

**DISABLITY ORGANIZING (DO) NETWORK**

**Quarterly Report: October-December 2021**

**Introduction**

In 2020, the California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) awarded the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) this Systems Change Network Hub to provide guidance to the State’s Independent Living Network for coordinating policy education on issues that impact the lives of Californians with disabilities. This grant, implemented by the Disability Organizing Network (DOnetwork) of CFILC, went into effect on January 1, 2021 and ends on September 30, 2023.

Our quarter began with an addition to our team, CFILC’s new Statewide Youth Organizer, Jessica Riestra. Jessica comes with vast organizing experience, including national political campaign organizing and education work. Jessica is charged with leading the YO! Disabled and Proud program. She immediately stepped into assisting YO! Volunteer Corps members with their ongoing projects, which includedS the launch of our new Podcast, Disability Belongs. Hosting a Disability Mentoring Day event with a diverse group of ILC Executive Directors to support youth with disabilities in understanding the many different paths people with different types of disabilities take to reach their career and leadership goals. In addition to the above projects, YO! continued it’s The Disability Leadership Speaker Series and Ed Roberts Day Oral History Project.

During this quarter, the DOnetwork focused heavily on expanding Long-Term Services and Supports. Beginning the month by organizing alongside our statewide LTSS4All Coalition and sharing a vision for a universal LTSS system at the California State Long-Term Care Insurance Task Force, we set the stage for a bold new direction for the state, supported by the work that we had contributed to the Master Plan for Aging.

In October and November, we continued our IHSS Advocacy and Organizing Series. Through strong attendance, we have educated advocates with tools for understanding both the IHSS policy and budget. The work continues, with our final installment focused on developing regional Organizing Committees that will further develop advocates for both statewide and local County IHSS policy action. This will be a sustained function until the major priority as identified by our statewide IHSS consumer and provider survey — increasing the provider pool by raising living wages for IHSS providers — is achieved.

This DOnetwork Quarterly Report covers October 1, 2021, and ended on December 31, 2021. This report summarizes the following key objectives and outcomes:

1. **Social Media Analytics**
2. **Deliverable Reporting**
3. **DOnetwork Technical Assistance**
4. **LTSS and No Wrong Door**
5. **Youth Engagement and Mentoring**
6. **Quarterly Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities (SWOT) Analysis**
7. **Social Media Analytics**

# Disability Organizing (DO) Network q1: OCT-dec 2021

Breakdown of Impressions per outlet.

## Facebook

* **Likes**: Increase of 1.1% from 748 to 756 likes.
* **Engagement**: A monthly average of 377 unique users who had any content from/about the DOnetwork Page enter their screen.
* **Impressions**: DOnetwork posts from 10/1/21-12/31/21 earned 1,308 impressions total.
* **Notable Posts**:
	+ 10/5/21: [Hubs and Spokes Town Hall](https://www.facebook.com/DOnetwork.org/posts/2046325125516805)
	(451 impressions)

## Twitter

* **Followers**: Increase of 6.3% from 1,442 to 1,533 followers.
* **Impressions**: DOnetwork tweets from 10/1/21-12/31/21 earned 25.3K impressions.
* **Notable**:
	+ 11/15/21: [LA Times Article (w/quote from Christina N. Mills): Wheelchair users can face hefty costs not covered by insurance](https://twitter.com/DONetworkorg/status/1460427457249492992)
	(4,087 impressions, 152 engagements)
	+ 11/16/21: [Emily Ladau quote at the YO! Disabled and Proud Speaker Series](https://twitter.com/DONetworkorg/status/1460762328002035713)
	(1,605 impressions, 65 engagements)

## Instagram

* **Followers**: Increase of 3.9% from 613 to 637 followers.
* **Impressions**: DOnetwork posts from 10/1/21-12/31/21 earned 829 impressions total.
* **Notable**:
	+ 10/30/21: [Not enough home and community-based services is SCARY!](https://www.instagram.com/p/CVqPkE4vSZL/)
	(88 impressions)
	+ 11/13/20: Thank you to everyone who participated in DOnetwork Summit Week 1
	(90 impressions)

## capitol connection newsletter

* **October**
	+ Sent: October 29
	+ Opens: 424
* **December**
	+ Sent: December 14
	+ Opens: 573

# YO! DISABled and proud q1: oct-dec 2021

Breakdown of Impressions per outlet.

## Facebook

* **Likes**: Increase of 0.2% from 4,598 to 4,609 likes.
* **Engagement**: An average of 3,5,31 unique users who had any content from/about the YO! Disabled and Proud Page enter their screen.
* **Impressions**: YO! Disabled and Proud posts from 10/1/21 to 12/31/21 earned 11,192 impressions total.
* **Notable Posts**:
	+ 12/14/21: [Shared Forbes article: Marlee Matlin Trailblazer and Queen of Hearts](https://www.facebook.com/YODisabledandProud/posts/4683779598324986)

(1,090 impressions)

* + 12/28/21: [YO! remembers Michelle Hernandez](https://www.facebook.com/YODisabledandProud/posts/4744938135542465)
	(1,065 impressions)

