

**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
August 13, 2026, 9:30 A.M.**

MEMBERS:

Tal Segalovitch, Jaklen Keshishyan, Jodie Agnew-Navarro, Paul Borda, Andrea Devers, Sharon Weinberg, Jason Gillis, Tal Segalovitch, Ricki Macken-Chilvers, Vahe Mkrtchian, Desiree Misrachi, Lea Munoz, Jen Pippard

STAFF:

Angela Pao-Johnson, Evelyn McOmie, Vini Montague, Arshalous Garlanian, Silvia Renteria-Haro, John Van De Riet, Lindsay Granger

GUESTS: Sera Chloe – All's Well

ABSENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, and adequate and proper notice of the meeting having been given, VAC Chair Tal Segalovitch called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. read the NLACRC Civility Code.

2. COMMITTEE MEMBER ATTENDANCE

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

3. SHARE IMPACT STORY FROM INDIVIDUAL SERVED

Executive Director Angela Pao-Johnson shared an impact story from one of individuals served, Ardeshir Farman.

Alona Yorkshire shared background on *A Bumblebee Can Fly, and So Can I*, explaining that the book's affirmations were developed collaboratively with participation from individuals served. Alona Yorkshire noted that the accompanying video was created by a content creation team led by individuals served. The book has been available on Amazon for several months, received a bestseller badge, and has received positive feedback from parents and teachers in other states.

Alona Yorkshire also shared that Alona Yorkshire's daughter, an NLACRC individual served, participated as one of the readers featured in the video. Angela Pao-Johnson noted that the video has been shared with other committees, the Board, and during all-staff meetings and emphasized the impact of hearing the book read by individuals served.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Tal Segalovitch opened public input for agenda items.

Alex Kopilevich raised concerns regarding delays in initiating services due to service agreement requirements, including challenges obtaining required signatures from families and coordinating with service coordinators. Alex Kopilevich shared that these delays have impacted vendors despite continued referrals and have contributed to a decline in services and staffing. Alex Kopilevich requested consideration of potential solutions to address these delays.

Ricki Macken-Chilvers asked how frequently the staff contact list is updated, noting recent staffing changes and that the last list received was in May. Evelyn McOmie stated that the contact list is updated every 60 days, posted to the vendor portal, and distributed to vendors.

No additional public input was provided.

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 June 11, 2026, as presented. Motion carried.

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

6. ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

7. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

7.1 Orientation

- A. Bylaws**
- B. Guidelines & Procedures**
- C. Committee Roster**
- D. Committee Meeting Schedule**
- E. Priority Issues/Goals**

Tal Segalovitch provided a brief Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) orientation and reviewed the VAC bylaws, guidelines, and procedures. Tal Segalovitch explained that the VAC may consist of up to 18 members who are current vendors in good standing or employees of vendors in good standing. Membership is intended to represent a broad range of provider categories from which NLACRC purchases services.

Tal Segalovitch reviewed the role of the Vendor Trustee, who is designated by the VAC to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees and serves as Chair of the VAC. The Vendor Trustee serves a one-year term. Tal Segalovitch also noted that a quorum consists of a majority of VAC members.

Tal Segalovitch reviewed the appointment and terms of VAC members. VAC members are appointed by the Board from a slate of candidates provided by the VAC and generally serve three-year terms beginning July 1. When a member is appointed to fill a vacancy, the term begins upon appointment and continues for the remainder of the vacant term. VAC members

may serve no more than six consecutive years and, after reaching the six-year limit, must wait at least 12 months before becoming eligible to serve again. If a member resigns before the end of a term and is reappointed within 12 months, the prior time served is counted toward the six-year limit.

Tal Segalovitch also reviewed the VAC's responsibilities, which include providing advice, guidance, recommendations, and technical assistance to the Board in carrying out its mandated duties. As part of the orientation, Tal Segalovitch reviewed the current VAC committee roster, meeting schedule, and the priority issues and goals of the VAC subcommittees.

