



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 21, 2025

To: **Government Community Relations Committee**
Cathy Blin, George Alvarado, Lety Garcia, Juan Hernandez, Jennifer Koster, Laura Monge, Curtis Wang, Jodie Agnew-Navarro – VAC Rep.

From: Lindsay Granger, Admin

Re: Information and Materials for the next Government Community Relations Committee meeting on **Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:35p.m.**

Enclosed is information for the next Government Community Relations Committee meeting. Please review this information so you will be prepared for the discussion.

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:35 p.m.

Please **click the link** below to join the Zoom meeting automatically.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86379550153?pwd=oJrkJqVdxfl5oapb9qmpNogm5arReC.1>

The information below is only needed if you are joining the meeting by phone or for using phone audio.

Meeting ID: 863 7955 0153

Passcode: 130507

If you have any questions, please email boardsupport@nlacrc.org

Thank you!

Enclosures

c: Angela Pao-Johnson, Evelyn McOmie, Vini Montague, Chris Whitlock, Jodie Agnew-Navarro
– Vendor Advisory Committee Representative

Government & Community Relations Meeting 5.21.25

Table of Contents

Memorandum.....	1
Table of Contents.....	2
Agenda.....	3
Agenda Item 4. A. Approval of Meeting Minutes	5
Agenda Item 5. A. Draft Critical Calendar FY 2025-2026 Redlined.....	9
Agenda Item 4. A. Draft Critical Calendar FY2025-2026 Clean	12
Agenda Item 7. A. Social Media Analytics Report.....	15
Agenda Item 7. B. Legislative Update.....	16
Agenda Item 9. C. Committee Attendance Sheet	24



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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

GOVERNMENT & COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, May 21 2025 – *Via Zoom*

6:00 p.m.

~ AGENDA ~

- I. Call to Order – *Cathy Blin***
- II. Agenda (1 min)**
 - A. Approval of the May 21, 2025 Agenda
- III. Public Input – Agenda Items**
- IV. Consent Items (1 min)**
 - A. Approval of Minutes from the March 19, 2025, Meeting
- V. Action Items (5 min)**
 - A. Review and Approve Draft Critical Calendar for Next Fiscal Year – Cathy Blin
- VI. Committee Business**
 - A. Discuss Upcoming Legislative Breakfast – Belinda Abatesi (5 min)
 - 1. Workgroup Updates
 - B. Update on Legislative Podcasts – Chris Whitlock (5 min)
 - 1. Previous Legislative Visits
 - 2. Upcoming Legislative Visits
- VII. Report Outs / Discussions**
 - A. Social Media – John Van De Riet (3 Min)
 - 1. Social Media Analytics Report – April & May 2025
 - B. Legislative Update – Belinda Abatesi (3 Min)
- VIII. Board Meeting Agenda Items – *Cathy Blin* (1 min)**
 - A. Chair Summary
- IX. Announcements / Information / Public Input (5 min)**
 - A. Upcoming Community Events
 - 1. <http://www.nlacrc.org/news-events/calendar/>

- B. Next Meeting: TBD
- C. Committee Attendance

X. Adjournment

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

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Government & Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025

Present: Cathy Blin – Committee Chair, Lety Garcia, Jennifer Koster, Laura Monge, Curtis Wang, Juan Hernandez, Jodie Agnew-Navarro-VAC Rep. – **Committee Members**

Sharmila Brunjes, Jacquie Colton – Board of Trustees Members

Chris Whitlock, John Van De Riet, Lindsay Granger, Arezo Abedi, Belinda Abatesi- **Staff Members**

Mark Wolfe – DDS Technical Advisor, Tresa Oliveri– DDS Technical Advisor, Xochitl, Marianita Mendoza – DDS, Nicholas Mendoza- **Guests**

Absent: George Alvarado

I. Call to Order & Introductions

A. Cathy Blin called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

II. Agenda

A. Approval of the March 19, 2025, Agenda

M/S/C (Curtis Wang/Juan Hernandez) To approve the agenda with the deferral of the action item.

III. Public Input

No public input

IV. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes from the January 15, 2025, Meeting

M/S/C (Curtis Wang / Laura Monge) To approve the meeting minutes as presented.

