



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 8, 2025

To: Alex Kopilevich, Chair, Jaklen Keshishyan, Alt. Chair, Jodie Agnew-Navarro, Octavia Watkins, Masood Babaeian, Paul Borda, Andrea Devers, Cal Enriquez, Ute Escorcia, Ricki Macken Chivers, Vahe Mkrtchian, Daniel Ortiz, Jen Pippard, Sharon Weinberg

From: Lindsay Granger
Executive Administrative Assistant

Re: Information and materials for the next Nominating Committee meeting on **Thursday, May 8, at 9:30 a.m.**

Attached is information for the next committee meeting. Please review this information prior to the meeting.

The meeting is a Hybrid Meeting and will be remotely accessible by Zoom. We will send you the Zoom access information via email. The in-person meeting location will be at the NLACRC Santa Clarita Valley Office: 25360 Magic Mountain Pkwy., Santa Clarita, CA 91355.

If you have any questions, or if you are unable to attend the meeting, please send us an email to boardsupport@nlacrc.org. Thank you!

Attachments

c: Angela Pao-Johnson, NLACRC Executive Director,
Evelyn McOmie, Deputy Director

Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting 5.8.25

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VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 8, 2025

9:30 am (*Hybrid*)

Zoom/NLARC Santa Clarita Valley Office

~AGENDA~

- I. **Call to Order & Introductions** - Alex Kopilevich, Chair (*1 min*)
- II. **Committee Member Attendance/Quorum** (*1 min*)
- III. **Share Impact Story From Individual Served** (*5 min*)
- IV. **Public Input** - Agenda Items only (*3 min per person, 3-person limit*)
- V. **Consent Items**
 - A. Approval of Minutes from the April 10, 2025, Meeting (*1 min*)
 - B. Approval of the Agenda (*1 min*)
 - C. Confirming VAC Committee Chair and Alternate Chair for Next Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (*1 min*)
- VI. **Action Items**
 - A. Review and Approve Draft Critical Calendar for Next Fiscal Year 2025-2026 – Lindsay Granger (*3 min*)
- VII. **Committee Business**
 - A. Discuss Committee Goals for Next Fiscal Year – Alex Kopilevich (*5 min*)
 - B. Workgroups and Committee Report Outs for Next Fiscal Year – Alex Kopilevich (*3 min*)
 - C. Update on NLACRC's Local Delegation Team – Belinda Abatesi (*5 min*)
 - D. Update on Service Provider Vendor Training/Mentorship Program Updates – Alex Kopilevich (*1 min*)
 - E. Self-Determination Update – Silvia Renteria-Haro (*1 min*)
 - F. Update on VAC Open Positions – Alex Kopilevich (*1 min*)
- VIII. **Report Outs**
 - A. **Deputy Director Officer's Report** – Evelyn McOmie (*5 min*)
 - B. **Chief Financial Officer's Report** – Vini Montague (*5 min*)
 - C. **Community Services Director's Report** – Arshalous Garlanian (*5 min*)

- D. **Legislative Report** – Belinda Abatesi (5 min)
- E. **Executive Director’s Report** – Angela Pao-Johnson (5 min)

IX. Open Topics for Discussion – Alex Kopilevich (5 min)

X. Committee Work Group Information/Committee Work Group Final Reports:

- A. **Early Start Services** (Jodie Agnew-Navarro) (3 min)
For meeting schedule and information
Contact: Jodie Agnew-Navarro - jodie.agnew-navarro@chimeinstitute.net
Next workgroup meeting: May 15, 2025 @ 9:30am (via Zoom).
 - i. Early Start Services
- B. **School Age Services** (Paul Borda & Cal Enriquez) (3 min)
For meeting schedule and information
Contact: Paul Borda - paul@abatherapypartners.com and Cal Enriquez - cal.enriquez@aveanna.com
Next workgroup meeting: May 13, 2025 @ 10:00am (via Zoom).
 - i. School Age Services
- C. **Adult Services** (Octavia Watkins) (3 min)
For meeting schedule and information
Contact: Octavia Watkins - excellencecrp@gmail.com
Next workgroup meeting: May 19, 2025 @ 11:00am (via Zoom).
 - i. Adult Services

XI. Board Committee Reports

- A. Administrative Affairs (Jaklen Keshishyan -VAC Rep.) (1 min)
- B. Consumer Services (Sharon Weinberg -VAC Rep.) (3 min)
- C. Government & Community Relations (Jodie Agnew-Navarro -VAC Rep.) (3 min)
- D. Nominating (Alex Kopilevich - Committee Member) (1 min)

XII. Board Meeting Agenda Items

XIII. Announcements/Public Input/Information Items (3 min per person 3-person limit)

- A. Next Meeting: Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. Hybrid – In-person location
Antelope Valley Office
- B. Committee Attendance

XIV. Adjournment

XV. Review of Meeting Action Items (Item Owner and Due Date)

**NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL CENTER (NLACRC)
9200 OAKDALE AVENUE, SUITE 100
CHATSWORTH, CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES OF THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HYBRID – CHATSWORTH OFFICE / TELECONFERENCE
APRIL 10, 2025, 9:30 A.M.**

MEMBERS:

Alex Kopilevich, Jaklen Keshishyan, Jodie Agnew-Navarro, Octavia Watkins, Masood Babaeian, Paul Borda, Andrea Devers, Ute Escorcia, Ricki Macken Chilvers, Vahe Mkrtchian, Jen Pippard, Sharon Weinberg

STAFF:

Angela Pao-Johnson, Vini Montague, Silvia Renteria-Haro, Venus Rodriguez-Khorasani, Betsy Monahan, Evelyn McOmie, Belinda Abatesi, Chris Whitlock, Arezo Abedi, Lindsay Granger, Arezo Abedi

GUESTS:

Mark Wolfe – DDS Tech Advisor, Sasha Chernik- Minute Solutions

ABSENT:

Cal Enriquez

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, and adequate and proper notice of the meeting having been given, the meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. Alex Kopilevich presided as Chair.

2. COMMITTEE MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Members were asked to identify themselves when speaking or making a motion.

3. SHARE IMPACT STORY FROM INDIVIDUAL SERVED

Angela Pao-Johnson shared a story about two NLACRC consumers who were Project SEARCH interns and had been hired as housekeeping attendants at Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Sosa shared that there are three openings at their group home facilities.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

On a motion made by Sharon Weinberg, seconded by Masood Babaeian, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the Vendor Advisory Committee meeting held on March 13, 2025, as presented. Motion carried.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6.1 2025-2026 Fiscal Year VAC Committee Chair and Alternate Chair

The current Vendor Advisory Committee Chair is Alex Kopilevich, and the Alternate Chair is Jaklen Keshishyan. Alex Kopilevich indicated that he would be happy to continue to serve as the Chair until the end of his Vendor Advisory Committee term in 2026.