7.2 Self-Determination Update

Silvia Renteria-Haro provided an update on the Self-Determination Program (SDP). As of August 1, 2026, NLACRC had 866 participants enrolled in the program. Silvia Renteria-Haro reported that 196 individuals had transitioned into SDP during the year, nearly reaching the prior year's total of 197 transitions.

Silvia Renteria-Haro noted that participation and transitions into SDP continue to grow. No additional program updates were available at this time, and DDS is currently working on additional guidelines for the program.

No questions were raised by the committee.

8. REPORT OUTS

8.1 Deputy Director Officer's Report

Evelyn McOmie provided the Deputy Director's Report and encouraged vendors to continue promoting the DDS SIPP Survey when attending meetings with individuals served and families. Evelyn McOmie reported that NLACRC has exceeded the statewide average for two consecutive months and continues to trend upward. Evelyn McOmie explained that survey participation provides regional centers and DDS with information regarding individuals' and families' experiences with services and thanked vendors for their continued assistance in promoting the survey.

Evelyn McOmie provided a Purchase of Service (POS) update and noted that NLACRC's recent average has been approximately 6,000 POS approvals per month. For July, service coordinators approved 7,698 POS authorizations, representing an increase of more than 1,000 approvals from the recent monthly average. Evelyn McOmie noted that the increase reflects continued approval and provision of services for individuals served.

Evelyn McOmie provided a staffing and caseload update, reporting that all Client Services Coordinator (CSC) supervisor positions are filled except for one, for which NLACRC is actively recruiting. NLACRC also continues to recruit service coordinators and is looking to expand several units. Evelyn McOmie announced that Valeria Soto, formerly the Aging Specialist, was promoted to Supervisor. As a result, the Aging Specialist position is currently vacant, and NLACRC is actively recruiting and interviewing candidates to fill the position.

Evelyn McOmie also announced the development of a Vendor Language-Based Directory that will be available on the NLACRC website and serve as an informational resource for service coordinators. The centralized directory will identify vendors that provide services in languages other than English and will capture language capabilities across different service codes. Community Services and the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Department are collaborating on the project.

Evelyn McOmie explained that the directory is intended to support case management and outreach, improve accessibility, and help connect individuals served and families with linguistically appropriate services more efficiently. Vendors will receive a form by email requesting information regarding the languages currently supported by active staff and Direct Support Professionals (DSPs). Vendors that provide services in more than one language were encouraged to identify those languages when completing the form. Responses will be collected through September 30, 2026, and reminders will be distributed during the response period.

No questions were raised by the committee.

8.2 Chief Financial Officer's Report

Vini Montague provided the Chief Financial Officer's Report and reported that NLACRC did not need to borrow against its line of credit during June or July. NLACRC completed FY 2025-2026 without borrowing and received its DDS cash advance timely at the beginning of FY 2026-2027, eliminating the need to access the line of credit.

Vini Montague provided an update on Accounting Department efforts to improve customer service and support for service providers. Vini Montague shared that NLACRC has established an internal customer service team to assist with escalated issues and is working to expand the team. Vini Montague also introduced Justice Agonoy, Controller, and Robert Gann, Accounts Payable Supervisor, to provide an update on the implementation of a new help ticketing system.

Justice Agonoy explained that the help ticketing system is intended to improve responsiveness and provide greater visibility and tracking of vendor inquiries. The system is currently being tested for Purchase of Service (POS) inquiries and admission agreements and has been implemented with approximately half of the vendors assigned to Accounting Specialist staff. Full implementation is anticipated by October 1, 2026.

Justice Agonoy also announced that a vendor hotline for POS inquiries is planned to launch by October 1, 2026. Calls to the hotline will be routed to Accounting Specialists to improve accessibility and responsiveness. Justice Agonoy explained that staff are being trained and provided with the necessary system access in preparation for the full launch.

Justice Agonoy stated that inquiries will be categorized based on the nature and urgency of the request and routed to the appropriate staff member. Categories will include areas such as e-billing and Personal and Incidental (P&I) inquiries. The system will allow vendors to submit inquiries through a centralized process while Accounting staff internally route each request to the appropriate person. The system will also provide reporting and visibility into inquiries and their resolution.

