



# North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Main 818-778-1900 • Fax 818-756-6140 | 9200 Oakdale Avenue #100, Chatsworth, CA 91311 | [www.nlacrc.org](http://www.nlacrc.org)

## MEMORANDUM

Date: February 12, 2026

To: Alex Kopilevich, Chair, Jaklen Keshishyan, Alt. Chair, Jodie Agnew-Navarro, Octavia Watkins, Masood Babaeian, Paul Borda, Andrea Devers, Cal Enriquez, Ricki Macken Chivers, Vahe Mkrtchian, Daniel Ortiz, Jen Pippard, Sharon Weinberg, Jason Gillis, David Ebrami, Desiree Misrachi, Tal Segalovich

From: Lindsay Granger  
Executive Administrative Assistant

Re: Information and materials for the next Vendor Advisory Committee meeting on **Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.**

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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 Parkway, Ste 150 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](mailto:boardsupport@nlacrc.org). Thank you!

### Attachments

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

# Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting

February 12, 2026

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## VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 12, 2026

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 January 8, 2026, Meeting (*1 min.*)
- B. Approval of the Agenda (*1 min.*)

**VI. Action Items**

- A. Review VAC Applications and Vote on Candidate to Advance to Interviews (FY 2025-26) – Alex Kopilevich (*15 min.*)

1. Applicant 1
2. Applicant 2
3. Applicant 3
4. Applicant 4
5. Applicant 5
6. Applicant 6
7. Applicant 7
8. Applicant 8
9. Applicant 9
10. Applicant 10
11. Applicant 11
12. Applicant 12

- B. Approval of Questions for VAC Interview – Alex Kopilevich (*5 min.*)

**VII. Committee Business**

- A. VAC Applicant Interview Panel – Alex Kopilevich (*1 min.*)

*Supporting people with developmental disabilities in the San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys since 1974.*

- B. 2026 Jynny Retzinger Community Service Award Nominations – Belinda Abatesi (*3 min.*)
- C. Self-Determination Update – Silvia Renteria-Haro (*1 min.*)

## **VIII. Report Outs**

- A. **Legislative Report** – Belinda Abatesi (*5 min.*)
- B. **Deputy Director Officer's Report** – Evelyn McOmie (*5 min.*)
- C. **Chief Financial Officer's Report** – Vini Montague (*5 min.*)
- D. **Community Services Director's Report** – Arshalous Garlanian (*10 min.*)
- E. **Executive Director's Report** – Angela Pao-Johnson (*10 min.*)

## **IX. Open Topics for Discussion** – Alex Kopilevich (*15 min.*)

- A. LACSP – Harry Bruell
- B. Clarification on SIR Guidelines

## **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](mailto:jodie.agnew-navarro@chimeinstitute.net)  
**Next workgroup meeting: Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 9:00am (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](mailto:paul@abatherapypartners.com) and Cal Enriquez - [cal.enriquez@aveanna.com](mailto:cal.enriquez@aveanna.com)  
**Next workgroup meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 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](mailto:excellencecrp@gmail.com)  
**Next workgroup meeting: Monday, March 16, 2026 at 11:00am (via Zoom).**
  - i. Adult Services

## **XI. Board Committee Reports**

- A. Community Relations Committee (Sharon Weinberg – VAC Rep.) (*1 min.*)
- B. Executive Finance Committee (Jaklen Keshishyan – VAC Rep.) (*1 min.*)
- C. Nominating Committee (Alex Kopilevich -VAC Rep.) (*1 min.*)

## **XII. Board Meeting Agenda Items**

## **XIII. Announcements/Public Input/Information Items** (*3 min. per person*)

- A. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. Hybrid – In-person location



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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 / ZOOM  
JANUARY 8, 2026, 9:30 A.M.**

**MEMBERS:**

Alex Kopilevich, Jaklen Keshishyan, Jodie Agnew-Navarro, Paul Borda, Andrea Devers, Ute Escoria, Vahe Mkrtchian, Jen Pippard, Sharon Weinberg, Cal Enriquez, Jason Gillis, Tal Segalovich, David Ebrami, Ricki Macken-Chilvers, Desiree Misrachi

**STAFF:**

Angela Pao-Johnson, Evelyn McOmie, Vini Montague, Arshalous Garlanian, Silvia Renteria-Haro, Robin Monroe, Belinda Abatesi, Lindsay Granger, Arezo Abedi

**GUESTS:**

**ABSENT:** Octavia Watkins, Masood Babaeian

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

VAC Chair Alex Kopilevich invited attendees to introduce themselves. Participants introduced included Daniel Ortiz (SEDUP), Jason Gillis (BuildAbility), Ricky (Pleasant View), Tal Segalovich (Maxima Healthcare), David Ebrami (Care Connection Home Health), Sharon Weinberg (Free2B Programs), Alex Kopilevich (K&L Care/VAC Chair), Angela Pao-Johnson (Executive Director), Jaklen Keshishyan (Creative Minds), and staff members Evelyn McComie, Vini Montague, Arsho Garlanian, and Lindsay Granger. Jen Pippard (Activities, Recreation, and Care) was also introduced after it was noted that an introduction had been missed.

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. The NLACRC Civility Code was read by Alex Kopilevich.

**2. COMMITTEE MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

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

**3. PUBLIC INPUT**

There was no public input.

**4. SHARE IMPACT STORY FROM INDIVIDUAL SERVED**

Executive Director Angela Pao-Johnson shared an impact story from Jessica Gould, owner of Jay Gould Consulting.

## **5. CONSENT ITEMS**

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

**On a motion made by Jen Pippard, seconded by Ricki Macken-Chilvers, it was resolved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.**

## **6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Call for new VAC Members**

Chair Alex Kopilevich announced four upcoming vacancies on the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) due to upcoming term endings for Cal Enriquez, Daniel Ortiz, and Alex Kopilevich at the end of June, one currently vacant seat, and one recent resignation. Applications are due January 15, 2026, and the full VAC will review applicants in February. To maintain confidentiality, applicants will be listed on the agenda by number (e.g., Applicant 1, Applicant 2, etc.). The VAC will collectively select candidates to move forward to in-person interviews.

The interview panel will consist of Tal Segalovich, David Ebami, and Alex Kopilevich, with interviews held either in person or via Zoom depending on the number of applicants.

Cal Enriquez asked what happens after the end of the term in June and whether reapplication would be required. It was clarified that members may reapply after a one-year break and are welcome to continue attending meetings, though they would no longer be able to make motions or vote once their term ends.

### **6.2 VAC Applicant Interview Panel**

Alex Kopilevich reviewed that the interview panel consists of three members who will conduct interviews for prospective VAC applicants. It was noted that the VAC typically includes 18 members. While the Committee aims to maintain a full membership, it was shared that the VAC can continue to function even if not fully seated. Alex Kopilevich emphasized the Committee is seeking members who are committed, attend meetings regularly, and actively participate.

### **6.3 Update on VAC Members with Expiring Terms**

Alex Kopilevich asked for clarification on which Vendor Advisory Committee members are approaching the end of their terms and whether there are any open positions. Committee staff reviewed the roster and confirmed one open position and clarified several member term dates, including that some members are not yet expiring.

The committee reviewed the color coding on the term tracker. Red indicated members who were due for term renewals, and yellow indicated members scheduled to term out at the end of the fiscal year, including Daniel Ortiz, Alex Kopilevich, and Cal Enriquez. Questions arose about why recruitment was only planned for two positions when more members appear to be terming out.

Lindsay Granger stated that the committee roster and term list will be reviewed and updated with Public Information, and updated information will be shared with the committee to confirm the accurate number of vacancies.

### **6.4 Update on Term Renewals**

Alex Kopilevich confirmed that the terms for Cal Enriquez, Daniel Ortiz, and Alex Kopilevich will expire on June 30, 2026. The VAC will interview new applicants and anticipates requesting volunteers for the VAC Chair position around March. If only one member volunteers, no election will be needed; if multiple members express interest, an election will be held. The VAC Chair position is typically a one-year term, with the option to continue if re-elected.

Alex Kopilevich reported that all current members eligible for renewal have submitted signed term renewal paperwork, and Lindsay Granger has received and maintained the documentation. No further action is required for renewing members, and they will continue serving after June 30.

Members were reminded that July is a dark month, and the first meeting of the new board year will be in August. Chair Alex Kopilevich stated that a transition meeting will be held with the incoming VAC Chair to support continuity and review responsibilities. Members interested in serving as VAC Chair were invited to email Chair Alex Kopilevich for additional details regarding the time commitment and expectations.

Chair Alex Kopilevich noted that the VAC Chair also serves as the VAC representative on the Board of Trustees and participates in additional committee work, including attendance and meeting responsibilities (e.g., the Chair currently serves on the Nominating Committee).

#### **6.5 Self-Determination Update**

Alex Kopilevich introduced Silvia Renteria-Haro to provide an update on Self-Determination. Silvia reported that as of January 1, there were 686 participants enrolled in the SDP, with 197 transitions completed in 2025. Silvia also invited members to attend the Local Entry Advisory Committee virtual meetings held Thursdays from 6:30–8:30 p.m., noting the next meeting would be January 15.

### **7. REPORT OUTS**

#### **7.1 Deputy Director Officer's Report**

Alex Kopilevich introduced Deputy Director Evelyn McOmie to provide agency announcements and updates impacting service providers. Evelyn McOmie shared that, at the end of the year, regional centers received several DDS directives outlining new reporting requirements that will take effect this year.