The Chair is required to serve on another committee. The time commitment is 10 to 15 hours per month.

Any Vendor Advisory Committee member who is interested in nominating themselves to be the Chair or Alternate Chair should email Board Support and provide a statement about why they want the position and their qualifications by April 27, 2025.

7. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

7.1 NLACRC Local Delegation Team

Belinda Abatesi presented an update on the local delegation teams. There are currently two delegation teams that will be meeting with two different assembly members the week of April 14-18, 2025. The delegation teams will speak to legislators about NLACRC's current priorities and advocate for the community.

Jen Pippard:

Inquired what participation in a local delegation team entails.

Belinda Abatesi:

Explained that the hours are determined based on the legislators' schedules. Meetings should be at most one hour. Each delegation team is comprised of NLACRC staff, a family member, a Board member, an individual served, and a service provider. The talking points will vary based on the legislator and what they advocate for. NLACRC staff try to match service providers with legislators based on their expertise and whether they are constituents of that legislator.

Octavia Watkins:

Inquired when delegation team members will receive the talking points for next week's meetings.

Belinda Abatesi:

Responded that the information would be sent to the delegation teams by April 11, 2025.

Jaklen Keshishyan

Inquired about participation in the delegation teams and whether service providers must be members of the VAC to participate.

Belinda Abatesi:

Responded that she will connect Jaklen Keshishyan with an NLACRC staff member to advise on participation in the delegation teams.

There was an inquiry on what information is collected from service providers on the delegation team application form.

Belinda Abatesi:

Explained that the form currently only asks for the service provider's phone number, email, and address, which are used to look up which constituent they belong to. However, the team is planning to add questions about the applicant's area of expertise and why they want to participate.

ACTION – Belinda Abatesi will connect Jaklen Keshishyan with the right NLACRC staff member to advise on participation in a delegation team.

7.2 Service Provider Vendor Training Updates

Alex Kopilevich presented service provider vendor training updates. A VAC subcommittee should be formed to work on service provider vendor training. The goal of the membership program is to assist new vendors who are being onboarded. The plan is to compile a list of vendors who want to participate and their areas of expertise, as well as to have the information readily available to provide to new vendors to guide them. The team will finalize a meeting with Board Support to put the program in place, and they hope to have it running by the start of the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

7.3 Self-Determination Update

Silvia Renteria-Haro presented the self-determination update. The next team meeting will be held virtually on April 17, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Octavia Watkins:

Inquired if independent vendors need to become vendorized to provide self-determination support.

Silvia Renteria-Haro:

Responded that generally, yes, service providers who will be supporting consumers through the transition need to be vendorized. She also described another program option through NLACRC that does not require vendorization.

8. REPORT OUTS

8.1 Deputy Director Officer's Report

Evelyn McOmie presented the Deputy Director Officer's report.

There is a fully staffed management team for the transition department. A few supervisors were present at the meeting and available for introductions.

The adult unit in San Fernando has reached the 70s in caseloads. School-aged units are still in the 10s. Two new units have been opened, with positive prospects being hired for the school-aged teams. The plan is to have the two units fully staffed by May, 2025.

The team is planning to open additional positions in Santa Clarita. The adult unit in Santa Clarita also has caseload numbers in the 80s.

An additional school-age transition unit has been opened in Antelope Valley.

Service providers were reminded POSs (Purchases of Service) are dictated by the needs of the individual, and the service coordinators should complete the POSs, not the vendors.

Several leads were present at the meeting to meet with service providers. Of the 15 leads, 12 were hired to train new service coordinators.

There was an inquiry regarding caseload numbers for early start and leads for early start. Evelyn McOmie noted the early start caseload numbers are in the 40s-60s across all three valleys and confirmed that there are leads for all the departments. Also, there was an inquiry

on when the service providers' suggestions and emails will receive faster responses based on the planned new system. Evelyn McOmie noted that it is premature to roll out the plan. All the recommendations from the vendor forum were taken under advisement. Categories will be created for prioritization, and definitions will be made for what falls into each category. A more detailed update will be provided in May, 2025. The Community Services team will partner with the service providers and consider their input.

8.2 Chief Financial Officer's Report

Evelyn McOmie presented the Chief Financial Officer's report on behalf of Vini Montague. Service providers will need to inform their regional centers if they use generative AI. More information will be provided. NLACRC hired a controller on March 24, 2025, via internal promotion.

Alex Kopilevich:

Noted that POSs that have been received in the mail recently are not visible in the online portal.

ACTION – Board Support will report portal missing document issues to IT.

8.3 Community Services Director's Report

Venus Rodriguez-Khorasani presented the Community Services Director's report on behalf of Arshalous Garlanian to the committee, highlighting he important points.

8.4 Legislative Report

Belinda Abatesi presented the Legislative Report, highlighting important points.

Jodie Agnew-Navarro:

Noted there are a few rallies to protest the Medicaid changes and event information was provided.

ACTION – Jodie Agnew-Navarro will email a list of events protesting Medicaid cuts to Board Support.

ACTION – Board Support will distribute the list of events protesting Medicaid cuts to service providers.

8.5 Executive Director's Report

Angela Pao-Johnson presented the Executive Director's report, highlighting important points.

There was an inquiry on whether the 37% of at-risk Medicaid funding is DDS or federal funding? Angela Pao-Johnson explained that the federal funds are at risk, and they make up 37% of the total funding. The rest of the funding is from the state. Additionally, there was an inquiry regarding if the federal funding is conditional on anything and whether there are actions service providers can take to retain more funding? Angela Pao-Johnson explained that the algorithm for how the cuts will be made is unknown at the moment.

9. OPEN DISCUSSION TOPICS

9.1 Attendance Commitment by Consumers

Many service providers are interested in the topic of increasing consumer participation. Service providers lose money due to not receiving funding but need to pay staff when there are short-term cancellations and no-shows by consumers.

Alex Kopilevich noted that he has spoken to DDS representatives, who suggested introducing raffles for families to participate. Other service providers in attendance noted that they have found it helpful to have continuous conversations with families about consistency and explain how it affects both their progress and the program. Some service providers have a client services liaison who contacts high cancellation-risk families in advance of appointments.

Jodie Agnew-Navarro noted that in the early start meeting, participation issues due to ICE enforcement concerns were discussed. Other attendees noted that they had not noticed increased participation issues due to immigration status concerns. A service provider noted that they provided their staff with language to use if there is a confrontation with ICE.

Service providers inquired if it is possible to have more contractual recourse for short-term cancellations, so there is another escalation level for issues. Service providers cannot charge cancellation fees due to the lack of funding for the programs. There is a section in the program design that can be used for business processes and policies for these situations. If the program design is approved by NLACRC, the regional center will back up the vendor in case of a breach. It is important to fully review the service provider rules with the families served.