Tal Segalovitch asked how vendors should provide feedback during the testing period. Justice Agonoy stated that feedback may currently be emailed directly to Justice Agonoy and Robert Gann. A dedicated feedback email address is expected to be available with the full launch on October 1, 2026. Justice Agonoy encouraged vendors to provide feedback to support continued improvement of the system.

Sharon Weinberg thanked the Accounting Department and noted improvements in responsiveness and follow-up. Sharon Weinberg raised a concern regarding the handling of P&I inquiries and uncertainty regarding the appropriate department or staff contact. Justice Agonoy confirmed that P&I inquiries fall within Accounting and explained that the new system will include a dedicated P&I category to ensure inquiries are routed appropriately.

Ricki Macken-Chilvers also acknowledged improvements in Accounting's responsiveness and follow-through and expressed appreciation for NLACRC's efforts to address vendor concerns. In response to a question from Ricki Macken-Chilvers, Justice Agonoy confirmed that the help ticketing platform being implemented is Freshservice.

Vini Montague thanked the committee for the positive feedback and acknowledged that improving vendor support is an ongoing process.

No further questions were raised.

8.3 Community Services Director's Report

Evelyn McOmie provided the Community Services Director's Report on behalf of Arshalous Garlanian, Community Services Director. Evelyn McOmie highlighted changes to Direct Support Professional (DSP) record access that became effective August 1, 2026. Under the updated DDS privacy requirements, only individual DSPs may directly access their records through DDS. DSPs may choose to share their training records with an employer or third party as needed; however, employers must obtain those records directly from their staff, as DDS will no longer release DSP records directly to employers.

Evelyn McOmie announced that NLACRC received DDS funding to hold Family Expos again this year and encouraged vendors to participate by hosting informational tables and helping promote the events to individuals served and families. The San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valley Family Expo is scheduled for September 12, 2026, in Santa Clarita, and the Antelope Valley Family Expo is scheduled for October 24, 2026, at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. Flyers are available for both events, and vendors were encouraged to assist with outreach and participation.

Evelyn McOmie also announced that a disco-themed dance for individuals served will be held from 1:00–4:00 p.m. and encouraged Supported Living Services (SLS) and residential service providers to support interested individuals in attending. Evelyn McOmie noted that similar dances had historically been offered prior to the pandemic and encouraged providers to assist with transportation for individuals who would enjoy participating.

Evelyn McOmie provided information regarding the upcoming fall NLACRC Vendor Fairs, clarifying that the Vendor Fairs are separate from the Family Expos and are intended to provide information to NLACRC staff. The San Fernando Valley Vendor Fair is scheduled for October 14–15, 2026, and the Antelope Valley Vendor Fair is scheduled for November 4–5, 2026. Additional information will be distributed regarding participating programs, table registration, and event details.

A. DDS/DSP Internship Program – All's Well Healthcare

Sera Choe, Recruiter with All's Well Healthcare Staffing, provided a presentation on the Direct Support Professional (DSP) Internship Program. Sera Choe explained that All's Well has partnered with the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to provide a paid, three-month shadow training and internship program. Interns may work up to 30 hours per week and are compensated at the applicable minimum wage for the city in which the internship takes place. During the internship, participants work alongside a DSP mentor to learn the responsibilities of the DSP role and how to support individuals served. Providers may hire an intern at any point during the three-month internship, and All's Well ensures candidates meet the minimum eligibility requirements established by DDS.

Sera Choe reviewed the objectives of the DSP Internship Program, including introducing entry-level individuals to DSP careers, preparing participants for career opportunities in related

fields, increasing DSP recruitment and retention, and providing interns with skills needed to deliver quality services. The program is also intended to simplify the hiring process for providers by having All's Well manage candidate sourcing, interviewing, and screening, allowing providers to focus on training and identifying candidates for long-term employment.

Sera Choe explained that there is no cost to service providers to participate in the program. All's Well manages administrative and employment responsibilities, including weekly payroll at the applicable minimum wage, workers' compensation coverage, candidate vetting, onboarding, and clearance requirements. All's Well will also complete the LIC 503 health screening report on behalf of participating providers.

