



# North Los Angeles County Regional Center

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

## MEMORANDUM

Date: September 27, 2024

To: **Vendor Advisory Committee**

From: Kimberly Visokey  
Executive Administrative Assistant

Re: Information and materials for the next Nominating Committee meeting on **Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.**

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

**The meeting 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](mailto:boardsupport@nlacrc.org). Thank you!

### Attachments

c: Angela Pao-Johnson, NLACRC Executive Director  
Alex Kopilevich, VAC Chair  
Evelyn McOmie, Deputy Director



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## VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 9:30 am *(via Zoom)*

### ~AGENDA~

- I. **Call to Order & Introductions** - Alex Kopilevich, Chair
  - A. Angela Pao-Johnson – NLACRC Executive Director
  
- II. **Agenda (Page 2)**
  
- III. **Public Input**
  
- IV. **Consent Items**
  - A. Approval of Minutes from the September 5, 2024, Meeting (*Deferred*)
  
- V. **Executive Director's Report** – Cristina Preuss (*Page 4*)
  
- 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 7*)
  
- IX. **Legislative Report** – Chris Whitlock (*Page 10*)
  
- X. **Committee Business**
  - A. Priority Issue Update (*Page 18*)
  - B. Return to in-person meetings – Quarterly.
  - C. VAC Meeting Schedule (*Page 19*)
  - D. New Service Provider Vendor Training Update
  - E. Mentorship Program Update
  - F. Self-Determination Update
  - G. System / Industry Issues
  
- XI. **Open Topics for Discussion** - Alex Kopilevich
  - A. Back Payments

**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**

**XVI. Announcements/Public Input**

- A. Next Meeting: Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.
- B. Committee Attendance (*Page 20*)

**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](mailto:jodie.agnew-navarro@chimeinstitute.net)  
**Next workgroup meeting: TBD (via Zoom).**
- B. **School Age Services** (Paul Borda & Cal Enriquez)  
For meeting schedule and information  
Contact: Paul Borda - [paul@abatherapypartners.com](mailto:paul@abatherapypartners.com)  
**Next workgroup meeting: October 8, 2024 @ 10:00am (via Zoom).**
- C. **Adult Services** (Octavia Watkins)  
For meeting schedule and information  
Contact: Octavia Watkins - [excellencecrp@gmail.com](mailto:excellencecrp@gmail.com)  
**Next workgroup meeting: November 18, 2024 @11:00am (via Zoom)**

**XVIII. Adjournment**



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## Director's Report

October 2024

### **Department of Developmental Services:**

Secretary Mark Ghaly announced that Pete Cervinka has been appointed Acting Director of DDS. Pete has worked since 2020 as the Chief of Data Analytics and Strategy for DDS and prior to that had extensive experience working for the Department of Social Services.

DDS continues working on several workforce initiatives like RC employee tuition reimbursement program, DSP training stipend program, DSP internship program, etc.

ARCA is currently working and preparing positions for 36 bills in the legislation as these impact individuals with developmental disabilities and the service system. Some of these are:

**SB 37 Caballero(D)**, older adults and adults with disabilities housing stability Act that creates a rental assistance pilot program for older adults and adults with disabilities who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

**AB1906 Gipson (D)**, eliminating from statute the terms “dependent adult” and “dependent person” when referring to people with disabilities.

**AB 1147 Addis (D)**, Disability, Equity, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2024.

**SB 1281 Menjivar (D)**, Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program Act. Requires DDS to create and apply standardized processes by 1/1/2026 to improve equitable enrollment among participants of different races, ethnicities, and regional centers.

**AB 3291** Assembly Committee on Human Services. Improve planning for caregiver succession and grants flexibility for regional centers in preventing homelessness.

Developmental Services Master Plan Committee meetings continue. On October 9, 2024, the meeting will include a review of the main themes from recent public input, an overview of the Working Group Framework that will be used moving forward, and planning discussions by the working groups.

### **Center Operations:**

Total # positions filled: 757

Total # of positions authorized: 952

September New Hires

- 1st cycle: 6
- 2nd cycle: 14

### **Center Updates:**

**Special Contract Language-** The Columbus Organization is conducting Employee Driven Self-Managed Work Groups for the topics of Workspace utilization, recruitment/retention of staff, and case management

support/stabilization. Consultants have met with around 400 employees from all levels and at all locations to discuss concerns and suggestions for improvement to the various systems.

**Self-Determination Program-** Participants that have fully transitioned into SDP with approved spending plans and active SDP IPPs: **414**. NLACRC has a vacant position in the SDP Local Volunteer Advisory Committee. The committee members must reflect the multicultural diversity and geographic profile of the NLACRC catchment area. Our committee is currently seeking applicants who meet at least one of the following preferred criteria:

- o Hispanic/Latino
- o African American
- o People with Developmental Disabilities (consumers)

**Unity in Diversity Festival-** took place on 9/28/24 from 10am-2pm at New Horizons. We had a total of 499 RSVP's (includes individuals and CBOs).

