CLIENTS’ RIGHTS ADVOCATE

OFFICE OF CLIENTS’ RIGHTS ADVOCACY (OCRA)

Santa Rosa or San Jose

Long-Term Temporary, FT- 37.5 hrs/wk

**SALARY RANGE (Depending on Experience):**

**Clients’ Rights Advocate 1: $52,231-$69,995**

**Clients’ Rights Advocate 2: $57,585-$77,169**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:**

Each Clients’ Rights Advocate (CRA) position will be located at or near an office of each regional center. The Clients’ Rights Advocate positions are funded under the DDS contract. The CRA works under the direction of the Supervising Clients' Rights Advocate. This position will focus primarily on the rights of people with developmental disabilities who live in or who are at risk of living in institutions, with an emphasis on the right of people to receive services and supports in the least restrictive environment.

**JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Ensures that the rights of people with developmental disabilities as provided in law and regulation are enforced.  This includes but is not limited to the laws and regulations found in Welfare and Institutions Code and California Code of Regulations.

2. Assists in identifying and developing contacts with individuals, agencies, and other stakeholders in the developmental disabilities service system with expertise about community living options for people who live in institutions.

3. Assists in identifying and developing contacts with individuals, agencies, and other stakeholders in the developmental disabilities service system involved in the civil commitment of people with developmental disabilities.

4. Provides information and training to assist residential and health providers in understanding their Title 17 responsibilities regarding posting and notification of rights.

5. Advises the Regional Center Executive Director on the development and implementation of the Center’s clients’ rights assurance program pursuant to Title 17.

6. Investigates and facilitates resolution of all complaints of violation, withholding or denial of rights made by or on behalf of clients.  Prepares reports on findings and makes recommendations for resolution to appropriate parties.

7. Directly assists and/or represents clients/families or provides technical advice to client representatives in administrative actions relating to eligibility for and provision of services from public benefit programs (e.g. Social Security, Special Education, Regional Center, Dept. of Social Services, County Mental Health, and the State Department of Rehabilitation.)

8. Directly assists clients or provides technical advice to client representatives in superior court actions relating to the civil commitment of people with developmental disabilities.

9. Monitor statewide status of clients DCs and IMDs to identify trends, compliance issues and systemic problems.

10. Consult with OCRA staff on their cases involving DC and IMD clients or efforts to prevent moving to institutions.

11. Provides referrals on a rotating basis to legal agencies and/or attorneys who can assist consumers and family members in enforcing their legal rights that have been violated.

12. Develops and conducts outreach, education, and training for regional center clients and their families, community groups and others in clients’ rights advocacy.

13. Aids in the development and implementation of regional center policies and procedures related to client rights to ensure compliance with federal and state laws.

14. Responsible for the oversight of the Assistant Clients’ Rights Advocate.

15. Carries out other such duties as may from time to time be required.

Working at DRC is more than just a job - it's that rare opportunity to do what you're good at while making a difference in the lives of Californians with disabilities. Learn more about us at [www.disabilityrightsca.org](http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/jobs/jobs.htm)

***Applications should be received by May 8, 2018 to be considered for the first round of interviews.***

DRC offers competitive salaries and a generous benefit package! To view the detailed job description and complete the application process visit http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/Jobs/index.htm