Sera Choe also reviewed retention incentives available to interns who transition into permanent employment. Eligible interns may receive a \$625 retention bonus at both the six-month and 12-month employment milestones to encourage long-term employment and continuity within provider programs.

Sera Choe explained that providers interested in participating must first complete the DDS interest form. Following confirmation from DDS, All's Well will contact the provider to schedule an orientation call and review additional program details. Sera Choe also announced that the next DSP Internship Program webinar is scheduled for September 14, 2026.

Sera Choe provided an update on DSP Internship Program activity within NLACRC's catchment area. The current identified need is 20 interns, and 20 candidates have been submitted to date. Six candidates are currently in the onboarding process, and two interns have been placed. Sera Choe also discussed the need for additional participating providers to help place candidates whose schedules and interests may require greater flexibility and encouraged providers throughout the NLACRC catchment area to consider participating.

Alona Yorkshire shared positive feedback regarding TASC's experience with the All's Well DSP Internship Program. Alona Yorkshire reported that TASC has hired approximately 20 interns and has had 30 or more interns placed through the program. Alona Yorkshire noted that several interns have become valued staff members and expressed appreciation for the customer service and assistance provided by Sera Choe and the All's Well team. Alona Yorkshire stated that the program has been an important resource in addressing staffing shortages and supporting continued services to individuals served.

Sharon Weinberg asked whether the program could provide DSP interns for programs serving individuals with higher behavioral support needs. Sera Choe explained that the internship program is designed primarily to introduce entry-level candidates without prior experience to the DSP field and generally works with programs that do not require significant behavioral support. Sera Choe stated that potential opportunities could still be explored and encouraged Sharon Weinberg to complete the DDS interest form to discuss possible placements further.

Evelyn McOmie concluded the report by highlighting additional informational materials and training opportunities available to vendors, including Deaf Plus Training 101, Family Expo information, Social Security Benefits Counseling and Training, Employment Services, and Free Acres Training. Evelyn McOmie encouraged vendors to review and take the available materials following the meeting.

No further questions were raised.

8.4 Legislative Report

John Van de Riet provided the Legislative Report on behalf of Belinda Abatesi and presented an update on the FY 2026-2027 California State Budget. John Van de Riet reported that the

final state budget totals approximately \$351.7 billion, including \$251.1 billion from the General Fund, with no significant reductions to DDS Regional Center services.

John Van de Riet reported that proposed reductions to In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) were rejected and that the backup provider system remains in place. John Van de Riet also noted that a new Medi-Cal asset limit will take effect July 1, 2027, and stated that NLACRC will continue to monitor the change due to the connection between Medi-Cal eligibility, IHSS, and other long-term supports.

John Van de Riet provided an overview of SB 163, the Developmental Services Budget Trailer Bill, which was included as part of the state budget. John Van de Riet noted that SB 163 includes policy changes related to Early Start, Regional Center governing boards, letters of intent, the grievance process, Rate Reform, and employment. Resources were provided for additional information regarding the DDS budget summary, SB 163, and the related DDS directive.

John Van de Riet provided an update on the 2026 General Election and reported that even-numbered State Senate districts are up for election, including Senate Districts 20 and 24 within NLACRC's catchment area. All State Assembly seats are also up for election, including Assembly Districts 34, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, and 46 within the NLACRC catchment area. Voting information and key election dates were provided. John Van de Riet also announced that the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (OCRA) will provide voter training during the September 3, 2026 Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting at 5:00 p.m.

John Van de Riet reviewed the 2026 Legislative Bill Tracker and noted that NLACRC continues to monitor active legislation throughout the legislative session. John Van de Riet highlighted AB 2324, the Youth Caregiver's Career Pathway Program, which has been chaptered and creates a pathway into the direct support profession. The ARCA Legislative Bill Tracker was provided as a resource for reviewing additional legislation being monitored.

John Van de Riet reviewed upcoming legislative dates and meetings, including August 21 as the last day to amend bills on the floor and October 2 as a key deadline for bills to be enacted before taking effect January 1. John Van de Riet concluded by reviewing advocacy resources available to assist individuals with staying informed and participating in legislative advocacy.

