Educate! Organize! Fight for Our Future!!



What:

A training session and organizing workshop to help families and friends of people with developmental disabilities become effective advocates with our Governor and local legislators. We must launch the most powerful local campaign ever or face the consequences of deteriorating and disappearing services. We can organize and work for a better future for people with developmental disabilities. We know how to be good advocates. **We need to organize, plan and take action to save our services.**

Why:

Once again the Governor's proposed State Budget for 2016 has failed to include any increase in rates of reimbursement for the community programs that nearly all people with developmental disabilities depend upon every day. This marks the tenth straight year that rates have been frozen far below actual what programs must spend to provide adequate services to the people entrusted to our care by the State. Reports are surfacing from all over the State of the closures of good, high quality programs that simply can no longer pay their bills.

If we don't commit ourselves to action now, we will lose the political struggle to be heard, and to have the needs of the people we care about, respected by the Governor and Legislature. Another year of hardship is intolerable.

When:

Wednesday, February 24, 2016 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. North Los Angeles County Regional Center 15400 Sherman Way, Van Nuys 1st Floor Conference Room Please RSVP at <u>NLAemail@nlacrc.org</u> or call (818) 778-4405.

Call to Action:

For the months of March through June, stage a peaceful 'sit-in' at the offices of our local legislators with one simple message:

Day after day, both large and small businesses in your community, like TASC and Tierra del Sol Foundation, are closing or struggling to stretch their budgets month after month to survive. This is my organization that serves my son/daughter/sister. If they go out of business, what am I going to do?

It is critical that (name of legislator) **not** sign onto a budget that **does not** include **rate increases for service providers** like mine. We must prevent further closures to services available to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities in your local community.