V. Action Items

A. Review and Select Jynny Retzinger Award Nominees

Cathy Blin mentioned that there are currently 12 candidates nominating for the Jynny Retzinger award. This item was deferred, and the committee will review the applications to discuss at vote at the next committee meeting hearing. Also, Chris Whitlock noted that the Jynny Retzinger award will be presented at the Legislative Breakfast not the Board Awards Ceremony this year.

ACTION: This action item will be **deferred** until the next GCRC meeting.

ACTION: The committee members will review the applications prior to the next GCRC meeting in May to be able to vote on the nominees to put forward to the Board of Trustees.

ACTION: Staff will assist in compiling the applications and providing access to the Government and Community Relations Committee members to adequately review ahead of time.

VI. Committee Business

A. Discuss Local Grassroots Event

Belinda Abatesi presented an overview of the Local Grassroots Event inviting anyone interested to join.

VII. **Report Outs/ Discussion**A. Update on Legislative Breakfast Workgroup

Chris Whitlock provided the update on the Legislative Breakfast Workgroup, which will be held on June 27, 2025. The workgroup will be addressing 3 main points: accessible transportation, workforce development and service provider concerns, and housing and independent supports. Typically there has been a panel or individuals will be invited to share their personal stories in relation to each of the topics discussed. Additionally, legislators provide their thoughts or notes on the topics that have been discussed, and they share what they may be doing for these items in the future to help the community at large. During the legislative breakfast, the Jynny Retzinger be awarded with everyone there to honor the recipient.

B. Social Media

1. Social Media Analytics Report – Jan., Feb., & March 2025

Chris Whitlock presented the Social Media Updates and analytics reports for the months of January, February, and March for 2025 as presented in the meeting packet. This report includes the data for social media platforms and NLACRC's numbers. There was an increase in traffic in the month of February.

C. Legislative Town Hall Recap

Belinda Abatesi presented the Legislative Town Hall Recap with a summary of the event and takeaways.

D. Legislative Update

1. Introduced Bills

Belinda Abatesi provided 8 major updates to the committee.

*CHAPTERED after a bill has been signed by the Governor, the Secretary of State assigns the bill a Chapter Number.

- **AB 277 (Alanis) Autism: Behavioral Technician Certification**

Status: January 21, 2025, the bill was introduced, and re-referred to the Committee of Human Services on February 21, 2025.

- **AB 308 (Ramos) The Family Urgent Response System - (Gipson) Persons with disabilities: terminology -**

Status: On January 23, 2025, the bill was introduced. On March 4, 2025, it was re-referred to the Committee on Human Services.

- **AB 341 (Arambula) Oral Health for People with Disabilities Technical Assistance Center Program-**

Status: On January 28, 2025, the bill was introduced. On February 18, 2025 it was referred to the Committee on Human Services and Higher Education.

- **AB 416 (Krell) Involuntary Commitment -**

Status: On February 5, 2025, the bill was introduced. On February 18, 2025 it was referred to the Committees on Health and Judiciary.

- **AB 1172 (Nguyen) Adult Day Programs: Administration of Inhalable Emergency Antiseizure Medications-**

Status: On February 21, 2025, the bill was introduced and pending legislative review.

- **SB 402 (Valladares) Health Care Coverage: Autism-**

Status: On February 14, 2025, the bill was introduced. On February 26, 2025, it was referred to the Committee on Business, Professions & Economic Development.

- **SB422 (Grayson) California Workforce Development Board: developmental services-**

Status: On February 18, 2025, the bill was introduced. On February 26, 2025, it was referred to the Committee on Labor, Public Employment & Retirement, and Human Services.

- **SB471 (Menjivar) Office of Lanterman Ombudsperson-**

Status: On February 19, 2025, the bill was introduced. On February 26, 2025, it was referred to the Committee on Human Services and Judiciary.

E. ARCA Grassroots Sacramento Visit

Belinda Abatesi shared on the ARCA Grassroots Sacramento Visit on March 3rd and 4th. During the visit, the group met with legislators and their staff within NLACRC's local catchment area. Belinda Abatesi shared positive feedback on the meetings, where ARCA's proposed bills were discussed and advocated. These discussions aimed to secure legislative support for policies and to strengthen the individuals and families served and the overall regional center system. The ARCA Grassroots Sacramento Visit was a way to bring together regional center staff, service providers, individuals served, advocates, and family members.

VIII. Board Meeting Agenda Items

A. Chair Summary

There was discussion elaborating on the chair summary, specifically what information needed to be provided for the next board meeting in the GCRC report out.

