



Department of Aging and Adult Services

## 26th Annual Multi-Disciplinary Team Conference Fosters Independence

HS Connection Staff

The Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) and Adult Protective Services (APS) held its 26th Annual Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) Conference on Monday, May 20, 2013 at the Goldy S. Lewis Community Center in Rancho Cucamonga. More than 250 attended the one-day conference. The conference is held annually to provide service providers, professionals, and organizations with useful information that will assist them in collaborating for the good of the clients they serve. This year’s theme was “Fostering a Culture of Independence in the Aging and Disability Communities.”

“There were 20 vendors and eight organizations that joined in with various amounts of sponsorship this year,” said G. G. Crawley, Deputy Director for DAAS. “We were very fortunate to garner the support of these organizations that have the best interest of seniors and individuals with disabilities at heart.”

The goal of the conference is to coordinate resources, prevent duplication of services, and to work as a team in addressing the prevention of adult abuse. “I believe that the success of the conference rests in the ability to work together as a true multi-disciplinary team” said Crawley. Eighteen workshops were offered throughout the day with topics ranging from *Recognizing the Signs and Symptoms of Abuse; Homelessness After 50; Affordable Care Act; Suicide Prevention; Stress Management; Fighting Fraud* and more. Each workshop was presented by one or more professionals and/or service providers and offered up-to-date information on topics of concern to seniors and dependent adults.



Stress Management Workshop

The conference opened with guest speaker and executive director, Liz Pazdral of the California State Independent Living Council and concluded with a personal story from Jose Solorzano, Disability Community Representative for Inland Empire Health Plan who lives with Cerebral Palsy.

Each year at the conference, the MDT Advisory Board presents a Service Award to an individual who has made great strides in preventing adult and dependent abuse, promotes healthy living, and exemplifies the goals and objectives of the Board. This year’s award was presented to Reverend Jim Covey who serves on the MDT Advisory Board. When called upon to accept his award, Reverend Covey joked with the audience and expressed his gratitude for receiving such a great honor.



Service Award honoree  
Reverend Jim Covey

The conference came to a close with several raffle prizes donated by service providers and organizations. The MDT Advisory Board has already begun plans for next year’s conference.

County of San Bernardino  
Human Services



# HS Connection Newsletter