



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 30, 2024

To: **Vendor Advisory Committee**

From: Kimberly Visokey
Executive Administrative Assistant

Re: Information and materials for the next Nominating Committee meeting on **Thursday, September 5, at 9:30 a.m.**

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

The meeting will be held remotely via Zoom. We will send you the Zoom access information via email.

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

Attachments

c: Cristina Preuss, Interim Executive
Director Alex Kopilevich, VAC Chair
Evelyn McOmie, Deputy Director



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VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 9:30 am *(via Zoom)*

~AGENDA~

- I. **Call to Order & Introductions** - Alex Kopilevich, Chair
- II. **Agenda** *(Page) 2*
- III. **Public Input**
- IV. **Consent Items**
 - A. Approval of Minutes from the August 1, 2024 Meeting *(Page 4)*
- V. **Executive Director's Report** – Evelyn McOmie *(Page 15)*
- VI. **Deputy Director Officer's Report** – Evelyn McOmie
- VII. **Chief Financial Officer's Report** – Vini Montague
- VIII. **Community Services Director's Report** – Arshalous Garlanian *(Page 19)*
- IX. **Legislative Report** – Chris Whitlock *(Page 23)*
- X. **Committee Business**
 - A. Priority Issue Update *(Page 31)*
 - B. VAC Meeting Schedule *(Page 32)*
 - C. New Service Provider Vendor Training
 - D. Mentorship Program
 - E. Vendor Fair Attendance *(Page 33)*
 - F. Self-Determination Update *(Page 35)*
- XI. **Open Topics for Discussion** - Alex Kopilevich
 - A. Return to in-person meetings – Quarterly. Barriers?
 - B. VAC collaboration with NLACRC – Vendoring Process
 - C. Cases without assigned CSC's.

XII. Committee Work Group Final Reports

- A. Early Start Services (Jodie Agnew-Navarro)
- B. School Age Services (Paul Borda & Cal Enriquez)
- C. Adult Services (Octavia Watkins)

XIII. Board Committee Reports

- A. Administrative Affairs (Jaklen Keshishyan -VAC Representative)
- B. Consumer Services (Sharon Weinberg -VAC Representative)
- C. Government & Community Relations (Jodie Agnew-Navarro -VAC Representative)
- D. Nominating (Alex Kopilevich - Committee Member)
- E. Strategic Planning (Octavia Watkins - Committee Member)

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

XV. Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

- A. Minutes of the August 1, 2024 Meeting
- B. Minutes of the September 5, 2024 Meeting (**Deferred pending committee approval**)

XVI. Announcements/Public Input

- A. Next Meeting: Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.
- B. Committee Attendance (*Page 41*)

XVII. Committee Work Group Information:

- A. **Early Start Services** (Jodie Agnew-Navarro)
For meeting schedule and information
Contact: Jodie Agnew-Navarro - jodie.agnew-navarro@chimeinstitute.net
Next workgroup meeting: September 19, 2024 @ 9:00am (via Zoom).
- B. **School Age Services** (Paul Borda & Cal Enriquez)
For meeting schedule and information
Contact: Paul Borda - paul@abatherapypartners.com
Next workgroup meeting: September 10, 2024 @ 10:00am (via Zoom).
- C. **Adult Services** (Octavia Watkins)
For meeting schedule and information
Contact: Octavia Watkins - excellencecrp@gmail.com
Next workgroup meeting: November 4, 2024 @11:00am (via Zoom)

XVIII. Adjournment

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 August 1, 2024

Present: Alex Kopilevich, Masood Babaeian, Paul Borda, Andrea Devers, Cal Enriquez, Ute Escorcia, Jaklen Keshishyan, Ricki Macken Chivers, Jen Pippard, Octavia Watkins, Sharon Weinberg, Jodie Agnew-Navarro

Cristina Preuss, Evelyn McOmie, Vini Montague, Donna Rentsch, Arshalous Garlanian, Chris Whitlock, Emmanuel Gutierrez, Geri Sue Cox, Arezo Abedi, Ana Maria Parthenis-Rivas – **Staff Members**

Michelle Heid – Legucator, – **Guests**

Other than panelists, there were 66 other attendees.

Absent: Vahe Mkrтчian, Daniel Ortiz, Lisa Williamsen

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Alex Kopilevich, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

II. Public Input

Public input was given.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (Masood Babaeian / Sharon Weinberg)

B. Approval of Minutes from May 2nd, 2024

Action item / Board Support:

Update the meeting minutes as discussed:

Sharon suggested the following edits to Minutes:

Pg. 4 - Director's Report: Everything, should be: Everyone.

Pg. 7 - 1st paragraph: It would likely be one, should say: Administrator and others to be assigned.

Pg. 8

- Vendorization Reminder. "rootstodevelopment@nlacrc.org" should be resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.

- Employment services: "finding an assistant" should be finding assistance.

- There were upcoming "PNI" should be P & I

- "special incident and mitigation" add – risk before the word mitigation.

M/S/C (Sharon Weinberg / Masood Babaeian) To approve the Minutes as amended.

IV. Committee Information – Alex Kopilevich

A. Board Committee List and VAC Roster

Alex reviewed the Board Committee List and the VAC Roster

B. VAC Priority Outcomes

Cristina Preuss confirmed for the Committee that the VAC Priority Outcomes document has not been reviewed or updated since 2022-23. She further clarified that the Committee should consider review for updating at a future meeting.

Action Item: To add a review of the VAC Priority Outcomes to a future VAC Agenda – *Alex Kopilevich*

C. Board of Trustees: VAC Primary Activities

Alex explained to the Committee what their Primary Activities are.

V. Fiscal Information – Vini Montague, NLACRC Chief Financial Officer

Vini Montague reviewed for the committee the various types of financial reports that she presents to this committee, including the following:

Monthly Summary Report:

This report shows NLACRC's Operations breakdown of expenditures. This includes Salaries, Operating Expenses, funding received for Special Projects, Purchase of Services, and CPP funding.

Monthly Summary Detailed Report:

Includes details of what is rolled up into the Monthly Summary Report. This includes items like a breakdown of allocations, operation expenditures, etc.

Consolidated Report:

This report breaks down the details by the types of services, types of operation expenditures, etc.

Consolidated Report:

This report breaks down the details by the types of services, types of operation expenditures, etc.

Vini also reported on the Preliminary Allocation Comparison for FY 2025 vs. 2024. She explained that this report gives a comparison of the allocations received in the previous year against what is expected for the new year. This report gives us an idea of what to expect for base operations.

VI. Consumer Services – Evelyn McOmie, Deputy Director**Service Standards:**

NLACRC's Service Standards for Social Rec were approved by DDS on July 29, 2024. These now reflect services and supports necessary for each individual that shall be made through the Individual Program Plan process or the Individualized Family Service Plan process for Early Start program eligible children. The individual shall not be required to use the least costly provider if it will result in the individual moving from an existing provider of services or supports to more restrictive or less integrated services or supports.

NLACRC's outreach plan was also approved by DDS to include the following activities, dissemination of information to the community, continuing local grassroots marketing and outreach, continuing provider outreach for vendors, ongoing service coordinator training for the purpose of disseminating information and discussing the availability of social recreation, camp, non-medical therapies, and educational services to individuals served and families, and continuing efforts to increase access to social recreation, camp, non-medical therapies, and educational services including a streamlined vendorization process for entities not already vendored with the regional center.

Vendor Portal Update:

NLACRC vendor Portal pilot in progress with service providers. Portal images of the progress were shared during the meeting.

Staff Recognition:

NLACRC has a Staff recognition process within the organization to highlight all the positive feedback of our staff and to recognize them for it. Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to share with us positive feedback about our staff. We appreciate it and want to let you know it helps acknowledge our employees for doing a great job.

VII. Community Services Director's Report – Arshalous Garlanian

Arshalous gave a brief overview of what her monthly report will include before reviewing this month's report. She also took this time to remind vendors of the Service Provider Directory statewide project and that they are currently in the "data collection" phase (July 17th through August 15th).

Vendors were encouraged to complete the online survey at <https://forms.office.com/g/8M3J2m471J>

DSP Training Stipend program

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Enclosure-B-DSP-Training-Stipend-Program-FAQs-FINAL.pdf>. Each DSP can receive up to two \$625 stipends and \$150 reimbursement for provider's administrative costs. DSP are eligible to take training through extended deadline of August 31, 2024.

Vendor Fair- Save the Date

- Chatsworth office: 9/24 & 9/25
- Antelope office: 9/26
- Eventbrite registration will open August 5th.

Vendor Support Forum

Next Vendor Support Forum will be Thursday, August 15th 10:30 am. Please submit questions/agenda topics to CRomero@nlacrc.org by August 9th.

HCBS Final Rule Compliance:

NLACRC continues to conduct on-site reviews of all HCBS settings. For residential settings, compliance will be assessed during Annual Reviews. Regional Centers have a deadline to complete all reviews by August 31, 2024. If the HCBS setting is found out of compliance with any of the federal HCBS requirements, further remediation efforts will align with the existing Corrective Action Plans and Sanctions. Assessment Tools available on NLACRC website.