##### SIR Reporting Directive / Implementation Date

Evelyn McOmie highlighted changes to Special Incident Report (SIR) reporting as a key directive that will impact vendors. Evelyn McOmie stated that regulatory amendments approved in June 2025 will become effective on May 1, and emphasized this as an important date for providers to note. Evelyn McOmie explained that these changes are intended to promote statewide consistency across all 21 regional centers and vendors, not only NLACRC.

##### Vendor Preparation Requirements

Evelyn McOmie advised that vendors must prepare for implementation by May 1 by updating internal systems and procedures. Evelyn McOmie outlined key areas of preparation, including adopting and operationalizing the updated reporting guidelines, updating internal reporting procedures, enhancing oversight and quality assurance mechanisms, and continuing to collaborate with DDS for monitoring and support.

#### DDS Webinars and Technical Assistance

Evelyn McOmie shared that DDS will host upcoming webinars and town halls to provide further information, technical assistance, and clarification regarding the SIR reporting process. Evelyn McOmie stated that NLACRC will forward emails and details to vendors as information becomes available and will continue providing updates during VAC meetings. Evelyn McOmie noted that Lindsay Granger would post the directive in the chat and that paper copies were available at the meeting for anyone who preferred a hard copy.

#### Additional Reporting Requirements (Disagreements/NOAs and HCBS)

Evelyn McOmie also shared other reporting requirements that will be implemented, including that regional centers will begin reporting to DDS the number of disagreements and Notices of Action (NOAs) occurring at the time of IPP planning. Evelyn McOmie additionally referenced HCBS reporting requirements for vendors. Evelyn McOmie stated that NLACRC has been conducting HCBS review and reporting since 2024 and that NLACRC's process mirrors the federal rule. Evelyn McOmie indicated that NLACRC does not anticipate major changes to the current HCBS review/reporting process, but staff will consult with DDS to determine whether any recommendations or updates will be required. Evelyn McOmie stated that if changes are made effective 2026, vendors will be notified.

#### SIPP Survey Reminder / NLACRC Campaign

Evelyn McOmie reminded attendees to encourage families to complete the DDS SIPP survey and shared that NLACRC would be launching a community campaign during the month to promote awareness and participation. Evelyn McOmie noted the survey is short (approximately 5–6 questions) and quick to complete, and emphasized that the feedback is important for DDS.

#### SDP Vendor Forums – Participation and Next Steps

Evelyn McOmie provided an update regarding the SDP vendor forums that NLACRC offered from September through December. Evelyn McOmie explained these forums were intended to provide technical support and answer provider questions, and noted that there had been significant interest expressed by vendors, including through VAC discussions. However, Evelyn McOmie reported that only one person attended across all four forums. As a result, NLACRC will not be offering additional forums this year. Evelyn McOmie directed vendors with SDP-related questions to email [self-determination@nlacrc.org](mailto:self-determination@nlacrc.org). Evelyn McOmie also stated that if VAC committees would like a presentation or technical assistance, members may contact Silvia Renteria-Haro, and the SDP team will make themselves available to present at committee meetings.

#### Generative AI Directive – Caution to Vendors

At Chair Alex Kopilevich's request, Evelyn McOmie also provided an overview of a newly issued DDS Generative AI directive, which staff would post in the chat. Evelyn McOmie explained that regional centers will be required to go through a DDS review and approval process before implementing generative AI-related processes internally. Evelyn McOmie noted that specific approval requirements have not yet been provided by DDS, and it is unclear what documentation or verification will be required (e.g., an affidavit confirming safeguards are in place, or a more detailed review process). Evelyn McOmie further stated that regional centers are being tasked with informing vendors and ensuring vendors follow similar generative AI requirements, and NLACRC anticipates mirroring DDS requirements once clarified. Evelyn McOmie cautioned vendors to be very careful about implementing or expanding AI use at this time, emphasizing that approval processes are not yet established and that providers may not have full control over how staff use AI tools. Evelyn McOmie stressed that maintaining confidentiality and protecting HIPAA/PHI is the top priority.

#### Discussion / Q&A – SIR Reporting Timelines and Reporting Expectations

Chair Alex Kopilevich asked whether the current SIR form would be changing. Evelyn

McOmie responded that there are no immediate changes to the form at this time, but DDS may issue a more standardized or streamlined form for all 21 regional centers. Evelyn McOmie stated that additional guidance is expected soon, and updates will be provided as May 1 approaches. Evelyn McOmie confirmed the directive is available on the DDS website and was also provided via chat and hard copy.

A vendor asked about challenges meeting SIR reporting timelines when incidents occur after hours (e.g., Friday evening sessions) and reporting must still occur within the required timeframe. Evelyn McOmie clarified that vendors must submit SIR reports within 24 hours verbally and within 48 hours in writing, and emphasized that submissions must be received before midnight of the 48th hour. Evelyn McOmie stated that vendors must have internal processes in place to ensure timely reporting, noting that regional center after-hours staff have historically received SIR calls late at night to meet the required deadlines. Evelyn McOmie reiterated that upcoming statewide streamlining is expected to be more prescriptive but will not change the regulatory timeline requirements.

Another vendor asked about situations where a verbal report is made and an email is sent, but a full written report cannot be completed within 48 hours due to delayed fact-finding (such as needing staff statements over a holiday weekend). Evelyn McOmie advised vendors to submit what information they have within the required 48-hour timeframe, emphasizing that the primary responsibility is to report that the incident occurred. Evelyn McOmie clarified that NLACRC does not expect a full investigation conclusion within 48 hours, and that reports can be updated or amended later as more details become available, including noting that the investigation is still pending.

## **7.2 Chief Financial Officer's Report**

Vini Montague provided reminders and updates related to provider audit requirements, fiscal year deadlines, and payment processing.

Service providers receiving between \$500,000 and \$2 million in total regional center payments are required to submit an independent financial review, while providers receiving more than \$2 million must submit a full independent audit. These requirements have been in place for several years and are tied to eligibility for performance incentives under future rate implementation. Audits and reviews must be completed by an independent, licensed CPA, and providers were advised to verify CPA licensure. Compliance status is reported to DDS, which tracks provider compliance.

Vini Montague reminded providers that the deadline to submit all billing for Fiscal Year 2024 is February 6, 2026, and encouraged timely submission to support fiscal year closeout. NLACRC is also preparing 1099-NEC forms for calendar year 2025 and confirmed that steps are being taken to ensure accuracy, including correcting prior issues related to ICF GAAP funding.

The annual check run schedule for POS, STP, and Purchase & Inventory payments is posted on the NLACRC website under the Service Provider section. Annual consumer statements for Fiscal Year 2025 were mailed to consumers and families in November.

Vini Montague explained that audit notifications are sent after NLACRC receives consolidated provider payment data from DDS, typically between November and February. Providers receive an initial notice and follow-up reminders if needed. Audit or review reports are due within nine months of the end of the provider's fiscal year. Providers with approved audit waivers are cross-referenced and reported to DDS.

Providers were advised not to rely solely on email notifications and to proactively begin the audit or review process if they exceed the \$500,000 threshold based on the state fiscal year (July 1–June 30), as the process can be lengthy. DDS maintains a published list identifying providers in compliance.

### **7.3 Community Services Director's Report**

Chair Alex Kopilevich introduced Arshalous Garlanian to provide the Community Services Director Support report. Arshalous Garlanian shared that a more detailed report was included in the meeting packet and provided several updates and reminders for service providers.

Arshalous Garlanian announced that NLACRC received the 2026 rate increase adjustments and stated that no action was required from vendors at this time. Arshalous Garlanian explained that Community Services and Accounting are working on applying the adjustments to January billing, and vendors participating in rate reform should see a slight increase reflected in billing. Arshalous Garlanian also reported that NLACRC continues to work through rate reform implementation and has completed 91% of the implementation, including rate and loan increases, new subcodes, and new service codes. Arshalous Garlanian noted that remaining work involves resolving identified issues and missing items and stated that implementation is nearly complete.

A question was raised regarding whether older subcodes are removed once new subcodes are implemented. Arshalous Garlanian clarified that older subcodes will remain available for a limited period to allow for any outstanding billing tied to an open fiscal year. It was noted that this can cause confusion when selecting the correct subcode, and Arshalous Garlanian stated that staff are reminding service coordinators that subcodes vary by year.

Arshalous Garlanian reviewed requirements for providers to be eligible for the Quality Incentive Program (QIP) rates for Fiscal Year 2026–2027. Arshalous Garlanian stated that providers must be validated in the DDS provider directory, remain compliant with EVV, remain compliant with required independent audits and reviews, and maintain HCBS compliance. Arshalous Garlanian noted that NLACRC has been conducting HCBS settings reviews for the past several years, completed all HCBS site reviews for 2025, and plans to continue monitoring in 2026. Arshalous Garlanian also reminded providers participating in rate reform that the required QIP survey must be completed by January 31 to be included in QIP eligibility. Arshalous Garlanian stated that the survey was emailed to the address listed in the DDS provider directory and advised providers who did not receive it to contact DDS directly.

A question was raised regarding whether providers can confirm completion status for the survey. Arshalous Garlanian shared that DDS has published a tool on the DDS website where providers can check whether the survey has been completed and confirm compliance status for EVV and independent audit requirements. Arshalous Garlanian stated that NLACRC would send an email later that day with links to the DDS compliance and survey status pages. Arshalous Garlanian also advised that providers with rate-related questions should email [ratesquestions@nlacrc.org](mailto:ratesquestions@nlacrc.org).

