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Disability Unity Festival: Strengthening Our Communities and Celebrating 25 Years of the ADA.

This is a public event that brings California residents, businesses, and

organizations together to celebrate the value of all members of our community – a community that makes California a vibrant, diverse, forward-thinking, and exciting place to live, work, learn, and grow.

The Festival is conjunction with the California #ADA25 Conference hosted by the Disability Organizing Network. Visit <http://disabilityorganizing.net/ada25> for more information.

What is the ADA?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. It was signed into law in 1990. In 2010, new standards were included, adding specific technical requirements to the general accessibility requirements set out in the 1991 Standards. Disability is defined by the ADA as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity."

Why a Disability Unity Festival?

The ADA has literally changed the landscape of our society, from cities creating sidewalks with curb cuts to purchasing buses with lifts; from movie theaters providing listening devices to computer companies designing systems with screen readers and voice output. More people than ever before are now able to enjoy full, and often independent, participation in the activities of their daily lives.

Yet 25 years after the ADA, there are still both physical and social barriers to many people with disabilities, and employment among people with disabilities is still far below those without disabilities. We need to strengthen our communities for full inclusion and integration, and that starts with sharing of ideas and further education and training.

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Contact Info:

(408) 673-7590 or **DUF2015@svilc.org**

Co-Sponsored By:

Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities (San Mateo), Community Resources for Independent Living (Hayward), Independent Living Resources of Solano and Contra Costa (Concord), Independent Living Resource Center (San Francisco), Marin Center for Independent Living (San Rafael), Silicon Valley Independent Living Center (San Jose), California Foundation



for Independent Living Centers (Sacramento).