Service provider training opportunities:

There are several person-centered trainings, webinars, symposiums, and PCT Bootcamps available. For the person-centered thinking training, there is a \$500 incentive for those who attended and completed the PCT training.

ICF lag funding was extended to December 31, 2024.

Resource Development

Residential Services Orientation (RSO)

Registration is now open for Fall RSO now until Friday, August 30, 2024. For more information and registration details please visit Residential Service Providers Orientation | NLACRC

Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP) Service Code 956.

NLACRC has posted a Request for Proposal (RFP). For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.

Transportation services, Service Code 875

NLACRC is seeking qualified vendors to transport individuals to and from their community-based day programs or other vendored services for the regional center. More information to come. All inquiries may be sent to resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org

Money Management services, Service Code 034

NLACRC is seeking qualified vendors to provide Money Management services acting as the representative payee for NLACRC consumers identified by the accounting Department. More information to come. All inquiries may be sent to resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org

Self-Directed Support Services for the Self Determination Program (Service Code 099)

NLACRC is seeking qualified vendors to provide Self-Directed Supports by submitting a standardized vendor packet created by DDS. For more information please visit the NLACRC website: <https://www.nlacrc.org/service-providers/how-to-become-a-service-provider/rfv-announcement-self-directed-supports-standardized-vendorization-website-announcement>

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

For more information, please visit DDS website: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/evv/>

VIII. Executive Director's Report – Cristina Preuss

Cristina gave a brief description of what the Executive Director's Report will include on a monthly basis.

Staff Introduction

Cristina introduced Betsy Monahan, Director of Human Resources, welcoming her to NLACRC.

Legislative

Governor Newsom signed REVISED 2024-2025 state budget bills and 5 trailer bills (HEALTH, MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION TAX, EDUCATION FINANCE, STATE GOVERNMENT, TAXATION). ARCA developed a top-level summary of this year's TBL. In general, these changes came into effect as soon as the bill was signed by the Governor (July 2, 2024).

Department of Developmental Services

Nancy Bargmann announced her retirement as the Director of the Department of Developmental Services. Also, the Chief Deputy Director of Program Services, Brian Winfield as announced his retirement. Dr. Michi Gates, Executive Director Kern Regional Center, will be stepping in for Brian.

DDS had received continued concerns about the board governance, organizational strength, workforce deficits leading to extraordinarily high caseload ratios and the ability of North Los Angeles County Regional Center to fulfill its obligations to the individuals and families it serves. As such, DDS provided NLACRC with a special contract that stipulated the requirement to enter into an agreement with a consulting organization assigned by DDS as part of the training and technical assistant support to assist NLACRC in improving the areas of concern.

NLACRC and its Board of Trustees take all complaints, formal and otherwise, seriously, and is continuously working to improve internal processes and policies to resolve issues that may impact the individuals we serve, their families, and employees and intend to fully abide by and cooperate with the recommendations made by the Department.

IPP template

Regional Centers received a directive requiring the establishment of a standardized individual program plan (IPP) template and standardized procedures that are consistent with person-centered services planning requirements described in the Federal Medical Home and Community Based Final Rules (42 Code of Federal Regulations 441.301(c) (1-3).

A written guide for regional center service coordinators has been provided with detailed information about the process and procedures necessary and an additional guide for individuals and families to prepare for an IPP meeting is currently under development. Full implementation is expected by January 1, 2025 for all Regional centers to use the new standard IPP template for all new IPP meetings, amendments, reviews, and renewals.

Master Plan updates

The California Health and Human Services Agency has announced the meeting dates for the Master Plan Work Groups, which are included in the Meeting Packet.

- Workgroup 1: Individuals and families experience person-centered service systems they trust.
- Workgroup 2: Individuals receive timely, inclusive, and seamless services across all service systems.
- Workgroup 3: Individuals and their families receive services from a high-quality, stable, and person-centered.
- Workgroup 4: Individuals and their families experience consistent, transparent, accountable, and data-driven systems that focus on.
- Workgroup 5: Individuals are entitled to life-long services from systems with adequate resources.

Center Operations

Staffing Data– Current Status -

- Total # positions filled: 748
- Total # of positions authorized: 949

Total # of new hires since January 1, 2024:

- Total - 153
- CSCs - 123

July New Hires: 1st cycle and 2nd cycle.

- 7.1.24 - 9
- 7.15.24 - 8
- 7.29.24 – 6

Center Updates

Best Start extended an invitation to Antelope Valley Parent and Family Support Specialist and Spanish speaking Outreach Language Specialist to participate in Zero to Three:

- The Growing Brain Train the Trainer workshop in June
- The Zero to Three Learn 2-day Conference on July 31 and August 1, 2024.

Staff is also included in their Monthly partnership collaborative meetings with other Community Based Organizations targeting the 0-5 community.

To improve the hybrid capacity for our public meetings, NLACRC IT department will be replacing equipment and renovating our conference rooms in SFV (8/12-8/16) and AV (7/29-7/31).

Introducing IDEA Specialist, Mayra Loza

The IDEA Specialist can help parents understand child's rights for the educational needs and can provide information about IDEA, which is a law for children with disabilities to receive a free, appropriate, and public Education. The IDEA Specialist can provide guidance through the process for eligibility and to develop an individual educational plan. Parents can ask their service coordinator for a consultation with IDEA specialist.

IX. Legislative Report – Chris Whitlock

Legislative Update

Chris Whitlock gave an overview of the monthly Legislative Report and the information that will be included in it. He stated that each month he would give a brief overview of the items within the report and answer in more detail any questions that committee members have.

Legislative Bills:

As budget discussions and negotiations have taken up much of the legislature's space, bills are also moving through the process. Each house had a May 24th deadline to pass bills. Any bill not moved to the second house by May 24th will not continue through the process this year.

Chris Whitlock explained that included in the monthly report with regards to each bill is the information that is important to the bill and the bill's status. Additionally, each bill's information will include a link that allows for viewing more detailed information.

Key Legislators

Chris reviewed this area of the monthly report with the committee, detailing the information that can be found there.

Legislative Calendar:

This section of the report gives a listing of several events in many areas. This also includes links to the events, links to the legislator's pages and detailed information.

Rate Reform: Rate Model Implementation

In the coming weeks, the Department will be issuing a series of directives to provide detailed information about the updated service descriptions, requirements, and timelines for any transitions for each service category. The Rate Models were constructed in consideration of costs providers faced in delivering a particular service consistent with the state's requirements. This allows providers to receive the same rate for the same service in the same area consistently across the Regional Centers. Service providers with rates above the Rate Model base rate will be held harmless (no change to rate) until June 30, 2026, after which time the provider's rates will be adjusted to the Rate Model base rate. The rates and rate models to be effective January 1, 2025 below include updated cost components as of January 2024. Updated cost components as of February 2022 were used to calculate the rate adjustment effective April 1, 2022 and January 1, 2023.

Legislative Update

With the May Revision released the real negotiations on spending priorities has begun including budget hearings in the Senate and Assembly. The state constitution requires the main budget bill to be approved by the Legislature by June 15th or members of the legislature will not get paid. Then lawmakers and Newsom have until July 1st to agree on a final 2024-25 spending plan. Budget negotiations, however, can last all the way through September with trailer bills. Budget trailer bills, which contain implementing and policy language related to the appropriations in the main budget bill, can be approved at any time. The fiscal bill policy committee deadline was April 26th. All bills with a cost to the state must have been approved by the relevant policy committee in order to advance this year.

May Revision

The May Revision (released on or before May 14) updates the governor's economic and revenue outlook; adjusts the governor's proposed expenditures to reflect revised estimates and assumptions; revises, supplements, or withdraws policy initiatives that were included in the governor's proposed budget in January; and outlines adjustments to the minimum funding guarantee for K-14 education required by Proposition 98 (1988). A memo from the Department of Finance outlines adjustments included in the May Revision as they relate to the Department of Developmental Services stating, "due to lower revenue projections and a resulting increase in the budget problem, the May Revision proposes adjustments to prior investments to assist in closing the projected shortfall."

X. Committee Business

A. Proposed Meeting Schedule

A discussion took place regarding changing the monthly meeting date of the VAC. This is n an effort to shorten the time between the VAC meetings and the Board of Trustees meetings and allow for a quicker turn around for any items that need to be take to the Board from the VAC.

Action: Table until the next meeting for everyone to look at their schedules then take a vote to move to the 2nd Thursday at 9am.

B. Vendor Forum

Alex explained that this would be designed to allow for better communication between vendors. He asked for discussion on committee members thoughts on the value of instituting this. Clarification was given on the existing Vendor Support Forum. Staff form NLACRC are present at this forum to answer questions for Vendors. After further discussion, it was determined to not make any changes to the Vendor Forum at this time.