10. COMMITTEE WORK GROUP INFORMATION

10.1 Early Start Services

Jodie Agnew-Navarro reported that the Early Start Services Committee work group met in March, 2025. There were issues with the platform being used, so she was not able to attend the meeting. The Early Start team discussed ICE enforcement activities and how it is enforcing families. There were discussions about rate reform.

10.2 School Age Services

Paul Borda reported that the School Age Services Committee work group met on April 8, 2025. The first main topic was self-determination, with continued questions about how it works and how vendors can get involved to support the program. The Committee engaged with Robin on this topic. The second main topic was rate reform, with many questions about timing and processes. The next School Age Services Committee meeting will be on May 13, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

10.3 Adult Services

Octavia Watkins reported that the Adult Service Committee work group met in March, 2025. The next meeting will be on May 19, 2025. The main topic to be discussed at the next meeting is housing and access for consumers. The Adult Services Committee is planning to engage one to two agencies to attend and speak to the group about how best to support clients with housing.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Administrative Affairs

Jaklen Keshishyan reported that the Administrative Affairs Committee did not meet since the last Vendor Advisory Committee meeting. The next Administrative Affairs Committee meeting will be on April 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

11.2 Consumer Services

Sharon Weinberg reported that the Consumer Services Committee has not met since the last Vendor Advisory Committee meeting. The next Consumer Services Committee meeting will be on April 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

11.3 Government and Community Relations

Jodie Agnew-Navarro reported that the Government and Community Relations Committee have not met since the last Vendor Advisory Committee meeting. The next Government and Community Relations Committee meeting will be on May 21, 2025.

11.4 Nominating

Alex Kopilevich reported that the Nominating Committee met on April 2, 2025. The Nominating Committee meets every month to ensure that all positions are filled. Four of the five applications that were reported at the last Vendor Advisory Committee meeting have been processed. The remaining one had issues. An additional applicant applied after the last Vendor Advisory Committee meeting, and they have also been processed. The next Nominating Committee meeting will be on May 7, 2025.

11.5 Strategic Planning

Octavia Watkins reported that the Strategic Planning Committee did not meet since the last Vendor Advisory Committee meeting. The next Strategic Planning Committee meeting will be on May 5, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

12. BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

ACTION – Board Support will inquire with the Nominating Committee and the Board about how to proceed with nominations for the VAC Chair and Alternate Chair.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC INPUT

Kimberly, Maxim Healthcare:

Inquired if it will be possible for vendors to meet new service coordinators outside of the vendor fair to help with training and bridge the gap between service providers and coordinators.

Evelyn McOmie:

Explained that the training department sends out new service coordinators to vendors to observe and learn. The sign-up list for vendors is opened every November at VAC meetings, and the training and development schedule for the year is created based on the sign-ups.

Paul Borda:

Noted this item can be discussed at the next School-Age Committee meeting.

Ricki Macken Chilvers:

Inquired if vendor fairs and site visits are the only ways for vendors to meet new service coordinators.

Evelyn McOmie:

Confirmed that it is correct and noted that having additional options to meet service coordinators would give some vendors an unfair advantage. NLACRC is working hard to ensure all vendors get equitable access to the service coordinators.

Ricki Macken Chilvers:

Inquired what percentage of service coordinators travel to the vendor fair locations because her representative vendor only serves Santa Clarita, but the vendor fairs are in Antelope Valley and San Fernando Valley.

Evelyn McOmie:

Encouraged all vendors to sign up for the vendor fairs because all service coordinators are required to attend at least one vendor fair.

Jodie Agnew-Navarro:

Expressed appreciation for the way NLACRC is working to ensure things are equitable.

Jodie Agnew-Navarro:

Reminded the attendees that the Anaheim rally for Medicaid is on April 22, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and the Bakersfield rally is on April 24, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. She noted that the consumers receive a lot of funding other than through NLACRC service providers. Therefore, the federal Medicaid cuts will affect consumers and families on many fronts, not just the regional center services.

14. NEXT MEETING

The dates of the next Vendor Advisory Committee are May 8, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the Santa Clarita Valley office and June 12, 2025, at the Antelope Valley office.

15. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and carried, it was agreed that there was no further business to transact; the meeting closed at 11:26 a.m.

DISCLAIMER

The above document should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting. This document shall not be considered a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting.

Director

Director

Date

Date

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Vendor Advisory Committee

CRITICAL CALENDAR FOR FY 2024~~5~~-25~~6~~

JULY

(No meeting.)

AUGUST

- Align committee goals, priorities, and workgroups for current fiscal year
 - Provide committee with fiscal year meeting schedule
 - Committee is provided with copies of their approved critical calendar for the new fiscal year.
 - Committee Orientation
 - Welcome new VAC members
 - Review action log from previous fiscal year
 - System/Industry Issues
-

SEPTEMBER

- Open Issues for Discussion
 - Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
-

OCTOBER

- System/Industry Issues
 - Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
-

NOVEMBER

- Vendor Advisory Committee members with expiring terms and eligible for re-nomination are mailed forms on November 1 to complete to indicate interest. Interest forms are due to boardsupport@nlacrc.org by December 15th.
 - Put a call for new VAC members
 - Open Issues for Discussion
 - Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
-

DECEMBER

(A committee meeting will not be held in December.)

Vendor Advisory Committee members with expiring terms and eligible for re-nomination interest forms are due to boardsupport@nlacrc.org by December 15th.

JANUARY

- System/Industry Issues
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *

FEBRUARY

- Seek committee members to participate in Grass Roots Week (April)
- Solicit nominations for the Annual Jynny Retzinger Community Service Award
- Review and Discuss Applications for VAC members
- Open Issues for Discussion
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *

MARCH

- Conduct Interviews with VAC Applicants
- System/Industry Issues
- NLACRC Grass Roots Week update
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *

APRIL

- VAC members interested in serving as Chair and an Alternate Chair for next fiscal year are identified
- Vote on VAC Applicants for next fiscal year
- Open Issues for Discussion
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *

MAY

- A Chair and an Alternate Chair for next fiscal year is elected
- Committee reviews and approves the committee's draft critical calendar for next fiscal year.
- System/Industry Issues
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
- Discuss committee goals for next fiscal year
- Presentation of Jynny Retzinger Award
- Workgroups and Committee Final Report Out

Commented [LG1]: This will presented at the Legislative Breakfast moving forward.

JUNE

- System/Industry Issues
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
- (No meeting)

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**Workgroups meet monthly or bimonthly and report outs will be provided as available*

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Vendor Advisory Committee

CRITICAL CALENDAR FOR FY 2025-26

JULY
(No meeting.)

