



California  
Foundation  
for Independent  
Living Centers

**TED JACKSON**

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZING DIRECTOR**

*The mission of the **California Foundation for Independent Living Centers** is increasing **access and equal opportunity** for people with disabilities by building the capacity of Independent Living Centers.*



## **DISABILITY ORGANIZING NETWORK**

***We organize for accessible communities...wherever people wit disabilities live, work, learn, shop, play and VOTE!***

# VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

- 35-37 Million Eligible Voters *Nationwide*
  - **5.9 Million Eligible *California* Voters**
- 42% Community Turnout (15.6 Million in 2012)
  - **Nearly 6% lower than people without disabilities**
- 12.4% of Overall Voter Turnout
  - **Compared to African Americans (14.13%) & Latino Americans (8.9%)**
- 1/3 voters with disabilities reported barriers to voting in 2012
  - **Compared to 8.4% voters without disabilities**



# DONETWORK VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

## ○ 2014 Get-Out-The-Vote Exercise

- 600 DOnetwork Members
- Study GOTV Community Response and Voting Experiences
- On-Going: Sampling of current responses

## ○ Where do they register

- 5-10% Online, Public Event, Disability Organization, Political Party
- 15% County Elections Offices

## ○ Not Registered

- *No accommodation provided*

## ○ Voter Education Resources

- 60% League of Women Voters *Easy Voter Guide*
- 50% County Elections Office or Website
- 40% Secretary of State's Website
- 25% Disability Organization



# DONETWORK VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

## ○ **15% Did Not Vote in 2014**

- Lack of Accommodation for Registration

## ○ **85% Voted in 2014**

- 44% Polling Place
- 38% Mailed Absentee Ballot
- 17% Brought Absentee Ballot to Polling Place

## ○ **Barriers to Casting a Private Ballot**

- 7% Inaccessible Polling Place : Parking Lot, Entrance, Inside, Restrooms, Poll worker knowledge
- 21.5% Voting Machine Problems
- 21.5% Poll Worker Attitude

## ○ **90% Likely Vote in 2016!**



# THE ROAD AHEAD

## ○ **Vote-By-Mail Concerns**

- Accommodations for filling out the Ballot
- Distance to Vote Centers
- Access to Accessible Voting Machines
- The Silent Disenfranchised: Getting Your Ballot
- **Casting a Private Ballot!**

## ○ **Polling Place Access**

- Getting into the building is still an issue
- Getting help is still an issue

## ○ **Same Day /Conditional Voter Registration**

- *Will accommodations be provided?*

## ○ **Recognition and Preparation**

- Voter Registration Card Declaration





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