C. Self-Determination Update

An update was given by Alex Kopilevich. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of every month form 6:30-8:30. There are currently 381 consumers in Self-Determination.

D. Committee / Workgroup Positions

Action / Board Support: Update the Workgroup and Committee assignments as follows:

Workgroup Assignments

- Jodie Agnew-Navarro / Early Start Services 3rd Thursday every other month
- Paul Borda & Cal Enriquez / School - 2nd Tuesday of each month
- Octavia Watkins / Adult Services – currently: 1st Monday every other month at 11am (next 9/2 at 11am). Proposing 1st Wednesday, every other. Octavia and Erica will reach out to others to confirm a new meeting date.

Committee Assignments

- Sharon Weinberg – Consumer Services Committee
- Alex Kopilevich– Nominating Committee
- Jodie Agnew-Navarro – Govt & Community Relations Committee
- Octavia Watkins – Strategic Planning Committee
- Jaklen Keshishyan – Administrative Affairs Committee

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

- A. The minutes from June 6th will be revised. – *Board Support*
- B. Share the family Guides with the Vendors – *Cristina Preuss*
- C. Present a report of terminations to see the difference of onboarding and terminations. – *Betsy Monahan*
- D. Update the Workgroup assignments and times – *Board Support*
- E. Update the Committee assignments – *Board Support*

XII. Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

- A. Minutes of the June 6, 2024 Meeting

XIII. Announcements / Public Input

- A. Next Meeting: Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
- B. Committee Attendance was reviewed.

XIV. Adjournment

Suad adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

Submitted by:

Kimberly Visokey

Executive Administrative Assistant

() The majority of these minutes are taken from the Minutes Service submission and reviewed/edited as presented herein by NLACRC staff.*





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Director's Report September 2024

Legislative:

NLACRC has established collaboration with LA County Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC). In April 2021 through a motion by Supervisor Janice Hahn, the Board of Supervisors began the process to create a new County department dedicated to providing aging and disability services. Their current mission is to establish an inclusive network that offers extensive support and services to older adults aged 60 and above, individuals with disabilities, their families, and caregivers within the Los Angeles region. Los Angeles County ADRC provides a coordinated system for people seeking reliable information and access to Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS).

ADRC Services include:

- 1) Enhanced information and referral services
- 2) Options counseling
- 3) Short-term service coordination
- 4) Transition services

Department of Developmental Services:

DDS has a new newsletter named **Bridges** that emphasizes their goals:

1. To connect our communities to each other; and
2. To build accessible pathways to services and supports for people and their families.

“Sharing timely information and the stories of our communities helps get us there. Much of what is shared in this newsletter shows how individuals, families, Regional Centers, Service Providers, and so many other partners are working together for the betterment of all Californians.” This platform was created to share about those efforts and successes.

[Bridges Newsletter Archives - CA Department of Developmental Services: CA Department of Developmental Services](#)

Center Operations:

Staffing Data

Total # positions filled: 754

Total # of positions authorized: 952

August New Hires

- 1st cycle: 7
- 2nd cycle: 4

Center Updates:

NLACRC's Board of Trustees has hired Angela Pao-Johnson as the new Executive Director. Angela has over 20 years of experience serving people with developmental disabilities. She is currently the Executive Director of the non-profit organization MERCI, which provides services and housing for adults with developmental disabilities in Los Angeles. Angela holds a master's degree in psychology from Pepperdine University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California, San Diego. Her official start date at NLACRC is September 23, 2024.

The Columbus Organization is conducting Employee Driven Self-Managed Work Groups to provide input and explore collaborative discussions as part of the special contract agreement. The areas to receive feedback are workspace utilization, recruitment and retention of staff and case management support and stabilization

Public Information is thrilled to announce that [NLACRC's new website is officially live!](#) This project has been a collaborative effort with all internal departments.

IDEA specialist and Early Start supervisor participated in this year's Office of Special Education Programs/OSEP Combined Leadership and Project Directors' Conference on Aug. 6-8, in Crystal City, Virginia. The theme was Early Beginnings to Bright Futures.

On July 1, 2024, NLACRC rolled out a comprehensive Workplace Violence Prevention Plan for employees as a requirement by the State of California per SB553. As part of our process to implement the plan with the recent state law, we have developed specific training for each office (SFV, SCV, AV). The training is now required to be completed yearly. In addition, we will need to complete office specific training.

Two (2) Required Trainings in LMS:

- Getting Real About Workplace Violence - Employee Version or Manager Version
- NLACRC Workplace Violence Prevention Plan - (SFV, SCV, or AV)

Through our annual membership with VICA (Valley Industry and Commerce Association) we participated in the local officeholder's luncheon on 8/29/2024 to hear from local elected officials representing the City of Los Angeles and other Valley cities and for networking opportunities with fellow business leaders.

Consumer Statistics:

As of July 2024, the Center served 37,155 consumers and applicants.

Introducing Transition Liaison Deyanira Soriano

Each regional center received funding in 2022, for a Transition Liaison position to focus on developing collaborative partnerships with local school districts and other agencies to achieve effective and timely school transitions that promote inclusive options for regional center children who are transitioning to preschool or kindergarten. The position does not carry cases but assists the regional center to establish procedures and policies that further the recommendations of the statewide Part C to B.

The responsibilities of the School Transition Liaisons include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Serving as the regional center's primary point of contact for interagency collaboration regarding school transitions of consumers up to age 5.
- 2) Facilitating coordinated efforts within the regional center to meet Part C to B transition requirements.
- 3) Establishing recommended practices for family engagement during transitions, in collaboration with the regional center's diverse communities and stakeholders.
- 4) Assisting with regional center efforts to improve family connections with Local Educational Agencies.
- 5) Educating families on the school transition process.
- 6) Assisting the regional center with the development of materials that regional center staff can use to improve the transition process.
- 7) Identifying promising transition practices to assist the regional center.
- 8) Monitoring implementation and supporting the continuous improvement of the transition policies and procedures outlined in local memorandums of understanding (MOU) between the regional center and Local Educational Agencies.
- 9) Participating in regular Part C to B coordination calls with the Department.

Special Events:

Upcoming ARCA Academy event that will be held on Friday, September 6th and Saturday, September 7th. The location for Friday's event will be the Doubletree Hotel in San Bernardino, and the location for Saturday's event will be the Inland Regional Center.

Target Audience: ARCA Board Delegates, Regional Center Board Members, and Regional Center Directors and other center leadership staff.

Community Events and Educational Training Opportunities

NLACRC's Calendar of Events: [Calendar of Events | NLACRC](#)

*Additional training and support groups are offered as well! Please see NLACRC's Calendar of Events, which includes a link for the Family Focus Resource Center, for information regarding dates, times and links for these events, trainings and more.

Family Focus Resource Center: [Events | California State University, Northridge \(csun.edu\)](#)

*Additionally, the Family Focus Resource Center coordinates several support groups including "Black & African American Family Focus Support Group" "Mamas Latinas Grupo de Apoyo" and the "Parent Check-In and Chat". Please see NLACRC's Calendar of Events, which includes a link for

the Family Focus Resource Center, for information regarding more support groups, training opportunities, dates, times, and links.

Upcoming Disability Organization Events/Activities

State Council on Developmental Disabilities next council meeting - September 24, 2024

Disability Rights California's next board meeting - September 20, 2024

Local Volunteer Advisory Committee (LVAC SDP)- September 19, 2024

Vendor Advisory Committee: September 5, 2024 ***Community Services Department: Director's Report***

General Updates:

- ❖ **Service Provider Directory** statewide project launching Fall 2024
 - Currently in the “data collection” phase
 - Be ready for a call or email from **Protiviti** to provide your registration information
 - Self-report options:
 - Online survey at <https://forms.office.com/g/8M3J2m471J>
 - Email: submit updates via email providerdirectory@dds.ca.gov
 - Phone: call one of the following numbers (M-F, 9am – 5pm) and an operator may assist in capturing updates to your data:
 - ◆ +1 (213) 327-1346
 - ◆ +1 (213) 327-1349
 - ◆ +1 (213) 327-1408
 - ◆ +1 (213) 327-1420
 - <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/provider-directory/>
- ❖ **Vendor Fair- Register Today!**
 - Chatsworth office: 9/24 & 9/25
 - Antelope office: 9/26
 - Eventbrite registration will open August 1st
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nlacrc-fall-vendor-fair-2024-registration-tickets-965347730047?aff=NLACRCFallVendorFair2024>
- ❖ **Coordinated Family Supports: Monthly Vendor Incentive Payments**
 - To request CFS implementation incentive payment, submit the standardized reporting tool directly to DDS here:
<https://forms.office.com/g/BzQxx3r3rt?origin=lprLink>
 - 11.% incentive payment amount will be calculated on the total payment to the vendor for CFS assessments and services.
 - DDS will notify regional centers of eligibility to receive incentive payment.

