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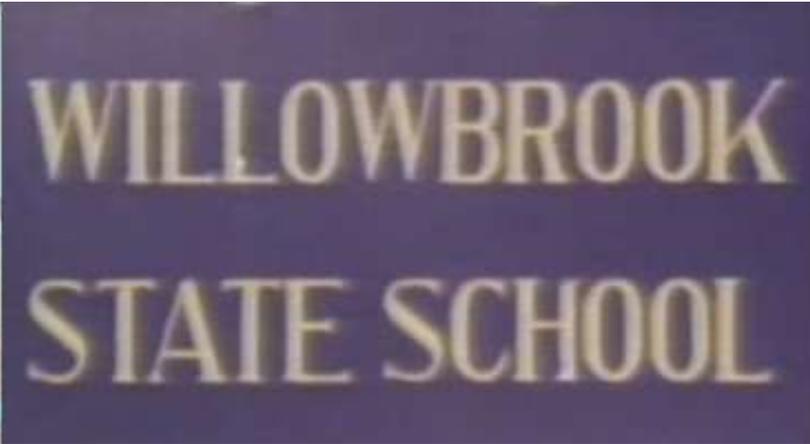


Our Mission as an Organization

Disability Rights California advocates, educates, investigates, and litigates to advance the rights, dignity, equal opportunities, and choices for all people with disabilities.

Training Objectives

- Who We Are
- Our Offices
- Who We Help
- Our Programs and Practice Areas
- What can we do for you?
- Web Resources
- Contact Information



In 1972, a New York television station produced an investigative series exposing abuses at Willowbrook, a state-run institution for children with intellectual disabilities.

Our Story

In 1975, Congress passed the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights (DD) Act. It created the protection and advocacy system, designating an organization within each state and territory to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities.

In 1978, Governor Jerry Brown designated us as California's statewide organization under the name Protection & Advocacy, Inc. (PAI).

In 2008, we changed our name to Disability Rights California.

Who is Disability Rights California?

Disability Rights California (DRC) is a nonprofit law firm and advocacy organization for people with disabilities.



DRC Vision Statement

We envision a barrier-free, inclusive, diverse world that values each individual and their voice. In this world, all people with disabilities enjoy the power of equal rights and opportunities; freedom from abuse, neglect, and discrimination; dignity; and respect for their choices based on their own goals and values.

Our Advocacy Principles

With our patients' rights advocacy, clients' rights advocacy, and legal advocacy:

- We will do what the client wants - not what we or others think is best;
- We are honest about our limitations, values, resources and the likely outcome;
- The client chooses the outcome and the method of achieving the outcome and the client's choices will be treated with respect;
- The client actively participates in every stage of the process.

Our offices

Regional Offices:

- Sacramento (Headquarters)
- Oakland
- Fresno
- Los Angeles
- Ontario
- San Diego





Who we help



- All people with disabilities in California
 - Any kinds of disabilities including intellectual, developmental, mental health, physical, sensory, traumatic brain injuries and nonvisible ones

Legal Advocacy Unit

Legal work coordinated by statewide practice groups

- Legislative & Public Policy
- Civil Rights
- Mental Health
- Youth
- Healthcare/Home and Community-Based Services
- Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities
- Pathways to Work
 - Protection & Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)
 - Client Assistance Program (CAP)
- Voting Rights
- Advocacy and Community Engagement Unit

Our Programs

- Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (OCRA)
- Office of Patients' Rights (OPR)
- Office of Payee Review and Beneficiary Assistance (OPRABA)
- Peer and Self Advocacy (PSA)
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) – San Diego, Riverside and Imperial



What can we do for you?

- Information and Referral
- Counsel and Advice
- Brief Service
- Evaluation and Assessment
- Negotiation and Mediation
- Technical Assistance
- Direct Representation



To decide if we can represent you directly, we look at:

- The merits of your case
- Your ability to advocate for yourself
- Other advocacy sources you can use
- Whether your problem is a DRC priority
- If DRC has resources to help

Client Services Not Provided

- Direct representation in criminal law, family law, or bankruptcy courts or workers' compensation hearings
- Personal injury lawsuits
- Obtaining Social Security Benefits
- Obtaining guardianships or conservatorships
- Issues unrelated to an individual's disability



Visit our Website

www.disabilityrightsca.org

How to Get DRC Services

Intake line: (800) 776-5746

TTY: (800) 719-5798

Outreach and trainings:



Any questions?