IX. Announcements / Information / Public Input

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Committee Attendance

Public Input - No public input

X. Adjournment

Cathy Blin adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm

VII. Review of Meeting Action Items

- Belinda Abatesi will provide Cathy Blin with a brief recap and summary of the legislation to present at the next board meeting.
- Belinda Abatesi will provide Cathy Blin with a brief summary of the master plan to present at the next Board of Trustees meeting.
- Cathy Blin and Board Support will look into voting on the Jynny Retzinger award if it should be by the board at a board meeting or be moved to the GCRC to vote on.
- Board Support will email George Alvarado the information and link for the Legislative Town Hall.

- Chris Whitlock will compose an email with a brief description of the workgroup, the topics that will be addressed to send out to the committee members and ask who would like to volunteer for the workgroup.
- Chris Whitlock will send out a quick email to the members of the committee, and those who are interested will email him back.
- Chris Whitlock and Belinda Abatesi will collaborate with Board Support and send out an email after the meeting with the link to register for the Legislative Town Hall.
- Chris Whitlock will email additional information about the Board Recognition and send out a form asking the community if there is anyone that they would like to put forward for the award.
- Chris Whitlock, Belinda Abatesi, and Board Support will work together to put together an announcement at the next Board of Trustees meeting under the GCRC Committee Update or to be added under Public Input and Announcements.
- Board Support, Belinda Abatesi, and Chris Whitlock will put together an email to send the Board of Trustees members giving an update and asking who would be interested in attending the event.
- Board Support will add Lety Garcia to the attendance roster.

Submitted by:

Lindsay Granger
Executive Administrative Assistant

NLACRC Government & Community Relations Committee CRITICAL CALENDAR FY 2024-25	
Month	Activity
July	<i>(The committee does not meet in July)</i>
August	<p>Committee elects a committee chair for the fiscal year.</p> <p>The annual orientation is held for the committee. Committee reviews their policies and procedures, Legislative Platform Guiding Principles, Board Recognition Policy & application, Consultant Contracts, Action Log for previous year, and Board Audit section. Committee revises the documents, if needed.</p> <p><u>The committee reviews the board's Disability Community Organization, Service Provider, and Elected Representative Visit Policy and related Framework for Strategy Implementation and begin discussing what the board's legislative priorities should be for the fiscal year.</u></p> <p>Committee is provided with copies of their approved critical calendar for the new fiscal year.</p> <p>Committee begins discussion about what the Board's legislative priorities and platform should be for the new fiscal year and presents them to the Board for their review and input.</p> <p>Committee begins developing a strategy that encompasses the purpose and intent of the board's Service Provider and Elected Representative Visit policy for implementation during fiscal year.</p> <p>Committee finalizes its proposed legislative priorities and platform for the board and presents them to the Board of Trustees for approval.</p> <p>Committee begins planning for a candidates' forum to be held in the fall.</p> <p>Board Audit: Does the center have a training and information plan that meets the requirements of statute, contracts, and board policy?</p>
September	<i>(The committee does not meet in September)</i>

[Updated 05/21/2025] [Approved]

NLACRC Government & Community Relations Committee CRITICAL CALENDAR FY 2024-252025-26	
<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
October	<p>Committee discusses how to keep legislators informed about pending issues.</p> <p>Committee begins considering the ideas for a legislative event to be held in the spring.</p> <p>Staff begins assembling the legislative event planning team.team.</p> <p>Board Recognition<u>Lynny Retzinger Award</u> – Send out Nomination forms</p> <p>Board Audit: Does the center’s training and information plan include a sufficient variety of training and communication methods to reach all of the center’s constituents?</p> <p>Board Audit: Are there sufficient financial and human resources available to carry out the center’s training and information plan?</p>
November	<i>(The committee does not meet in November)</i>
December	<i>(The committee is dark in December)</i>
January	<p>Committee begins planning for ARCA’s Grass Roots Day and NLACRC’s Grass Roots Week (tbd).</p> <p>Create Workgroup to plan the Legislative Breakfast</p> <p>Determine Board Recognition Recipients</p> <p>Board Audit: Are the methods identified in the center’s training and information plan in line with the center’s mission, vision, and values statement?</p>
February	<p><i>(The committee does not meet in February)</i></p> <p>Legislative Town Hall</p>
March	Review of Legislative Bills