HCBS:

- ❖ **HCBS Final Rule: Monitoring and Corrective Action.** All on-site reviews were completed by the compliance due date of August 31, 2024. Thank you to all providers for your efforts to ensure HCBS compliance.
- ❖ **Service Provider Training/Webinars/Symposiums:**
 - **Person-Centered Thinking – Mains’1** - Register on Eventbrite
<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/mainsl-services-15104245757>
 - PCT Bootcamp 10 am – 1 pm (6 virtual sessions, June – November)
 - Family Trainings
- ***\$500 Incentives to those who attend and complete PCT training. *Subject to availability.

Compliance Corner:

- ❖ **Rate Reform Highlights:** WIC, 4519.10 updated based on 2024/2025 trailer bill (AB 162)
 - Eligible providers will receive 3rd phase of the rate reform (40% and 10% QIP)
 - Benchmark rates will be updated based on CA minimum wage

- DDS will publish updates to “Rate Reform Updates” tab here: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/rate-study-implementation/>
 - Hold harmless provision until 6/30/2026, if rate exceeds benchmark rate or 90% of benchmark rate.
- ❖ **DS 1891** – A new compliance cycle began January 1st for DS 1891s.
 - Visit the online portal at to submit your 2024 update.
 - <https://sanctionscreeningnow.com/OIGComplianceVendor/Customer.aspx/Login>
 - Click “Save Changes” button” – even if there are no changes to verify and submit a form with current date.
- ❖ **Vendorization maintenance:**
 - General reminder to submit your insurance and organizational charts, or any questions related to compliance activities (DS 1891, annual program evaluations), rate adjustments to Contract&Compliance@nlacrc.org.
 - Provide notice of changes (address, entity, name) to ResourceDevelopment@nlacrc.org

Employment Services:

- ❖ General reminder to submit PIP workbook claims and CIE request CIE&PIP@nlacrc.org
- ❖ NLACRC Partners with IRI to provide FREE **ACRE training** (Self-paced, In- Person, Virtually) for NLACRC Regional Center Vendors- <https://www.irioc.org/register>
- ❖ **Quality Incentive Program:**
 - **Employment Access & Equity Incentive Payments:** To request incentive payments available through the QIP Employment Access measure, every service provider must submit a certification form to DDS at QIPEmpAccess@dds.ca.gov.
 - **Employment Capacity Incentive Payments:** To request incentive payments available through the QIP Employment Capacity measure, service providers must submit a certification form to DDS at QIPEmpCapacity@dds.ca.gov.
 - For additional info, including FAQ and Certification and Payment forms, visit the “Employment” tab here <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/quality-incentive-program/>
- ❖ **NLACRC Employment Initiative Office Hours**
 - 2nd Wednesday of the month, 11 am via Zoom
 - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82517702766?pwd=1tyUrdPePi7JnhGDFUUXcPm4JAPXPb.1>
 - Meeting ID: 825 1770 2766 Passcode: 857310
 - +14086380968,,82517702766#,,,,*857310# US (San Jose)
 - +16694449171,,82517702766#,,,,*857310# US

Resource Development:

- ❖ **2024 Summer/Fall Request for Vendorization (RFV)** NLACRC is seeking proposal submissions to provide specific services identified as highly needed for individuals who are served within the NLACRC catchment. The submission deadline is September 29,

2024. For more information and registration details please visit email resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org

- ❖ **Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP) Service Code 956** - NLACRC has posted a Request for Proposal (RFP). This project will be posted until the resource need is met. For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.
- ❖ **Coordinated Family Supports (CFS), Service Code 076** - NLACRC has posted a Request for Proposal (RFP). This project will be posted until the resource need is met. For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.
- ❖ **Soc Rec RFV, Various Service Codes** - NLACRC continues to vendor Social Recreation, Camp, and Non-Medical Therapies. These projects will be posted until the resource need is met. For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.
- ❖ **Transportation services, Service Code 875** - NLACRC is seeking qualified vendors to transport individuals to and from their community-based day programs or other vendored services for the regional center. This project will be posted until the resource need is met. For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.
- ❖ **Money Management services, Service Code 034** - NLACRC is seeking qualified vendors to provide Money Management services acting as the representative payee for NLACRC consumers identified by the accounting Department. This project will be posted until the resource need is met. For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.
- ❖ **Self-Directed Support Services for the Self Determination Program (Service Code 099)** NLACRC is seeking qualified vendors to provide Self-Directed Supports by submitting a standardized vendor packet created by DDS. This project will be posted until the resource need is met. For more information, please email the resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org.
- ❖ **Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)** - For more information, please visit DDS website <https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/evv/> .

Quality Assurance:

- ❖ Community Care Licensing Updates: New PINs
 - [PIN 24-04-ASC](#) - (**Supersedes PIN 24-01-ASC**) Updated Guidance On Respiratory Viruses Including COVID-19, Influenza, And Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).
 - [PIN 24-06-ASC](#) - Guardian Training Webinar For Adult And Senior Care Program Licensees on August 28, 2024, at 11am – 12pm.
 - [PIN 24-09-CCLD](#) - Upcoming Administrator Certification Bureau Webinar on September 24, 2024, at 1pm – 2pm: **[Webinar Registration Link](#)**
- ❖ **DEAF+ Sensitivity Training** by NLACRC DHH Specialist, Ted Horton-Billiard III, and NLACRC Community Services Specialist, Ari Stark
 - September 30, 2024, 10am – 12pm, via Zoom
 - **[Registration Link Forthcoming](#)**
 - 2 CEUs available

- ❖ **Client's Rights Training** by Clients' Rights Advocate, Erica Rodriguez, and NLACRC Community Services Specialist, Gabriela Pinzon
 - October 24, 2024, 10am – 12pm, via Zoom
 - **Registration Link**
 - 2 CEUs available

LEGISLATIVE BILLS

As budget discussions and negotiations have taken up much of the legislature's space, bills are also moving through the process. Each house had a May 24th deadline to pass bills. Any bill not moved to the second house by May 24th will not continue through the process this year.

SB 1281 (Menjivar) Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination

Program This bill would require DDS to establish statewide standardized processes and procedures for the Self-Determination Program, by January 1st, 2026, and to ensure they are applied consistently by regional centers, and that regional centers make measurable improvements towards achieving equitable enrollment in the SDP by race, ethnicity, and regional center.

Status: **On August 22, 2024** the bill was ordered to a ***Third reading**. ***Third Reading** - each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage..

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB1281

AB 1147 (Addis) Disability Equity and Accountability Act of 2023

Would enact the Disability Equity and Accountability Act of 2023, which would make various changes to the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act for purposes including providing increased oversight of regional center operations and performance. The bill was significantly amended on 9/1/2023 limiting the scope of the legislation, however, it maintained some aspects supported by the community.

Status: **On August 26, 2024** the bill was ordered to a ***Third reading**. ***Third Reading** - each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1147

AB 1876 (Jackson) Developmental services: IPPs and IFSPs: remote

meetings This bill, beginning January 1, 2025, would indefinitely extend the requirements that, if requested, IPP and IFSP meetings be held by remote electronic communications.

Status: **On July 3, 2024** bill passed to the Senate and has been assigned to the Human Services Committee and Judiciary Committee for review. From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.)

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1876

AB 1906 (Gipson) Persons with disabilities: terminology

This bill has been amended from a simple update to more respectful terminology to requiring California Law Revision Commission, with input from stakeholders, to complete and submit to the Legislature a study with recommendations on how to replace the terms “dependent adult” and “dependent person” with new terminology that would respectfully describe those persons and would preserve the legal rights and protections of those and other persons, as specified.

Status: **On August 26, 2024** the bill was ordered to a ***Third reading**. ***Third**

Reading - each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage.
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1906

AB 2002 (Sanchez) Vehicles: public safety: Blue Envelope Program

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to develop a Blue Envelope Program intended to increase safety for individuals with disabilities during interactions with law enforcement.

Status: On May 16, 2024 – In committee: *Held under submission. ***Held under submission** - An action taken by a committee when a bill is heard in committee and there is an indication that the author and the committee members want to work on or discuss the bill further, but there is no motion for the bill to progress out of committee. This does not preclude the bill from being set for another hearing.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB2002

AB 2423 (Mathis) Developmental Services: rates

This bill would require DDS to update provider rate models every other year, starting on July 1st, 2025. Rates will be subject to appropriation and the approval of federal funds, to review and update the rate models, as defined, per the cost inputs available at the time of the review.

The bill would also require the department to post the updated rate models to its internet website no later than January 1st of the following year. This bill is sponsored by the California Disability Services Association.

Status: On August 26, 2024 In Assembly. Ordered to *Engrossing and Enrolling. ***Engrossing and Enrolling** - A nonpartisan unit in each House responsible for proofreading all forms of measures. The unit also prepares and delivers bills to the Governor for consideration.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB2423

Other Legislation

AB 1914 (Grayson) - Would establish a community college curriculum and certification program for providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities. **On May 15, 2024** In committee: *Held under submission. ***Held under submission** - An action taken by a committee when a bill is heard in committee and there is an indication that the author and the committee members want to work on or discuss the bill further, but there is no motion for the bill to progress out of committee. This does not preclude the bill from being set for another hearing.