AUGUST

- Align committee goals, priorities, and workgroups for current fiscal year
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SEPTEMBER

- Open Issues for Discussion
 - Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
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- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *

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- System/Industry Issues
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APRIL

- VAC members interested in serving as Chair and an Alternate Chair for next fiscal year are identified
- Vote on VAC Applicants for next fiscal year
- Open Issues for Discussion
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *

MAY

- A Chair and an Alternate Chair for next fiscal year is elected
- Committee reviews and approves the committee's draft critical calendar for next fiscal year.
- System/Industry Issues
- Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
- Discuss committee goals for next fiscal year
- Workgroups and Committee Final Report Out

JUNE

- System/Industry Issues
 - Workgroup and/or Committee Report Out *
-

**Workgroups meet monthly or bimonthly and report outs will be provided as available*

Approved on: 06/12/2024

NLACRC DELEGATION TEAM

On April 14th and 17th, NLACRC Delegation Teams met with Assemblymember Lackey and Assemblywoman Schiavo to advocate for policies that support individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and service providers.

As part of our ongoing advocacy efforts, the teams have:

- Conducted legislative visits to elevate key community concerns, including workforce shortages, service access, and funding gaps.
- Shared powerful stories and data to demonstrate the real-life impact of policy decisions.
- Facilitated open discussions around proposed legislation, budget priorities, and the broader policy landscape.
- Launched a podcast series to dive deeper into what's happening in legislators' districts and to provide insights into state and federal developments.

These collective efforts help ensure that the voices of those we serve are not only heard but are helping shape the future of California's developmental services system.

If you're passionate about advocacy and want to help make a difference, please sign up using this form: [NLACRC Local Grassroots Participation Form](#)



Vendor Advisory Committee: May 8, 2025

Community Services Department: Director's Report

General Updates:

❖ Rate Reform

- Directives: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/rate-reform/directives-updates/>
- Trainings: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/rate-reform/meetings/>
- Office Hours will be the 3 pm 1st Tuesday of the month:
 - Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85054576563?pwd=FLmxmJd5oP2ryUfbAASMtwE0XbsMzX.1>
Meeting ID: 850 5457 6563
Passcode: 595837
- All questions related to rates, Service Provider Acknowledgement Rate Letters should be routed to RatesQuestions@nlacrc.org

❖ Service Provider Directory: **Per DDS directive D-2024-QIP-003 from 9/23/2024**

- As onboarding continues, visit <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/provider-directory/>
- Questions:
 - ProviderDirectory@dds.ca.gov
 - ProviderDirectory@nlacrc.org

❖ Quality Incentive Program (QIP) Update: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/quality-incentive-program/>

NOTE: For the below incentive payments, NLACRC will issue payment after DDS approval. **RCs have 90 days from receipt to process.**

- **Service Provider Directory one-time lump sum:**
 - 4/17 Wave 1 Directive (D-2025-QIP-006) Payment within 90 days. Eligible vendors will receive email with billing instructions.
 - [D-2025-Quality Incentive Program-006 Quality Incentive Program – Provider Directory Lump Sum Incentive Payments \(Wave 1\)](#)
 - https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/D-2024-QIP-003_Quality_Incentive_Program_Provider_Directory.pdf
- **Prevention and Wellness FY2023-24 for ARFPSHN, EBSH, FHA, RCFE:**
NOTE: RC approval from DDS for requests submitted to DDS (**available through 7/15/2025**)
 - RC received an approved list from DDS 4/21/2025. Providers will receive an email notification with billing instructions of when to bill.
 - https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/D-2025-QualityIncentiveProgram-007_QIP-Prevention_and_WellnessIncentives.pdf
- **Employment Access / Employment Capacity (available through 6/30/2025)**
NOTE: RC approval from DDS for requests submitted to DDS between January – March 2024.
 - Employment Access Q3 NLACRC received an approved list from DDS 4/17/2025. Providers will receive a billing email notification.

Employment Access Q4 NLACRC received an approved list from DDS 4/18/2025. Providers will receive a billing email notification.

- Employment Capacity Q3 NLACRC received an approved list from DDS 3/10/2025. Providers will receive a billing email notification.

➤ **Early Intervention Service Delivery for CY2024:**

- Quarter 1 January – March 2024 All invoices available for billing since 1/31/2025. Completed
- Quarter 2 April – June 2024 received March 14, 2025; providers will receive an email notification with billing instruction end of April. Letter sent to approved vendors

➤ **DSP Training Stipend** – ended 8/31/2024 (\$775 incentive)

- Questions about payment: VendorIncentiveProgram@nlacrc.org

➤ **2023 DSP Workforce Data Collection Survey (submitted June 2024):** RCs have received the approved list from DDS. Providers will receive an email notification with billing instructions at the end of May.

- ❖ **CFS Coordinated Family Support Pilot** Implementation incentive payment; RC received monthly report for approval of submitted surveys. Payment issued to providers with no further action.

- ❖ **Vendor Portal:** NLACRC's vendor portal launched on 9/23/2024

- Email invitations with registration form were sent to all NLACRC providers from vendorportal@nlacrc.org email
- Action needed:
 - Step 1 – registration
 - Step 2 – accept invitation
 - Step 3 – log-in through authentication process
- Community Services is contacting providers who are on Step 2 (pending acceptance of invitation) but have not yet clicked on the email which is from invites@microsoft.com
- Questions: vendorportal@nlacrc.org

HCBS:

- ❖ *NLACRC is excited to announce the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Fiscal Year 24-25 Funding to Support Compliance with Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule Submissions are due to hcbcompliance@nlacrc.org by Wednesday, May 19, 2025. If you have questions, please contact David Ramos, Dramos@nlacrc.org.*

- ❖ Through HCBS Funding Employment Workshops Provided by Thomas Iland for Individuals Served, Families, & Vendors. If you would like a workshop provided at your site, please contact Dramos@nlacrc.org.

- Come to Life in the Workplace: For Individuals/Families
 - SCV – April 11th 9:30 – 12:30
 - AV – May 1st 9:30 – 12:30

DHH:

- **ASL Classes:** *Instructor Lead and Self-Paced Classes Coming Soon – May/June for participants, families and vendors.* For more information contact Ted Horton-Billard, Deaf Services Specialist – thortonbillard@nlacrc.org.