Arshalous Garlanian provided an update on Early Start Intervention Incentive Payments for Calendar Year 2024, stating that NLACRC received the final list and is reconciling it against payments already processed. Arshalous Garlanian noted that providers will receive payments if any additional updates are identified.

Arshalous Garlanian also announced that beginning January 1, NLACRC began using the Provider Directory Portal for new vendorizations for specific service codes, which are listed on the NLACRC website. Arshalous Garlanian stated that beginning March 1, the portal will be

used for all new vendorizations. Providers with questions about applications submitted between January 1 and March 1 were directed to email [resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org](mailto:resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org). Arshalous Garlanian concluded by sharing that the NLACRC staff directory was emailed to all providers the previous day, and the group expressed appreciation for the distribution of the directory as it had been a requested resource.

During discussion, a provider shared concerns about receiving multiple versions of the Prevention and Wellness survey and experiencing technical issues, including inconsistent survey questions and difficulty verifying and printing confirmation after completion. Arshalous Garlanian acknowledged the concerns and stated that NLACRC would raise the issue with DDS during the next meeting, noting that the survey is a DDS process. Arshalous Garlanian recommended that the provider follow up with DDS by email to document attempts to complete the survey. Another attendee noted that DDS offered a training for the Prevention and Wellness survey and suggested the issues may be due to a system glitch. Additional discussion referenced prior survey glitches, including technical limitations with data entry, and it was noted that DDS previously advised submitting a whole number in place of a decimal and then providing the exact number separately for correction.

A provider asked whether receiving only one QIP survey meant no additional surveys would be issued. Arshalous Garlanian stated that eligibility for additional QIP surveys depends on whether the provider qualifies under other QIP categories and advised contacting DDS if additional surveys were expected but not received. It was also noted that some providers received survey links for QIP categories they did not qualify for. Chair Alex Kopilevich asked whether there were any additional questions from VAC members online.

#### **7.4 Legislative Report**

Belinda Abatesi presented updates on recent legislative and policy changes affecting individuals with disabilities and service providers.

Belinda Abatesi reported on the expansion of ABLE accounts under the ABLE Age Adjustment Act. Eligibility has expanded by increasing the disability onset age from 26 to 46, allowing more individuals to qualify. Benefits include up to \$100,000 excluded from SSI calculations, no balance limit for Medicaid eligibility, and tax-free earnings when used for qualified disability expenses. The annual contribution limit increased to \$20,000, with an additional \$15,650 allowed for eligible working individuals not enrolled in an employer-sponsored retirement plan. Belinda Abatesi noted that an eligibility quiz is available and offered to share the link in the chat.

An update was provided on the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) and announced that beginning February 1, DOR will implement an Order of Selection (OAS) process due to increased demand and limited resources. New applicants may be placed on a waiting list and categorized into three priority levels: Category 1 for individuals with the most significant disabilities, Category 2 for significant disabilities, and Category 3 for all other eligible individuals. Services will be offered based on priority category and application date.

Several key dates and benefit updates were reviewed. SSI payments increased by 2.8% this month. CalFresh work requirements are expected to begin June 1, 2026. Medi-Cal asset limits and enrollment freezes began January 1, 2026, and Medi-Cal work requirements are expected to begin January 1, 2027. Belinda Abatesi shared that a short informational video explaining Medi-Cal and CalFresh work requirements was included for reference.

Belinda Abatesi highlighted a new bipartisan bill introduced on December 10, 2025, the Supporting Blue Envelope Programs Act, introduced by Congresswoman Norma Torres of California and Congressman John Rutherford of Florida. The bill aims to improve safety and

communication between law enforcement and individuals with disabilities through the use of a blue envelope as a visual cue during interactions. The legislation would fund the creation and expansion of Blue Envelope programs, modeled after programs implemented in San Diego and San Bernardino, and would support law enforcement training, public education, participant privacy, sustainability, and community-based partnerships.

Belinda Abatesi reminded the committee that all bills signed during the prior legislative session took effect on January 1, 2026, unless otherwise specified.

Upcoming events and key dates were reviewed, and members were encouraged to review scheduled events for the current and following month. Members were asked to save the date for Disability Advocacy Day at the Capitol, taking place May 18–19, with additional details to be shared later. Belinda Abatesi also noted upcoming advocacy-related events and encouraged review of the state calendar. Belinda Abatesi shared that the Governor's 2026–2027 State Budget would be released the following day, in accordance with the January 10 constitutional deadline, along with a press conference hosted by the Department of Finance and a stakeholder call focused on health and human services budget proposals.

Belinda Abatesi concluded with advocacy opportunities, noting that ARCA's Voter Voice campaign continues to provide opportunities for engagement. Belinda Abatesi highlighted a January 14 press conference and lobbying activities in Sacramento hosted by the Fight for Our Health Coalition and encouraged participation. Belinda Abatesi also shared a list of trusted information sources and encouraged subscribing to reliable newsletters to stay informed during the new legislative session.

Chair Alex Kopilevich thanked Belinda Abatesi for the report and asked whether there were any questions from in-person or online attendees; none were raised.

## **7.5 Executive Director's Report**

Chair Alex Kopilevich introduced Executive Director Angela Pao-Johnson to provide Executive Director Support updates. Angela Pao-Johnson welcomed attendees and encouraged vendors participating remotely to attend meetings in person when possible.

Angela Pao-Johnson shared updates on recent internal workforce efforts, noting that executive leadership met with the first cohort of new hires from September at the three-month mark to assess onboarding, training, and overall fit. Feedback from staff was highly positive, with average ratings of approximately 8.5 out of 10 for onboarding, training, and supervisor relationships, and 9.5 out of 10 for ongoing support and organizational culture. Staff described the culture as warm, open, and supportive, reflecting significant improvement from prior years.

Angela Pao-Johnson also reported on results from the 2025 Individual and Family Survey, conducted by a third-party vendor. Over 38,000 individuals and families were invited to participate, with more than 5,000 responses received. Compared to 2023, results showed increases in 18 of 23 metrics, with only minor, statistically insignificant decreases in areas related to service coordinator satisfaction. Overall scores averaged 3.59 on a 5-point scale, indicating performance between good and excellent.

Additional highlights included recognition from Senator Caroline Menjivar for NLACRC outreach efforts, particularly support groups serving Filipino, Armenian, and Farsi-speaking communities. Angela Pao-Johnson shared that DDS requested NLACRC's Self-Determination Program budget tool, which is now being used to help inform statewide guidance and has been requested by other regional centers.

Updates were also provided on service outcomes and operations. Competitive integrated employment participation increased from 337 individuals in 2024 to 540 individuals in 2025. For behavioral day programs, the DDS compliance deadline was extended to February 28, and DDS continues to assess provider capacity and implementation challenges, including BCBA availability and dual vendoring considerations. Angela Pao-Johnson noted statewide updates including the increase in minimum wage to \$16.90 and the standard mileage reimbursement rate to \$0.725 per mile, along with ongoing transportation rate adjustments.

Angela Pao-Johnson shared legislative and administrative updates, including projections from the Legislative Analyst's Office of an \$18 billion state budget deficit and reminded members of the Governor's upcoming budget release. Information was also provided on Public Records Act requests, noting that requests can be submitted through the NLACRC website and that compliance is resource-intensive, though the agency remains committed to transparency.

Operational metrics were reviewed, including 927 filled positions, 1,035 authorized positions, recent onboarding of new staff, and a total of 41,090 individuals served. Updates were provided on Social Recreation referrals, quality assurance activities, outreach efforts, and collaboration with Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Angela Pao-Johnson also announced upcoming meetings and opportunities, including the Disability Rights California Board meeting on March 19, the Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee meeting on January 15, and an invitation for providers to participate in the Catalyst Lab Workforce Edition in San Diego from February 24–26.

Angela Pao-Johnson concluded by introducing two new specialist roles—Aging Specialist and Systems of Care Specialist—and briefly described their responsibilities in supporting aging services, cross-system collaboration, and provider and community training.

Alex Kopilevich invited questions from VAC members. Clarifications were provided regarding behavioral day program directives, Catalyst Lab participation costs, and access to the new specialist roles. No further questions were raised.

## **8. OPEN DISCUSSION TOPICS**

### **8.1 Discuss Updated Staff Roster**

During open discussion, the Chair noted that the updated NLACRC staff roster had been distributed. A question was raised regarding the frequency of the roster, and staff confirmed that it will be provided on a quarterly basis. Members shared that the roster is helpful for identifying appropriate points of contact and supervisory relationships. Sharon Weinberg asked Arshalous Garlanian a question regarding distribution, and staff clarified that the roster was sent to the email address on file with the Regional Center for each provider.

### **8.2 Discuss Communication Strategies Report/Proposal**

Sharon Weinberg asked to have this item added under open discussion topics. The question was raised regarding previously issued communication strategies intended to improve communication between vendors and regional center staff. Sharon Weinberg noted that guidance had been shared several months earlier and asked whether it had been implemented.

Evelyn McOmie clarified that the communication strategies were released as best practices for vendors, not as a requirement, and were developed in response to a request from this Committee. Evelyn McOmie noted that uptake has been limited but confirmed that vendors are encouraged to use the guidance.

Evelyn McOmie further stated that the communication strategies are available on the NLACRC website under Service Provider and “How to Contact Regional Center.” The Chair asked if there were any additional questions, including from online participants; none were raised.

