**SLIDE 1**

**NVRA: Expanding Voter**

**Registration Access to People with**

**Disabilities in California**

**Presented by:**

**Tho Vinh Banh**

**Disability Rights California**

**March 3, 2014**

**Tel:1-800-776--5746**

**http://www.disabilityrightsca.org**

**SLIDE 2**

**Partnership and Collaboration**

Different Levels of Outreach/

Education Campaign

-Directly to people with

disabilities: collaboration with

Peer Advocate

**SLIDE 3**

Voting Rights Training to Individuals with Disabilities

(Picture one – Tho Vinh Banh training in front of around 100 people sitting at tables and chairs.)

(Picture two – close up of participants at their tables with woman standing at the back of room)

**SLIDE 4**

**Partnership and Collaboration**

Different Levels of Outreach/

Education Campaign

-Directly to people with

disabilities: collaboration with

regional center and service

provider

**SLIDE 5**

**Partnership and Collaboration**

Juried Voter Poster Contest for Artists with Disabilities.

Theme: “Voting: My Right and Responsibilities”

(Poster one – Disability Rights Logo on upper left, bold 2011 on upper right, December Issue below that, background of American flag with ASL hand signs in foreground spelling out I CAN VOTE.)

(Poster two: SPOTLIGHT ON VOTER EDUCATION PROJECT ATTRACTS TALENTS FROM SEVERAL COUNTIES

Picture 1: Tho Vinh Banh on left, Nina Marie Coker in middle, Brandon Tartaglia on right; Picture 2: Close up of Nina Marie Coker with her winning I Can Vote poster on the wall behind her.)

Voter education is the focus of a collaborative project between the Sacramento Regional office, the Developmental Disability Peer/Self Advocacy unit and the Office of Clients’ Rights Advocacy Far Northern Regional Center, Area Board II, and We Care A Lot Foundation. The project promotes voter education and registration for consumers living in Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity Counties.

Over 40 entries were received for a juried poster contest and exhibition for consumers on the theme “Voting, My Right and Responsibilities”.

On September 12, 2011, the artists’ reception opened with comments from Tammy Torum, executive director of We Care a Lot Foundation, who thanked many of the organizations that helped put the project together. The highlight of the reception was the opportunity for attendees to vote for their favorite poster. As part of the project, a voting booth was set up to help consumers participate in the process of voting.

Nina Marie Coker’s poster was selected as the recipient of the Award of Excellence and Audience Favorite. Ms. Coker is a 37 year old woman with cerebral palsy who speaks American Sign Language. It was a proud moment for Nina’s father who said, “We are very proud of her. She has a very strong spirit.”

“It was very inspiring just to see how people view voting and their right to vote,” said Brandi Sealer, Vote project coordinator for We Care A Lot Foundation.

Mary Ann Weston, community relations advocacy supports specialist for Far Northern Regional Center, remarked, “It was a success – it was awesome! Entries came from individuals living independently and those who participate in day programs.” Among those present were Disability Rights California staff attorney, Tho Vinh Banh and Legislative Advocate, Brandon Tartaglia, and Clients’ Rights Advocate, Andy Holcombe; and Area Board II Executive Director, Robin Keehn.

**SLIDE 6**

**Partnership and Collaboration**

**Theatre In The Now:**

Performance Art by People with Disabilities for People with Disabilities.

**"Your Rights, Your Voice, Your Vote"**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ucUEBRvOuec>

**SLIDE 7**

**Partnership and Collaboration**

Different Levels of Outreach/

Education Campaign

-To agencies that provide

services to people with

disabilities: collaboration with

ACLU and SOS

**SLIDE 8**

**Partnership and Collaboration**

Different Levels of Outreach/

Education Campaign

-To public assistance agencies:

collaboration with ACLU and

SOS

**SLIDE 9**

**Rights to Register and Vote**

**Common misconceptions:**

– If the person has a disability: physical,

psychiatric, intellectual, developmental

disability, etc.

– If the person is not able to read or write

– if the person uses a wheelchair

– If the person is under a conservatorship

**SLIDE 10**

**Rights to Register and Vote**

Parent, Conservator, Social Worker,

Case Manager, Service Coordinator,

Service Provider, etc. do not have the

right to decide whether a person with a

disability has the right to register and

vote.

**SLIDE 11**

Thank You!!

- Election Day Hotline: 1-800-776-5746

- For more information and publications on

voting rights of individuals with disabilities:

<http://www.disabilityrightsca.org/pubs/PublicationsVoing.htm>