Compliance Corner:

- ❖ **Insurance Announcement!!** NLACRC is partnering with Gallagher Verify to collect, process and track service provider insurance certificates. NLACRC and Gallagher will be emailing welcome letters to all service providers approximately last week of April with further details and instructions. We look forward to their assistance in ensuring our compliance efforts.
- ❖ **Vendor Update Reminders:**
 - Submit license renewals and organizational charts to Contract&Compliance@nlacrc.org
 - Submit notice of changes (address, entity, name, tax ID) to ResourceDevelopment@nlacrc.org
 - DS 1891 updates should be submitted through the OIG Compliance Now website: <https://sanctionscreeningnow.com/OIGComplianceVendor/Customer.aspx/Login>

Employment Services:

- ❖ **Training: Empowering Employment Through Accessibility – Presented by GLAD**

May 13, 2025 9am – 11AM

Please register here: <https://bit.ly/3EC3xBY>
- ❖ **General reminder to submit PIP workbook claims and CIE/PIP Incentives request**
CIE&PIP@nlacrc.org
- ❖ **Quality Incentive Program:**
 - **Employment Access & Equity Incentive Payments:** To request incentive payments available through the QIP Employment Access measure, every service provider must submit a certification form to DDS at QIPEmpAccess@dds.ca.gov.
 - **Employment Capacity Incentive Payments:** To request incentive payments available through the QIP Employment Capacity measure, service providers must submit a certification form to DDS at QIPEmpCapacity@dds.ca.gov.
- ❖ **NLACRC Employment Initiative Office Hours**
 - 2nd Wednesday of the month, 11 am via Zoom
 - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82517702766?pwd=1tyUrdPePi7JnhGDFUUXcPm4JAPXPb.1>
 - Meeting ID: 825 1770 2766 Passcode: 857310
 - +14086380968,,82517702766#,,,,*857310# US (San Jose)
 - +16694449171,,82517702766#,,,,*857310# US

Resource Development:

- ❖ **For information on various Requests for Vendorization (RFV) or to receive technical assistance with the vendorization process through our Open Proposal Period (OPP) please visit our website at [RFPs & RFVs -North Los Angeles County](#):**
 - Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP) Service Code 956
 - Coordinated Family Supports (CFS), Service Code 076
 - Soc Rec RFV, Various Service Codes
 - Transportation services, Service Code 875
 - Money Management services, Service Code 034
 - Self-Directed Support Services for the Self Determination Program (Service Code 099)
- ❖ **Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) - DDS hosted office hours are on-going. For more information, please visit DDS website <https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/evv/> .**

Quality Assurance:

- ❖ **Community Care Licensing Updates: New PINs**
 - [PIN 25-06-CCLD](#) - Extreme Heat Prevention
 - [PIN 25-01-ASC](#) - Waivers Due to Wildfires in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties
 - [PIN 25-02-ASC](#) - Update on COVID-19 Workplace Requirements and Reminders of Guidance on Respiratory Viruses
 - [PIN 25-03-ASC](#) - Informational Call Regarding Recordkeeping and the Maintenance of Facility Files on April 24, 2025, from 10AM-11:30AM
- ❖ **LGBTQ+ Training by NLACRC LGBTQ+ Specialist, Javier Zepeda, and NLACRC Community Services Specialist, Liseth Carrillo.**
 - April 30, 2025, 9:30am – 11:30am, via Zoom
 - [Registration Link](#)
 - 2 CEUs available
- ❖ **Special Incident Reporting and Risk Mitigation Training by NLACRC Risk Assessment Supervisor, Shelly Briggs, and NLACRC Community Services Specialist, Ari Stark.**
 - May 6, 2025, 10am – 12pm, via Zoom
 - [Registration Link](#)
 - 2 CEUs available
- ❖ **Emergency Preparedness Training by NLACRC Emergency Management Specialist, Roy Ortega, and NLACRC Community Services Specialist, Ari Stark.**
 - July 9, 2025, 10:00am – 12:00pm
 - **Registration Forthcoming**
 - 2 CEUs available
- ❖ **Spring Safety - Emergency Preparedness Bulletin**
 - [Emergency Preparedness Bulletin - Spring Safety 2025 Edition](#)



EMPOWERING EMPLOYMENT THROUGH ACCESSIBILITY

GLAD will share how empowering employment through accessibility benefits Deaf individuals and strengthens inclusion within your organization or company.

Employment Services

Connecting Deaf job seekers with inclusive employment opportunities.



Sensitivity Awareness

Promoting understanding and respectful communication with the Deaf community.



Accessibility Guidelines

Simple steps to make your workplace more accessible and inclusive.



MAY 13, 2025, FROM 9 AM TO 11AM



REGISTER HERE!



**ASL INTERPRETERS WILL BE
PROVIDED**

WE ARE OFFERING 2 CEUs



t.hortonbillard@nlacrc.org

Community and Legislative Educator Report May 2025

LEGISLATIVE BILL TRACKER

AB 276 (Bennett) Background Checks - This bill would allow a licensee of a community care facility to temporarily approve an individual to care for children before completing an out-of-state child abuse and neglect registry check, provided specific conditions are met. It would also require immediate removal of the individual and notification to the department within 3 business days if disqualifying information is received.

Status: Introduced on **January 21, 2025** | In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file on **April 23, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB276

AB 277 (Alanis) Behavioral Health Centers, Facilities, and Programs: Background Checks - Under existing law, businesses that serve minors must provide written notice to parents or guardians about their employee background check policies. The Department of Justice (DOJ) is authorized to maintain and disclose state summary criminal history information to specified entities, such as employers or human resource agencies. Unauthorized disclosure is considered a crime. This bill would expand these protections by requiring that any individual who provides behavioral health treatment at a behavioral health center, facility, or program must undergo a criminal background check.

Status: Introduced on **January 21, 2025** | In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file on **April 23, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB277

AB 308 (Ramos) Mobile Crisis Teams or Units: Procedures – This bill would authorize county behavioral health directors to develop procedures for mobile crisis teams or units to handle emergencies involving individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities or behavioral health conditions.

Status: Introduced on **January 23, 2025** | Re-referred to Committee on Human Services on **April 28, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB308

AB 315 (Bonta) Medi-Cal: Home and Community-Based Alternatives Waiver – This bill would recast provisions related to the Home and Community-Based Alternatives (HCBA) Waiver to require the enrollment of all eligible applicants and direct the Department of Health Care Services to seek amendments to ensure adequate waiver capacity by March 1, 2026.

Status: Introduced on **January 23, 2025** | In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to the Appropriations Committee on **April 9, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB315

AB 346 (Nguyen) In-Home Supportive Services: Licensed Health Care Professional Certification – This bill would broaden the definition of a "licensed healthcare professional" authorized to certify an individual for IHSS eligibility, allowing a wider range of medical professionals to provide necessary documentation.

Status: Introduced on **January 29, 2025**; Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee on **February 18, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB346

AB 636 (Ortega) Medi-Cal: Diapers – This bill would establish diapers as a covered Medi-Cal benefit for children over 3 years of age with a diagnosed condition causing incontinence, and for individuals under 21 if necessary to address a medical condition. The bill requires federal approval, funding from the Legislature, and updates to the Medi-Cal provider manual to implement the provisions.

