



5 Things to Know for Late February

Legislative: CA Budget Proposals

Governor Gavin Newsom's 2019-2020 budget proposal includes numerous proposals relevant to families CYSHCN and those serving them such as: \$3.2 billion in supplemental payments and rate increases for certain providers, restoration of the IHSS hours reduction, and \$50 million to increase training for mental health workforce programs. Check out highlights: <http://tinyurl.com/y38sq6h9>

Film: *Campeones*

The 26th Annual San Diego Latino Film Festival (March 14-24, 2019) at AMC Fashion Valley will be screening *Campeones*. Exact dates, more film titles, and schedule to be announced later in February. *Campeones* tells a story about Marco, a basketball assistant coach in Spain's top basketball league, he coaches a group of intellectually-disabled players. In the process of training they harvest laughter and tears. You can watch a trailer of the movie here: <http://tinyurl.com/y56xykfz> If you have any questions,, please contact ethan@mediaartscenter.org

Opportunity: Foster Families Needed

Home of Guiding Hands now offers a **foster program** for adults with disabilities. In the Adult Foster Home Program, caregivers move an individual (or two!) with special needs into their home and support them in becoming more independent, further developing life skills and building positive relationships. By providing a warm and meaningful family experience, foster families change lives! Tax free stipends cover rent and other services provided to the adults. To learn more about this opportunity: <http://tinyurl.com/yyjwqrbd>

Resource: Tax Planning

There are many tax deductions and credits available that parents may not be aware of. Parents of children with special needs should familiarize themselves with the deductions and credits and take care to document all expenses related to their children's medical expenses, development and therapy. <http://tinyurl.com/y638uh6r> Please note that this information is provided only as a resource. It should not be construed as legal or tax advice.

News: Barbie to Launch New Dolls

In June, **Barbie will debut a doll with a prosthetic leg and another that comes with a wheelchair**. Mattel collaborated with Jordan Reeves, a 13-year-old disability activist who was born without a left forearm, to create the doll with the prosthetic limb, which can be removed for a "more realistic" play experience. The toymaker also worked with UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital and wheelchair experts to design a wheelchair, which the company said has been one of the most requested accessories from Barbie fans. "While there are many types of wheelchairs, this chair is modeled after one that is designed for an individual who has a permanent physical disability," Mattel said in a statement. The company will include a Barbie DreamHouse-compatible ramp with the wheelchair. The dolls' new looks are a hit with disability rights activists. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/12/us/barbie-doll-disabilities-trnd/index.html>