AB 2360 (Rendon) - Would require DDS to establish a pilot program where regional centers would provide counseling and peer support group services to families and individuals served. **On August 15, 2024** - In committee: *Held under submission. ***Held under submission** - An action taken by a committee when a bill is heard in committee and there is an indication that the author and the committee members want to work on or discuss the bill further, but there is no motion for the bill to progress out of committee. This does not preclude the bill from being set for another hearing.

AB 3063 (McKinnor) - Would clarify that adding flavoring to a medication does not constitute “compounding” which is a special license pharmacists need to mix and customize medications for individuals. **On August 22, 2024 - the bill was ordered to a**

***Third reading. *Third Reading** - each bill introduced must be read three times before final passage.

SB 1463 (Niello) - Would require the Governor to appoint to DDS a Deputy Director of Self-Determination, responsible for overseeing the successful implementation and operation of the program. **On August 26, 2024** the bill has been read for the third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate.

Key Legislators in the NLACRC Catchment Area

Senator Caroline Menjivar (D) - District 20 - Chair of Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services. This committee hears budget-related items from across many health and social service-related programs, from public health, CoveredCA, and Medi-Cal to behavioral health, the Master Plan for Aging, and DDS.

Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel (D) - District 46 - Chair of the full Assembly Budget Committee. The Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee works closely with legislative leadership and the Governor to craft the state budget, advance key policy priorities, and oversee hundreds of billions of dollars in state spending.

NLACRC Legislator List:

Senators: 5

- District 20 – **Senator Caroline Menjivar (D)**
 - Term Limit 2036
 - Reseda, San Fernando, Sunland
 - <https://sd20.senate.ca.gov/>
- District 21 – **Senator Scott Wilk (R)**
 - **Term Limit 2024**
 - Lancaster, Palmdale, Santa Clarita
 - <https://sr21.senate.ca.gov/>
- District 24 – **Senator Benjamin Allen (D)**
 - Term Limit 2026
 - Beverly Hills, Malibu, Santa Monica
 - <https://sr24.senate.ca.gov/>
- District 25 – **Senator Anthony Portantino (D)**
 - **Term Limit 2024**
 - Burbank, Glendale, La Cañada Flintridge
 - <https://sd25.senate.ca.gov/>
- District 27 – **Senator Henry Stern (D)**
 - Term Limit 2028
 - Encino, Valencia, Westlake Village
 - <https://sd27.senate.ca.gov/>

Assembly Members: 9

- District 34 – **AM Tom Lackey (R)**
 - Term Limit 2026
 - Lancaster, Palmdale
 - <https://ad34.asmdc.org>
- District 39 – **AM Juan Carrillo (D)**
 - Term Limit 2034
 - Hesperia, Lancaster, Palmdale
 - <https://a39.asmdc.org>
- District 40 – **AM Pilar Schiavo (D)**
 - Term Limit 2034
 - Chatsworth, San Fernando, Santa Clarita
 - <https://a40.asmdc.org/>
- District 41 – **AM Chris Holden (D)**
 - **Term Limit 2024**
 - Claremont, La Cañada, Monrovia
 - <https://a41.asmdc.org/>
- District 42 – **AM Jacqui Irwin (D)**
 - Term Limit 2026
 - Calabasas, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks
 - <https://a42.asmdc.org/>
- District 43 – **AM Luz Rivas (D)**
 - Term Limit 2030
 - San Fernando, Sylmar, Panorama City

- <https://a43.asmdc.org/>
- District 44 – **AM Laura Friedman** (D)
 - Term Limit 2028
 - Burbank, Glendale, North Hollywood
 - <https://a44.asmdc.org/>
- District 46 – **AM Jesse Gabriel** (D)
 - Term Limit 2030
 - Reseda, Van Nuys, Woodland Hills
 - <https://a46.asmdc.org/>
- District 51 – **AM Rick Chavez Zbur** (D)
 - Term Limit 2034
 - Santa Monica, Hollywood, Universal City
 - <https://a51.asmdc.org/>

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

- August 5th, 2024 – Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess
- August 16th, 2024 – Last day for fiscal committees to report bills
- August 31st, 2024 – Last day for each house to pass bills
- August 31st, 2024 – Final Recess begins upon adjournment
- September 30th, 2024 – Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills
- October 2nd, 2024 – Bills enacted on or before this date take effect on January 1, 2025
- November 5th, 2024 – General Election

Local Legislative Events

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

Assembly Member Pilar Schiavo

- Senior Fair
 - Thu, Oct 10 2024, 9am – 1pm
 - SCV Senior Center at Bella Vida 27180 Golden Valley Road Santa Clarita, CA 91350
 - <https://a40.asmdc.org/event/20241010-senior-fair>
- Financial Planning Fair
 - Sat, Oct 19, 2024, 10am – 3pm
 - West San Fernando Valley
 - <https://a40.asmdc.org/event/20241019-financial-planning-fair>

Assembly Member Jacqui Irwin

- Be Prepared Safety Fair with the City of Thousand Oaks
 - Sat, Sept. 14, 2024 10am – 1 pm
 - S Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd. Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
 - <https://a42.asmdc.org/events>

DDS Stakeholder Events

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/stakeholder-events/> (Use link to register for the event)

Regional Center Performance Measures Workgroup Meeting

The workgroup met on May 7th, 2024. DDS shared information and feedback received during the Individual Program Plan (IPP) Template Introduction webinar that was held on April 25th, 2024. Feedback and suggestions for changes included further efforts in using plain language, being more consistent with person-centered language, more sample scenarios for the templates, providing an option for the forms to be filled out in either first-person or third-person

format, and questions/comments related to the upcoming supplemental guides that will be issued for service coordinators and for individuals/families to prepare, conduce, and participate in the IPP meeting. DDS continues to make edits to the templates informed by the feedback they have been receiving, with a finalized version to be released in June 2024. As training on the new intake and IPP procedures begins, a few service coordinators will pilot the process before it is fully implemented in January 2025. DDS also reported on some of the upcoming Regional Center Performance Measures milestones. There is a dedicated webpage on the DDS website for regional center performance measures, including a table with 2022-23 data outlining each regional center's participation and performance on measures that were evaluated during that period. <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/regional-center-performance-measures/> Discussion then centered around performance measures and milestones for the Self-Determination Program. Baseline data collection based on soon-to-be available information in SANDIS were suggested, such as the number of days between SDP orientation and SDP start date, and number of days from budget certification to start date.

Upcoming RCPM Workgroup Meetings:

- September 24th, 2024, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

The Arc “Pledge to Vote”

<https://action.thearc.org/GCk8o5n?p2asource=email-2024-0502>

The Arc of the United States has kicked off a “Pledge to Vote” campaign to encourage the IDD community to exercise their right to vote and the importance of taking part in the election process. “When we vote, we choose the people who we want to represent us in the government. Elected officials decide how important programs work. This includes programs like Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income, which can make a big difference in the lives of people with disabilities and their families.”

Make a pledge today to:

- Register to vote <https://www.lavote.gov/home/voting-elections>
- Educate yourself about the candidates
- Pick people who you think will make good changes for your community, state, and country
- Encourage your friends and family to vote.
- Vote in the 2024 Election on Tuesday, November 5

Rate Reform: Rate Model Implementation

DDS FAQ Page - <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/rate-study-implementation/rate-model-implementation-frequently-asked-questions/>

In the coming weeks, the Department will be issuing a series of directives to provide detailed information about the updated service descriptions, requirements, and timelines for any transitions for each service category. The Rate Models were constructed in consideration of costs providers faced in delivering a particular service consistent with the state's requirements. This allows providers to receive the same rate for the same service in the same area consistently across the Regional Centers. Service providers with rates above the Rate Model base rate will be held harmless (no change to rate) until June 30, 2026, after which time the provider's rates will be adjusted to the Rate Model base rate. The rates and rate models to be

effective January 1, 2025 below include updated cost components as of January 2024. Updated cost components as of February 2022 were used to calculate the rate adjustment effective April 1, 2022 and January 1, 2023.

NLACRC Complete Rate Model - https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/North-Los-Angeles-Regional-Center_Accessible-January-2024.pdf

Master Plan for Developmental Services

Over the last few years, in partnership with the Legislature, the Newsom Administration has made historic investments to increase rates within the developmental services system. The Master Plan will leverage these investments to strengthen accessibility, quality, and equity for all consumers.

In recognition that California's developmental disabilities system is deeply connected to other health and social systems, the Master Plan will seek to create and strengthen bridges that connect the developmental services system to other critical systems across CalHHS, and other systems and services including education, housing, employment, transportation, and safety. Individuals who receive services today are more diverse and live longer. They face affordable housing shortages, lower rates of employment, and the challenges of accessing services from other systems and sectors to address their physical, social, and behavioral health needs.

