

Developmental Disability Public Policy Conference 2018 Speakers

(In order of appearance)

Members of the Lanterman Coalition:

Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director, State Council on Developmental Disabilities; **Jacquie Dillard-Foss**, Chief Executive Officer, STEP Agency; **Barry Jardini**, Director of Government Affairs, California Disability Services Association (CDSA); **Amy Westling**, Executive Director, Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA)



Peter V. Berns is a nationally recognized nonprofit sector leader and public interest lawyer. He is the Chief Executive Officer of The Arc, the world's largest community-based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

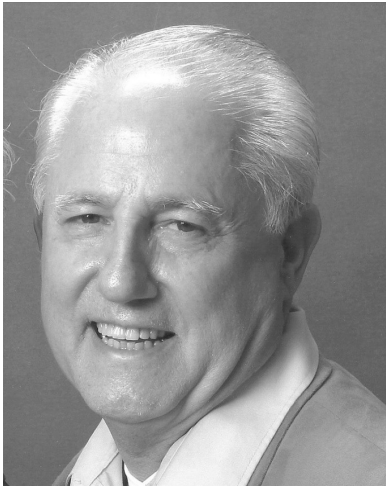


Joseph M. Macbeth is the Executive Director at the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) and has worked in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities for more than 30 years – beginning as a Direct Support Professional. He is recognized as a national leader in the advocacy and advancement of the direct support profession.



Jennifer Dwyer is the Supervisor of Peer Advocacy at the Tri-Counties Regional Center.

Denise Martinez is an accomplished self-advocate.



Keynote Speaker: Greg Galluzzo has over 40 years of experience in community organizing. He began his organizing career in Chicago's Mexican community and has practiced the art in over 70 communities in the United States, South Africa and Great Britain. He is the co-founder of Gamaliel Foundation - an international network of faith-based community organizations - and was the mentor and trainer to Barack Obama when the President worked at Gamaliel in Chicago in the 1980s.



Stephen Dale is a disability rights advocate and spends much of his time attending disability rights activities, including legislative hearings and serving on boards and committees of disability-rights organizations. He is a frequent speaker on a variety of disability related topics across the country and is the recipient of the 2010 Theresa Foundation Award and the 2007 NAEELA Powley Award. Additionally, Mr. Dale is a longstanding member of the Special Needs Alliance, a national, not for profit organization of attorneys dedicated to the practice of disability and public benefits law.



Suzanne Bennett Francisco provides education and advocacy services to people with disabilities and their families for KPS4Parents (Knowledge Powers Solutions for Parents), a 501(c)(3) non-profit advocacy organization. Suzanne also heads KPS' outreach and advocacy in Supported Decision-Making. She is currently leading KPS' efforts, in partnership with The Arc of California and The Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University, in a WITH Grant supported project to provide education and training in Supported Decision-Making to people with disabilities, families, teachers, case managers, providers, and other agency professionals throughout California.



Annie Cox is the Executive Director of Early Education Programs for the CHIME Institute. She holds a Masters of Arts in Education: Early Childhood Special Education option and her professional experience in the field of education extends for more than thirty years. She joined the CHIME Institute in 1989 by supporting young children with disabilities in an early general education site. Ms. Cox has contributed significantly to the development of the CHIME Institute mission and philosophy, supported development of new programs including the CHIME Charter Elementary School, and mentored newer members of the staff and leadership team. Ms. Cox also serves as a part-time instructor for the Department of Special Education at CSUN and provides mentoring and supervision for Early Childhood Special Education students.



Stephen Hinkle, a respected international speaker and self-advocate, has presented in 24 US states and Australia. He has inspired audiences, successfully advocated for inclusive education and better outcomes for people with special needs, and assisted others on how to help people with disabilities.



Kristin Wright is the California State Director of Special Education, a role she assumed September 1, 2016. Kristin brings a wealth of professional and personal experience to this important position as a policy expert, a former special education student teacher, and a mother of a child with disabilities.

