

blyle@accesstoindpendence.org

Upcoming Events

Escondido Branch

Event #1: Benefits Counseling Program

Description: Join us and learn about how to seek and apply for benefits as well as how to self-advocate for yourself! Learn all about the application process for Social Security, CalFresh, Utilities, Section 8, In-Home Services and Supports (IHSS), Public Transportation and Healthcare!

Date: Contact Vivian for date!

Time: Contact Vivian for time!

Location: 235 W. 5th Ave. Suite 110, Escondido, CA 92025

Contact: Vivian Radam, LTSS, 619-704-2435, vradam@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #2: Adaptive Sports & Recreation

Description: You are invited to join Access to Independence in our new Adaptive Sports & Recreation program! Come get involved in our wheelchair sports that include basketball, rugby, and power soccer!

Date: Fridays and Sundays - Wheelchair Sports Open Gym

Time: Friday from 1:30 - 3:30 PM and Sunday from 10 AM - 12 PM

Location: Junior Seau Beach Community Center, 300 North Stand, Oceanside, CA 920254

Contact: Hermes Castro- (619)704-2058, hcastro@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #3: Emergency Preparedness

Description: Are you prepared for when an emergency strikes? You are invited to participate in our Emergency Preparedness training to develop an emergency plan for how you will evacuate and/or shelter in place during a natural disaster such as a fire, earthquake, or another pandemic!

Date: Every 2nd Tuesday of the Month

Time: 1 PM

Location: 235 W. 5th Avenue Suite 110 Escondido CA 92025

Contact: Vivian Radam, ILSC, 619-704-2435, vradam@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #5: Transition & Diversion

Description: Are you ready to transition out of a residential medical institution into your own independent home? This program is for you! Let Access to Independence advocate beside you in order to transition into your community successfully!

Date: Call to schedule an appointment!

Time: Call today

Location: 235 W. 5th Ave Suite 110, Escondido, CA 92025

Contact: Suly Jimenez, Transition & Diversion Coordinator, 760-704-2058
sjimenez@accesstoindpendence.org

Upcoming Events

Escondido Branch

Event #6: Disability Support Group

Description: Our Disability Support Group aims to provide a platform for people living with disabilities to engage around different topics related to coping, overcoming hurdles, and sharing both positive and negative experiences. We invite our consumers to engage with us in a non-judgmental virtual atmosphere to enjoy a meaningful interaction with a diverse group of individuals!

Date: Every Last Friday of the Month

Time: 1 PM - 2 PM PST

Location: 235 W. 5th Ave. Suite 110, Escondido CA 92025

Contact: Vivian Radam, ILSC, (619) 704-2435, vradam@accesstoindependence.org

Event #7: Voting Advocacy

Description: Join us and get information on voting registration, ensure that your voting location is fully accessible, learn about absentee ballot procedures and MORE!!

Date: Every 3rd Thursday of the Month

Time: 1:30 pm-2:30 pm PST

Location: 235 W. 5th Ave. Suite 110, Escondido, CA 92025

Contact: Suly Jimenez, Transition & Diversion Coordinator, 760-704-2058, sjimenez@accesstiondependence.org

Event #8: Day Habilitation

Description: Join us for the first workshop in our Day Habilitation series. This workshop to learn to identify conflict and different styles of resolving it when communicating with landlords, employers, friends, family and more.

Date: Every 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Time: 1 - 3 PM

Location: 235 W. 5th Ave. Suite 110, Escondido, CA 92025

Contact: Vivian Radam, ILSC, 619-704-2435, Vradam@accesstoindependence.org

Upcoming Events

San Diego Branch

Event #1: How and Why to Participate in Your Community

Description: This is a free workshop for persons with disabilities and Molina members. Learn ways and places to get involved with your neighborhood and make change in your community. Location accessible by Rio Vista Trolley stop on the Green Line. Space is limited so RSVP today.

Date: 09/19/2023

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PST

Location: 8885 Rio San Diego Dr. Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92108

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #2: Movie Screening: A Man Called Otto. In Recognition of National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Description: Movie will be followed by resources and a brief discussion. Location is accessible by Rio Valley Trolley stop on the Green line.

Date: 09/08/2023

Time: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM PST

Location: 8885 Rio San Diego Dr. Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92108

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #3: Conflict Resolution Workshop

Description: Learn to identify conflict, different resolution strategies, and when to use each to get the result you want. This event is open to Molina members and individuals with a disability. Space is limited so RSVP today! Location is accessible by Rio Valley Trolley stop on the Green line.

Date: 09/15/2023

Time: 2:00PM - 3:30PM PST

Location: 8885 Rio San Diego Dr. Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92108

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accesstoindpendence.org

Event #4: How to Develop & Maintain Interpersonal Relationships

Description: Relationships matter. Learn about the different stages of interpersonal relationships and skills to develop and maintain your relationships with friends, family, coworkers, neighbors, landlords, and more. Participants will receive a free A2I tota bag with PPE. Space is limited so RSVP today! This event is accessible by the Rio Vista Trolley stop on the Green Line.

Date: 09/01/2023

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM PST

Location: 8885 Rio San Diego Dr. Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92108

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accesstoindpendence.org

Upcoming Events

San Diego Branch

Event #5: Public Transit Presentation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

Description: This is a free workshop for persons with disabilities and Molina members. Learn how to get around San Diego without a car by using public transit and rideshare services.

Participants receive a free PRONTO pass.