### **8.3 Quarterly Meetings for Vendors**

During open discussion, Sharon Weinberg raised the topic of reinstating quarterly meetings for vendors, noting that she valued the opportunity these meetings previously provided to collaborate directly with regional center staff. Sharon Weinberg shared that separate quarterly meetings had been held for residential providers and for vendors, but attendance had been low despite significant staff participation. She expressed interest in returning to a regular forum for collaboration and suggested that there may be value in creating spaces tailored to different provider types, including smaller or boutique organizations that may face distinct operational challenges.

Jen Pippard commented that while her organization had not previously participated in those meetings, it would now be interested in attending and agreed that the meetings could be beneficial if structured effectively.

Evelyn McOmie responded that the decision to discontinue quarterly meetings was based on low attendance and the substantial staff resources required to support them. Evelyn McOmie explained that current operational demands, including rate reform implementation, new reporting requirements, and anticipated performance measures reporting, limit the Regional Center’s ability to reinstate the meetings at this time. Evelyn McOmie stated that the meetings may be reconsidered in the future once workload demands stabilize and emphasized that providers continue to have access to regional center staff through existing communication channels, including the provider hotline.

Sharon Weinberg acknowledged the explanation and noted continued interest in future opportunities for collaboration.

No additional comments were raised.

## **9. COMMITTEE WORK GROUP INFORMATION**

### **9.1 Early Start Services**

Jodie Agnew-Navarro provided an update on the Early Start Services workgroup. Jodie Agnew-Navarro noted that the Early Start committee continues to have strong vendor participation, which is supported by consistent outreach and coordination from Early Start regional center staff, including direct email notifications and distribution of meeting agendas.

Jodie Agnew-Navarro reported that the committee met in November and focused on rate reform and challenges related to new service codes, with rates staff attending to provide clarification. The next Early Start Services meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 15, at 9:00 a.m., and Early Start vendors are welcome to attend.

### **9.2 School Age Services**

Under Committee Workgroup Information and Workgroup Final Reports, Paul Borda provided an update on the School-Age Services workgroup. Paul Borda shared that the workgroup did not meet in October or December and follows the broader VAC schedule for subcommittee meetings. A meeting was held in November; however, Paul Borda was unable to attend and did not provide a detailed update from that meeting.

Paul Borda reported that the next School-Age Services meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. No questions were raised following the update.

**9.3 Adult Services**

Under Committee Workgroup Information and Workgroup Final Reports, Jen Pippard provided an update on the Adult Services workgroup on behalf of Octavia Watkins. Jen Pippard reported that the most recent meeting included a presentation and discussion focused on supports for aging adults.

The group discussed opportunities for deeper partnership with the Regional Center and explored potential systemic changes to better support aging adults. One key topic was using the Early Start model as a reference for how similar levels of investment and coordinated supports could be applied later in life. The workgroup will continue these discussions in future meetings.

**10. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**10.1 Executive Finance Committee**

Alex Kopilevich introduced Jaklen Keshishyan to present the Executive Finance Committee report. Jaklen Keshishyan reported that the Committee met on November 20 and is scheduled to meet again on January 29. Discussion items included topics already covered earlier in the meeting by Vini Montague and Angela Pao-Johnson, review and approval of a Purchase of Service (POS) for a CPP startup contract, and review of expense levels to ensure the organization remains within the 15% administrative cost threshold. Additional updates will be provided following the January 29 meeting.

**10.2 Community Relations Committee**

Alex Kopilevich introduced Sharon Weinberg to provide the Community Relations Committee update. Sharon Weinberg reported that there were no updates to report, noting that the Committee did not meet in November. The next Community Relations Committee meeting is scheduled for January 21 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

**10.3 Nominating Committee**

Alex Kopilevich provided the Nominating Committee report. Alex Kopilevich reported that the Committee met recently and commended Chris Whitlock and team for developing a successful board recruitment campaign, which resulted in nine new Board of Trustees applications, in addition to several candidates who had already been interviewed. The Committee will review all applicants and determine next steps for Board appointments.

Alex Kopilevich noted that the next Nominating Committee meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2026, during which the Committee expects to continue reviewing applications and conducting interviews as part of the selection process. No questions were raised.

**11. BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no board meeting agenda items.

**12. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC INPUT**

Chair Alex Kopilevich opened the Public Input portion of the meeting, noting that up to three individuals were permitted to speak for up to three minutes each. Laura provided comments

regarding adult consumer programming, specifically referencing the Patterns of Adult Consumers program. The speaker noted that while the program was well attended when first launched, participation has declined in recent years despite ongoing facilitation efforts by Victoria Berrey. The speaker expressed concern about limited engagement and a perceived lack of support for adult consumers and requested additional information regarding opportunities to participate in or learn more about adult consumer workgroups. The Chair thanked the speaker for the public comment.

During Public Input, Alona Yorkshire provided comments related to rate updates and advocacy efforts. Alona Yorkshire noted that links to recently published materials had been shared for distribution, including links to new rates effective January 1. Alona Yorkshire also referenced AB 2423, a bill signed by the Governor two years ago that published updated rate models adjusted for cost-of-living increases, noting that some of these rates are approximately 10% higher. Alona Yorkshire shared that following release of the Governor's budget, advocacy efforts between now and May may focus on seeking funding or partial funding for these published rate models.

Alona Yorkshire encouraged vendors to consider joining CDSA to participate in advocacy efforts in Sacramento, noting the organization's active engagement with legislators and the Capitol and its role in advancing funding priorities.

Additionally, Alona Yorkshire clarified how vendors can determine which QIP surveys and compliance requirements apply to them. Alona Yorkshire explained that lists published on December 26 include vendor numbers and indicate compliance status for QIP surveys, fiscal audit requirements, and EVV. The lists are available on the DDS website and are expected to be updated weekly, with links to be shared via email.

Jodie Agnew-Navarro shared an announcement regarding the upcoming CalTASH Conference, which will take place on February 27–28 in Sacramento. Jodie Agnew-Navarro noted that the conference will feature a range of presenters, including Jim LeBrecht, producer of *Crip Camp*, who will participate in a fireside chat-style discussion. The conference town hall will focus on employment, with presenters from DDS and the State Council. Jodie Agnew-Navarro shared that CalTASH is vendoried with regional centers for individuals served and family members and encouraged attendees to visit the CalTASH website, follow on social media, or sign up for the email list for additional conference information.

To allow attendees time to copy information from the chat, the meeting remained open briefly following adjournment.

**13. NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Vendor Advisory Committee meeting is on February 12, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. at the Santa Clarita Valley office.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**On a motion duly made and carried, it was agreed that there was no further business to transact; the meeting closed at 10:55 a.m.**

## North Los Angeles County Regional Center

## VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE - COMPOSITION SUMMARY FOR FY 2024-2025

NAME & (AGENCY)	Term Information			Role			Living Arrangements			Skill Development						Support Services				Geography						
	Year of Term	Expiration of Term	Expiration of Final Term	Individual	Agency Staff	Agency Board	Community Care Facility	Health Licensed Facility	Other	Early Intervention	Adult Day Training	Supported Employment	Supported / Independent Living	Habilitation	Other	Respite/Home Health	Behavior Consultation	Day Care / After School / Saturday Programs	Transportation	Mobility Training	Other	San Fernando Valley	Santa Clarita Valley	Antelope Valley	Other	
Andrea Devers (PCS-AV & PCS-NLA, LLC)	3rd	6/2025	6/2028		X		X					X										X	X			
Jodie Agnew-Narrow (CHIME Institute)	1st	6/2027	6/2027		X					X													X			
Paul Borda (ABA Therapy Partners)	2nd	6/2028	6/2030		X					X	X	X				X							X	X	X	
Ricki Macken-Chilvers (Pleasantview Industries, Inc)	2nd	6/2028	6/2030									X														
Jen Pippard (Activites, Recreation and Care ARC)	2nd	6/2028	6/2030		X						X	X						X					X			
Cal Enriquez (Accredited Home Care)	3rd	6/026	6/2026		X						X	X	X	X					X			X	X	X		
Vahe Mkrtchian (WellBe Home Level 3 CCF)	3rd	6/2026	6/2029	X		X	X																			
Alex Kopilevich (K&L CARE)	2nd	6/2025	6/2026		X					X																
Sharon Weinberg (Free To Be Programs)	3rd	6/2026	6/2029	X			X	Family Home Agency															X	X	X	
Daniel Ortiz (ETTA)	3rd	6/2026	6/2026		X						X	X	X									X	X	X	X	
Masood Babaeian (Ventura Transit System, Inc.)	3rd	6/2026	6/2029	X		X	X				X								X					X		
Jaklen Keshishyan (Creative Minds)	3rd	6/2026	6/2029		X						X	X	X					X	X			X	X	X	X	
Jason Gillis (Build Ability)	1st	6/2026	6/2032	X							X	X	X										X	X	X	
David Ebrami (Care Connection Home Health Agency)	1st	6/2026	6/2032															X					X	X	X	
Desiree Misrachi (Willow Tree Therapy)	1st	6/2026	6/2032							X														X		
Tal Segalovitch (Maxim Healthcare)	1st	6/2026	6/2032		X		X	X			X	X	X	X			X	X				X	X	X	X	
Octavia Watkins (Excellence Community Integration Program)	3rd	6/2026	6/2029		X		X				X	X	X					X	X			X	X	X	X	
<b>Totals:</b>	17			4	10	2	6	1	1	5	9	5	9	0	1	2	1	4	5	0	2	16	9	9	0	
<b>% of Current VAC (17)</b>				23.5%	58.8%	11.8%	35.3%	5.9%	5.9%	29.4%	52.9%	29.4%	52.9%	0.0%	5.9%	11.8%	5.9%	23.5%	29.4%	0.0%	11.8%	94.1%	52.9%	52.9%	0.0%	

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Vendor Advisory Committee**

## **Bylaws**

The Vendor Advisory Committee is established as a standing committee in Article VII, Section 9, of the bylaws of the Board of Trustees of the NLACRC pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 4622 and 4626.