Status: Introduced on **February 13, 2025** | In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file on **April 23, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB636

AB 804 (Wicks) Medi-Cal: Housing Support Services – This bill would make housing support services a covered Medi-Cal benefit for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, contingent upon legislative appropriation. It removes the requirement for a state-conducted network adequacy analysis and directs the Department of Health Care Services to seek federal approval for this benefit.

Status: Introduced on **February 18, 2025** | In committee: Hearing postponed by committee on **April 23, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB804

AB 951 (Ta) Health Care Coverage: Behavioral Diagnoses – This bill would prohibit health plans from requiring individuals previously diagnosed with autism or a related disorder to undergo rediagnosis in order to maintain behavioral health treatment coverage. Treatment plans must be available upon insurer request.

Status: Introduced on **February 20, 2025** | in the Senate, read for the first time, and referred to the Committee on Rules for assignment to the appropriate policy committee on **April 24, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB951

AB 1076 (Addis) Qualified ABLE Program: CalABLE Accounts: Funding – This bill would authorize the California ABLE Act Board to additionally accept grants, gifts, appropriations, and other moneys from a philanthropic entity, and would specify that the program can receive legislative appropriations. It also authorizes the board to use funds to promote ABLE account enrollment and usage, including financial incentives for eligible individuals. CalABLE provides tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities without affecting their eligibility for public benefits—this bill would strengthen the program’s ability to expand outreach, increase participation, and secure diverse funding to support long-term financial stability for our population.

Status: Introduced on **February 20, 2025** | In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file on **April 23, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB1076

AB 1099 (Bryan) Developmental Services: Initial Intake: Assessment – This bill would require regional centers to refer foster children for additional assessment within 15 days if eligibility for services has not yet been determined. It prohibits denying an assessment solely due to missing documentation and requires the Department of Developmental Services to report

annual intake data, including the number involving foster children.

Status: Introduced on **February 20, 2025** | Read second time and amended on **April 22, 2025**.
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB1099

AB 1172 (Nguyen) Adult Day Programs: Administration of Inhalable Emergency

Antiseizure Medications – This bill would authorize trained staff at adult day programs to administer inhalable emergency antiseizure medication to participants with epilepsy or seizure disorders during a seizure emergency, provided they have received appropriate training and the participant has a prescription for the medication. This measure aims to enhance the safety and well-being of individuals with seizure disorders in adult day programs by ensuring timely intervention during seizure emergencies.

Status: Introduced on **February 21, 2025** | Do pass as amended and re-refer to the Appropriations Committee on **April 24, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB1172

AB 1335 (Gonzalez) Habilitation Services – This bill would remove the requirement for work activity and support employment programs to comply with CARF accreditation standards. Instead, regional centers would evaluate service providers using department-adopted service standards.

Status: Introduced on **February 21, 2025** | Referred to Assembly Human Services Committee on **March 17, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB1335

SB 422 (Grayson) California Workforce Development Board: developmental services –

This bill would require the board, on or before January 1, 2027, to review existing recommendations and to research and provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature including recommendations on the most compelling strategies for addressing the workforce shortage in California's developmental services system, as specified. The bill would require the State Department of Developmental Services to provide staff support and expertise to the board for this purpose.

Status: Introduced on **February 18, 2025** | From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Committee on Appropriations. Set for hearing May 5th, on **April 25, 2025**.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB422

MAY REVISION OVERVIEW – WHAT TO EXPECT

Governor Newsom's **May Revision** is expected by **May 14, 2025**, and will provide an updated look at California's fiscal outlook based on April tax revenues. This revised proposal will help shape the final budget, which must be passed by the Legislature by **June 15**.

The May Revision will include updated funding priorities in areas such as:

- Medi-Cal
- Education
- Infrastructure
- Services for individuals with developmental disabilities

View the Governor's original January budget and Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) projections: <https://lao.ca.gov/Budget?year=2025&subjectArea=outlook>

For the latest updates, you can visit the official California Budget website: ebudget.ca.gov

Stay informed with Budget Hearings:

- Assembly Budget Committee Hearings: <https://abgt.assembly.ca.gov/hearings>
- Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee Hearings: <https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/committeehome>

MEDICAID: FEDERAL CUTS ADVANCING IN BUDGET PROCESS

On April 10, 2025, the House of Representatives approved the Senate-adopted budget blueprint, advancing a broader federal spending plan that includes significant reductions to healthcare programs. The House Energy and Commerce Committee is expected to begin formal discussions on the proposal, with plans to cut an estimated \$500–\$600 billion—primarily from Medicaid.

Medicaid funds a wide range of services that impact individuals with developmental disabilities, including regional center programs, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Medi-Cal, long-term care, and school-based therapies. These cuts could have widespread consequences for service access and delivery across California.

With House leadership targeting final passage by Memorial Day, NLACRC will continue to monitor this rapidly developing proposal and provide updates as more information becomes available.

For more information, view the full article here: [Medicaid fight could come to a head in early May under GOP timeline - POLITICO](#)

CALIFORNIA INVESTS IN DENTAL ACCESS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The State Treasurer's Office has announced a **\$47.2 million grant initiative** to expand access to dental care for individuals with developmental disabilities and other special health care needs. The funding will support **13 new projects across 10 counties**, resulting in the creation or renovation of approximately 124 dental operatories, surgical suites, and operating rooms. These specialized facilities are designed to accommodate patients who may require sedation, adaptive equipment, or modified environments due to conditions such as autism, Down syndrome, and other medical needs. Once completed, the initiative is expected to serve an estimated **40,285 patients annually**, improving equitable access to oral healthcare across California.

For more information: [Treasurer Fiona Ma Announces \\$47.2 million in Grants for Dental Clinics Serving Vulnerable Communities](#)

DDS PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Quality Incentive Program (QIP) Workgroup Meeting

The QIP is designed to improve consumer outcomes, service provider performance, and the quality of services.

QIP upcoming meeting:

When: Monday, June 16, 2025

Location: Zoom — [Registration](#)

Regional Center Performance Measures Workgroup Meeting

The RCPM program has six focus areas identified by the Workgroup.

[View the materials on the RCPM webpage.](#)

Tentative 2025 RCPM Workgroup Meetings:

- July 22, 2025 – 1:00-3:00 pm
- October 28, 2025 – 1:00-3:00 pm

DDS Employment Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting

This workgroup, facilitated by the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS), brings together advocates, service providers, regional center representatives, policymakers, and individuals with disabilities to discuss and enhance employment opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). **Currently, no workgroup meetings are scheduled.**

Rate Reform: Rate Model Implementation

The California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has issued multiple directives since the beginning of this year, outlining the implementation of rate reforms for employment services, effective January 1, 2025. For detailed information on service descriptions, rate models, and billing procedures, please refer to the full directives available here: [Rate Reform Directives and Updates : CA Department of Developmental Services](#)

Early Start Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)

The Early Start Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) is a Governor-appointed advisory committee of advocates and state departments who provide advice and assistance to DDS on California's early intervention program.

