

Reasonable Accommodation Requests and Fair Housing for Clients with Mental Health Disabilities



FREE REGIONAL TRAINING:
January 14, 2010

*At 1000 Broadway, Oakland (Suite 109)
from 9:30 a.m to 4 p.m.*

Presented by National Housing Law Project,
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley, and
Bay Area Legal Aid, with a grant from HUD

Federal and state fair housing laws provide important opportunities for protecting the rights of clients with mental health disabilities, in particular by requiring owners to provide reasonable accommodations when necessary for those clients to enjoy all the benefits of their housing.

This regional training will gather advocates from the Bay Area and beyond to discuss special challenges and strategies for fully utilizing these important laws.

6 CLE hours (1 hour ethics) The purpose of this training is to review fair housing laws and their application to reasonable accommodation requests by clients with mental health disabilities. A complimentary continental breakfast starts at 9:00 a.m., and lunch will also be provided.

Working with clients with mental health disabilities

- Understanding mental health disabilities and the mental health system of care
 - Ethical issues in representing clients with "diminished capacity"
 - Discussion of effective strategies for working with other agencies

Understanding and obtaining reasonable accommodations

- Legal requirements for reasonable accommodations
- Strategies for obtaining accommodations (and addressing failures to accommodate)
 - Hot topics (e.g., criminal activity, hoarding)

Roundtables to discuss strategies and best practices

Facilitated group discussions regarding reasonable accommodation issues involving: hoarding/cluttering; evictions; probationary tenancies; licensed care facilities, emergency shelters, shared housing; PHAs; working with clients in crisis; medical records.

Registration Form:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address _____

Please forward your registration to bhellman@baylegal.org or fax it to Brad Hellman at Bay Area Legal Aid (510) 236-6846, and you may contact him with questions at (510) 233-9954.

Informal Survey Regarding Proposed Roundtable Sessions

Please indicate your preference for the sessions listed below in rank
(1=highest, 5=lowest)

Hoarding/Cluttering Issues _____

Behavior Issues and Probationary Tenancies _____

Procedural Issues in Eviction Cases _____

Licensed Care Facilities, Emergency Shelters, Shared Housing _____

Working with Public Housing Authorities _____

Working with Clients in Crisis and Preventing Advocate Burnout _____

Medical Records and Discovery Issues _____

Issues Involving Companion Animals _____

Section 8 Vouchers As Reasonable Accommodations _____

Other _____