- (a) Composition. The membership of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall consist of not more than eighteen (18) members who are either current vendors in good standing of the Corporation or are employed by vendors in good standing of the Corporation.
- (b) It shall be composed of persons representing a wide variety of the various categories of providers from which the Regional Center purchases consumer services. The Vendor Advisory Committee shall designate one (1) of its members to serve as a member of the Board (i.e., the Vendor Trustee). The Vendor Trustee shall serve as chairperson. The Vendor Trustee's term shall be one (1) year. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Vendor Advisory Committee.
- (c) Appointment and Term of Members. The members of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Board from a slate of candidates provided by Vendor Advisory Committee, and shall each serve a term of three (3) years unless an earlier vacancy occurs as provided in the Bylaws. Each member of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall each serve a term of three (3) years unless the member is elected to fill a vacancy in which case the "replacement" member serves the remainder of the term of the member vacating their seat. Such term shall commence on July 1 of the year in which a member is elected unless the member has been elected to fill a vacancy as provided for herein. In the event a member has been elected to fill such vacancy, the term shall commence upon election and shall continue for the balance of the regular term subject to such vacancy. No member shall serve on the Vendor Advisory Committee for more than six (6) consecutive years. An individual who has served six (6) consecutive years shall not be eligible to again serve as a member of the Vendor Advisory Committee for a period of twelve (12) months. If an individual who resigns from

the Vendor Advisory Committee prior to the expiration of his or her term is re-appointed to the Vendor Advisory Committee in less than twelve (12) months, his or her prior months/years served on the Vendor Advisory Committee shall be considered part of the person's term.

(d) Duties. The duties of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall be to provide advice, guidance, recommendations, and technical assistance to the Board to assist the Board in carrying out its mandated duties.

### **Membership**

In order to be a Vendor Advisory Committee member in good standing, a person must be a vendor, or a board member or employee of a NLACRC vendored program. A change in board membership, employment status or vendor status may affect the person's eligibility or representation. Any such change must be reported in writing immediately to the Board of Trustees for its consideration. If a member misses three consecutive meetings, or five meetings in a one-year period, he/she shall be considered to have resigned from the Vendor Advisory Committee.



## **Section 7. Vendor Advisory Committee.**

(a) Composition. The membership of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall consist of not more than eighteen (18) members who are either current vendors in good standing of the Corporation or are employed by vendors in good standing of the Corporation.

(b) It shall be composed of persons representing a wide variety of the various categories of providers from which the Regional Center purchases consumer services. The Vendor Advisory Committee shall designate one (1) of its members to serve as a member of the Board (i.e., the Vendor Trustee). The Vendor Trustee shall serve as chairperson. The Vendor Trustee's term shall be one (1) year. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Vendor Advisory Committee.

(c) Appointment and Term of Members. The members of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Board from a slate of candidates provided by Vendor Advisory Committee, and shall each serve a term of three (3) years unless an earlier vacancy occurs as provided in the Bylaws. Each member of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall each serve a term of three (3) years unless the member is elected to fill a vacancy in which case the "replacement" member serves the remainder of the term of the member vacating their seat. Such term shall commence on July 1 of the year in which a member is elected unless the member has been elected to fill a vacancy as provided for herein. In the event a member has been elected to fill such vacancy, the term shall commence upon election and shall continue for the balance of the regular term subject to such vacancy. No member shall serve on the Vendor Advisory Committee for more than six (6) consecutive years. An individual who has served six (6) consecutive years shall not be eligible to again serve as a member of the Vendor Advisory Committee for a period of twelve (12) months. If an individual who resigns from the Vendor Advisory Committee prior to the expiration of his or her term is re-appointed to the Vendor Advisory Committee in less than twelve (12) months, his or her prior months/years served on the Vendor Advisory Committee shall be considered part of the person's term.

(d) Duties. The duties of the Vendor Advisory Committee shall be to provide advice, guidance, recommendations, and technical assistance to the Board to assist the Board in carrying out its mandated duties.

## **Section 8. Consumer Advisory Committee.**

(a) Composition. The Consumer Advisory Committee shall be composed of adult consumers who reside in the regional center's catchment area and participate in five Consumer Advisory Committee meetings during any 12-month period. Members of the Consumer Advisory Committee, once qualified by attendance

## Potential Interview Questions

### **VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

#### **1. Background**

**The VAC must comprise a variety of professional leaders representing the various service categories from which the regional center purchases services.**

- **Question:** Please give us a brief overview about yourself.
- **Question:** What personal, professional, or volunteer experience do you think you could bring to the VAC?
- **Question:** Have you attended a VAC meeting?
- **Question:** Why do you want to volunteer to serve on our VAC?

#### **2. Communication/Interpersonal Relationships**

- **Question:** Please tell us about your experience working with groups or committees.
- **Question:** Are you able to speak up and share your thoughts with others who may have a difference of opinion?
- **Question:** What experience do you have working as a team member and finding common ground with others?

#### **3. Commitment**

- **Question:** Can you make the commitment to attend the monthly VAC meeting?
- **Question:** Would you also be willing to participate in our annual legislative events and meetings with legislators?
- **Question:** If you were elected to serve on the VAC, can you see yourself in the future assuming increased responsibilities, for instance becoming the committee chair?

#### 4. **Work Management**

- **Question:** One week prior to each monthly VAC meeting, you will be sent the agenda and meeting materials. Are you willing to take some time to review these materials prior to coming to the meeting so you are prepared to discuss the issues at hand?

**Question:** Do you have any questions for us?

# NLACRC

# Legislative Report

February 2026





# Governor's Budget 2026-27



## Developmental Services (DDS)

- **\$21.1B** total funding (+\$2.4B from last year)
- Services for **527,000+** individuals
- **\$154M** annual savings from higher Medicaid reimbursements
- **\$14M** continued funding for Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS)

## Health & Medi-Cal

- Federal HR 1 shifts costs to the state, driving a net **+\$2.4B** increase in Medi-Cal.
- Eligibility and work requirement changes reduce enrollment over time.
- **\$233M** in federal funds expand rural and frontier health access.
- CalFresh: **+\$383M** (HR 1 impacts), with **\$66M** savings from reduced eligibility

## 2026-27 Budget Summary

### Overall Budget

- **\$42B** more in revenue than originally projected
- **\$2.9B** shortfall projected for 2026-27
- Larger shortfalls ahead:
  - ~\$22B projected in 2027-28
  - Updates expected in the May Revise