No questions were raised following the report.

8.5 Executive Director's Report

Angela Pao-Johnson provided the Executive Director's Report and began by commenting on the Freshservice ticketing system discussed during the Chief Financial Officer's Report. Angela Pao-Johnson noted that the system will allow NLACRC leadership to identify trends across vendor inquiries, determine the scope of recurring issues, and prioritize areas requiring attention.

Angela Pao-Johnson provided an update on NLACRC's July Legislative Breakfast. The event provided an opportunity for legislators, community members, vendors, and staff to discuss current issues and recognize the 60th anniversary of California's first two pilot regional centers. The program focused on the past, present, and future of the regional center system and included speakers and representatives from DDS and legislative offices.

Angela Pao-Johnson provided an update on the Executive Director Community Listening Sessions focused on historically underserved communities throughout NLACRC's catchment area. Sessions have been completed with the Armenian, Black/African American, and

Hispanic/Latino communities. Angela Pao-Johnson shared that the sessions have provided valuable opportunities to hear directly from individuals served and families about their experiences. Common themes have emerged across communities, along with differences in how communities receive information, preferred communication channels, and messaging. Filipino and Farsi-speaking community sessions remain scheduled for September and October. Following completion of the sessions, NLACRC plans to share overall themes, community input, and a plan of action moving forward.

Angela Pao-Johnson encouraged continued participation in the DDS IPP Survey and reported that NLACRC met its benchmarks for June and July. Under NLACRC's special contract language with DDS, NLACRC is required to exceed the statewide survey response rate. Angela Pao-Johnson reported that NLACRC's response rate is nearly 7% for the calendar year compared with a statewide response rate of approximately 1.8%–1.9%. DDS also seeks an aggregate satisfaction rate of 85% across the five-question survey. NLACRC has met that satisfaction benchmark each month since January except May and must meet the requirement for six consecutive months.

Angela Pao-Johnson recognized Cynthia Sanchez, Outreach Language Specialist, for being appointed Co-Chair of the Department of Mental Health's Service Area Leadership Team for Service Area 1 in the Antelope Valley. Angela Pao-Johnson noted that the appointment reflects NLACRC's continued commitment to community partnerships related to behavioral health.

Angela Pao-Johnson provided an update on NLACRC's strategic planning process and refreshed mission, vision, and values. NLACRC contracted with KH Consulting to facilitate the process, which included input from the Vendor Advisory Committee, other NLACRC committees, external partners, ARCA, DDS, staff, and the Board of Trustees. Angela Pao-Johnson explained that the updated mission, vision, and values represent a refresh of NLACRC's organizational direction based on extensive stakeholder input. The identified core values are Respect, Inclusivity, Advocacy, Empowerment, and Partnership, and the new organizational tagline is "Empowering Lives. Strengthening Communities."

Angela Pao-Johnson reviewed the four priorities identified through the strategic planning process: Consumer, Family, and Community Impact; Vendor Excellence and Service Delivery; Operational Excellence and Innovation; and Workforce and Culture. Angela Pao-Johnson explained that all four priorities are ultimately intended to strengthen NLACRC's ability to serve individuals and families. The developing strategic plan includes four priorities and 11 goals. NLACRC is currently refining the plan, determining priorities across the three-year implementation period, and developing metrics and accountability measures. The Board will review the plan and provide input prior to final revision and adoption. Public communication regarding the strategic plan is anticipated from October through December 2026, with a formal launch planned for January 2027.

Angela Pao-Johnson reported that DDS has suspended its current efforts to develop a statewide respite assessment tool while DDS further evaluates the potential scope and impact on services. Regional centers had previously provided input into the development process.

Angela Pao-Johnson also provided an update on the development of a statewide operations funding model for regional centers, which is intended to replace the existing core staffing formula originally developed in 1978. Angela Pao-Johnson explained that the existing formula has not adequately adjusted for changes in staffing costs and other operational expenses over time. The new model is intended to consider factors such as regional center size, catchment area, demographics of individuals served, regional cost differences, workload, staffing needs, and currently unfunded positions. The model will also account for operational expenses such as training, hardware, and software and is expected to be reviewed every three years.