[Updated 05/21/2025] [Approved]

	<u>Determine Jynny Retzinger Award Recipients</u>
<i>April</i>	<i>(The committee does not meet in April)</i>
<i>May</i>	Committee reviews and approves the draft critical calendar for next fiscal year. <u>Legislative Breakfast takes place</u> The Center’s ARCA’s Grass Roots Day team visits with legislators at the State Capitol (tentative <u>td</u>).
<i>June</i>	<i>(The committee does not meet in June)</i> <u>Legislative Breakfast takes place</u>

Commented [LG1]: Moving this to March allows for one GCRC meeting to discuss the nominees before voting.

NLACRC
Government & Community Relations Committee
CRITICAL CALENDAR
FY 2024-25

<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>(The committee does not meet in July)</i>
<i>August</i>	<p>Committee elects a committee chair for the fiscal year.</p> <p>The annual orientation is held for the committee. Committee reviews their policies and procedures, Legislative Platform Guiding Principles, Board Recognition Policy & application, Consultant Contracts, Action Log for previous year, and Board Audit section. Committee revises the documents, if needed.</p> <p><u>The committee reviews the board's Disability Community Organization, Service Provider, and Elected Representative Visit Policy and related Framework for Strategy Implementation and begin discussing what the board's legislative priorities should be for the fiscal year.</u></p> <p>Committee is provided with copies of their approved critical calendar for the new fiscal year.</p> <p>Committee begins discussion about what the Board's legislative priorities and platform should be for the new fiscal year and presents them to the Board for their review and input.</p> <p>Committee begins developing a strategy that encompasses the purpose and intent of the board's Service Provider and Elected Representative Visit policy for implementation during fiscal year.</p> <p>Committee finalizes its proposed legislative priorities and platform for the board and presents them to the Board of Trustees for approval.</p> <p>Committee begins planning for a candidates' forum to be held in the fall.</p> <p>Board Audit: Does the center have a training and information plan that meets the requirements of statute, contracts, and board policy?</p>
<i>September</i>	<i>(The committee does not meet in September)</i>

[Updated 05/21/2025] [Approved]

NLACRC
Government & Community Relations Committee
CRITICAL CALENDAR
FY 2025-26

<i>Month</i>	<i>Activity</i>
<i>October</i>	<p>Committee discusses how to keep legislators informed about pending issues.</p> <p>Committee begins considering the ideas for a legislative event to be held in the spring.</p> <p>Staff begins assembling the legislative event planning team.</p> <p>Jynny Retzinger Award – Send out Nomination forms</p> <p>Board Audit: Does the center’s training and information plan include a sufficient variety of training and communication methods to reach all of the center’s constituents?</p> <p>Board Audit: Are there sufficient financial and human resources available to carry out the center’s training and information plan?</p>
<i>November</i>	<i>(The committee does not meet in November)</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>(The committee is dark in December)</i>
<i>January</i>	<p>Committee begins planning for ARCA’s Grass Roots Day and NLACRC’s Grass Roots Week (tbd).</p> <p>Create Workgroup to plan the Legislative Breakfast</p> <p>Board Audit: Are the methods identified in the center’s training and information plan in line with the center’s mission, vision, and values statement?</p>
<i>February</i>	<p><i>(The committee does not meet in February)</i></p> <p>Legislative Town Hall</p>
<i>March</i>	<p>Review of Legislative Bills</p> <p>Determine Jynny Retzinger Award Recipients</p>

[Updated 05/21/2025] [Approved]

<i>April</i>	<i>(The committee does not meet in April)</i>
<i>May</i>	<p>Committee reviews and approves the draft critical calendar for next fiscal year.</p> <p>The Center's ARCA's Grass Roots Day team visits with legislators at the State Capitol (tbd).</p>
<i>June</i>	<p><i>(The committee does not meet in June)</i></p> <p>Legislative Breakfast takes place</p>

Facebook

	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
Total Followers	7,096	7,105	7,125
Posts (Times we've posted)	114	115	176
Total Interactions (likes, shares, comments)	942	869	2,792
Page Reach (how many users saw at least one post)	14,152	13,465	31,840

Instagram

	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
Total Followers	1,464	1,496	1,557
Total Engagements (likes, shares, comments)	490	392	633

X/Twitter

	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
Total Followers	531	533	538

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** | In senate, read for the first time on **May 8, 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**; In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense

file on **May 7, 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: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file on **May 7, 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** | Referred to the Health Committee on **May 7, 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** | From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on

APPR. with recommendation on **April 30, 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** | In committee: Set, first hearing. Referred to suspense file on **April 30, 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** | From committee: Without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 62(a) on **May 1, 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** | May 5 hearing: Placed on APPR. suspense file on **May 5, 2025**.