## State Assembly Committee Hearings

## State Senate Committee Hearings

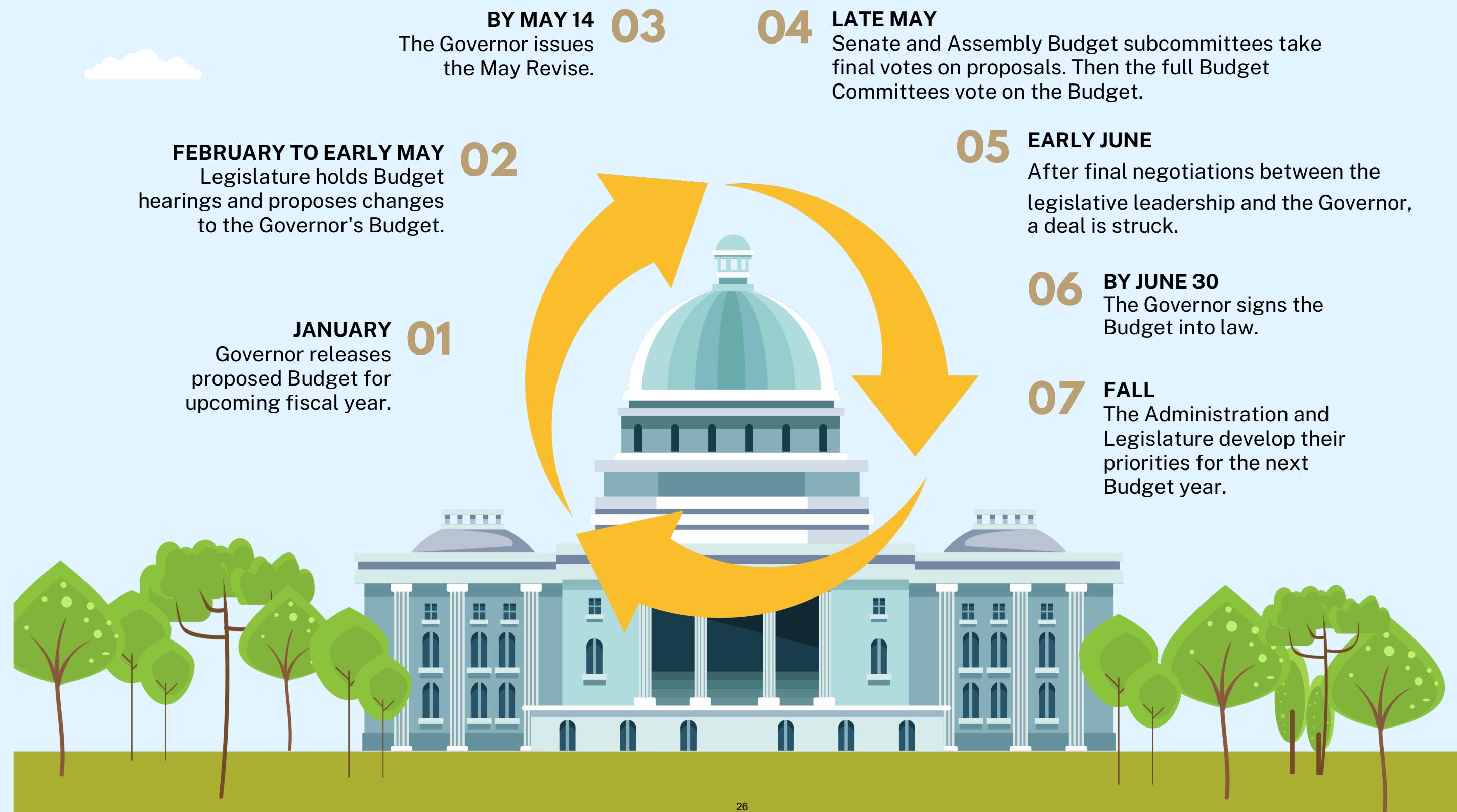
## IHSS

- **\$33.4B** for 875,000+ recipients
- Starting 2027-28:
  - State stops paying for IHSS hour increases (**\$233M** savings)
  - Backup Provider System eliminated (**\$3.5M** savings)
  - IHSS begins only after Medi-Cal eligibility (**\$86M** savings)

## Housing

- Reorganize housing efforts under the California Housing and Homeless Agency (CHHA) and the Housing Development and Finance Committee (HDFC)
- Shift **\$560M** to affordable housing under HDFC

# CALIFORNIA'S STATE BUDGET PROCESS





# Trailer Bill Language Proposal Highlights

## Rate Reform / QIP

Through 12/31/30, DDS may contract with consultants to implement/update rate models without the regular contracting process.

## Early Intervention Oversight

Removes select Part C → Part B transition requirements; DDS may issue directives to LEAs/RCs until regulations by 6/30/29.

## Life Outcomes Improvement System

Moves LOIS intent into statute; DDS notification + prior approval required for RC case management system access/changes; RCs must complete readiness/data cleanup; other systems discontinued after LOIS.

## Remote Services

Allows remote delivery for specified services when effective and chosen by individuals/families; providers must track monthly remote usage; DDS directives allowed until regulations by 10/31/29.

## RC Oversight / Contracting

DDS may use fiscal allocation letters; courtesy vendorization ends 3/1/28; RC board requirements change by 7/1/27; proposal/bid required for contracts  $\geq \$350k$  (threshold increases starting 7/1/30); starting 1/1/27 no physical-location requirement for vendorization unless needed for services.

## Federal Access Rule (HCBS)

New DDS/RC grievance process for complaints filed after 7/1/26 with set timelines, DDS review, and annual sampling/posting; DDS may issue directives.

## Employment Access Alignment

Updates terminology; removes certain work activity program requirements; DDS service standards by 9/1/27; DDS/DOR agreement by 8/1/27; integrated employment services by 3/1/29.

## SDP Admin Funding

Directs certain federal funds to DDS SDP administrative costs (incl. background checks) and removes use for other priorities (incl. RC operations).

[View full information](#)





# Future of Medi-Cal Commission (2026)

- Future of Medi-Cal Commission is an independent group developing a 10-year roadmap to strengthen and sustain Medi-Cal, with recommendations expected in early 2027.
- A 50-member Advisory Group will provide additional “on-the-ground” expertise to inform the Commission’s work.
- The Commission will meet semi-monthly throughout 2026; meetings are in-person only (not livestreamed), with report-outs shared at the following meeting.
- Ongoing updates and future meeting dates will be shared via the Commission’s monthly website: [Future of Medi-Cal Website.](#)





# Upcoming Events & Meetings

 **CalTASH**  
Building Bridges  
Breaking Barriers



February 27 - 28, 2026  
Sacramento, California

**DDS**

**Deaf Services and CDE Webinar**  
Friday, February 20  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
[RSVP](#)

**Suicide Risk and Prevention Strategies**  
Thursday, March 26  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
[RSVP](#)

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER**  
**Jacqui Irwin**  
ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 42

**CONEJO VALLEY DISABILITIES FAIR**

MARCH 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026  
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

THE OAKS MALL  
350 W. Hillcrest Dr.  
Thousand Oaks

- FREE FOOD!
- VENDORS
- MUSIC
- INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES
- FREE ENTRY FOR ALL AGES!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The Oaks 

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

  
**DisCo**  
AT THE CAPITOL

**2026 California Disability Community Advocacy Conference**  
May 18 -19, 2026

# State Calendar



Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house



Last day for bills to be introduced



Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house



Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the Floor nonfiscal bills introduced in their house



Visit Legislative Deadlines Page



# VENDORS IN ACTION!

## ARCA'S Voter Voice Campaign



Enter Your Info

Your Information

First Name \*  Last Name \*

Email \*

Yes, sign me up to receive text alerts  
By providing your mobile number, you agree to receive periodic call to action text messages from Association of Regional Center Agencies. Message and data rates may apply. Reply HELP for help. Reply STOP to unsubscribe. Message frequency varies. [Privacy Policy](#).

Mobile Number

Pick all that apply:  
I am \*

If you selected other above, please specify:  
Other

Home Information

Street Address \*

ZIP Code \*  Enter Zip for City and State

Business Information

Your Title  Company

Street Address

ZIP Code  Enter Zip for City and State

Yes, sign me up to receive email updates and action alerts from Association of Regional Center Agencies  
 Remember me

**Save**

## The Arc - Tell Congress: Protect Disability Services & Fund Our Future!



Send an email to your officials with one click!

Title \*

Full Name \*

Address \*

Zip \* city and state not required

Phone \*

Email \*

**Send Email →**

YES! Keep me updated on how to take advocacy action with The Arc and/or affiliated chapters.  
 YES! I agree to receive calls or text messages to this number from The Arc and/or our affiliated

## Everyday Advocacy Actions



Connect with Your Representatives ([find your rep.](#))



Champion NLACRC's Advocacy Efforts



Be Present in the Community



Elevate Family Voices



Foster Collaborative Relationships



Stay Informed

## Resources to Stay Informed

### California Department of Developmental Services

👉 <https://www.dds.ca.gov>  
State policies, DDS directives, budget updates, and program guidance.

### Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA)

👉 <https://www.arcenet.org>  
Statewide advocacy priorities, budget analysis, and regional center system updates.

### The Arc of California

👉 <https://thearcca.org>  
California-specific advocacy, budget updates, and community education.

### Disability Rights California

👉 <https://www.disabilityrightsca.org>  
Rights-based information, investigations, publications, and self-advocacy resources.

### Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP)

👉 <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep>  
Federal employment initiatives, best practices, and disability workforce policy.

# Vendor Advisory Committee: February 12, 2026

## Community Services Department: Director's Report

### **General Updates:**

- ❖ **DSP Collaborative: Upcoming Job Fair**
  - LA County Service Providers are invited to participate in the upcoming Job Fair on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Register by February 20<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **DSP Internship Program (presentation during August VAC meeting from All's WELL)**
  - **Highlights:** paid three-month training and internship program provides standardized, new direct care workforce entry-level training and practical work experience for those interested in entering the workforce
  - **Effective October 1<sup>st</sup> interested vendors should submit their interest directly through DDS online portal** [Qualtrics Survey | Qualtrics Experience Management](#)
  - <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/workforce-initiatives/>
  - Previous instruction was to contact NLACRC at [DSPInternship@nlacrc.org](mailto:DSPInternship@nlacrc.org) to notify us of your interest
  - <https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/D-2025-Workforce-001.pdf>
- ❖ **Quality Incentive Program (QIP) Update:**
  - <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/quality-incentive-program/>

### **Recent Directives:**

#### [D-2025-QIP-015 QIP - Provider Eligibility to Earn QIP for FY27](#)

- Required compliance with:
  - Electronic Visit Verification
  - HCBS Settings Final Rule
  - Independent Audits and Reviews [Att A: Independent Audit Requirements](#)
- [Att B: Service Codes Eligible](#)
  - [D-2025-QIP-016REV Employment Measure for FY27](#)
  - [D-2025-QIP-017REV Prevention and Wellness Measure for FY27](#)
  - [D-2025-QIP-018REV Provider Capacity Measure for FY27](#)
    - Updated deadline for completion is 2/27/2026 01/31/2026 (for all vendors effective or re-activated on or prior to June 30, 2025)
      - New vendors after July 1, 2025 will receive future guidance on qualification for FY2027 QIP
      - See “Provider Survey Status” tab on this DDS web page updated weekly to confirm submission of required surveys:  
<https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/quality-incentive-program/>
      - Questions? Contact [QIPquestions@dds.ca.gov](mailto:QIPquestions@dds.ca.gov) and include vendor #

- ❖ **Service Provider Directory one-time lump sum (subcode PD1)**
  - Wave 2: DDS approval TBD (as of 1/27/2026, RCs have not received approval)
  - Questions: [ProviderDirectory@nlacrc.org](mailto:ProviderDirectory@nlacrc.org)
- ❖ **CFS Coordinated Family Support Pilot** Incentive payments in progress.
- ❖ **Employment Access / Employment Capacity (available through 6/30/2025)**
  - Employment Capacity FY 24/25 Q3: In-progress.

