CID’s AT department recently received a large number of rollators. I did not have any pending requests, so I put an ad on Craigslist. Leidyn replied to the post and we set a time to meet at our storage so she could check out the rollators for her mom, Sue. Sue is a pleasant 90 years young woman who is trying to stay mobile. She has a conventional walker, but the rollator will allow her to travel further and rest when needed. We got a rollator and had her try it out.

Sue’s friend is in the hospital now and needs a rollator as well. I gave them a second rollator for Sue’s friend and they donated $20.00 to CID as a thank you for the second rollator. I want to thank Sue and Leidyn for being such great and appreciative consumers.

~Vincent Lopez, Assistive Technology Coordinator

Project Sentinel and CID Housing Clinic

Project Sentinel and Center for Independence hosted the first joint Housing clinic on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at CID’s San Bruno office. At this clinic, Project Sentinel lawyers answered questions about disability discrimination, accommodation in housing and much more. About 10 people came in for assistance. Attendees learned their rights, got answers to their questions and enjoyed food that Project Sentinel provided. Project Sentinel is interested in doing this again in the near future.

Housing Accessibility and Modification Program

CID has funding available for its Housing Accessibility Modification Program in the City of South San Francisco. The program helps with the installation of grab bars, hand-rails, stair-lifts, ramps and other modifications to make homes accessible and safe. Free of cost to income qualified consumers. For more information, please contact Lisa at 650-645-1780 Ext. 122.
Recently, CID received a request to present for local Cub Scout Troop 27. The leaders were looking for presenters with disabilities to speak to the troop about their experience with disabilities. I was excited to help the scouts gain disability awareness. I checked in with Ben McMullin (System Change Advocate) and Shane Tannahill (Intern Rehabilitation Counselor) and they were as excited as I was to present.

The presentation started with a discussion about American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture. I started the presentation in ASL to show how there are two views of Deaf-the Medical model with a lowercase d and the cultural model with an uppercase D. I explained how being Deaf is a culture tied by language. Shane explained his experiences with progressive blindness and how he has adapted to his disability. We performed an exercise on how to guide a person with low vision or blindness. The scouts were responsible for leading their parents around blindfolded. Ben was a boy scout and explained his experience as a boy scout. Ben has also told the story of how he has become a successful Systems Change Advocate. Annie, Nicole and the participating parents were great at fielding questions, participating and helping progress the presentation.

After the presentation, the scouts participated in exercises to get their Disability Awareness Badge. I presented the various Liftware and assistive utensils and plates for people with physical disabilities for them to test out while they were waiting their turn for the exercises.

We really appreciated the opportunity to present to the scouts and look forward to working with them again in the future. The scouts are what every scout should be: respectful, interested and fun.

~Vincent Lopez, Assistive Technology Coordinator

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