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

GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S MAY REVISION 2025-26

Governor Newsom's 2025-26 May Revision outlines significant General Fund reductions across Health and Human Services in response to the state's projected **\$27.6 billion deficit**. Several proposed actions directly affect individuals with developmental disabilities, Regional Centers, and the vendor community.

Department of Developmental Services (DDS):

- **\$221.7M ongoing cut (starting 2026-27):** Providers must comply with EVV, audits, and HCBS rules to qualify for quality incentive payments.
- **\$75M reduction in 2025-26:** Ends rate reform hold harmless four months early (February 2026).

- **Self-Determination Program:** Reduced by \$22.5M in 2025-26, and \$45.5M ongoing due to cost guardrails.
- **Eliminates DSP Workforce Training Program:** \$36.8M ongoing cut to the unimplemented Direct Support Professional training initiative.
- **Elimination of targeted supports:**
 - \$5.6M for implicit bias training refresh
 - \$3M for health & safety waiver assistance
- **Porterville Developmental Center:** \$10M ongoing reduction starting 2026-27 based on historical savings.
- **Cost Recovery and Reimbursement:** DDS will pursue increased reimbursements and service cost recovery (savings TBD).

DDS Investments:

- **\$13.3M in FY2025-26** for the **Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS)** to support continued planning efforts, including 17 limited-term DDS positions and regional center resources.
- **\$1.9M in FY2025-26** for **federal HCBS Access Rule compliance**, including 9 limited-term positions to manage increased regulatory workload.
- **\$1.4M in FY2025-26**, increasing to **\$2M ongoing**, for **health and safety investigations and due process caseloads**, supporting 9 new permanent positions.
- **\$680K in FY2025-26** for **clinical monitoring of specialized community homes**, with 4 new permanent positions.
- **\$1.3M in FY2025-26** to support **cost recovery and reimbursement efforts**, including 5 permanent positions and external consultant support.

Department of Health Care Services (Medi-Cal):

- **Freezes Medi-Cal enrollment** for adults (19+) with unsatisfactory immigration status (UIS) – **\$86.5M in 2025-26**, growing to **\$3.3B by 2028-29**
- **Eliminates long-term care and dental** for UIS adults – **Over \$600M in annual savings by 2028**
- **\$100 monthly premiums** for certain Medi-Cal adults starting 2027 – **\$2.1B by 2028-29**
- **Reinstates asset test** (\$2,000 individual / \$3,000 couple) – **\$791M ongoing**
- **Cuts to FQHCs, Prop 56 payments, and weight-loss drug coverage**
- **Prescription cost controls via rebates, step therapy, and prior authorization** are projected to save **\$200 million** in 2025-26 and **\$400 million annually thereafter**

In-Home Supportive Services:

- **Caps provider Overtime/travel to 50 hours/week** – **\$707.5M ongoing savings**
- **Aligns IHSS Residual Program** with Medi-Cal timing – **effectively eliminates the program**
- **Eliminates IHSS eligibility for adults 19+ with UIS** – **\$158.8M ongoing**
- **Shifts reassessment penalties to counties** – **\$81M savings**

- Conforms IHSS to Medi-Cal asset test – **\$25.5M in 2025-26**

Next Steps:

The Legislature will finalize the budget by **June 15, 2025**. NLACRC will continue to monitor outcomes and advocate to protect access and quality of services for individuals with developmental disabilities and our provider community.

Full Budget Summary: [2025-26 May Revision Budget Summary V2](#)

Key Highlights: [highlights-of-governor-s-proposed-2025-26-may-revision.pdf](#)

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE MEMO (MEDICAID)

On May 11th, the **House Energy and Commerce Committee** released draft budget reconciliation legislation that includes major Medicaid restructuring proposals under **Subtitle D**. The **Congressional Budget Office (CBO)** has reviewed these proposals and estimates **\$715 billion in federal Medicaid and ACA-related cuts** over the next ten years (2025–2034). These provisions could significantly affect California’s Medi-Cal program and, by extension, services provided to individuals with developmental disabilities.

