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Presidents Message

Greetings Inland Empire,

Welcome to our May-June edition of the IE Insider Newsletter. We've been busy since our last edition, and you can read all about the events we've been participating in this edition.

This month is voting time to elect our IE CWC Chapter board members. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2024/2025, effective July 01, 2024, voting is only for CWC members, if you are not a member, please sign up today. The nomination form is included with this newsletter and provides information on the board positions. All nominations must be received by the current board by May 24, 2024, and voting will be conducted the following week.

We had our Spring celebration at Hunter Hobby Park in Riverside in April. The day was forecasted for late afternoon rain, but the park was still packed with visitors and the sun was out for most of the day, but the sky did turn dark a few times with a light drizzle. That didn't stop the trains from running, the Riverside Live Steamers had at least five trains operating and most of

them were at full capacity. Besides the trains, the highlight for a lot of the kids was the playgrounds. The kids had access to two well-kept playgrounds and spent a lot of their time being kids in a playground, there was also a unicorn pinata and favor bags for them.

The CWC members were seen at the Heart Walk in Riverside's Rancho Jurupa Park, and The Ronald McDonald Kid's Walk during the weekend April 27-28, the weather was beautiful for walking, and it was nice to see so many people out advocating for health and kids. Thank you to all the members that participated.

If you were at the Annual Education Conference, you saw our Education Chair, Matoya Terrell, give an outstanding presentation of the resources provided by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). The highlights of the day were the Director's and the Deputies' speeches and Q&A, the award luncheon, and inspirational speaker Devon Hughes.

I am delighted to announce that this edition's featured writer is none other than Phil Dwyer, our CWC State

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Inland Empire Chapter Awarded Newsletter of the Year for Veterans Day Special Edition

BY JOHN SZEIBERT

I am thrilled to share that our local chapter received the esteemed newsletter of the year award at the CWC State Conference!

This accolade recognizes our November special edition, which paid tribute to veterans, their sacrifices, and their inspiring stories. Our Newsletter Editor, Violeta Velazquez, devoted countless hours to creating this outstanding issue with her dedication, creativity, and passion. Violeta's commitment to excellence and storytelling was evident, making this award well-deserved.

We also want to express our gratitude to our veteran staff members who agreed to have their profiles featured in the special edition. Your openness in sharing your experiences, challenges, and victories has enriched our newsletter and deepened our appreciation for your service and sacrifice. We are truly grateful for your contribution.

This award is a testament to the hard work, talent, and collaborative spirit of our team. We are incredibly proud of this accomplishment and grateful for the chance to showcase the



INSIDER NEWSLETTER EDITOR VIOLETA (VIOLET) VELAZQUEZ

remarkable stories of our veterans. As we continue to strive for excellence in our newsletter and chapter, let us remember the significance of honoring and celebrating the diverse experiences and contributions of all members of our community.

Congratulations to our newsletter editor and everyone who contributed to the success of our November special edition!



President's Message
Hello everyone, November is a wonderful month, with crisp weather, sports, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and family bonding. In this issue of the IE Insider, we express our gratitude to our veterans with a special section dedicated to those who served. As a veteran myself, I always feel the sense of duty and even though my service time is over, my loyalty and support for our nation's military and country is everlasting. Thank you to all the veterans who served in the military.

As the year comes to an end and we look forward to celebrating with our loved ones, we should also remember that many people in the Inland Empire are facing homelessness and hardship. They will not have the comfort of a warm home or a festive meal but will have to endure the cold weather in tents and shelters. In the last edition of the IE Insider, I announced a food drive, but I learned that there is a greater demand for donations of warm clothing and hygiene products.

