

**An Urgent Message for
The Families and Friends of Contra Costa ARC**

DDS Recommends Cuts to Community Services

Most of you know that the State Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) was asked by the Legislature to recommend ways to reduce their budget by \$100 million. Hundreds of you attended the Oakland stakeholder meeting on February 27 or wrote letters to give your input. Thousands of you signed the petition to support principles that protect persons with developmental disabilities.

Almost all of the input DDS received said that community services are already struggling to survive and cannot absorb an additional \$100 million cut. You asked DDS to secure additional federal funds to help solve the problem. You said that if there must be cuts that they be shared by all 4 parts of the system: Developmental Centers, DDS Headquarters, Regional Centers and community services. DDS has now presented recommendations for \$100 million in cuts to the Legislature. This is how DDS is recommending that the cuts be made:

- **88% of the cuts primarily impact direct services to consumers and families**
- 6% of the cuts impact families directly via increased fees and responsibilities
- 4% of the cuts primarily impact Regional Centers
- 2% of the cuts primarily impact Area Boards
- 0% of the cuts come from DDS Headquarters
- 0% of the cuts come from State Developmental Centers
- 0% of the reduction is offset by generating additional federal funds

If you would like to see the details of the proposed cuts, go to www.dds.ca.gov and click on "DDS Budget Proposals" in the "Highlights" section. You can decide for yourself if you think DDS fairly included your input in their recommendations.

VERY URGENT!

**Come to the Demonstration and Legislative Hearing in Sacramento!
Urge the Legislature to reject the DDS Recommendations!
Support an Alternative Proposal Now Being Developed by Advocates!**

**When: Next Wednesday, April 22
Start Time: 11:00 A.M.**

**Come to the sidewalk in front of the Sacramento Convention Center
13th Street at K Street in downtown Sacramento (2 blocks from the Capitol)
Then at 1:00 P.M attend the Assembly Hearing inside the Capitol
Fill the Assembly Hearing Room!
Everyone is urged to stay and to testify!**

(for more information go to www.ContraCostaARC.org)