## **HCBS:**

- ❖ All HCBS Services require all staff to receive training on the HCBS Final Rule. NLACRC will be offering Free HCBS Workshops for Providers & Direct Support Professionals. If you would like a workshop provided at your site, please contact [Dramos@nlacrc.org](mailto:Dramos@nlacrc.org).
  - **Beyond Compliance** (10 Sessions) Remote 10am - 1pm
    - Session 1 February 24 – Intro to HCBS
    - Session 2 February 26 - Assessments
    - Register [Beyond Compliance | assistance with HCBS waiver compliance | USA](#)
  - **Intellectability** Self-paced
    - The Fatal Five & How to Manage Choking
    - Email [hcbscompliance@nlacrc.org](mailto:hcbscompliance@nlacrc.org) to Register
  - **MAINS'L** In person NLACRC Chatsworth Office
    - March 18<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> 9 am – 3 pm
    - Email [hcbscompliance@nlacrc.org](mailto:hcbscompliance@nlacrc.org) to Register

## **DHH:**

- ❖ FREE ASL Classes: Register for Self-Paced classes: [Registration Link](#)
  - For more information, contact Ted Horton-Billard, Deaf Services Specialist [THortonBillard@nlacrc.org](mailto:THortonBillard@nlacrc.org)

## **Compliance Corner:**

- ❖ Rate Reform / Provider Directory follow-up:
  - [RatesQuestions@nlacrc.org](mailto:RatesQuestions@nlacrc.org) or [ProviderDirectory@nlacrc.org](mailto:ProviderDirectory@nlacrc.org)
- ❖ 2026 rate adjustments for minimum and IRS mileage are in progress. No action required from eligible service providers included in rate reform, tailored day services and ICFs
- ❖ **Vendor Update Reminders:**
  - Submit insurance renewals to [ProviderInsurance@nlacrc.org](mailto:ProviderInsurance@nlacrc.org) – auto-forwards to Gallagher inbox. Gallagher Verify (833) 862-8432
  - Submit license renewals and organizational charts to [Contract&Compliance@nlacrc.org](mailto:Contract&Compliance@nlacrc.org)
  - Submit notice of changes (address, entity, name, tax ID) to [ResourceDevelopment@nlacrc.org](mailto:ResourceDevelopment@nlacrc.org)
  - DS 1891 updates should be submitted through the OIG Compliance Now website: <https://sanctionsscreeningnow.com/OIGComplianceVendor/Customer.aspx/Login>
    - NLACRC is contacting providers who are out of compliance

## **Employment Services:**

- ❖ Please submit your CIE incentive requests to [CIE&PIP@nlacrc.org](mailto:CIE&PIP@nlacrc.org) FY 25.
- ❖ **FREE ACRE Training Self- Paced – Space is limited** [Registration Link](#)
  - For more information [ACRE@irioc.org](mailto:ACRE@irioc.org)

## **Resource Development:**

- ❖ NLACRC will be publishing the Fiscal Year 25-26 Community Placement Plan/Community Resource Development Plan (CPP/CRDP) Request for Proposal to the website November 14, 2025. For more information please visit [RFP, RFV, & OPPs -North Los Angeles County](#)

NLACRC will begin reviewing applications through the Provider Directory starting **January 1, 2026** for the following services:

- Coordinated Family Supports (CFS) – Service Code 076
- Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP) – Service Code 956
- Money Management Services – Service Code 034
- American Sign Language Training and Support Service – Service Code 644
- Social Recreation, Camp and Non-Medical Therapies – Service Codes 028, 525, 106, 691, 692, 693, 694, 850, 008, 102

Starting on **March 1, 2026**, NLACRC will begin using the Provider Directory for all new vendorizations. For more information visit <https://www.nlacrc.org/service-providers/how-to-become-a-service-provider/>

- ❖ **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/> .
  - NLACRC Hosting March 25, 2026, 9am – 3pm  
Register [2025-2026 CalEVV Training Road Show](#) (Flyer)

#### **Quality Assurance:**

- ❖ **Support Living Services:** SLS monitoring and technical assistance will begin next year. A Community Services Specialist will be contacting you to schedule.
- ❖ **Community Care Licensed Sites** please ensure you are signed up to receive information regarding trainings and provider information notices for your licensed service. Subscribe here: [CCLD Subscriptions](#)
- ❖ **Training Save the Dates: Registration Links Forthcoming**
  - **SIR and Risk Mitigation Training by NLACRC Risk Assessment Supervisor, Shelly Briggs and Community Services Specialist – QA, Nayeli Salinas:**
    - February 23, 2026, 10:00 am – 12:00pm
  - **Client's Rights Training by Clients' Rights Advocate, Erika Rodriguez, and Community Services Specialist – QA, Andrea Messina:**
    - March 9, 2026, 10:00 am – 12:00pm
  - **Oral Health for Residents & Care Staff Training by NLACRC Dental Consultant, Lisa Butters-Smith, and Community Services Specialist – QA, Lisseth Carrillo:**
    - March 24, 2026, 9:30 - 11:30am
- ❖ **Winter Safety - Emergency Preparedness Bulletin**
  - [Winter Season - Emergency Preparedness Bulletin](#)



*LA County Service Providers, You're Invited!*

# DSP COLLABORATIVE JOB FAIR



THURSDAY,  
MARCH 5, 2026



11AM-2PM



FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE –  
PASADENA, 3700 E SIERRA MADRE BLVD,  
PASADENA, CA 91107

## OVERVIEW

The DSP Collaborative is hosting a job fair designed to connect Los Angeles County Service Providers with individuals interested in careers as Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). This event brings together service providers and job seekers in one place to support workforce development and strengthen services for individuals with developmental disabilities across the region.

## **REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 20 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!**

Coming this Spring 2026, LA County service providers will be able to post job openings on the DSP Collaborative website at [dspcollaborative.org](http://dspcollaborative.org)!

## 3 REASONS TO ATTEND

*Participate as a vendor at our job fair to connect with DSPs in LA County!*

01

Meet qualified, motivated candidates in one place.

02

Strengthen your recruitment pipeline.

03

Increase visibility for your organization.

## Questions?

**Contact Brendali Maldonado**

📞 (626) 248-4963

✉️ [bmaldonado@elarc.org](mailto:bmaldonado@elarc.org)



## CALIFORNIA ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION (CALEVV)

# IN-PERSON TRAINING

Join us in our ongoing mission to support **caregivers and providers** in meeting federal Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirements! The CalEVV team is here to offer hands-on instruction, tools, resources, and state guidance on compliance and all things EVV.

## BENEFITS

### GETTING STARTED

Receive assistance with the first step of self-registration.

### CALEVV SYSTEM USERS

Using the state provided CalEVV system, learn how to set up and maintain your EVV account.

### EVV COMPLIANCE

Learn how to streamline EVV processes to reduce errors, save time, and improve overall compliance efficiency.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Receive technical assistance with submitting compliant EVV data.

## REGISTRATION AVAILABLE NOW!

### San Ysidro Health

- January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026; 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**1601 Precision Park Lane, San Diego, CA 92173**  
Register here: [Registration Link](#)

### Access TLC

- January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026; 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**5401 Tech Circle, Moorpark, CA 93021**  
Register here: [Registration Link](#)

### Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center

- January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026; 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**1000 South Fremont Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803**  
Register here: [Registration Link](#)

### North Los Angeles County Regional Center

- March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026; 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**9200 Oakdale Ave., Suite 100, Chatsworth, CA 91311**  
Register here: [Registration Link](#)

## REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

### Valley Mountain Regional Center

- February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**702 N. Aurora St, Stockton, CA 95202**  
Home & Health Care Management Inc.

### San Andreas Regional Center

- February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**1398 Ridgewood Dr, Chico, CA 95973**  
San Andreas Regional Center

### Central Valley Regional Center

- March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**6203 San Ignacio Ave. Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95119**  
Central Valley Regional Center

### San Diego Regional Center

- March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**4615 N. Marty Ave, Fresno, CA 93722**  
San Diego Regional Center

### County of Tulare Health and Human Services Agency

- April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026  
**4355 Ruffin Rd Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92123**  
County of Tulare Health and Human Services Agency

### Hampton Inn & Suites hosted by Libertana

- June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**5957 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA, 93277**  
Hampton Inn & Suites hosted by Libertana

### 5638 Sepulveda Blvd, Sherman Oaks, CA 91411

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**What do I need to bring?** A valid photo ID is required.

Equipment is provided.

**Who can attend?** Open to Providers using the CalEVV system, provided free of cost by the state.

**How do I sign up?** Please visit the link provided in this flyer to register.

### Questions?

 Visit: [DDS EVV Website](#)  
Email: [EVV@dds.ca.gov](mailto:EVV@dds.ca.gov)  
Service Codes Subject to EVV

### Learn More About EVV At:

[DDS EVV Website](#)  
[DHCS EVV Website](#)  
[CDA EVV Website](#)  
[CDPH EVV Website](#)



**North Los Angeles County Regional Center**  
**Director's Report**  
February 2026

**1. NLACRC Spotlight:**

**A. Recruiting Efficiency Gains**

- i. NLACRC has focused on streamlining recruiting metrics and processes to ensure timely and consistent communication with all candidates.
- ii. These efforts have reduced end-to-end hiring timelines for all roles to an average of 75 days, down from 717 days in January 2025, with Service Coordinator hiring now averaging 51 days.
- iii. The goal is to continue progressing toward the industry average of 45 days, reflecting a highly streamlined process while accounting for hiring stages outside NLACRC's control, such as background checks.

