



California's protection and advocacy system

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**ADVOCACY SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE
FOR CALIFORNIANS WITH DISABILITIES
TO ATTEND
ALTERNATIVES '09 CONFERENCE**

APPLICATIONS DUE AUGUST 31, 2009

Every year, there is a national consumer/ex-patient conference for current and/or former mental health clients. This year, the Alternatives '09 Conference will be **held in Omaha, Nebraska from October 28 to November 1, 2009.**

Disability Rights California is providing up to 3 scholarships for mental health clients interested in attending the conference and sharing information with others.

If you or a client you know, would like to attend the Alternatives '09 Conference and need financial assistance, you may apply for an advocacy scholarship. This scholarship covers the registration fee, lodging, transportation costs to and from the conference, and a meal allowance for meals not included as part of the conference registration.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Disability Rights California PAIMI (Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness) Advisory Council will review all applications. Preference will be given to individuals who have not attended an Alternatives Conference before. Individuals who wish to be considered for a scholarship must complete the attached application form and return to Disability Rights California no later than August 31, 2009. Those selected will be asked to provide the Disability Rights California Board of Directors with a description of what they learned at the conference, and indicate how they will share information learned with other clients in their community.

Disability Rights California encourages participation of clients from ethnic and other minority communities.	
	(Optional) Check here if you belong to an ethnic or a traditionally underserved community (Physical disability, senior, gay or lesbian, etc.) Specify which category(s) you belong to: _____
	Check here if you have never attended an Alternative Conference before.
	Check here if you are willing to provide the Disability Rights California Board of Directors with a plan for sharing conference information with others in your community.

Preference will be given to individuals who have not attended an Alternatives Conference before.

**Please return your completed application form By August 31, 2009 to:
 Disability Rights California
 100 Howe Avenue, Suite 185N
 Sacramento, CA 95825
 Attention: Cara Armstrong
 FAX: (916) 488-5405**

**For more information, call : 916/488-9955
 (You may call collect)**