



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Main 818-778-1900 • Fax 818-756-6140 | 9200 Oakdale Avenue #100, Chatsworth, CA 91311 | www.nlacrc.org

April 5, 2019

Burns & Associates, Inc.

Email: DDSVendorRates@burnshealthpolicy.com

Re: Rate Study Public Comment

Dear Burns & Associates, Inc.,

The North Los Angeles Regional Center (“NLACRC”), in collaboration with our Vendor Advisory Committee (“VAC”) and the Los Angeles Coalition of Service Providers, appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DDS Rate Study and Rate Models, which was prepared by Burns and Associates, Inc., and presented to the community on February 25, 2019 and submitted to the Legislature on March 15, 2019. The Rate Study and the proposed new rate models provides a tremendous opportunity to establish new rates, based on the actual cost of service provision, which will enhance stability and quality of services provided to consumers, and their families, who rely on our service providers to participate and live in our community.

NLACRC is the largest regional center in Los Angeles County and serves over 27,000 consumers who reside throughout the San Fernando, Santa Clarita or Antelope Valleys. These same consumers, and their families, receive services and supports from over 1,300 vendored service providers.

In response to the rate study, NLACRC established a committee, to include members of our VAC and the Los Angeles Coalition of Service Providers, to collect, collate, review and summarize the feedback received from our service provider community. Fifty-nine (59) NLACRC service providers completed the Rate Study Public Comment survey (“Rate Study Survey”). Included with this letter, please find the following information regarding the feedback received by NLACRC from our service providers:

1. Attachment A: Los Angeles Coalition of Service Providers Rate Study Public Comment: LA Coalition Collective Feedback (64 pages)
2. Attachment B: R&D Transportation Services Survey Comments and Attachments
3. Attachment C: California APSE Public Comment
4. Attachment D: List of agencies identified in the survey
5. Attachment E: Selected public survey comments
7. Attachment F. Provider supporting documentation

Based on feedback received from our service provider community, there is overwhelming



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Main 818-778-1900 • Fax 818-756-6140 | 9200 Oakdale Avenue #100, Chatsworth, CA 91311 | www.nlacrc.org

consensus on the feedback received. Specifically, that (1) the limited timeline to respond; (2) the administrative expertise required to respond, and (3) the complexity of the rate study made it very challenging for many of our service providers to analyze the new proposed rate models, provide feedback, and participate in the Rate Study Survey.

Given this feedback from our service provider community, we are requesting DDS to consider additional and sufficient time for our service provider community to review and analyze the new proposed rate models prior to implementation. We would appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with both DDS and our service provider community to give a meaningful and thoughtful review of the new proposed rate models in order to provide DDS with the critical information needed that will help establish new rate models for our service system.

NLACRC and our service providers appreciate the amount of work that has gone into the DDS Rate Study and proposed new rate models and DDS's commitment to supporting our service system to support the consumers that we serve. NLACRC looks forward to collaborating with DDS regarding the proposed new rate models to enhance stability and quality services for the benefit of the consumers we serve.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or the attachments, please contact NLACRC Community Services Director Evelyn McOmie at (818) 756-6151 or emcomie@nlacrc.org.

Sincerely,

George Stevens
Executive Director

Enclosure(s): Attachment A: Los Angeles Coalition of Services Providers Rate Study Public Comments: LA Coalition Collective Feedback (64 pages)
Attachment B: R&D Transportation Services Survey Comments and Attachments
Attachment C: California APSE Public Comment
Attachment D: List of agencies identified in the survey
Attachment E: Selected public survey comments
Attachment F: Provider supporting documentation

cc: Ruth Janka, Deputy Director
Kim Rolfes, CFO
Evelyn McOmie, Community Services Director
Sharoll Jackson, Vendor Advisory Committee President
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services