Angela Pao-Johnson clarified that development of the new funding model does not guarantee that regional centers will immediately receive funding for all identified needs. The model is intended to provide greater transparency regarding actual operational costs and funding discrepancies. DDS is expected to release regional center-specific funding information in the fall, which NLACRC will share when available.

Angela Pao-Johnson announced that ARCA Academy is scheduled for September 25–26, 2026. The training provides regional center Board members with governance training, statewide legislative and policy updates, and information intended to strengthen knowledge of Board responsibilities.

Angela Pao-Johnson provided an NLACRC operational update, reporting 983 filled staff positions. Angela Pao-Johnson also reported continued growth in the number of individuals served, increasing from approximately 42,000 at the previous report to 43,101. Quality Assurance completed 117 residential visits, resulting in five corrective action plans and no plans of improvement for non-licensed providers. Social Recreation referrals totaled 1,250 in June and 1,257 in July.

Angela Pao-Johnson highlighted NLACRC's participation in a Juneteenth celebration hosted in Canyon Country in partnership with the NAACP. Approximately 120 community members connected with NLACRC to learn about available services, including services for the African American community and other individuals served.

Angela Pao-Johnson concluded by highlighting upcoming community and disability-related events. During discussion, Tal Segalovitch commented on the statewide operations funding model and noted that learning more about the limitations of the existing regional center funding structure reinforced the importance of collaboration between regional centers and the vendor community. Angela Pao-Johnson agreed and emphasized the importance of partnership.

9. OPEN DISCUSSION TOPICS

Tal Segalovitch opened discussion regarding concerns previously raised about delays in obtaining required signatures and the potential impact on vendors.

Sharon Weinberg shared that providers experience delays when Individual Program Plan (IPP) signature pages are incomplete, particularly when an individual is conserved and the authorized representative is not present to sign. Sharon Weinberg emphasized that providers are not authorized representatives and may only sign the IPP as participants; providers cannot provide consent on behalf of an individual for goals or services.

Justice Agonoy addressed delays involving admission agreements and advised vendors to submit admission agreement inquiries through the designated NLACRC admission agreement email. Justice Agonoy explained that the email is now connected to the new service ticketing system, allowing Accounting to track requests and coordinate with Case Management to address outstanding signatures and escalate requests when necessary.

Sharon Weinberg raised an additional concern regarding providers not consistently receiving final copies of admission agreements after all required signatures and administrative approvals have been completed. Sharon Weinberg noted that missing final copies can create challenges when documentation is needed for Quality Assurance or DDS reviews, even when providers have previously requested the completed documents.

Justice Agonoy acknowledged the concern and stated that there may be a gap in the process for returning fully executed admission agreements to providers. Justice Agonoy stated that Accounting will review the issue and advised vendors needing final signed copies to submit

their requests to the admission agreement email. Justice Agonoy confirmed that vendors experiencing similar issues may provide a list of outstanding agreements so that completed copies can be provided.

Tal Segalovitch noted that the original concern raised earlier in the meeting could be revisited at the end of the meeting if additional clarification or public input was provided.

10. COMMITTEE WORK GROUP INFORMATION

10.1 Early Start Services

Jodie Agnew-Navarro was unavailable to provide an Early Start Services Subcommittee update. Tal Segalovitch stated that Tal Segalovitch would follow up with Jodie Agnew-Navarro to confirm continued availability to facilitate the subcommittee. If Jodie Agnew-Navarro is unable to continue facilitating, another VAC member may be needed. Tal Segalovitch also invited interested VAC members to volunteer to support the subcommittee.

10.2 School Age Services

Tal Segalovitch reported that Cal Enriquez had completed Cal Enriquez's VAC tenure and that Paul had stepped down from facilitating the School-Age Services Subcommittee. As a result, a VAC member was needed to facilitate the subcommittee and provide report-outs during VAC meetings. Tal Segalovitch noted having regularly attended the subcommittee meetings over the past two years and shared that Jessica Ross, a School-Age Unit Supervisor in the Chatsworth office, regularly participates in the meetings.

