

# Volume 7, Issue 4

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## Housing Workshop

When: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed.  
11am-12:30pm

This workshop provides INFORMATION AND RESOURCES about affordable and accessible housing to individuals with disabilities in San Mateo County. Registration required. \*\*Individuals are required to attend the housing workshop prior to receiving one-on-one housing services from CID\*\*

For more information or to register, please contact:

Alex Madrid

650-645-1780 ext 203

[alexm@cidsanmateo.org](mailto:alexm@cidsanmateo.org)



CENTER FOR  
**INDEPENDENCE**  
of Individuals with Disabilities

## A Welcome to New CID Staff

CID is excited to introduce the two newest members of our team: Paul Cruz and Leah Igdalsky.

**Leah Igdalsky** started as Program Manager in August 2020. Leah comes to CID from Boston, Massachusetts, where she worked at the Center for Community Health and Health Equity at Brigham & Women's Hospital. She has worked in program management, research, development, and program evaluation. She earned her Masters in Social Work at Boston College where she completed a field internship with the Boston Center for Independent Living. Leah is thrilled to join the amazing team at CID and to get to know the agency's consumers and community.



**Paul Cruz** joined the CID Team on July 13, 2020. Before coming to CID, Paul worked in the field Autism Treatment for 15 years. In the last eight of those years, he focused on operations, systems building and strategic planning. As Project Coordinator, Paul is responsible for CID's two newest programs for PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) and the CARES Act (Covid-19 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act).

In the last three months, Paul, in close collaboration with the rest of the CID Team, has connected with various community based organizations in the San Mateo County and across California to design, launch and implement CID's PSPS Program. Paul is looking forward to the launch of the CARES Act Program, which is scheduled to launch in November.

## Peer/Wellness Support

When: **Every Thursday**  
**10am-12pm**

CID is offering a weekly Zoom support group that focuses on wellness. All consumers are welcome to join us.

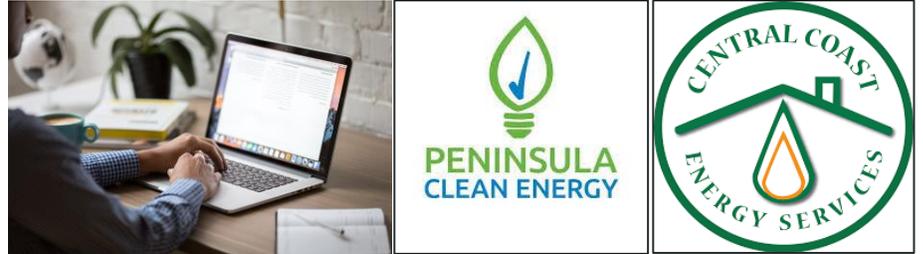
During this meeting, individuals are welcome to check in about their feelings and discuss current events that are impacting our everyday life. The group is hosted by Alex Madrid, CID Generalist, and Rachel Aceberos, CalFresh Outreach Eligibility Coordinator, conducts a meditation at each session.

For more information or to register, please contact:

**Alex Madrid**  
**650-645-1780 ext 203**  
[alexm@cidsanmateo.org](mailto:alexm@cidsanmateo.org)

Paul graduated from UC Davis and has lived in San Mateo for the last 15 years. In his spare time, Paul enjoys working on his car and driving it on track days.

## Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Program



On October 14, 2020 PG&E implemented a Public Safety Power Shutoff due to high winds and threat of a wildfire. This PSPS impacted communities in the Santa Cruz Mountains, specifically, parts of El Granada, Half Moon Bay, Loma Mar and La Honda.

CID, with collaboration from Peninsula Clean Energy and Central Coast Energy Services, came to the aid of seven households by providing them with portable backup batteries to supply power for their medical devices until power was restored in the early evening of October 17th. During the shutoff day, CID also connected with the two Community Resource Centers at the La Honda Fire Brigade and the Half Moon Bay Library. Overall, CID's response to the community's needs was a success. This was San Mateo County's first PSPS of the season and CID is ready for any future PSPS.

If you, or someone you know, used a medical device and might be severely impacted by future PSPS', please fill out the application on this link to obtain resources from CID: <https://www.cidsanmateo.org/psps-resources-application.html>

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about CID's PSPS Program, please visit [www.cidsanmateo.org/psps](http://www.cidsanmateo.org/psps) or email: [psps@cidsanmateo.org](mailto:psps@cidsanmateo.org).

## Housing Accessibility and Modification Program (HAM)

Do you need modifications to your home to make it safer and easier to get around? CID has funding available for its Housing Accessibility Modification Program for residents in San Mateo County.

We install grab bars, hand-rails, stair-lifts, ramps, and other modifications to make homes accessible and safe. FREE for income-qualified individuals.

For more information, please contact:

[Leah Igdalsky](#)

[650-645-1780 ext 119](tel:650-645-1780)

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## Stranded without a Power Chair

CID recently received a call from Chinese Hospital, a non-profit community hospital in San Francisco. An unhoused patient, an amputee, was in need of a power wheelchair in order to be released from the hospital and placed into COVID-19 housing. CID is the closest independent living center to the hospital with an equipment Re-Use program and was able to assist the patient.

Vincent Lopez, of CID's Reuse Program, contacted the hospital and spoke with the patient and release nurse. The patient needed the power wheelchair after falling unconscious and waking up in the hospital where she found that the one that she had owned was missing. (Ambulances are not responsible for the transport of power wheelchairs.) Her insurance would not cover a replacement chair until the end of the year. Vincent completed a general assessment to check if CID had a suitable chair. He checked CID's ReUse inventory and found a suitable chair. He also packed several controller options to take with him to the hospital to meet with the patient and fit the chair with a suitable controller since the patient drives her chair with her wrist. He traveled to the hospital to deliver the chair to the patient, went over chair control and the functions with the patient and plugged in the chair to keep up the charge. He completed the intake in person, observing social distancing requirements. With the power wheelchair provided by CID, the patient was grateful to be released from the hospital and into COVID housing to shelter in place.



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## Website

[www.cidsanmateo.org](http://www.cidsanmateo.org)



## CID's mission

*CID's mission is to provide support services, community awareness, and systems change advocacy to promote full and equal community integration and participation for people with disabilities.*

### Our services include:

ADA Consulting	Systems Change Advocacy
Housing Modification	Assistive Technology
Counseling & Peer Support	Financial Benefits
Independent Living Skills	Counseling Medical Reuse
Training	Program
Information & Referral	

### Affiliated member of:

