



# Consumer Insights

Welcome to the latest issue of Inland Regional Center's Consumer Insights. This is a bi-weekly communication to all consumers and families, intended to provide more frequent information about IRC.

## Upcoming Events

July 15, 2011

### July 16

IE Autism's Claremont Cooking Class  
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Young Chef's Academy, Claremont

### July 16

TACA Support Group Meeting with Elizabeth McCoy  
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Hope Inc., Rancho Cucamonga

### July 16

My Play Club - Riverside  
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Fairmont Park Universally Accessible Playground

### July 22

TASK Special Education Workshop  
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
IRC Auditorium

## RESPONSE SUBMITTED TO DDS

For the past few weeks, I - along with the IRC management team - have worked diligently to compile a comprehensive report to submit to DDS following their most recent response regarding the agency's probation status.

I am happy to announce that our report was finalized and submitted to DDS by the July 5 deadline.

This report was compiled following DDS' response for further clarification on a number of items including board fiscal management, RFP processes and vendor selection, and communication with consumers, vendors and staff.

As a reminder, meeting the requirements as outlined by DDS is - and will continue to be - a process. Our latest submittal is another step forward as we work to meet the documentation requirements, demonstrate our capability to change, and provide evidence that change has been made.

As with the last response from DDS, it may be weeks or even months before we receive word on our latest submittal.

In the meantime, DDS has assigned a Tech Team to work with IRC this summer to ensure we continue our progress. I'll share more information as to how we will work together to benefit the relationships we have with you and your families as soon as it becomes available.

As always, I will communicate with you in writing immediately after we hear from DDS regarding the submittal and our probation status. If you ever have questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

*Carol Fitzgibbons*

Carol Fitzgibbons, Executive Director

## Calif. Budget Signed; Credit Line Secured

As many of you have heard, California Governor Jerry Brown signed a balanced state budget into law on the final day of the fiscal year.

While we are relieved legislators were able to pass a budget on time, we must also be hesitant that the true implications of this budget regarding services provided to people with developmental disabilities have yet to be determined.

As it is currently designed, the budget includes a \$4 billion assumption of higher revenues in 2011-2012. On December 15, the Department of Finance will certify whether the \$4 billion projection is accurate and may implement additional cuts to make up the difference if needed.

These additional cuts - also called "trigger cuts" - are broken down into three scenarios depending on the amount of revenue projected:

**\$3-4 billion projected revenue** - State to not impose additional cuts and roll over balance to 2012-2013 budget

**\$2-3 billion projected revenue** - State to impose \$600 million in cuts and roll over balance into 2012-2013 budget. Among the cuts is \$100 million to DDS, in addition to the already \$577 million in cuts instated earlier this year.

**\$0-2 billion projected revenue** - State to impose as much as an additional \$1.9 billion in cuts.

Leading up to the December 15 date, I assure you IRC's management team will continue to closely monitor the state budget. At this time, I remain hopeful that projected revenues will come to fruition and additional cuts will not be necessary.

### IRC Credit Line Secured

As legislators were busy finalizing and passing the state budget, the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) was working to secure a line of credit with Union Bank on behalf of IRC and other centers.

The good news - ARCA's coordination with DDS and Union Bank has led to the establishment of a line of credit for IRC with Union Bank. What's more, DDS will now be able to identify our allocation of funds for the upcoming fiscal year.

Once IRC receives its first amendment to the 2011-12 contract (expected mid-August), the management team will finalize its operating budget plan and present it to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Finally, with our credit line now secured, I - along with the rest of the IRC staff - are anxious to continue working with you, our IRC consumers, and their families.

## "Join in July" - Our Communication is Going Digital!

Want better ways to learn about events or other IRC news? Make sure you join our email list! Get on board during our "Join in July" campaign because starting in August all communications regarding IRC will be sent electronically.

To sign up, be on the lookout in the next few weeks for a postcard in the mail. Included will be an easy way to sign up along with a few questions on what you think about IRC's communications. Please fill it out completely and put it back in the mail at no cost to you - the return postage is included. I'd appreciate your response so we can learn how best to communicate with you in the future.

Don't want to wait for the postcard? There are two other ways to sign up for the email list - visit our website at [inlandrc.org](http://inlandrc.org) and click on the Join Our Mailing List icon in the top right hand corner to submit your information or send an email to Diane Kimble at [dkimble@inlandrc.org](mailto:dkimble@inlandrc.org) with "Join Mailing List" in the subject line.

Already signed up? Maybe you know someone else who could benefit from learning about IRC happenings. Please pass along the information above to spread the word!