According to an article from The Sun, published on January 26, 2023, the number of homeless residents in San Bernardino rose to over 3,300 in 2022, a 6.6% increase from 2020. To help them, the IE CWC Chapter is organizing two events in November to

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President's Message

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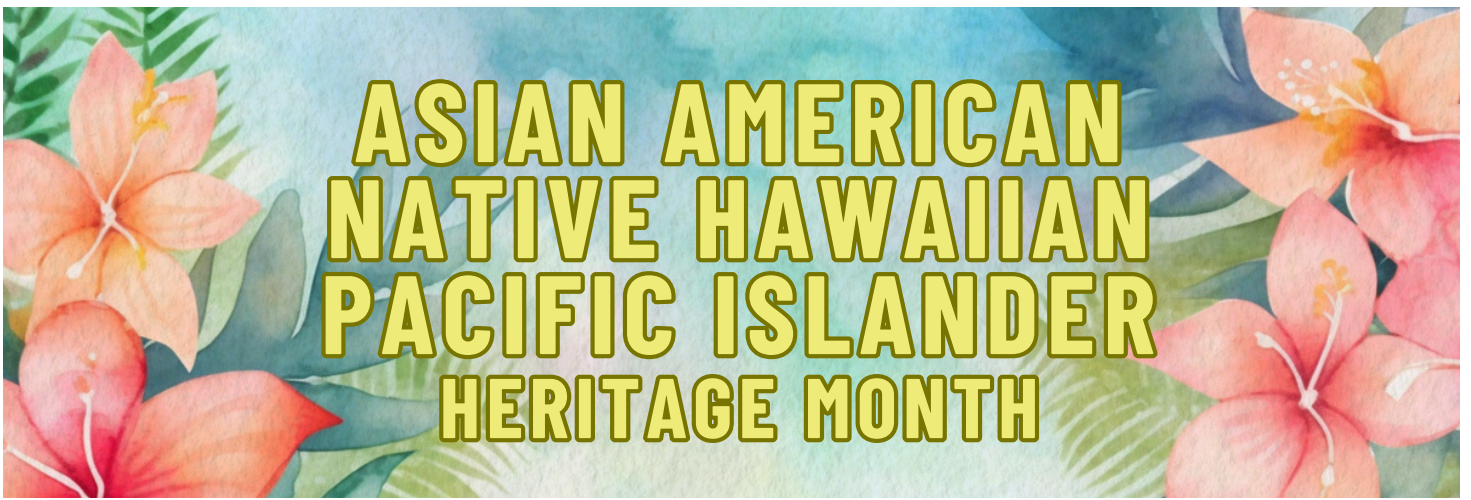
Treasurer and retired DIB DIPM III. Phil will be sharing insights revealed by Matoya Terrell at the CWC Conference regarding the SCDD.

Lastly, I want to thank our current board members Margaret Martin, Violeta Velazquez, Joyce Olayinka, Nicole Palomino, and Matoya Terrell for all their time and effort in keeping our chapter active. Through their hard work and dedication, we have been able to connect with a lot more people and get ideas for future events our members want to attend. Don't wait any longer! Join us for an inspiring presentation by DIB Deputy Director Melissa Stone, titled "You Don't Need Permission to Add Value," in person at the Riverside DI Office on May 29th, at 6:00 p.m. I hope to see you in attendance.

Until next time,
John Szeibert
President, IE CWC Local Chapter



TOP LEFT: MATOYA TERRELL, JOHN SZEIBERT, VIOLETA VELAZQUEZ, MARGARET MARTIN, JOYCE OLAYINKA



May is

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, It recognizes the contributions and influence of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States.

The journey of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the United States is not just a story of triumphs and challenges, but a narrative of significant contributions to the nation's history and culture. From the earliest documented arrivals of Filipinos in California in 1587 to the annexation of Hawaii in 1900 and the subsequent migration waves from countries like China, Japan, Korea, Guam, Samoa, and Vietnam, each group has left a significant mark on the nation's history and culture. President George H. W. Bush designated May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, in 1992, providing an annual platform to honor and celebrate the myriad contributions of these communities. It is a time to reflect on the achievements of

trailblazers, innovators, activists, and everyday heroes who have shaped our society and inspired future generations.

However, as we commemorate Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, it's of utmost importance to acknowledge the rich diversity and complexity within these communities. The term 'Asian' is a broad umbrella that encompasses many countries, cultures, languages, and traditions. Referring to things as simply 'Asian' overlooks the unique identities and histories of individual cultures and can be dismissive or even offensive.

Moreover, the term "Asian American" is a construct unique to the United States, reflecting the diverse experiences and struggles of individuals with roots in Asia. It's essential to approach this month with sensitivity and awareness, acknowledging that it's not just about celebrating "Asian" culture in general but explicitly recognizing the contributions and experiences of Asian Americans.