A 21st century developmental services system must increase its ability to provide culturally responsive services and to strengthen the accountability and standardization of the system so that it is easier for individuals and their families to navigate no matter where they live in California. For more information: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services/>

Upcoming Meetings - <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services/#upcoming-meeting-dates>

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 (Fresno) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday, October 9, 2024 (San Diego) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 (Online Only) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 (Sacramento) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday January 8, 2025 (Los Angeles) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 (Bay Area) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 (Sacramento) - 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Legislative Update

With the May Revision released the real negotiations on spending priorities has begun including budget hearings in the Senate and Assembly. The state constitution requires the main budget bill to be approved by the Legislature by June 15th or members of the legislature will not get paid. Then lawmakers and Newsom have until July 1st to agree on a final 2024-25 spending plan. Budget negotiations however, can last all the way through September with trailer bills. Budget trailer bills, which contain implementing and policy language related to the appropriations in the main budget bill, can be approved at any time. The fiscal bill policy committee deadline was April 26th. All bills with a cost to the state must have been approved by the relevant policy committee in order to advance this

year.

What Is The May Revision?

The May Revision (released on or before May 14) updates the governor's economic and revenue outlook; adjusts the governor's proposed expenditures to reflect revised estimates and assumptions; revises, supplements, or withdraws policy initiatives that were included in the governor's proposed budget in January; and outlines adjustments to the minimum funding guarantee for K-14 education required by Proposition 98 (1988).

A memo from the Department of Finance outlines adjustments included in the May Revision as they relate to the Department of Developmental Services stating "due to lower revenue projections and a resulting increase in the budget problem, the May Revision proposes adjustments to prior investments to assist in closing the projected shortfall."

<https://www.nlacrc.org/home/showdocument?id=17001&t=638574349546356200>

Adjustments include:

- Health and Safety Waiver Assistance - decreased by \$3 million, and reimbursements be decreased by \$1,412,000 ongoing for resources related to providing consumers and families assistance in applying for health and safety waivers.
- Emergency Preparedness Resources - decreased by \$1,050,000 ongoing for resources related to procuring emergency preparedness supplies and informational materials.
- Direct Service Professional Internship Program - It is requested that Item 4300-495 be added to revert \$20 million one-time from Item 4300-101-0001, Budget Act of 2022, for the direct service professional internship program.
- Tribal Engagement for Early Start Services - decreased by \$750,000 ongoing to align funding for this outreach initiative with current fiscal year 2023-24 levels.
- Coordinated Family Support Services - decreased by \$6.6 million and reimbursements be decreased by \$4.4 million one-time as a workload adjustment in the DDS estimate in 2023-24 to reflect revised service cost assumptions.
- Caseload and Utilization May Revision - increased by \$41,210,000 and reimbursements be increased by \$32,371,000 ongoing. These adjustments reflect updated expenditure estimates in operations and purchase of services driven by caseload and utilization. In addition to adjustments based on caseload and utilization, 2023-24 expenditure estimates also align with proposed changes in the federal Home and Community- Based Services Spending Plan.

Governor's Address on May Revise: <https://www.youtube.com/live/V1IHB4c6Bgo?si=m4-MBb05biVKaGEu>

Summary of May Revise: <https://ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2024-25MR/#/BudgetSummary>

Details of May Revise: <https://ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2024-25MR/#/BudgetDetail>

Early Start Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)

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

The Early Start Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) is a Governor-appointed advisory committee of advocates and state departments who provide advice and assistance to DDS on California's early intervention program. The council meets quarterly, most recently on April 18th and 19th, 2024. More information and minutes from past meetings and workgroups can be found at the link above. Upcoming

Meetings:

- October 17th and 18th, 2024
- January 16th and 17th, 2025

North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Vendor Advisory Committee

FY 2022-23 Priority Issues

Priority for each of the 3 groups: Support of consumers' and families' service needs through creative, resourceful alternative service delivery that promotes choice, communication, and connection. Identify legislative advocacy issues as applicable to each group.

I. Early Start Services

- Continue strengthening and enhancing the social-emotional development of children by supporting the family system in alignment with the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
- Advocate and educate the medical community in early intervention and available services to support optimal development of every child.

II. School Age Services

- Facilitate information for access to services and supports available to consumers and families to fill in the gap.

III. Adult Services

- Encourage, promote, and engage in activities to increase competitive, integrated customized employment opportunities for adults with I/DD.
- Continue to seek and share innovative housing solutions that expand choice and affordability for persons with I/DD.
- Support and assist vendored service providers to successfully and seamlessly serve individuals enrolled in the Self-Determination Program.
- Discuss, review, posit, and advocate for legislative ideas that benefit adults with I/DD and the support system in which they are entitled.
- Share ideas and formulate new solutions working in collaboration with public resources and NLACRC to advance person centered supports for aging adults with I/DD.





North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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

Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

FY 2024-25

~ No meeting in July 2024 ~

Thursday, August 1, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 5, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 3, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 7, 2024

9:30 a.m.

~ No meeting in December 2024 ~

Thursday, January 2, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, February 6, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 6, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 3, 2025

9:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 1, 2025

9:30 a.m.

~ No meeting in June 2025 ~

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

Approved: 06/12/2024



SAVE THE DATE

2024 FALL VENDOR FAIR

Networking Opportunity For Service Coordinators
To Meet Your NLACRC Vendors

Learn About The Services & Supports Available
to Our Community

When

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 (SFV Office) 9:00 – 1:00

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 (SFV Office) 9:00 – 1:00

Thursday, September 26, 2024 (AV Office) 9:00 – 1:00

Where

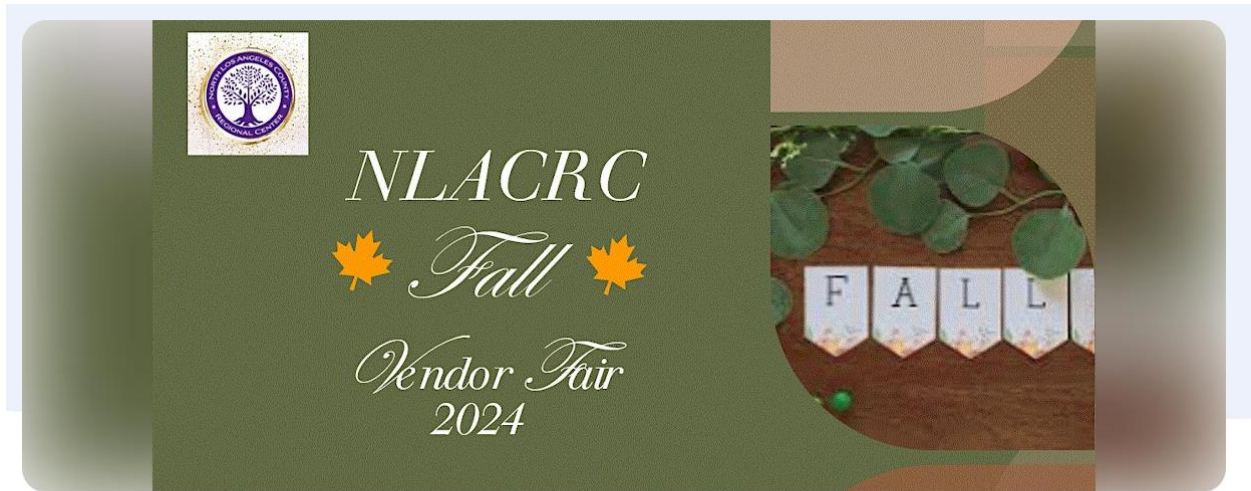
9200 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth – 1st Floor Conference Rooms

43850 10th Street W, Lancaster - Conference Room

ORGANIZED BY NLACRC COMMUNITY SERVICES
OR QUESTIONS
PLEASE CONTACT
VENUS RODRIGUEZ-KHORASANI X6482



[NLACRC Fall Vendor Fair 2024 Registration Link](#)



 Few tickets left



Tuesday, September 24

NLACRC Fall Vendor Fair 2024 Registration

Free

Tickets

The Vendor Fair is an opportunity for NLACRC Vendors to network & provide NLACRC Service Coordinators with information about their services.