Date: 09/06/2023

Time: 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM PST

Location: Redwood Villa. 3060 53rd St. San Diego, CA 92105

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accessto independence.org

Event #6: Public Transit Presentation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

Description: This is a free workshop for persons with disabilities and Molina members. Learn how to get around San Diego without a car by using public transit and rideshare services.

Participants receive a free PRONTO pass. This event is accessible by the Rio Vista Trolley stop on the Green Line.

Date: 09/26/2023

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PST

Location: 8885 Rio San Diego Drive. Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92108

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accessto independence.org

Event #7: Public Transit Presentation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

Description: This is a free workshop for persons with disabilities and Molina members. Learn how to get around San Diego without a car by using public transit and rideshare services.

Participants receive a free PRONTO pass.

Date: 09/05/2023

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM PST

Location: Renaissance at North Park. 4330 30th St. San Diego, CA 92104

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accessto independence.org

Event #8: Public Transit Presentation for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

Description: This is a free workshop for persons with disabilities and Molina members. Learn how to get around San Diego without a car by using public transit and rideshare services.

Participants receive a free PRONTO pass.

Date: 09/05/2023

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PST

Location: Iowa Street Senior Housing. 3939 Iowa #409, San Diego, CA 92104

Contact: Andrea Christopher, Long Term Services & Support Coordinator, 619-704-2442, achristopher@accessto independence.org

Upcoming Events

Imperial Valley Branch

Event #1: Employment & Assistive Technology Resource Fair

Description: Join us to celebrate and bring awareness to Disability & Employment Awareness month! Learn about different assistive technologies and local resources available in the community! There will be informational booths and resource tables from other organizations/agencies and employers and job seekers.

Date: 10/25/2023

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM PST

Location: Department of Social Services. 2895 S. Fourth St. El Centro, CA 92243

Contact: Judith Brown, LTSS Coordinator, 760-618-0467, jbrown@accesstoindependence.org.

Susana Garcia, Transition & Diversion Coordinator, 760-965-4199,

sgarcia@accesstoindependence.org

EMPLOYMENT & ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE FAIR

FREE ENTRY

Join us to celebrate and bring awareness to Disability & Employment Awareness month! Learn about different assistive technologies and local resources available in the community! There will be informational booths and resource tables from other organizations/agencies and employers and job seekers.

♦ **OCTOBER 25, 2023**
9 AM – 12 PM

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
2895 S. FOURTH STREET, EL CENTRO,
CA92243



Don't miss this opportunity to jumpstart your career! We look forward to seeing you.



For more info:

Judith Brown, LTSS Coordinator

760-618-0467, jbrown@accesstoindependence.org

Susana Garcia, Transition & Diversion Coordinator

760-965-4199, sgarcia@accesstoindependence.org



MAUI FIRE RELIEF FUNDRAISER

Support Maui disabled community fire victims.

Scan Here to Donate Today



ITEMS NEEDED

- ✓ cochlear implant batteries
- ✓ Hearing aid batteries
- ✓ Toiletries
- ✓ Reusable shopping bags
- ✓ Gift cards to Walmart
- ✓ Hygiene items

Access to Independence is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Donations Will Be Collected At

Access to Independence
200 N. Vineyard Blvd. Ste 508, Box 4,
Honolulu, HI 96817

More Information
(808)369-9521



SEPTEMBER 2023



WE'RE HIRING

ACCESS TO INDEPENDENCE

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Imperial Valley Branch **and** Escondido Branch (FULL-TIME)

SEND YOUR RESUME TO JOBS@ACCESSTOINDEPENDENCE.ORG

Under the supervision of the Program Manager, the primary goal of the Youth Transition Coordinator is assisting persons with disabilities aged 14-24 to reach consumer-driven goals related to enhancing, improving or maintaining their independence through the provision of programs offered at the CIL and connecting youth to community services. The Youth Transition Coordinator facilitates educational workshops aimed at improving, reducing, or eliminating societal stigmas about disability with the purpose of empowering consumers and cultivating a new generation of life-long advocates. The Youth Transition Coordinator must have vast knowledge of college-related resources, vocational programs available locally and youth-related services offered locally and nationally. The Youth Transition Coordinator performs various duties in support of Access to Independence mission and may also have unique duties and responsibilities associated with a particular grant.

Qualifications:

- High School graduate and lived experience, preferred, or;
- Associate's or Bachelor's degree in a related field with a combination of lived experience
- Peer-to-peer experience
- Bilingual, American Sign Language certified; preferred but not required



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SDG&E CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS PODCAST!

English: youtu.be/bZTCCDdVBUo

A podcast where SDG&E delves into the complex and sometimes confusing world of utilities. Experts from SDG&E will uncover the mysteries of our energy systems, explore new solutions for everyday problems and provide unique insights into the industry that powers our lives. So, plug in and power up with us as we explore the mysteries beyond the meter and more on: THE CONNECTION.

Español: youtu.be/aHzsQn25o5w

Un podcast de SDG&E donde platicamos con los expertos de la industria para conocer más sobre el mundo fascinante - y a veces confuso - de los servicios públicos. Nuestros invitados destaparán los misterios de nuestros sistemas de energía, explorarán nuevas soluciones para los problemas cotidianos y brindarán conocimientos únicos sobre la industria que impulsa nuestras vidas. Únase a nosotros mientras exploramos los misterios más allá del medidor y más en: LA CONEXIÓN.



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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