

**INFORMATIONAL HEARING
The Autism Epidemic in California
November 19, 2002
9:30 - 12:30
UC Davis Medical Center
Ronald McDonald House
Conference Room**

AGENDA

I. Opening Statements

Chairman Frommer and members

II. Overview of M.I.N.D. Institute

Robert Hendren, D.O., Executive Director
Medical Investigation of Neurodevelopmental Disorders (M.I.N.D.) Institute
UC Davis

III. Autism Research in California

Robert Byrd, M.D., M.P.H.
Department of Pediatrics, UC Davis Medical Center, lead author of recently
published M.I.N.D. Institute report, "The Epidemiology of Autism in
California."

Isaac Pessah, Ph.D.
Director of the Center for Children's Environmental Health and Disease
Prevention Research, UC Davis

Judith Grether, Ph.D.,
Environmental Health Investigations Branch
California Department of Health Services

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IV. Parent's Perspective

Rick Rollens

National board member of the Autism Society of America, co-founder of Families for Early Autism Treatment, co-founder of the M.I.N.D. Institute, parent advocate.

Chuck Gardner

Co-founder of the M.I.N.D. Institute, parent of autistic child

V. Department of Developmental Services and Regional Centers

Ron Huff, Ph.D.

Psychology Consultant, Community Services and Support Division
California Department of Developmental Services

Mr. Richard Jacobs, Executive Director
Valley Mountain Regional Center

Howard Cohen, Ph.D., Director of Clinical Services
Valley Mountain Regional Center

VI. Public Comment and Close