North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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Self Determination Program Report - Implementation Updates

August 1, 2024

North Los Angeles County Regional Center Statistics

Participants have completed Orientation from 2019-Present: **891** (increased by 17)

Total number of budgets that are certified: **462** (increased by 24)

Total number of spending plans that are approved: **393**

Total number of spending plans in progress: **66**

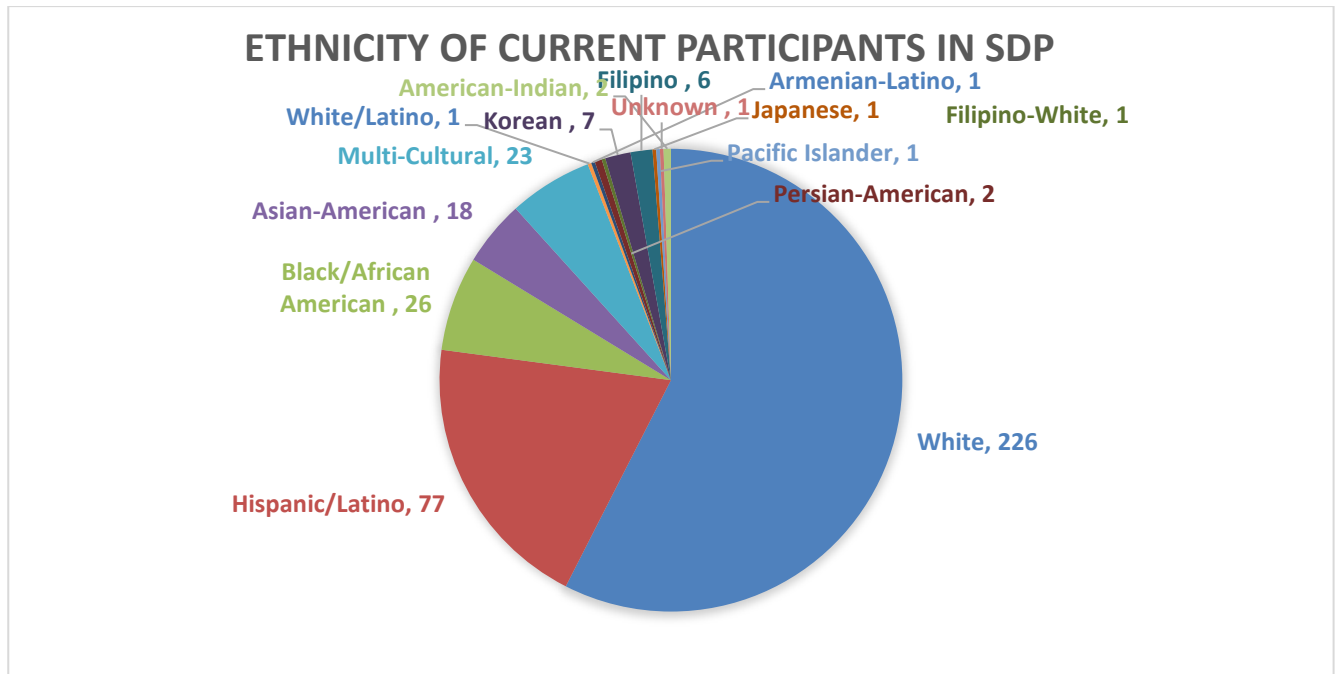
Total number of PCP's completed: **427** (increased by 8)

Total number of participants that did not continue after receiving budget: **3**

Total number of participants that have opted out of SDP: **6** (increased by 2)

Total number of Inter-Regional Center Transfers (out): **4**

Participants that have fully transitioned into SDP with approved spending plans and active SDP IPPs: **393** (14 transitions)



Transitions based on ethnicity:

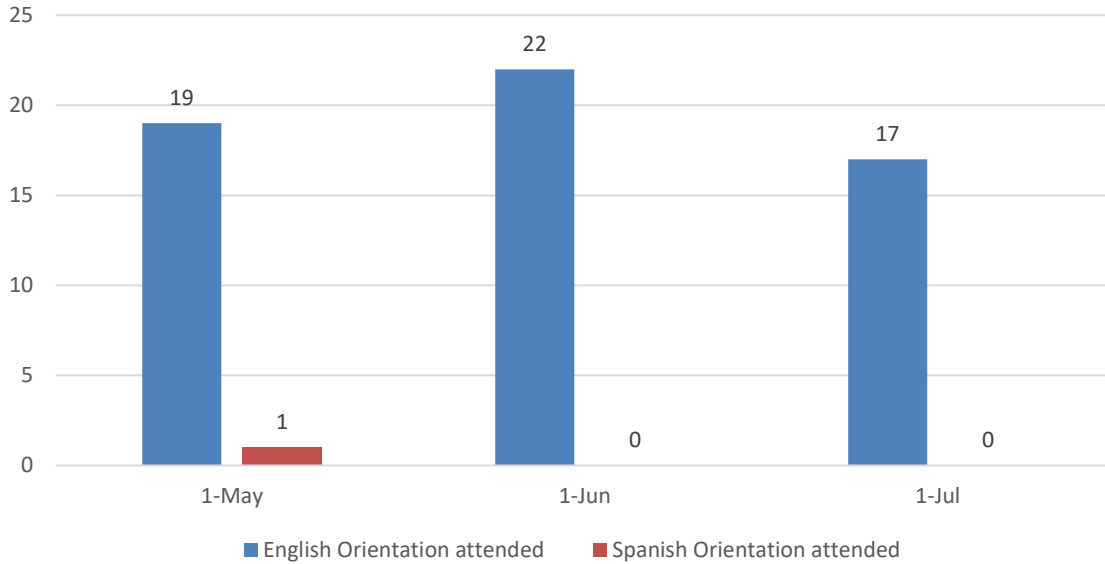
- White- 8
- Asian American-1
- Latino/Hispanic-2
- Multi-cultural: 3



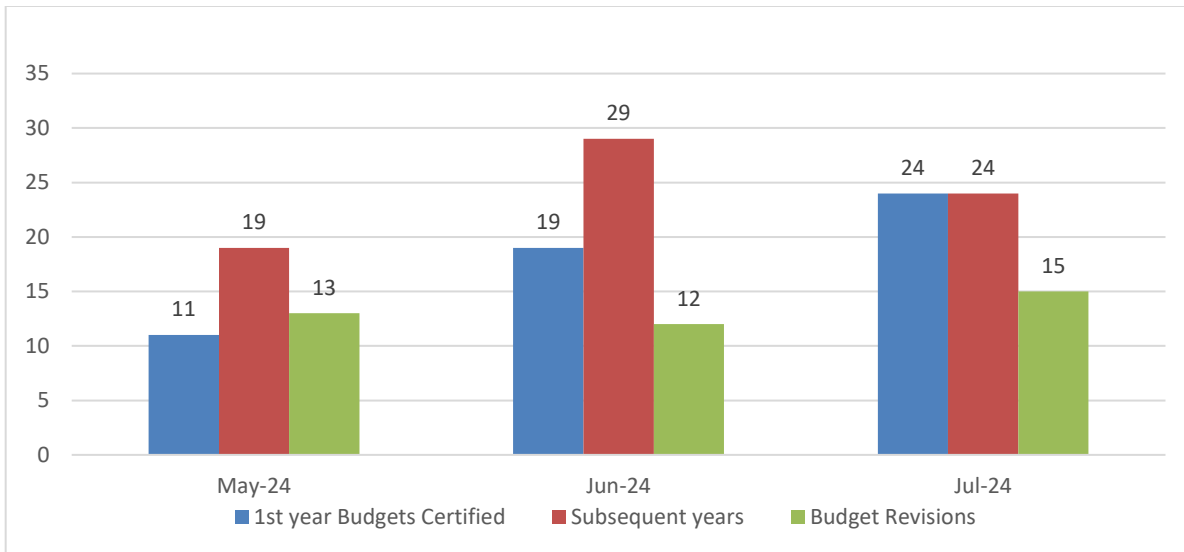
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Monthly Participants Attending SDP Orientation