A Path Forward on Racial Disparities Panel

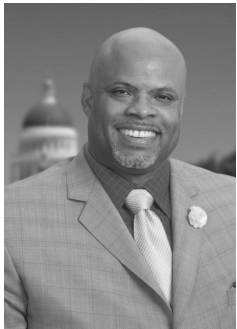
Tony Anderson, Moderator, Executive Director, Valley Mountain Regional Center; **Grace Huerta**, President and Co-Founder, Exceptional Family Center; **Mary Lim-Lampe**, Executive Director, Genesis, the Bay Area affiliate of the Gamaliel Network.



Scott Graves joined the Budget Center in 2002 and has served as director of research since 2014. In this role, he oversees the Budget Center's analytical work, conducts research and analysis related to health and human services, and is the organization's lead analyst on the state budget process. Scott has covered a number of other policy areas at the Budget Center, including child care, preschool, corrections, and housing, with a focus on both the state and federal levels.



Anthony Wright has served as Executive Director for Health Access, the statewide health care consumer advocacy coalition since 2002 and has led state and national efforts to win consumer protections, fight budget cuts and invest in our safety-net. Wright led California's coalition effort to help pass the Affordable Care Act and state laws to implement and improve it.

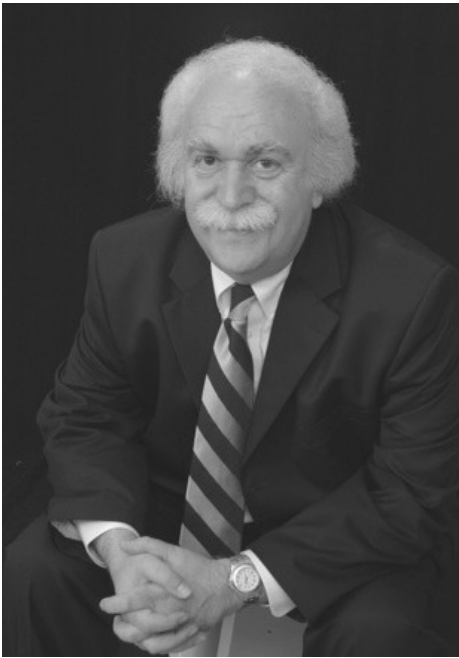


Dante Allen is the executive director for the California Achieving Better Life Experiences (CalABLE) Board, where he is responsible for directing the program launch and operations of CalABLE, a tax-advantaged savings plan that can be established for the benefit of qualified individuals with disabilities.

Angela Sierra is the Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Enforcement Section at the Office of the Attorney General.



Nora J. Baladerian, Ph.D. is both the project director of the Disability & Abuse Project and a clinical psychologist with a private practice focusing on trauma and abuse. She conducts seminars and trainings for first responders, agency personnel, and service providers. Dr. Baladerian is often consulted by attorneys engaged in litigation, both civil and criminal, for forensic evaluations and strategic advice in cases involving disability and abuse.



Keynote Speaker: Jack Levin, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Criminology and Co-Director of the Brudnick Center on Violence and Conflict at Northeastern University. He has authored or co-authored thirty-one books as well as more than 250 articles and columns in professional journals, books, and major newspapers. Levin has spoken to a variety of community, academic, and professional groups, including the White House Conference on Hate Crimes, the Department of Justice, OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (a membership of 59 countries), Royal College of Psychiatry in London, The Inter-Faith Ministry of Kansas, Oregon's Human Rights Commission of the Attorney General's office, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.



Micaela Connery has been working in disability services since she was fifteen. She is an award-winning social entrepreneur, published writer on inclusion, and international speaker on social impact. She is the designer of The Kelsey - a mixed ability, mixed income housing communities where people of all abilities and backgrounds live, play, and serve together.



Annette Downey is a licensed social worker and currently serves as the Executive Director of Community Living Services' Oakland County Division in Michigan. She is a tireless advocate for systems change aimed at promoting people with disabilities' right to choose their own life paths and to control who, what, when, where, and how their supports are provided.

Carole Watilo is the Executive Director of Progressive Employment Concepts and its outlying offices that do business under the names Community & Employment Services and Community Employment Links. From 1987- present Watilo has worked with adults with developmental disabilities in a variety of capacities. She has provided direct services as an ILS Instructor, SLS support person, and employment support specialist.