## Twitter

* **Followers**: Increase of 2.3% from 3,802 to 3,888 followers.
* **Impressions**: YO! Disabled and Proud tweets from 10/1/21 to 12/31/21 earned 38.6K impressions.
* **Notable**:
	+ 10/21/21 [YO! introduces new Statewide Youth Organizer, Jessica Riestra](https://twitter.com/Yodisabledproud/status/1451334318945497106)
	(7,909 impressions, 187 engagements)
	+ 12/20/21 [Announcing new Disabled Voices of Color Series: Mia Mingus](https://twitter.com/Yodisabledproud/status/1473036291436601363)
	(3,031 impressions, 106 engagements)

## Instagram

* **Followers**: Increase of 3.8% from 2,012 to 2,088
* **Impressions**: YO! Disabled and Proud posts from 10/1/21 to 12/31/21 earned impressions total.
* **Notable**:
	+ 11/6/21: [10 days until Emily Ladau at the YO! Disability Leadership Speaker Series](https://www.instagram.com/p/CV836JOF_HU/)
	(674 impressions)
	+ 10/14/21: [Celebrating Disability History Week (DHW)](https://www.instagram.com/p/CVB9zWloPTn/)
	(577 impressions)
1. **Deliverable Reporting**

**Capacity Building**

* **Virtual Organizing Project**
	+ Engaging ILCs in how to and when to use their devices to build their online community organizer followers and action takers
	+ Led ILC social media audit – advocates shared their organizational Facebook and Twitter presences and discussed their organizations’ priorities as reflected through social media.
	+ Ongoing development of Twitter disability community training series.
* **Monthly Systems Change Advocates Meeting**
	+ October attendance: 28
	+ November attendance: 32
	+ December attendance: 31
1. **DOnetwork Technical Assistance**
* DOnetwork Direct Technical Assistance hours provided to IL Network Partners
	+ October: 28
	+ November: 24
	+ December: 17

**WORKGROUPS**

* **Voting Access and Advocacy Workgroup**
	+ Meetings: 2
		- October attendance: 18
		- November attendance: 21
	+ Active priorities: Focus on virtual organizing, assessing outcomes of special election, and impact of redistricting.
	+ Outcome progress: Two new counties’ Registrar of Voters surveyed by advocates.
* **LTSS Workgroup**
	+ Meetings: 2
		- October attendance: 24
		- November attendance: 26
	+ Active priorities: Focus on virtual organizing, workgroup goal refinement, preparation for IHSS Advocacy and Organizing Series, and collaboration with LTSS4All Grassroots Coalition.
	+ Outcome progress: Two trainings developed, community IHSS recipient and provider survey created and distributed, feedback and talking points developed for LTCI Task Force.
* **Housing Workgroup**
	+ Meetings: 2
		- October attendance: 16
		- November attendance: 20
	+ Active priorities: Developing county connections with Continuum of Care, presentation on mental health within the homeless disability community, virtual organizing, and workgroup goal refinement.
	+ Outcome progress: Advocates networking with Continuum of Care (homeless service provision). Folding Housing Work Group into Statewide Advocates Meeting.
* **Transportation Workgroup**
	+ Meetings: 2
		- October attendance: 18
		- November attendance: 22
	+ Active priorities: Developing virtual organizing strategy, workgroup goal refinement, and regional transportation coalition development.
	+ Outcome progress: Folding Transportation Workgroup into Statewide Advocacy Meeting.

**CONFERENCES**

**CFILC and C4A Joint Behavioral Health Conference – October 7, 2021**

Attendance: 199

Summary:

DOnetwork attendees gained professional development opportunities and skills to have a broadened understanding of behavioral health within the disability and aging community.

**CFILC #CenteringCommUnity Annual Conference – December 2, 2021**

Attendance: 279

The conference was kicked off with welcoming comments from Governor Gavin Newsom and included appreciation to CFILC for its coordinated COVID-19 advocacy and vaccine work across the state.

Summary:

The DOnetwork brought together the IL Network with a focus on Long-Term Supports and Services (LTSS) advocacy tools. Panels included: Sharing vision and goals for the collaborative grassroots LTSS for All campaign, using California’s Department of Healthcare Services “data dashboard,” and developing an opportunity to practice organizing skills.

Workshop: *“LTSS for All Grassroots Coalition”*

* Description: In this session, participants learned of the strategic goals for the LTSS for All Grassroots Coalition — a partnership between CFILC’s DOnetwork, Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network, Senior and Disability Action (San Francisco), Caring Across Generations and other allied disability and caregiver workforce organizations.
* Panelists: Malcolm Harris (Caring Across Generations), Lindsay Imai Hong (Hand in Hand) and Carrie Madden (CALIF)
* Moderator: Russell Rawlings, Statewide Community Organizer, CFILC
* Outcome: Panelists shared their goals for Universal Family Care and expansion of the Master Plan on Aging by development of a universal Long Term Supports and Services benefit for the state of California.