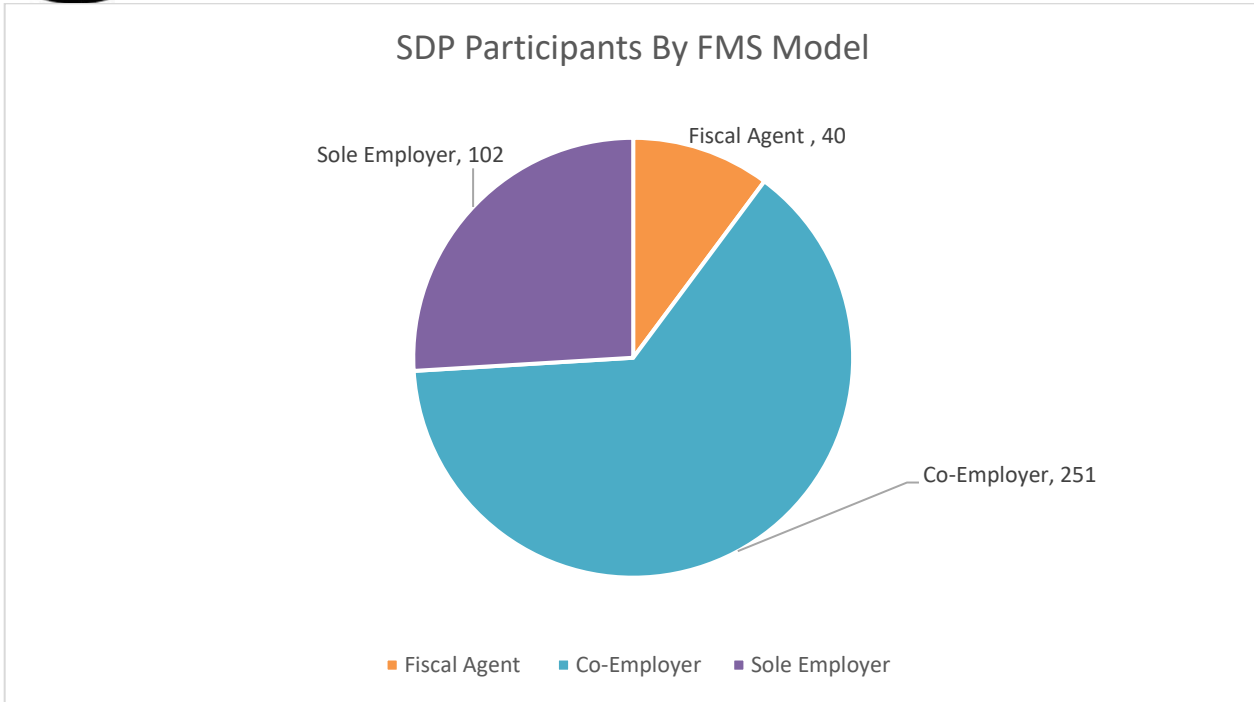
Monthly Budgets Certified





North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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

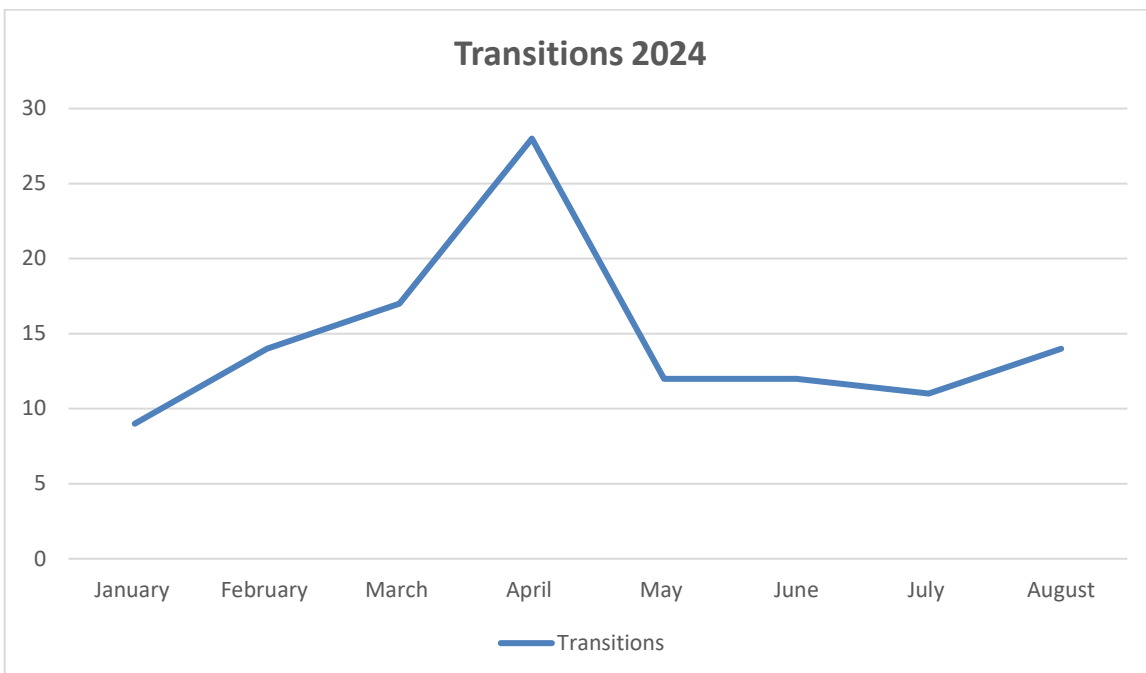


Transitions this month:

Bill Payer: 1

Co-Employer: 11

Sole Employer: 2



Total this year: 103

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



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NLACRC Implementation Updates/ information:

- On July 8, 2024 DDS issued an update to “Good and Services” which added Coordinated Career Pathway as a service to be funded outside of the SDP participant’s budget. [SDP Updated Goods and Services \(ca.gov\)](#)
- SDP Orientation is available:
 1. Through State Council <https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/>
 2. Virtual through NLACRC on the 1st Monday of the month in English and 3rd Monday of the month in Spanish (unless there is a holiday, day may change).
RSVP: selfdetermination@nlacrc.org
 - Next Virtual Orientation meetings:
 - Monday September 9, 2024 (English) from 9AM-12:00PM
 - Monday September 16, 2024 (Spanish) from 9AM-12:00PM
 3. Virtually available at any time (24/7) through NLACRC website: [Self-Determination Orientation | NLACRC](#).
- Self Determination Support Group – September 4, 2024 at 4:30pm via Zoom. [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)
- SDP Local Volunteer Advisory Committee- Thursday August 15 from 6:30PM-8:30PM
 - The meeting will be held virtually. The Zoom link can be found on NLACRC’s calendar [Self Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting | Calendar of Events | NLACRC](#)
Everyone is welcomed to attend meetings!
- Support for participants and families: NLACRC has coaches available to support with SDP transition process or if you are in the program and need assistance. Ask your CSC for a referral.
 - Claudia Cares Consulting
 - The Legacy Center
- NLACRC & SDP Local Volunteer Advisory Committee Best Practices Subcommittee
 - The Best Practices Subcommittee is reviewing workflows and processes related to NLACRC’s implementation of Self Determination. The committee meets monthly.

Resources:

- Disability Voices United – SDP Connect Meetings (Every other Wednesday at 4:30-6pm) [Upcoming Events | Disability Voices United](#)
- Self Determination Program Service Definitions:
https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/SDP_Service_Definitions.pdf

FMS Agencies	Model	Language Spoken:	Accepting participants?	Employee Burden Cost	Budget Limits	Contact Info
Acumen	Bill Payer, Sole Employer	English & Spanish But have translators for other languages.	Yes. Consult required and it may take up to 2 months to transition.	15.1%	\$200,000	Yvette Torres (424) 210-8810 yvettet@acumen2.net
Aveanna	Bill Payer and Co-Employer (with nursing through home health agency only)	English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin and Trieu Chau	Consult required. Date to be given my FMS agency.	13.6% + 3.3% sick pay They advise consumers to go with 20% just in case.	Anything above \$150,000 requires additional review. They have a "hard limit" of \$200,000.000 annually.	(866) 979-1182 fmsinfo@aveanna.com
Cambrian	Bill Payer, Co- Employer	English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Farsi	Yes	25%	Budgets over \$120,000 require review.	David Ellis (562) 498-1800 Ext. 2231 davide@cfms1.com
Casa Fiscal/Essential Pay	Bill Payer, Co-employer	English, Spanish, Mandarin	No	22%	None	(510) 336-2900 (833) 268-8530 contact@essentialpay.com
GT Independence	Bill Payer, Sole Employer, Co-Employer	All Languages are supported to assist Individuals in the language of their choice	Require a certified budget & spending plan draft to start onboarding process.	Co-employer 24% Sole Employer-18% All FMS models-Non-payroll burden 1%	None	Terrasel Jones (877) 659-4500 tjones@gtindependence.com
Mains'l	Bill Payer, Sole Employer, and Co- employer	English Only	Require certified budget & spending plan draft to start onboarding process.	16.5% for Sole Employer 17.5% for Co-employer	None	Jason Bergquist (866) 767-4296 jmbergquist@mainsl.com

Ritz	Bill Payer, Co-Employer	English, Spanish & Mandarin	New clients- visit website to fill out an inquiry form. Waitlist-June 2024	22.75%-Co- employer	\$120,000	Website: Ritzfms.com Kitleng Pui kpui@ritzvocalional.com (626)-600-4703
Action	Bill Payer, Co-Employer, Sole Employer	English & Spanish	Yes, new clients call and leave message or fill out a contact us request on the website.	25%-Co- employer 17% Sole Employer	No budget limits	Main office: (310) 867-8882 Website: actionfms.com Email: contact@actionfms.com
SequoiaSD, Inc.	Bill Payer, Co-Employer, Sole Employer	English, Spanish, Translation available for other languages	Yes, but have certified budget.	22.5% Co- employer 21.64% Sole- Employer	\$250,000	Website: sequoiasd.com sequoiaenrollment@sequoiasd.com
FMS Pay LLC	Bill Payer	English Spanish Translation available for other languages	Waiting list until June 2024.	N/A	No budget limit	Phone: (858) 281-5910 Website: www.myfmspay.com
FACT	Bill Payer, Co-Employer, Sole Employer	Unknown	Waiting list	Unknown	Unknown	Jessica.burnett@factfamily.org

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

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)