Jaklen Keshishyan volunteered to support and facilitate the School-Age Services Subcommittee, noting that Creative Minds provides services to individuals ages six and older. Tal Segalovitch thanked Jaklen Keshishyan for volunteering.

10.3 Adult Services

Octavia Watkins reported that the Adult Services Subcommittee did not meet in July and announced that the next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom. Octavia Watkins requested a co-facilitator to help ensure the subcommittee can continue meeting when Octavia Watkins is unavailable.

Jen Pippard volunteered to serve as co-facilitator of the Adult Services Subcommittee. Octavia Watkins thanked Jen Pippard for volunteering, and Octavia Watkins and Jen Pippard agreed to follow up regarding the role.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1 Community Relations Committee

Sharon Weinberg reported that the Community Relations Committee did not meet in July due to the dark month and had no report to provide. The next Community Relations Committee meeting is scheduled for the following Wednesday.

11.2 Executive Finance Committee

Tal Segalovitch noted that the Executive Finance Committee did not meet in July due to the dark month. No report was provided.

12. BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

No items were identified to forward to the Board of Trustees.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC INPUT

Tal Segalovitch opened the final public input period and noted that comments were not required to pertain to an agenda item.

Sharon Weinberg asked for clarification regarding DDS in-person meetings identified on the meeting calendar included in the packet. Lindsay Granger explained that the calendar includes meetings for the Board and both advisory committees and clarified that the DDS in-person meeting referenced by Sharon Weinberg is for Board members only.

Sharon Weinberg requested updates regarding the new Special Incident Report (SIR) form and regional center access to information regarding generic services, specifically In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS). Evelyn McOmie reported that DDS has provided regional centers with IHSS information and that NLACRC is working to make the information accessible to service coordinators. The information will assist service coordinators when reviewing services and requests. Evelyn McOmie clarified that IHSS and other generic resources may be discussed as part of the IPP planning process when determining appropriate services. Regarding the new SIR form, Evelyn McOmie reported that implementation has experienced a setback and that additional information will be provided when available.

Alona Yorkshire shared information regarding the DDS Quality Incentive Program (QIP) Workgroup and announced that the next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2026, and is open to the public. Alona Yorkshire encouraged vendor participation and noted that approximately 30% of providers statewide did not earn 100% of their rate during the prior year.

Alona Yorkshire reported that the benchmarks for earning 100% of the rate will largely remain unchanged for the upcoming fiscal year. However, Independent Living Services (ILS) and Supported Living Services (SLS) providers will now be grouped with residential providers for a required survey expected to be distributed around October. Alona Yorkshire emphasized that completion of the survey will be important for ILS and SLS providers to meet the requirements for earning 100% of their rate. Alona Yorkshire also noted that the QIP Workgroup will begin discussing quality measures and benchmarks for FY 2027-2028 and encouraged providers to participate in the development of those measures.

Angela Pao-Johnson provided a status update on the Service Provider Portal. Angela Pao-Johnson explained that the portal is used by several other regional centers to provide vendors with access to authorizations and facilitate communication. NLACRC had not previously implemented the portal because the system did not meet NLACRC's cybersecurity requirements; however, NLACRC has since identified a configuration that addresses those concerns.

Angela Pao-Johnson reported that the Service Provider Portal has been demonstrated to internal stakeholders, who provided feedback regarding functionality and operational needs. NLACRC plans to conduct additional testing before implementation to ensure that the system aligns with NLACRC's business processes. The IT Department has identified 10 vendors to participate in testing and provide feedback as part of the proof-of-concept process. Testing is anticipated to begin in October 2026. Angela Pao-Johnson emphasized that NLACRC is approaching implementation intentionally to ensure the portal meets the needs of both NLACRC and the vendor community.

14. NEXT MEETING

The next Vendor Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format at the Santa Clarita Valley office and via Zoom.

15. ADJOURNMENT

It was agreed that there was no further business to transact; Tal Segalovitch adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.