**B. Ongoing Compliance with Intake Timelines**

- i. In a recent report, NLACRC had 100% of Lanterman intake cases within timelines, the statewide average is 61.5%.

**2. Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Updates:**

**A. Operations (OPS) Funding and Survey**

- i. DDS plans to conduct a time-sensitive survey of regional centers to assess whether current Operations (OPS) funding is sufficient to cover staffing, benefits, rent, and other administrative costs.
- ii. Approximately \$30 million statewide may be available for allocation; however, some funds are restricted for specific purposes such as rent or performance measures.
- iii. DDS has emphasized the need for rapid data submission. Some potential funding solutions may rely on prior-year funds that will revert if not claimed by mid-March, creating timing risk.

**B. Transportation Rate Updates (Minimal Fiscal Impact Expected)**

- i. DDS finalized updates to several transportation service codes, with changes taking effect between February 1 and March 1, 2026.
- ii. DDS has stated that these changes are expected to have little to no overall financial impact on regional centers based on current usage patterns.
- iii. NLACRC will monitor implementation to ensure vendor practices align with the new rate structure.

**C. Remote Services and Future Policy Considerations**

- i. DDS is required to submit a report to the Legislature in May regarding the use of remote services and remote planning meetings, such as virtual IPP meetings.

- ii. The current authority allowing remote services through DDS directives expires at the end of 2026. DDS plans to introduce placeholder budget language this year to keep the issue active for future consideration.
- iii. While there is no immediate financial impact, this issue may affect future delivery models and administrative requirements.

**D. Self-Determination Program (SDP): Forward Look**

- i. DDS has indicated that FY 2025-26 is expected to be the final year of Local Volunteer Advisory Committee (LVAC) funding, though advisory committees will continue.
- ii. The federal waiver that allows California to operate the Self-Determination Program expires June 30, 2026. DDS plans to release a draft renewal for public comment in February and submit it to the federal government by April 1.
- iii. The renewal is expected to include updated Fiscal Management Services (FMS) standards and an updated methodology for individual budget calculations, which may increase administrative requirements.
- iv. DDS will also release a proposal for public comment that would designate the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) as the sole entity authorized to conduct SDP orientations.

**3. Legislative Updates:**

**A. Budget Update: Timing and Risk Considerations**

- i. The Assembly Budget Subcommittee that oversees health and human services, including DDS, will hold its main hearing on April 15, which is later than usual and further compresses the window for budget discussions and potential changes.

**B. Proposed Trailer Bill Language:**

- i. Early Start Intervention Programs Oversight:

**1. What Changed:**

- The trailer bill language removes several state-level transition requirements between Early Intervention (ages 0-3) and school-age services, including mandated points of contact and formal transition language in interagency agreements. It also allows DDS to issue guidance while permanent regulations are developed through June 30, 2029.

**2. Why:**

- To ensure a coordinated, statewide transition to a single system and avoid fragmented or duplicative technology changes.

- ii. Rate Reform / Quality Incentive Program – Contract Exemption:

**1. What Changed:**

- Through December 31, 2030, DDS may contract with consultants to implement and update rate models without the standard state contracting process.

2. **Why:**

- To allow rate reform work to move forward more quickly and efficiently.

iii. Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS):

1. **What Changed:**

- The trailer bill formally establishes the transition to LOIS, requires DDS approval before Regional Centers change or plan case management systems, and directs Regional Centers to prepare data and discontinue other systems once LOIS is implemented.

2. **Why:**

- To ensure a coordinated, statewide transition to a single system and avoid fragmented or duplicative technology changes.

iv. Remote Services:

1. **What Changed:**

- Certain services may be provided remotely when effective and chosen by individuals and families, with providers required to track usage. DDS may issue guidance through October 31, 2029.

2. **Why:**

- To allow flexibility in service delivery while maintaining oversight and collecting data to inform future regulations.

v. Regional Center Oversight / Fiscal Allocation Letters:

1. **What Changed:**

- Strengthens state oversight of Regional Centers by updating governing board requirements and training.
- Merge the Department's core regional center contract with the regional center performance contract and the regional center performance measures to clarify the expectations across regional centers.
- Authorize funding allocations to regional centers to be done without the administrative process and delays of formal contract amendments.
- Update the authority of the Department to address persistent regional center non-compliance with the terms of contracts with the Department.
- Remove an outdated rule that requires service providers to have a physical office within every regional center's area, unless it's needed to deliver a service.
- End the practice called "courtesy vendorization" to simplify the process for service providers who want to expand where they offer services.

2. **Why:**

- To increase accountability, standardize performance expectations, strengthen governance, and improve fiscal and operational oversight statewide.

vi. Federal Access Rule:

1. **What Changed:**

- The trailer bill establishes a new DDS-led grievance process for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) -related complaints filed on or after July 1, 2026, including defined timelines, review steps, and public reporting.

2. **Why:**

- To align California's complaint process with federal HCBS access requirements and strengthen oversight of rights and service delivery.

vii. Employment Access Alignment:

1. **What Changed:**

- The bill updates terminology, removes Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accreditation and nonprofit requirements for work activity programs, directs DDS to establish service standards, and requires DDS and Department of Rehabilitation to align employment services and funding pathways.

2. **Why:**

- To modernize employment services, improve coordination between agencies, and support access to integrated employment.

viii. Self-Determination Program – Administrative Costs Funding

1. **What Changed:**

- This proposal would remove outdated language regarding the use of historical savings for administrative costs of the Self-Determination Program.

2. **Why:**

- To conform use of funding to the current law that prioritizes administrative costs of the Self-Determination Program.

4. Center Updates:

**A. Recruitment**

- Total # of positions filled: 932
- Total # of authorized positions: 1036
- February 2026 New Hires
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Cycle 2/9/2026): 9 unconfirmed
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle (2/23/2026): 5 unconfirmed

**B. Consumer Statistics:**

- Total Served: 41,398
  - Early Start: 4,926

2. Lanterman: 33,862
- ii. Breakdown of all three valleys:
  1. AV (Early Start & Lanterman): 9,910
  2. SCV (Early Start & Lanterman): 4,563
  3. SFV (Early Start & Lanterman): 24,315
- iii. Intake all three valleys: 701 & Early Start Intake: 478
- iv. All other categories not captured in Early Start, Lanterman, and Intake, such as Provisional, Enhanced, Specialized, and other which would total: 1,431

**C. Social Recreation Update:**

- i. Service Authorization and Processing Update
  1. The total number of individuals currently served is approximately 4,372, with approximately 8,210 active authorizations on file.
  2. For referrals that are complete and do not involve challenges or delays, the average authorization completion time is 4.2 days.
  3. Financial Management Service provider Miji continues to report that all referrals are being reviewed and addressed, with no referrals left unattended.
- ii. Current Challenges Noted and Being Addressed:
  1. Case Service Coordinators (CSCs) not extending the 490 Financial Management Services (FMS) fee when extending activities.
  2. One-time payment authorizations being extended incorrectly.
  3. Referrals not being submitted in a timely manner.

**D. Quality Assurance:**

- i. QA conducted 104 residential visits
  1. 53 Unannounced In-Person Visits
  2. 6 Corrective Action Plans developed with residential providers

**5. Outreach:**

**A. Armenian Parent Circle of Support – Armenian Christmas Celebration**

- i. On January 8, 2026, NLACRC's Armenian Parent Circle of Support hosted an Armenian Christmas celebration at the SFV office, attended by 23 families.
- ii. The event included cultural activities, a visit from Senator Menjivar, participation from Executive Leadership, case management leadership, and a DEIB-hosted resource table.

**B. Bloom Mama Workshop**

- i. On January 16, 2026, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (DEIB) staff participated in the Bloom Mama Workshop in Palmdale with community partners, including All for Kids and Best Start.
- ii. Staff shared information on Regional Center services, eligibility, and Early Start with new and expecting parents, strengthening outreach in the Antelope Valley.

**C. CTC Campus Connect – Lowman**

- i. On January 12, 2026, DEIB staff participated in a Campus Connect event at Lowman Special Education Career and Transition Center in North Hollywood.
- ii. Campus Connect provides monthly outreach at local Career and Transition Centers (CTCs) to support families with questions about Regional Center services, eligibility, and post-high school planning.

**6. Upcoming Disability Organization Events/Activities**

- A. State Council on Developmental Disabilities: Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) Town Hall Event—February 17, 2026**
- B. Disability Rights California's next board meeting—March 19, 2026**
- C. Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee meeting—February 19, 2026**

FY 2025-26 Vendor Advisory Committee	Jul-25 Dark	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25 Dark	Nov-25	Dec-25 Dark	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26 Dark	Total Absences
Alex Kopilevich, Chair		P	P		P		P						0
Jaklen Keshishyan, Alt. Chair		P	P		P		P						0
Jodie Agnew Navarro		P	P		P		P						0
Masood Babaian		P	P		P		Ab						1
Paul Borda		P	P		Ab		P						1
Andrea Devers		P	P		P		P						0
David Ebrami		P	P		P		P						0
Cal Enriquez		P	P		P		P						0
Jason Gillis		P	P		P		P						0
Ricki Macken Chivers		P	P		P		P						0
Vahe Mkrtchian		P	P		P		P						0
Desiree Misrachi		Ab	P		P		P						1
Daniel Ortiz		P	P		P		P						0
Jen Pippard		P	P		P		P						0
Tal Segalovich		P	P		P		P						0
Octavia Watkins		P	P		P		Ab						1
Sharon Weinberg		P	P		P		P						0

Meeting Time

2.50

2.00

2.00

1.50

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)