As we navigate the nuances of terminology and delve into the complexities of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander history, let's use this month to deepen our understanding, foster empathy, and promote inclusivity. By embracing diversity and honoring the multifaceted identities of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders, we enrich our communities, strengthen our bonds, and create a more equitable and harmonious society.

Let us come together to celebrate these vibrant communities' past, present, and future, united in our commitment to embracing diversity and championing inclusion.



Patsy Mink-1st Asian American woman to be elected to congress

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CWC CONFERENCE 2024 BY JOYCE OLAYINKA

Where do I begin? The mix of fear, excitement, and nervousness consumed me as soon as I entered the hotel. I've been part of this organization since the pandemic hit. We all remember how crazy that was—working from home, trying to merge our home life with our work life, and dealing with an epidemic that none of us had ever experienced before.

As the hotel doors opened, I took a deep breath and walked in. Keep in mind, I had spoken to so many people in CWC but hadn't physically met anyone yet. The first person I met was our District Treasurer, Phil [Dwyer]. He was the one I talked to the most while learning my treasurer duties, and I was beyond thrilled to finally meet him. We hugged like long-lost family members who hadn't seen each other in decades. At that moment, I knew I was at home.

The conference kicked off with upbeat music, and the MC was amazing and engaging throughout.

The directors' speeches were mind-blowing. Nancy Farias, the EDD Director, spoke, and I was in complete awe. We often see her messages, "A message from the Director," in our work emails, but in person, her sense of humor shone through. She had some great jokes. Two phrases that stuck out to me were "Challenge the process" and "Ask why." I used to always get reprimanded for asking why—why do we do it this way, why can't we try it that way? When she said that, I had the biggest smile on my face because I knew we had a director who wants to challenge the process for the better.

Melissa Stone, the DI Deputy Director, gave an informative talk about new technologies and how they will be implemented in our daily work lives. Garcia Staton, UI Deputy Director, spoke candidly about merging leaders and cultivating cultures. She also emphasized challenging the process and not just accepting phrases like "because we've



always done it this way." Javier Romero, the WS Deputy Director, talked about the need for cross-training between departments. I thought this was a fabulous idea. As someone with UI/DI knowledge who has also assisted at the AJCC/WS offices, this cross-training has made me a better State Servant and Manager, helping me understand processes from all angles.

Lunch was great—we got to mingle with people we might never cross paths with in our daily lives but who shared a common interest. I wholeheartedly recommend attending the CWC conference to experience this for yourself and meet some amazing people in the process.

I promise you won't regret it.

FEATURED WRITER

PHIL DWYER CWC TREASURER DIPMII, RETIRED DIB



Insights into State Council on Developmental Disabilities Shared by Matoya Terrell at CWC Educational Conference

Matoya Terrell, CWC Member and former Manager in the Disability Insurance Branch, now works for the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) and shares the goals of the independent state agency and how the SCDD helps its clients.

The primary message was that caregivers are not alone in their journey of caring for a person with developmental disabilities. There are many valuable resources in the community, such as Special Olympics, which helps individuals socially meet friends and focus on wellness. Self-Determination Advisory Committees (SAC) provide empowering training for the clients and their families, fostering a sense of hope and support.

SCDD promotes and advocates for self-determination, independence, productivity, and inclusion in California. It is an excellent resource for job seekers who need assistance getting back into the job market. This can include Reasonable Accommodation requests. Family members who are caregivers can



MATOYA TERRELL

gain support to help their relatives with housing, transportation, and safety. Community members can advocate for resources to assist the developmentally disabled and serve as mentors, organizers, and coaches to support SCDD.

The state of California is divided into twelve regions to offer support for people with Developmental Disabilities (DD). Each region works with local partners to assist the clients in their area. Some of the medical conditions that are characterized as DD include autism, cerebral palsy, legally blind, brain injury, seizure disorder, and Down Syndrome. There are 650 thousand people in California who are DD and can be served by the agency. The SCDD coordinates a self-advocacy network, provides

resources and information on self-determination, and provides training. Some trainings include Social Security benefits for people with Disabilities, Transition Planning after High School, and Disability Rights. Matoya shared that the SCDD and related stakeholders advocated for Senate Bill 639, eliminating the sub-minimum minimum wage effective next year. The agency also attends job fairs and community events to spread the word about the organization's mission.