**Voter registration-** NLACRC has developed messages to our community on the importance of voting in the upcoming elections. Community based organizations are supporting the efforts encouraging our consumers and families to vote. State Council on Developmental Disabilities and The Arc of CA developed a voter engagement project as well.

**Consumer Statistics:**

As of September 15, 2024, the Center has 37,706 individuals served and applicants.

**Special Events:**

ARCA Academy event was held on Friday, September 6th and Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> hosted at Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino. There were around 150 participants from all over the state. Topics ranged from board management, developmental services innovations and leadership. NLACRC was represented by 12 board members and executive leaders.

**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 – October 22, 2024

Disability Rights California's next board meeting - November 15, 2024  
Local Volunteer Advisory Committee (LVAC SDP)- October 17, 2024

## ***Vendor Advisory Committee: October 3, 2024***

### ***Community Services Department: Director's Report***

#### **General Updates:**

- ❖ **Service Provider Directory:** [Per DDS directive D-2024-QIP-003 from 9/23/2024](#)
  - Step 1: Data Collection (7/15/24 - 10/4/24)
  - Step 2: Validation (approx. 10/11 - 11/08/2024; actual start date TBD)
    - See directive for detailed incentive payment eligibility
- ❖ **Vendor Portal:** NLACRC's vendor portal has launched on 9/23/2024.
  - Community Services will be sending all service providers a link to set up access to this new SharePoint site. We are on track to send emails to 400 vendors per week and therefore all vendors will receive by end of October.
  - Questions: [vendorportal@nlacrc.org](mailto:vendorportal@nlacrc.org)

#### **HCBS:**

- ❖ **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, until November)
    - Family Trainings

#### **Compliance Corner:**

- ❖ **Rate Reform Highlights: WIC, 4519.10 updated based on 2024/2025 trailer bill (AB 162)**
  - Eligible providers will receive 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
  - See **Service Provider Directory section** above.
- ❖ **DS 1891** – A new compliance cycle began January 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:Contract&Compliance@nlacrc.org).
  - Provide notice of changes (address, entity, name) to [ResourceDevelopment@nlacrc.org](mailto:ResourceDevelopment@nlacrc.org)

#### **Employment Services:**

- ❖ General reminder to submit PIP workbook claims and CIE request [CIE&PIP@nlacrc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 has closed the Summer/Fall RFV. Response letters will be sent to providers **October 30, 2024**. For more information and registration details please visit email [resourcedevelopment@nlacrc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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).
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **Special Incident Reporting and Risk Management Training** by NLACRC Risk Assessment Supervisor, Shelly Briggs, and NLACRC Community Services Specialist, Bill Wood
  - November 13, 2024, 10am – 12pm, via Zoom
  - [Registration Link Forthcoming](#)
  - 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 September 12, 2024** the bill was enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240SB1281](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 September 12, 2024** the bill was enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB1147](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** the 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](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 September 14, 2024** the bill was **chaptered\*** by Secretary of State – Chapter 233, Statutes of 2024. \***CHAPTERED** after a bill has been signed by the Governor, the Secretary of State assigns the bill a Chapter Number, such as Chapter 1234, Statutes of 2019, which is subsequently used to refer to the measure rather than the bill number.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB1906](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](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 September 3, 2024** the bill was enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3:30 p.m.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB2423](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.

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/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB1914](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB1914)

**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.

Status: **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.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB2360](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB2360)

**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.

Status: **On September 13, 2024** – the bill was enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240AB3063](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240AB3063)

**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.

Status: **On September 20, 2024** the bill is in senate and consideration of Governor’s veto is pending.

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240SB1463](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB1463)

### **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://sd24.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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Bills enacted on or before this date take effect on January 1, 2025
- November 5<sup>th</sup>, 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>

## **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.

## **Tentative RCPM Workgroup Meetings:**

- January 28, 2025 – 1:00-3:00 pm
- April 22, 2025 – 1:00-3:00 pm
- July 22, 2025 – 1:00-3:00 pm
- October 28, 2025 – 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](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, 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**

- Identify strategies and formulate solutions to simplify access to services by working in collaboration with NLACRC and public resources such as individual providers and agencies.
- Identify strategies and share ideas with NLACRC and vendored service providers in developing NLACRC's portal for authorization of services.
  - a. Collect topics for Vendor Support Forum (continuous)
    - i. Transparency on Authorization Status.
    - ii. Future NLACRC portal functionality and platform development.
- Support and assist regional center consumers and families, and vendor service providers in successfully and seamlessly serving school-age consumers enrolled in NLACRC's Self-Determination program.
- Discuss, review, and advocate for (DDS) legislative ideas that benefit school-age regional center consumers and their families and the support system to which they are entitled.
- Recruit more providers to serve on the School-Aged Subcommittee.

### **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](http://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 9, 2025**

9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, February 13, 2025**

9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, March 13, 2025**

9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, April 10, 2025**

9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, May 8, 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

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

Meeting Time                      2.50                      1.75

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)