



SequoiaSD

Part of the AssuranceSD family

Fall e-Newsletter September 2024

A note from Regional Growth Director, Tony Venzor:

We hope everyone had a great summer and is getting ready for fall! We had an eventful past few months transitioning our families from Co-Employer to Sole-Employer and we are happy to announce the transition is complete!

Please reach out to us with any lingering questions or concerns so we can help provide answers as soon as possible. We have our sights set on becoming vendors with several more regional centers by the end of the year, so please consider referring us to any families in need of an FMS agency.

We are hoping to become vendors with the following Regional Centers:

- Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
- San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center
- South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
- Westside Regional Center

We thank you for all the kind and encouraging words you have emailed and posted on social media about us. We just completed our first year in this Self-Determination Program in California and we are fully committed to continuing to grow and evolve with this program and our families!

Thank you for partnering with SequoiaSD!

In today's email:

- ACL Provides New Training Opportunities for Respite Care Providers
- Self-Advocate Training Program from DVU
- SequoiaSD Celebrates World Alzheimer's Day
- DVRW Supports Your Voice Being Heard
- Quarterly Reader Poll
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ACL Provides New Training Opportunities for Respite Care Providers



Entry-level respite providers have a new training option from the ARCH National Respite Network and ACL (Administration for Community Living). The National Respite Care Provider Training program follows a country-wide initiative to enhance respite services. The 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers calls for improved access to respite services. This online program aims to make respite care services more accessible and easier to perform.

[Learn More About Enrolling](#)

Self-Advocate Training Program from DVU



A training program from Disability Voices United can support you in sharing your story. The Self-Advocate Training Program is free and accessible through virtual meetings. Through this program, self-advocates will learn how to best convey their stories and perspectives on living with a disability. Not only will you be able to share your story, but you can help lay a foundation for improved supports and services.

[Begin Sharing Your Story](#)



SequoiaSD is on social media. Click to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn and stay up to date with all things SequoiaSD.





SequoiaSD Celebrates World Alzheimer's Day

On September 21, we will be celebrating World Alzheimer's Day, in culmination of World Alzheimer's Month (WAM) in September. SequoiaSD wants to provide you with tips on recognizing Alzheimer's and where you can find more resources. Alzheimer's Disease International (ADI) wants to change how people view dementia with this campaign. Negative perceptions and discrimination towards the disease overshadow the positive work done to build awareness around the globe.

[Help Raise Awareness for Alzheimer's](#)

DVRW Supports Your Voice Being Heard



Last week was Disability Voting Rights Week (DVRW). DVRW was celebrated from September 9-13 and was promoted by the American Association of People with Disabilities. In partnership with the REV Up campaign, DVRW advocated for voters with disabilities, regardless of their political view. This nonpartisan effort amplifies the representation and voices of voters with disabilities.

[View Voting Resources in Your Area](#)



Did You Know?

Logging into your Participant Portal will give you access to your real-time spending report. The report is updated when your funds are used so you will always know what you have left in your budget!



Quarterly Reader Poll

Do you feel comfortable using the Participant Portal?

Click to submit your answer on SurveyMonkey

Yes - I have no problems at all.

Sometimes - I can use it but would like more training and resources.

No - I need help logging in and navigating the portal.

Not sure - I have never used the Participant Portal.



Upcoming Events & Conferences

What	When	About
World Alzheimer's Day	Saturday, September 21, 2024	Alzheimer's Resources
San Diego Regional Center Family & Vendor Resource Fair	September 28, 2024 9 AM - 4 PM	Register Today



Employee Spotlight - Maggie Perez



Favorite Quote

"Where there is no struggle, there is no strength"

Get to Know Maggie

In her role, Maggie is an enrollment coordinator and has been with

SequoiaSD for over 10 months. She assists with enrolling families and hiring direct care professionals.

Maggie really enjoys the team she works with at SequoiaSD. Everyone collaborates well and listens to each other. She also enjoys helping out families and learning from their experiences.

At SequoiaSD, Maggie feels inspired by her connection to individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. Her best friend's nephews were diagnosed at a young age and she wants to help people like them. Her previous experience as a respite worker in college inspires her to support others as well.

Additionally, Maggie has a great understanding of all the programs there are to help individuals with disabilities and further support their families.

Outside of the office, Maggie is a foodie and loves to cook and try new foods. Along with being an avid gym goer, Maggie loves to spend time with her friends. One of her best friends from Germany is visiting for the summer and she's enjoyed showing her around Southern California. Maggie explains,

"It is very different from Germany so she has been culture-shocked quite a few times."



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