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/services/early-start/state-icc-on-early-intervention-overview/>

Early Start ICC Upcoming Meeting

When:

- July 17 and 18, 2025
- October 16 and 17, 2025

No registration link at this time

CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

- May 9th, 2025 - Last day for policy committees to report non fiscal bills to the Floor.
- May 23rd, 2025 - Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house.
- June 6th, 2025 - Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house.
- June 15th, 2025 - Budget bill must be passed by midnight.
- July 18th, 2025 - Last day for policy committees to hear and report bills.

<https://www.assembly.ca.gov/schedules-publications/legislative-deadlines#month7>

LEGISLATIVE EVENTS

Community events are open to all community members and are not hosted by NLACRC. Please check the links for further information and RSVP if you plan to attend.




Supported Life Institute - 29th Annual California Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference "Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Self-Advocacy"

Join Peers at this exciting 2-Day All-in-Person Conference focused on getting more information and understanding, and speaking up for yourself, and networking with others with developmental disabilities.

-  **Date:** Friday, May 9, 2025 - Saturday, May 10, 2025
-  **Time:** 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (Friday); 9:00 AM - 3:45 PM (Saturday)
-  **Location:** Wyndham Sacramento Hotel - [Registration](#)




Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) - Government Affairs Committee

Attend VICA's Government Affairs Committee for discussions on key local, state, and federal policies impacting the business community, including tax policy, workforce issues, and upcoming ballot initiatives.

-  **Date:** Wednesday, May 21, 2025
-  **Time:** 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
-  **Location:** TBD - [Registration](#)

Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) - Congressional Breakfast




This event is an opportunity to hear directly from members of Congress as they discuss key federal issues impacting the San Fernando Valley and surrounding communities.

-  **Date:** Wednesday, May 28, 2025
-  **Time:** TBD
-  **Location:** TBD - [Registration](#)

NLACRC LEGISLATIVE EVENT - SAVE THE DATE

Legislative Breakfast

Join us for a vital discussion on policies affecting individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and service providers.

-  **Date:** Friday, June 27, 2025
-  **Time:** 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
-  **Location:** TBA

Stay tuned for more details and formal registration. We look forward to your participation in

this important conversation.



North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Director's Report
May 2025

1. NLACRC Spotlight:

A. Legislative Advocacy:

- I. NLACRC partnered with Disability Voices United (DVU), the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA), and Service Employees International Union (SEIU) in a coordinated advocacy effort.
 - a. The goal of this collaboration was to reach out to key legislative districts that national advocates have identified as crucial in the fight to prevent Medicaid cuts, particularly those that would impact individuals with developmental disabilities.
 - b. This advocacy effort brought together NLACRC staff, board members, vendor partners, and the individuals we serve to show a unified front in support of preserving essential services.
 - c. As part of this effort, members of the NLACRC community traveled together on two chartered buses to participate in a rally in Bakersfield on Thursday, April 24th—showcasing a strong collective commitment to advocacy and community solidarity.

B. Public Awareness & Community Engagement

- I. NLACRC is excited to launch the first episode of our new legislative podcast series, *Voices in Action*, available Thursday, April 24th, on our website and on YouTube.
 - a. The debut episode features Assemblymember Tom Lackey as our guest, sharing his perspectives on advocacy, the California Master Plan for Developmental Services, and the role of Regional Centers in supporting individuals with developmental disabilities.

C. Employment & Workforce Development

- I. As of the current fiscal year, 505 individuals are participating in the Paid Internship Program (PIP), a significant increase compared to 383 participants for the entire FY2023-2024.
 - a. Year-to-date, 173 Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Incentive authorizations, have been issued, showing strong growth compared to just 32 authorizations in FY2023-2024.
- II. NLACRC's American Sign Language (ASL) Shop Beginner Classes

- a. Held on-site in Chatsworth as well as remotely.
- b. Has 35 ASL learners

2. Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Updates:

A. Provider Directory

- I. Per DDS' Rate Reform Directive (D-2025-Rate Reform-001), service providers who do not complete the review and submission process for the Provider Director by May 30, 2025, will forfeit the Quality Incentive Program (QIP) portion of their rate and will lose access to the e-Billing system.
- II. This currently accounts for about 40% of all service providers in the Provider Directory.

3. Legislative Updates:

A. Federal Budget & Medicaid Advocacy Update

- I. Both the Senate and House have passed a budget outlining fiscal and policy priorities for the next decade.
- II. Advocacy efforts to protect Medicaid (Medi-Cal) and Medicare are resonating—many members of Congress are now publicly committing to avoid cuts to these essential programs.
- III. A congressional letter was sent to the House leadership opposing any reduction in Medicaid coverage for vulnerable populations.
 - a. California Congressman, David Valado, and California Congresswoman, Young Kim, signed this letter (see attached), underscoring their support for preserving Medicaid access.
 - b. The letter highlights Medicaid's critical role in supporting individuals with disabilities, senior, new mothers, and rural communities, while calling for targeted reforms to improve efficiency.

B. Broader Budget Implications

- I. The 10-year budget plan includes major long-term commitments:
 - a. Preserving \$3.8 trillion in existing tax cuts.
 - b. Proposing an additional \$1.5 trillion in new tax reductions.
 - c. Increasing defense and border security spending.
 - d. Setting a federal spending target of \$1.5 trillion.
 - e. Aiming to reduce the national debt.
- II. Balancing these priorities without impacting essential programs like Medicaid remains a central concern.

4. Center Updates:

A. Recruitment:

- I. Total # positions filled: 844
 - a. Total # positions authorized: 1024
- II. April New Hires
 - a. 1st cycle (5/5/2025): 17 (confirmed total)
 - b. 2nd cycle (5/19/2025): 3 (unconfirmed total)

B. Social Recreation Update:

- I. As of today, we have 435 parental reimbursements in the queue to be processed by Community Services. Of the 435 parental reimbursements, 49% are pending paperwork to be returned by the family. We have completed 62% of all parental reimbursements since January 2025.