Workshop: *“Where’s My Data: A User’s Guide to DHCS Data Dashboards”*

* Description: Training session hosted by staff from the CA Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for consumers to access the DHCS Data Dashboards for their research and advocacy.
* Panelists: Anastasia Dodson and Jacqulene Lang of DHCS.
* Moderator: Dan Okenfuss, Public Policy Manager, CFILC.
* Outcome: Attendees of this workshop noticed the lack of relevant data about people with disabilities on these dashboards and urged the presenters for the need for more inclusion in future dashboards.

Networking Session: *“There Ought to Be a Law!”*

* Description: Training session on how a bill becomes a law, how to present a bill idea to a legislator, and how to participate in the legislative process.
* Moderator: Dan Okenfuss, Public Policy Manager, CFILC
* Outcome: Attendees presented their bill ideas and the moderator provided technical assistance to ILRC-SB in contacting legislators to introduce affordable housing bills.

Networking Session: “*Community Organizing: Our Public Narrative”*

* Moderators: Russell Rawlings, Statewide Community Organizer and Jessica Riestra, Statewide Youth Organizer, CFILC
* Outcome: Attendees developed the organizing skill of sharing a “Story of Self” – telling the story of how they find themselves in the work of disability rights/organizing, and how that story connects to a struggle for justice.
1. **LTSS and No Wrong Door**
* Bimonthly meetings with LTSS4All Grassroots Coalition
* Monthly workgroup meetings
	+ Meetings: 4
	+ Active priorities: IHSS Community Organizing strategy building, federal HCBS funding advocacy
* Advocacy through CADA, outreach with Legislature on LTSS benefit framework, new benefit legislation development
* ADRC funding and implementation
* California Disaster Coalition Systems Change Monthly Meetings
	+ Meetings: 3
	+ Active priorities: Development of strategy for statewide DME notices for consumers about battery powered DME during emergencies.

**Statewide Trainings:**

* IHSS Advocacy and Organizing Series
	+ #3 10/20/2021 Understanding the IHSS Program: IHSS Budget and Policy Deep-Dive
		- Description: The third installment of the DOnetwork’s In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advocacy and Organizing Series brought a deep analysis of the IHSS State Budget through and advocacy lens. Topics covered included: An overview of how the IHSS program is funded, the Department of Social Services budget data and relevant demographic information and navigating and understanding the state budget data through the State’s data dashboard.
		- Presenters: Yang Lee, California Department of Social Services; Jacqueline Barocio, California Legislative Analyst’s Office; Marty Omoto, California Disability-Senior Community Action Network (CDCAN)
		- Attendance: 67
		- Recording: <https://youtube.com/watch?v=Eajy_Fp0m9g>
		- Outcomes: Attendees gained the skill of interpreting the IHSS budget, preparing them for upcoming legislative action to strengthen the IHSS program.
	+ #4 11/17/2021 Identifying Our Issues
		- Description: The fourth installment of the DOnetwork’s In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advocacy and Organizing Series focused on sharing a statewide IHSS recipient and provider survey designed by the DOnetwork and Hand in Hand. 143 survey responses were collected, and the survey was distributed in both English and Spanish
		- Moderator: Russell Rawlings, Statewide Community Organizer, CFILC
		- Attendance: 40
		- Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wSkvqHLjLY>
		- Top results were shared with advocates, outlining the important work of addressing priorities, including provider wage increases, IHSS Public Authority provider registry (and backup registry) accountability and simplified navigation, and IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee transparency and accountability.
	+ #5 – 02/16/2022 – Building Our Coalition
		- Objective: Launch regional IHSS Advocacy Organizing Committees to tackle the top priorities identified in the survey
			* Provider wages
			* Provider shortages
			* Public Authority registry and backup/emergency registry system improvement
			* Public Authority and IHSS Program Accountability
		- Achieved via the development of local Organizing Committees to meet monthly and convene Statewide Quarterly (or more frequently as legislative priorities require)
		- Announcing the development of IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee collaborative legislation with CFILC/CICA — support is first goal for regional Organizing Committees
1. **Youth Engagement and Mentoring**

**YO! Disabled and Proud Leadership Speaker Series**

* 10/16/2021: Eric Harris
	+ Attendance: 47
	+ Recording: <https://youtu.be/x1aPbtf7qvY> (39 views)
* 11/03/2021: Disability Mentoring Day
	+ Attendance: 73
	+ Recording: <https://youtu.be/1LN_hYrgXO0> (82 views)
* 11/16/2021: Emily Ladau
	+ Attendance: 56
	+ Recording: <https://youtu.be/MyFcYryvAIQ> (14 views)
1. **Quarterly Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities (SWOT) Analysis**

**Strengths**

* Solid calendar of trainings for both YO! Disabled & Proud and DOnetwork.
* Strong annual conference with targeted workshops to build technical capacity of organizers and systems staff.
* Virtual Organizing focus on social media training.
* YO! Disabled & Proud Leadership Series gained coordination from new Statewide Youth Organizer.

**Weaknesses**

* Goals for workgroups began to drift from grant deliverables.
* Challenges around systems staff access due to changing work environments.

**Threats**

* DOnetwork leaders feeling continued pressure from hybrid and/or remote work environments

**Opportunities**

* Refocusing DOnetwork on grant deliverables.
* Following up on use of data dashboards for organizing and research work.