By sharing all the resources available to the developmentally disabled and their families, Matoya Terrell met her goal of ensuring that they are not alone. Emphasizing independence and self-determination are vital characteristics helping the agency reach its vision: Californians with developmental disabilities are guaranteed the same full and equal opportunities for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as all Americans.

For additional information on the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, visit the website: www.scdd.ca.gov.

Inland Empire 2024–2025 Chapter Nomination



Dear Members,

As we approach the election of officers for the 2024–2025 term, we're excited to invite each of you to consider taking on a leadership role within our local chapter. Please note voting is only for CWC members. If you are not a member, please sign up today. Whether you're interested in running for office or nominating a fellow member, we encourage your active participation. Please submit candidate names by May 24, 2024.

Serving on the Board offers not only personal fulfillment and enjoyment but also serves as a valuable addition to your resume. It provides a platform to demonstrate and develop leadership skills, as well as the opportunity to network and collaborate. Below is a summary of the duties for each local chapter officer position:

Local Chapter President: Schedule and preside over monthly Zoom Board Meetings and General Membership Meetings. Attend all State Chapter CWC Zoom or in-person Board of Director Meetings or appoint a proxy. Any necessary travel expenses are reimbursed, along with \$75 for the number of hotel nights voted on by the Directors. Submit quarterly sub-chapter activity reports electronically. Local Chapter Presidents have a vote on the California Board. Past chapter officers serve as mentors and advisors, ensuring you're not alone in your role.

1st Vice President: Act as President when the President is unable to attend a meeting. May also act as Education Chair for the local chapter and arrange training sessions.

2nd Vice President: Assume the duties of the President or First Vice President in their absence. May also act as Membership Chair for the local chapter.

Treasurer: Maintain records of income and expenditures, pay bills, deposit checks, and reconcile the account. Prepare and submit quarterly reports to the California Chapter treasurer. Must be computer literate and able to use Quicken.

Secretary: Appointed by the President, attend local meetings to record minutes, assist with preparation of quarterly reports, and may serve as co-editor of the Inland Empire Insider Newsletter. The President will appoint chairs for office representatives, legislation, retiree, veterans, and awards.

Please submit nomination to Nicole Palomino at: nicole.palomino@edd.ca.gov

Thank you for your consideration and commitment to our organization's success.

INLAND EMPIRE HEART AND STROKE WALK



By Margaret Martin

On April 27, 2024 the CWC Inland Empire Chapter had the pleasure of walking for a worthy cause near and dear to many. Our chapter loves uniting with community events where we can not only give back but make an impact with our actions by giving time to worthy causes like the Heart Walk. Hundreds of people came out to show support for loved ones and friends who are dealing with and or are survivors of Heart disease for this event sponsored by the American Heart Association. We're all tied to heart disease in some way. Still, this walk gives us all an opportunity to change things with our donations and time, which helps the American Heart Association with the ability to conduct more research and identify more medical breakthroughs. CWC Inland Chapter was also supported by some of our members who shared their experiences.

Secret Winbush, a shining example of inspiration, joined the cause and walked in solidarity for all survivors. She shared, "It was a privilege to join the CWC in their efforts to support our local community activities. The American Heart Walk was not just a physical activity, but a powerful way to

raise awareness about the impact of heart disease on individuals and their families. We had a fantastic time with our fellow co-workers from various offices, and we were able to show our support for those walking for their loved ones and those who have triumphed over the disease."

Sherrill Weathers also came out to join in the walk and walked and shared she has a personal connection and wanted to represent. She reported, "My experience at the Heart Walk was a time I was able to connect with my constituents outside of the worksite and to participate in a cause that is dear to me as my mother passed away due to heart complications. Representing my mother and my 041 (San Bernardino) office at the walk was a joy. It was a powerful time to see survivors and the many families representing a loved one or just for themselves. I also enjoyed all the positive interactions among the participants and vendors. Dancing was fun!"

It was a rewarding experience to see the smiling faces and unity among strangers as we all shared in one vision by walking and representing Survivors!