C. Outreach:

- I. Event: DEIB Nowruz Picnic
 - a. Date: March 15, 2025
 - b. Organized By: NLACRC – DEIB Unit
 - c. Community Focus: Farsi- and Armenian-speaking communities
 - d. Description: This was the first Nowruz picnic hosted by the DEIB Farsi and Armenian Support Group. The event was held in collaboration with the LAUSD Refugee Program, Pars Equality Center, the Family Focus Resource Center (FFRC), and NLACRC, celebrating cultural diversity and fostering community connections.
- II. Event: Presentation to CSUN Child Development Association
 - a. Date: March 24, 2025
 - b. Organized By: CSUN Child Development Association
 - c. Community Focus: University students majoring in Child Development, Sociology, and Psychology
 - d. Description: This was NLACRC's second annual presentation to CSUN students, offering an overview of Regional Center services and introducing the Associate Consumer Services Coordinator (CSC) role for students interested in gaining field experience.
- III. Event: Parent Presentation – Birmingham Community Charter High School
 - a. Date: March 14, 2025

- b. Organized By: NLACRC
- c. Community Focus: Public school parents of transition-age youth
- d. Description: NLACRC presented to parents about services available through the Regional Center for students transitioning into adulthood, helping families understand post-high school options for their children.

IV. Event: Spring Into Action Community Resource Fair

- a. Date: March 20, 2025
- b. Hosted By: The Timelist Group
- c. Community Focus: Formerly incarcerated and unhoused individuals and families in the Antelope Valley
- d. Description: NLACRC participated in this community resource fair, engaging over 200 attendees. Staff provided information on services, eligibility, and resources to increase awareness and accessibility of Regional Center support.

V. Event: Regional Center on Wheels

- a. Dates & Locations:
 - i. March 12, 2025 – Olive View UCLA Medical Center
 - ii. March 26, 2025 – Noble Avenue Early Education Center
- b. Organized By: NLACRC Outreach Specialists
- c. Community Focus: Primarily Spanish-speaking families with young children
- d. Description: This mobile outreach initiative provided on-the-spot application assistance, reconnection to services, and information about new resources. NLA was able to engage 100 community members, 39 of which are current individuals served, and 7 were receiving direct support during the visit. NLACRC was also able to reconnect with 9 individuals that were previously served.
- e. The project continues in April with visits to two additional sites.

D. Consumer Statistics:

- I. Total served: 39,242
 - a. Early Start: 5,188
 - b. Lanterman: 31,504
- II. Breakdown of all three valleys:
 - a. AV 9,215 (Early Start & Lanterman)
 - b. SCV 4,310 (Early Start & Lanterman)
 - c. SFV 23,167 (Early Start & Lanterman)
- III. Intake all 3 valleys: 994 & Early Start Intake: 326
- IV. All other categories not captured in Early Start, Lanterman, and Intake, such as Provisional, Enhanced, Specialized, and other which total: 1,230

5. Upcoming Disability Organization Events/Activities:

- I. State Council on Developmental Disabilities next council meeting – May 20, 2025
- II. Disability Rights California's next board meeting – June 20, 2025

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

April 14, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise
Majority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Emmer
Majority Whip
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Energy & Commerce Chairman
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Scalise, Majority Whip Emmer and Chairman Guthrie:

As Members of Congress who helped to deliver a Republican Majority, many of us representing districts with high rates of constituents who depend on Medicaid, we would like to reiterate our strong support for this program that ensures our constituents have reliable healthcare. Balancing the federal budget must not come at the expense of those who depend on these benefits for their health and economic security.

We acknowledge that we must reform Medicaid so that it is a strong and long-lasting program for years to come. Efficiency and transparency must be prioritized for program beneficiaries, hospitals, and states. We support targeted reforms to improve program integrity, reduce improper payments, and modernize delivery systems to fix flaws in the program that divert resources away from children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and pregnant women – those who the program was intended to help. However, we cannot and will not support a final reconciliation bill that includes any reduction in Medicaid coverage for vulnerable populations.

Cuts to Medicaid also threaten the viability of hospitals, nursing homes, and safety-net providers nationwide. Many hospitals—particularly in rural and underserved areas—rely heavily on Medicaid funding, with some receiving over half their revenue from the program alone. Providers in these areas are especially at risk of closure, with many unable to recover. When hospitals close, it affects all constituents, regardless of healthcare coverage.

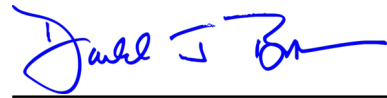
To strengthen Medicaid, we urge you to prioritize care for our nation's most vulnerable populations. Our constituents are asking for changes to the healthcare system that will strengthen the healthcare workforce, offer low-income, working-class families expanded opportunities to save for medical expenses, support rural and underserved communities, and help new mothers.

We are committed to working with you to preserve Medicaid and identify responsible savings through deregulation, streamlining federal programs, and cutting administrative red tape. Communities like ours won us the majority, and we have a responsibility to deliver on the promises we made.

Sincerely,



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



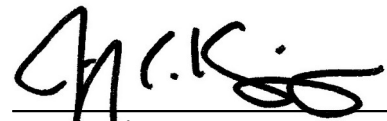
Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



Rob Bresnahan, Jr.
Member of Congress



Juan Ciscomani
Member of Congress



Jen A. Kiggans
Member of Congress



Young Kim
Member of Congress



Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



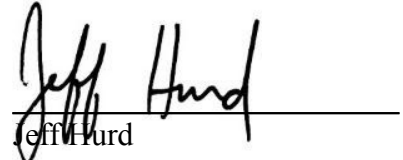
Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Nick LaLota
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress



Jeff Hurd
Member of Congress

FY 2024-25	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total
Vendor Advisory Committee	Dark					Dark						Dark	Absences
Alex Kopilevich, Chair		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P			0
Jaklen Keshishyan, Alt. Chair		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P			0
Jodie Agnew Navarro		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P			0
Masood Babaeian		P	P	Ab	P		P	P	P	P			1
Paul Borda		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P			0
Andrea Devers		P	Ab	P	P		P	P	P	P			1
Cal Enriquez		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	Ab			1
Ute Escorcia		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P			0
Ricki Macken Chivers		P	P	P	P		P	P	Ab	P			1
Vahe Mkrtchian		Ab	P	Ab	P		P	P	P	P			2
Daniel Ortiz		Ab	P	Ab	Ab		P	P	P	P			3
Jen Pippard		P	P	P	P		Ab	P	P	P			1
Octavia Watkins		P	P	P	P		P	P	P	P			0
Sharon Weinberg		P	P	Ab	P		P	P	P	P			1
Meeting Time		2.50	1.75	1.50	1.75		1.25	2.00	2.00	2.00			

P = Present Ab = Absent

Attendance Policy: In the event a Trustee shall be absent from three (3) consecutive regularly-scheduled Board meetings or from three (3) consecutive meetings of any one or more committees on which he or she may be serving, or shall be absent from five (5) regularly-scheduled Board meetings or from five (5) meetings of any one or more Committees on which he or she may be serving during any twelve (12) month period, then the Trustee shall, without any notice or further action required of the Board, be automatically deemed to have resigned from the Board effective immediately. The secretary of the Board shall mail notice of each Trustee's absences during the preceding twelve (12) month period to each Board member following each regularly-scheduled Board meeting. (policy adopted 2-10-99)