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Boards for All

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Webcast training series about nonprofit
Boards of Directors, Advisory Committees or Councils.



Historically, people with limited literacy, diverse backgrounds and intellectual disabilities have been excluded from participation in making public policy or lawmaking activities that impacted their lives. Because information is central to decision making and successful community participation, clearly designed materials in [plain language](#) must be available to ensure all people have opportunities for involvement.

We believe participation in civic associations and boards of directors of nonprofit organizations increases effective policy making and meets the needs of our diverse communities. **We know** people with varied abilities and backgrounds can play a meaningful role in advocacy and governance activities.

Boards for All is a web-based learning series designed for a wide range of users to understand the purpose of a nonprofit board of directors, and the responsibilities of its members. It provides tools (videos, worksheets and resources) for users to learn about to be an effective member of a board of directors, advisory committee or community council. As a plain language governance toolbox, **Boards for All** demonstrates basic boardsmanship for self-advocacy groups, boards of directors, advisory committees to large statewide agencies.

Boards for All videos are captioned and narrated in English, Spanish and Mandarin. Worksheets are also available in three languages. The series is a joint project of [Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center](#), [CA State Council on Developmental Disabilities](#) and [Board Resource Center](#). In 2012 **Boards for All** received the ClearMark Award of Distinction from the Center for Plain Language, and in 2014 was selected by the Interactive Media Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Website Design and Development.

Boards for All Series Segments:

#1 Boards of Directors — basic overview of what a nonprofit governing group is and how it carries out the organization's mission.

#2 Role of Board Members — member responsibilities and how to prepare to be an informed decision-maker at meetings.

#3 Purpose of Committees — a board creates committees to focus on issues, activities or programs.

#4 Board Development — a planning process to increase effectiveness and identify needed skills members need to represent the community needs.

#5 Facilitation and Mentoring — support strategies that members may need to participate effectively. Facilitation and mentoring are individualized accommodations that assist members to carry out responsibilities.

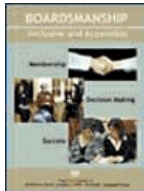
From the Field



Engaged Board Members
Conference presentation



Facilitation: Purpose, Planning, Practice
Webinar presentation, Board Resource Center



Boardmanship: Inclusive and Accessible
[People First of California](#), [Board Resource Center](#) — [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Japanese](#)



Empowering individuals to understand and engage
Participation for all in civic and governance matters. Clarity Journal of the International Association promoting plain legal language. Mark Starford | Charlene Jones

Next Issue ...

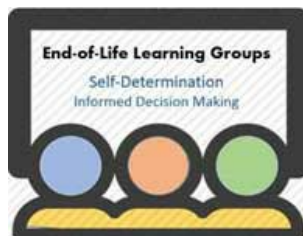
Common Cause Statewide Networks



About Board Resource Center

BRC is committed to promoting an inclusive world where all people can exercise basic human rights. We develop and conduct trainings, and produce multimedia resources that "Make Complex Ideas Simple." Together with community partners, we expand competencies and advocacy leadership for lasting outcomes.

Current Work:



BRC has begun Phase I of its health literacy and self-determination project. It focuses on conducting statewide "learning groups" to gather data on experiences people have with end of life planning and decision making. Targeted audiences include those with limited literacy and comprehension abilities. Outcome products: Report and video for healthcare professionals.

More information: info@brcenter.org.

