

KERN ABILITY NEWS

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Newsletter Date

CAPITOL ACTION DAY JUNE 1, 2006



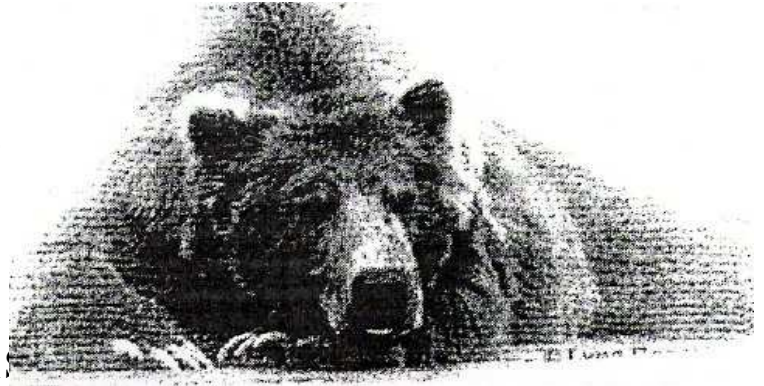
In order from left to right, back, Diane Deutsch, Clyde McGill, Secretary of State Bruce McPherson, Catherine Silvernail, Nadia Salem front Harvey Clowers

On this 1st day of June 2006 some of our staff members namely Norris Ledbetter, Harvey Clowers, Jeannette Pruett, Diane Deutsch, and Clyde McGill along with some of our consumers namely Becky Motley, Donnie Glover, Catherine Silvernail, Joan Taylor, Nadia Salem, and Maria Santos joined the 1000's of others on the march or roll to the State Capitol. There they met with the offices of our State Legislators, Senator Roy Ashburn, Senator Dean Florez, and Assembly member Kevin McCarthy. There they spoke about some of the issues that affect people with disabilities like affordable accessible housing and accessible transportation. All the meetings went very well. They were very receptive and we look forward to seeing action taken in our favor in the near future. We will see you next year!!



B.E.A.R. C.L.A.W. BAKERSFIELD EQUALITY ACCESS RIGHTS CHANGING LAWS AT WORK

It's time to wake up the sleeping bear. The Independent Living Center of Kern County is regrouping and powering up for some awesome accomplishments. We have fired up our Systems Change with about 12 volunteers ready to take action. We will be known as B.E.A.R. C.L.A.W.



SYSTEMS

Systems change, some of you might be saying what is that? And what do you do? Well, let me tell you. My name is Norris Ledbetter and I'm the new Systems Change Coordinator of Kern County and with the help of my volunteers we try and make sure that Governors, Senators, Assembly Members, Legislators, Transportation, Housing and Business hear our voices on laws that are being considered.

"The more voices we have the stronger we are!!"

Some past events are;

On June 16th, 2005 we organized a rally to share information about unfair impact on people with disabilities. We had about 26 volunteers and several news stations like: KGET 17, KERO 23, and KKEY Telemundo 11 covering the story. This past year we were centered on transportation issues, housing, medical cost, and IHSS.

I would love the opportunity to teach and help my volunteers write formal letters to our Senators. Our voices are our best tool when it comes to issues regarding the disabled. Our voices can be heard through phone calls, e-mails, and letters. If you would like to join the

SELF – ADVOCACY TRAINING

Come and join us!! Learn how to speak for yourself, ask for help, information, what you need and want. You will be able to make your own life decisions, be a part of your family and community, live your life fearlessly and have the best life you can. Our motto is, "Empowering people with disabilities to help each other increase their independence, improve self-confidence and achieve their independent living goals!" This class is offered every Tuesday from 1:30 to 3:00pm at 1631 30th Street, on the corner of "H" and 30th Street. To register please call 325-1063. Hope to see you here!



Be free like an eagle.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS

EMPLOYMENT

We here at the Independent Living Center offer employment services. Come and see Jim Alford if you are interested in gaining employment or undergoing preparation for employment through job training. You will be treated with dignity and respect in helping you to realize your goals. This program promises to work with you as efficiently as possible in meeting your employment needs, giving you the information that will help you to meet your employment goals and we also promise to do our utmost in helping you to reach your employment goals so that you may live independently. We will recognize the strengths and abilities that contribute to the unique value of every individual. To get your employment goals on the right track call 325-1063 ext. 20

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*Encouraging, Informing, and
Empowering People with Disabilities
Since 1981*

ILCKC STAFF INFORMATION

*Assistance with SSI/SSDI/VA and other benefits:
Harvey Clowers*

*Housing & Prevention of Homelessness
David Thomas
Tina Lerma*

*Assistance with Systems Change Advocacy
Norris Ledbetter*

*Assistive Technology Information & Referral
Javier Chavez
Jacky Wood*

*Independent Living Skills Classes
Diane Deutsch*

*Assistance with Employment & Personal Assistant Services
Jim Alford*

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