Ronald McDonald House Walk for Kids



The 2024 Walk for Kids event, held on April 28th at Fontana Park, was a resounding success! Organized annually, this fundraiser supports families at the Inland Empire Ronald McDonald House, providing crucial assistance during challenging times. Attendees enjoyed a vibrant 5K walk and a Festival Zone filled with food, vendors, and family-friendly activities. Embracing the theme of SUPERHEROES,

participants rallied together, showcasing their support and dedication to the cause. CWC, having previously provided Meals of Love for families at the House, remains committed to continuing this support in the future. If you're interested in contributing or volunteering, visit the Inland Empire Ronald McDonald House website for more information on how you can make a difference. (rmhcsc.org)

Hunter Hobby Park Spring Celebration





Join the Puerto del Sol Chapter of
California Workforce Connection



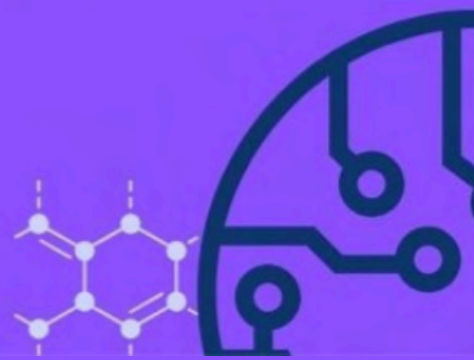
COVER LETTERS & CHAT GPT



UNLOCK PROMPTS, SEE LIVE DEMOS, FEEL CONFIDENT
LUNCH & LEARN

ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85372535694>
Meeting ID: 853 7253 5694

DATE: THURS MAY 23, 2024
TIME: NOON TO 12:45 PM



“You Don't Need Permission to Add Value”



Melissa Stone
Deputy Director
DIB

Are you ready to make a difference without waiting for approval? The IE CWC Chapter cordially invites you to join us for an engaging and empowering presentation by DIB Deputy Director Melissa Stone. Discover how you can take initiative and make a meaningful impact in your role.

Refreshments: Enjoy complimentary coffee and pastries while you connect and learn. Exciting door prizes will be given away!



**WEDNESDAY
MAY 29, 2024**



**TIME
6:00 PM**



**RIVERSIDE DI OFFICE
1190 PALMYRITA AVE
STE. 100
RIVERSIDE, CA 92507**

Membership Application

New
 Update
 Renewal
 Cancellation

Date:

Mail application and payments to: **CWC Membership Coordinator**, P.O. Box 7858, Oxnard, CA 93031
 or email application to cwcworkforceconnection@gmail.com (mail payment, if applicable)

*Full Name:	First MI	Last
*Local Chapter:		Telephone:
*Personal email:		
*Address:		
*Employer:		*Location:
*Job Title:	ARU#	*Bargaining Unit #:

*Type of Member	Annual Dues	*Payment Option
<input type="radio"/> Employment Development Department (EDD) Employee (Bargaining Unit 1 or 4)**	\$48.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$4.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDD Supervisor/Exempt Employee**+	\$0.00	*SSN:
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Other State Employee (Non-EDD)** <small>Refer to your Bargaining Unit Contract for possible reimbursement</small>	\$98.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$8.17) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="checkbox"/> Partner (Non-EDD)	\$98.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check
<input type="radio"/> EDD Student/Youth Assistant**	\$36.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$3.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retiree	\$36.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check

I recognize that the processing of this form/payment may take 1-3 months. If I have selected the **Automatic Deduction** option, I hereby authorize the State Controller's Office (SCO) to automatically deduct from my salary each month the amount listed above and transmit, as designated, an amount for membership dues to the CWC; I understand that processing may take 2-3 pay periods. If I have selected the **cash or check** option, I hereby agree to be sent annual dues renewal invoices (**make check payable to: CWC**). I agree to provide my full social security number, which will be kept confidential. I certify that I am now a member of the CWC and allow the organization to establish, change, and/or cancel my deduction, as applicable. I understand that this authorization will remain in effect until I submit a written request to the CWC Membership Coordinator to terminate my membership and cancel any deduction, as appropriate. I also understand that the CWC organization does not issue refunds for unused dues or the months taken for processing.

***Signature:** _____ ***Date:** _____
Name of Recruiter (if applicable): _____

* Required

** If you do not wish to provide your Social Security Number (SSN), then you must pay the full membership dues for that type of member by cash or check.

+ For this membership type, if you do not wish to supply the SSN, then the amount due is \$98.00.