INCLUSION AND ADVOCACY IN TRANSITION

There is only one way to look at things until someone shows us how to look at them with different eyes.

- Pablo Picasso

Inclusion doesn’t begin or end in the classroom

- Education at the postsecondary level
  - Social Life
  - Clubs and natural interests
  - Classes, certificates and degrees
- Employment
  - Real pay for real work
- Housing
- Choice

- Legislative Advocacy
  - To make improvements
COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND OUTCOMES
Completing a two year degree should result in employability.

EDUCATION: PERSONAL ADVOCACY
Transition to Independent Living Program

Personal Advocacy Curriculum

- Freshmen Fall
  - History of Disability Rights
  - Legal rights
  - Self-determination
  - Financial independence with ABLE
- Spring
  - Self-determination
  - Problem solving
- Sophomore Fall
  - Public Speaking emphasis
  - Practice for interviews
- Spring
  - Getting ready for graduation and independence
  - SSI
PROBLEM SOLVING STRATEGIES

Workplace
Roommates
Circle of Support

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

California Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition
CalABLE
Self-determination

Employment

- Employment and IDD Forum
- Toolkit (Kern Down Syndrome Network)
Employment and IDD Forum Toolkit

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Housing

California Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition

Equality, Access, Inclusion.
Do you have thirty seconds for armchair advocacy?

California Down Syndrome Legi...
Federal Influence
53 Congressional Districts
Republicans - 14
Democrats - 38
Independents - 0
Vacant seats - 1

CalABLE, Improvements, and More

- Federal Improvements:
  - ABLE to Work
  - Rollover
  - Age adjustment

- State Improvements
  - MediCal Clawback Removal Bill (SB 218)
  - Testimony March 29th (passed out of budget committee)
  - Looking for sponsors for tax-deduction bill
  - Work on State Department of Public Health Down syndrome information webpage

SELF-DETERMINATION
Department of Developmental Services, Person-centered planning (PCP) and Increasing Inclusion
Self-determination in California

- Seems like it’s taking forever
- Pilot could begin this fall (yes, 2017)
- DDS funding – directly tied to Medicaid funding

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