Key Proposals Identified by the CBO (Subtitle D – Medicaid & ACA):

- **Reduction in FMAP for Expansion States (Including California):**
Proposes a decrease in the **Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)** for states that expanded Medicaid under the ACA, which includes California.
→ *Potential Result: Less federal funding to support Medi-Cal services.*
- **Moratorium on New or Increased Provider Taxes:**
Would block states from implementing new or higher **provider taxes**, which are often used to draw down federal matching funds.
→ *Could limit California’s ability to sustain or expand Medi-Cal funding.*
- **Medicaid Work or Volunteer Requirements:**
States would be required to implement **work or community engagement requirements** for certain Medicaid beneficiaries.
→ *May impose eligibility barriers on individuals with disabilities and family caregivers.*
- **Changes to Cost-Sharing for Medicaid Expansion Population:**
Proposals would **increase cost-sharing** obligations for certain low-income individuals enrolled through the expansion population.
→ *Could lead to decreased access to care for vulnerable communities.*
- **Moratorium on Staffing Standards in Long-Term Care Facilities (Medicare & Medicaid):**
Suspends planned federal rules aimed at strengthening staffing levels in **nursing homes and long-term care settings**.
→ *May impact quality of care in facilities serving people with developmental disabilities.*

For more details, please refer to the link below:

[Committee-Print-Title-IV—Committee-on-Energy-and-Commerce-Subtitle-D—Health38.pdf](#)

Note: These proposals are still in the early stages of the federal budget process. The current language represents preliminary proposals that must first be formalized through a budget resolution, followed by the reconciliation process in both the House and Senate. There will be multiple opportunities for revisions or amendments as the legislation moves forward. Engagement remains critical—we encourage continued outreach to your Congressional representatives to share how these proposals may impact individuals with developmental disabilities and the services they rely on: [Preserve I/DD Services—Tell Congress Protect Medicaid! | ANCOR](#)

EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM ENDING

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program, a \$5 billion federal initiative created to prevent homelessness, is nearly out of funding. According to HUD, there is no plan to renew or extend the program, putting 60,000 renters nationwide, including 15,000+ in California, at risk of losing housing.

The EHV program—modeled after Section 8—was designed for individuals with urgent housing needs, including:

- Individuals facing housing instability
- Those escaping unsafe or abusive living situations
- People transitioning from temporary or institutional care environments

Without federal renewal, the program's expiration may increase housing instability for vulnerable populations, including individuals with developmental disabilities who rely on housing assistance to maintain community living.

Full report: [National rental assistance program running out of cash - CalMatters](#)

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 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.



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:** Wed, May 28, 2025
-  **Time:** 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
-  **Location:** The Garland - [Registration](#)




Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin - Malibu Sidewalk Session

This session offers the opportunity to meet the Assemblymember, ask questions, share your concerns, and chat about local issues. It will also feature special guest Malibu Mayor Marianne Riggins.

-  **Date:** Sat, June 7, 2025
-  **Time:** 10 AM - 12 PM
-  **Location:** Point Dume Village (29169 Heathercliff Rd. Malibu, CA 90265)
- [Registration](#)

Senator Caroline Menjivar – 3rd Annual San Fernando Valley Pride




A community celebration and resource fair - open to the public with opportunities to engage with elected officials.

-  **Date:** Sat, June 28, 2025
-  **Time:** 11 AM - 5 PM
-  **Location:** Van Nuys & Sherman Way - [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.

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	Total
Government & Community Relations Committee	Dark		Dark		Dark	Dark		Dark	Dark	Dark		Dark	Absences	Hours
George Alvarado		Ab		Ab (60%)			P		Ab				3	1.50
Cathy Blin		P		P			Ab		P				1	3.50
Jacquie Colton									P					1.50
Leticia Garcia				P			P		P				0	3.00
Juan Hernandez		P		P			P		P				0	4.50
Jennifer Koster		P		P			P		P				0	4.50
Laura Monge		P		P			P		P				0	4.50
Curtis Wang		P		P			P		P				0	4.50
Jodie Agnew-Navarro, VAC Rep		P		P			Ab		P				1	3.50
													0	

Meeting Time

1.50

0.50

1.00

1.50

4.5

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)

