



NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

REGIONAL CENTER

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THIS BUDGET CRISIS WILL IMPACT YOU & YOUR FAMILY

What you need to know about how the budget crisis impacts your services

The funding reductions proposed by the Governor and Legislature will affect your regional center services. The proposal includes severe reductions to the 2008-2009 budget, with further reductions proposed for 2009-2010. While the future remains unclear, the proposed funding reductions will have a significant impact on consumers, family members, service providers, and regional center staff.

How does the State budget crisis impact your services?

- If the State runs out of money in February, there will be payment delays to programs that serve consumers, including regional centers.
- The State is proposing to cut 10% (\$334 million) from the regional center consumer services budget.
- Payments for services will be permanently reduced by 3% (\$141 million). Many are already struggling due to previous rate cuts and freezes.
- Regional center expenditures will be permanently reduced by 3%. This affects our ability to hire staff, and will result in higher caseloads for service coordinators.
- If there is a payment delay by the State, NLACRC will be able to fund program/service costs through March 2009. NLACRC will remain open and our staff will be paid at a reduced rate (minimum wage) beginning in April.

Community Action meetings & Stakeholder meetings being planned for February or March 2009

- It is urgent that you attend and participate in the community meetings organized by NLACRC in conjunction with Area Board 10 and other community partners so that we can work together to determine how to make the most of a severely reduced budget. Look for details in your mail and on our Web site at nlacrc.org.
- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will conduct its own public meetings to hear from consumers, family members, and service providers that will focus on how to provide services with less available funding.
- Recommended reading: "Controlling Regional Center Costs" at www.dds.ca.gov/Publications/docs/ControllingRCCosts2007.pdf.

What can you do?

- Get involved! Call or write to your State legislators and the Governor. Tell them how a reduced budget will affect you, your child, and your family.

Please visit our Web site frequently at www.nlacrc.org for further updates and information.