

June 2020

## Advocacy in Action.

While we are gathering virtually for Gatepath Auxiliary General Meetings and seeing friends on zoom the advocacy efforts by our Auxiliary are not on hold. As you may know the State's budget is in its final revision process.

*"In his latest State Budget proposal, Governor Gavin Newsom **slashed more than \$500 million in funding for services that support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.** For two decades, the State of California has chronically underfunded the developmental disability system. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a Rate Study conducted by the State identified a funding gap of over \$1.4 billion for disability programs. The current public health crisis only made this problem worse, significantly increasing the cost of safely delivering services to those with developmental disabilities. **The impact of the Governor's proposed additional funding cuts would be catastrophic to the entire developmental disability community.***

*The California Senate and Assembly have rejected the Governor's proposed cuts to developmental disability services. Instead, they have proposed an alternative budget plan that the Governor should adopt. We applaud our Legislative leaders for recognizing the divesting impact these cuts would have on their constituents with developmental disabilities."*

Thank you to all Auxiliary Members who signed and sent Gatepath's letter to the Governor requesting that there be no cuts to the I/DD community. Also, thanks to those who went online and supported the California Senate and Assembly's actions.

Cathy Nessler