

SHELLA COMIN-DUMONG

RESUMÉ

1999 to Present

Executive Director of C.H.A.N.C.E., Inc., 13 E. Haley Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

The Coalition for Housing Accessibility, Needs, Choices & Equality, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit California corporation established in 1999. CHANCE is a parent-formed and parent-run organization dedicated to advocacy, education, facilitation, creation and research of affordable housing for low-income persons with disabilities.

The director's responsibilities include oversight, strategic planning and implementation in three areas:

Operations

Administration, fund raising, procurement, grant writing, contract management, supervision of direct service staff, Board administration, financial management and delivery of core services.

Programs and Direct Services

Administers Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for (1) a move-in cost program that pays move-in costs on behalf low-income people with disabilities; and (2) the Rehab/Retrofit program which pays landlords/owners to perform accessibility retrofits for low-income persons with mobility impairments; targeted case management; program design and implementation; relocation strategies of people with disabilities dislocated because of governmental or private action; administered California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) rental subsidy program, and Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC) contract for a variety of housing assistance for people with developmental disabilities.

(See CHANCE organization resume for detailed project information)

Capacity Building and Community Outreach

Program development; housing needs assessments; networking with a variety of public, governmental, nonprofit and private entities to influence local housing policies, projects and programs; housing advisor to two Schwarzenegger appointees on his "Olmstead Advisory Council" – Tony Anderson, Executive Director of the Arc of California; and Marty Omoto, Director of CDCAN (California Disability Community Action Network)

California Affordable Housing Institute: Participant in statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to affordable community-based housing for people with developmental disabilities

Olmstead Work Group: Participate in stakeholder meetings related to creation of California's Olmstead Implementation Plan, specifically the "Housing" section.

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Santa Barbara County Affordable Housing Trust Fund: Represent the disability community to ensure that the needs of the disabled are given meaningful attention in the operation of this grassroots organization which is in formation at this time.

County of Santa Barbara, Housing Advisory Committee: Founding member of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisor's subcommittee on Special Needs Housing to ensure that all documents, policies, procedures, ordinances reflect the needs of people with developmental and other disabilities.

South Coast Livable Communities Project: Former Coordinating Council member, focusing the group's activities to ensure that local affordable housing grassroots does not occur without targeted attention to the disability community.

Advocacy Organizer, California Disability Community Action Network: Community advocacy and grassroots mobilization and disability policy review and organizing.

Disability Rights Advocate: Review and assess proposed California legislation related to systems and services applicable to people with developmental disabilities. Testify in Sacramento before the California Senate and Assembly on pending legislation, budget issues and related causes. Network with the variety of emerging self-advocacy organizations on all manner of disability related issues, threats and advances.

Member, Alpha Resource Center: Strong supporter and member of Alpha as well as a former Board member and the former Chair of the Board's System Advocacy Committee.

Leadership Project of Santa Barbara: Parent member and former director of this local organization which facilitates and trains people with developmental disabilities to become self-advocates. Focus on policymaking; facilitate understanding of complex legislative and system-wide issues which impact the funding and delivery of services and supports for people with developmental disabilities.

Member, The Arc of California: Member of the agency and former member of Governmental Affairs Committee performing general governance duties.