



PARENT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

# THE ELDRIDGE GAZETTE

*Embracing a future of possibilities*



JANUARY 2019 ISSUE

P.O. BOX 237, ELDRIDGE, CA 95431  
[www.parenthospitalassociation.org](http://www.parenthospitalassociation.org)

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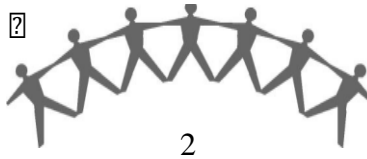
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**KATHLEEN MILLER**  
**Co-President's Message**

### **The March 9th PHA Meeting**

Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) is officially closed. DDS is eager to pull up stakes at SDC and vacate what they consider to be a costly and troublesome legacy of care. Some of you are probably happy with the community settings where your family members ended up. You may be asking yourselves why you need to continue supporting PHA. I completely understand. However, we are having our yearly legislative meeting at 10:00 AM on March 9th at the Hanna Boy's Center. We hope to have the same legislators that supported us during the closure process as well as representatives from DDS headquarters will be there. I am listing some reasons you should attend our March legislative meeting below:

1- If you are absolutely certain that all the services your loved one needs are secure you might want to attend to thank those responsible. The fact that quality homes were



developed for SDC movers is no accident. It took hard work from PHA and support from legislators and ultimately DDS. There is a reason non-SDC families are questioning why we got so much, while they continue to struggle.

2- You might want to help assure that the legacy of family advocacy continues. I am aware of no other family run independent organization that exists for families. There are some families that do have influence, but there is no local organization to speak on behalf of families as part of an organized independent voice.

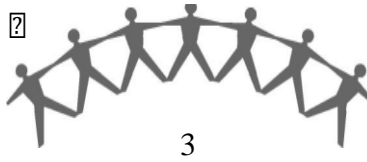
3- You, like me, may have concerns about what happens now. Face it, we had real leverage when they were trying to quickly close down SDC. Now all alternatives to community settings are gone. Along with that the incentives to provide or expand costly care for folks like our loved ones is also minimized. Families, who are not organized and informed, may have little chance to fight a system of care when they are in an isolated crises situation. If they are part of a political voice, they have a better chance of being heard.

I hope all of you will place March 9th on your calendar. I hope you will join us for this yearly event. I hope you will speak your truth, whatever that may be, at this event.

The future of care for the disabled in California is in flux. It remains uncertain in these days of competing priorities what the future of our care system will be. We should do all we can to assure the disabled are not forgotten or shortchanged. We need to expand our focus to speak on behalf of all those in the disabled community who need our help.

***Karen Moen, PHA Co-President***  
***Message:***

Kathleen has succinctly and passionately outlined the reasons for continuing the advocacy work for which PHA is known. Throughout the years, PHA served as the voice of our family members who resided at SDC. In our new role, we continue to serve as the voice of our family members now living in numerous communities throughout northern California.



Our next general membership meeting is March 9, 2019 at the Hanna Boys Center at 10:00 a.m. and it is more important than ever that our entire membership attend this meeting.

March 9 is our annual Legislative Meeting and our local legislative representatives have once again been invited to join us for a discussion of current needs and the importance of continued support for our family members as well as other individuals who have always lived in the community.

It is important that members of the Legislature and the Department of Developmental Services hear what has gone well and where improvements are still needed. This is a unique opportunity to engage with policy makers in discussions about the future of a wide range of community-based services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

If you make only one meeting this year, please make it the meeting on March 9, 2019. Your voice and your attendance are both important. We hope to see you there.

## **Save the Date**

**March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – General/Legislative Meeting at Hanna Boys Center, 10:00 AM.  
Place it on your calendar now!**



## **Memberships:**

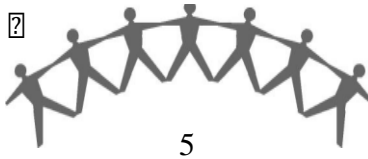
**Time to renew your 2019 PHA membership now**

**Just a reminder that it is time to renew your 2019 PHA membership, if you have not already done so. The membership form is on the following pages or at <http://parenthospitalassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2019-PHA-Membership-Form.pdf>**

**All membership forms and fees should be mailed to Ms. Beverly Austin, PHA, 2683 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94116. Your \$25 individual or \$30 family membership fee helps support the work of PHA.**

**Thank you!**

**Karen Moen, PHA Co-President**



# PHA

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

For membership January 1–December 31, 2019

Make checks payable to : *PHA*

**MAIL DUES AND DONATIONS TO:**

**Beverly Austin**  
**PHA (Parent Hospital Association)**  
**2683-17th Avenue**  
**San Francisco, CA 94116**

Check which type of membership below.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:  \$25.00 Individual

\$30.00 Family (individuals with same address)

If donation included, please indicate the donation amount here: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR PHA** (*Please Print Clearly*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (Street)

\_\_\_\_\_ (City/State/Zip)

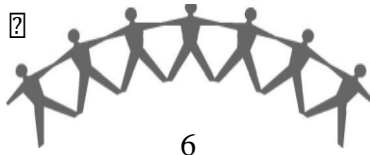
Check here if this is a new address since 2017

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you consider being on the PHA Board:    Yes                       No

Would you consider being on a PHA Committee: Yes                       No

*Please check all that apply:*



Family Member

Staff

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Conservator

Former SDC

PHA is a registered non-profit organization



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