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CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

March 24, 2026

Almarietha Mathews, Coastal Developmental Services Foundation Board President
Jane Borochoff, Westside Regional Center Executive Director
777 South Aviation Boulevard, Suite 105
El Segundo, CA 90245

Dear Almarietha Mathews and Jane Borochoff:

This letter is in response to Westside Regional Center's (WRC) letter dated January 15, 2026 requesting a conflict of interest (COI) waiver for Nilo Choudhry, a Coastal Developmental Services Foundation (CDSF) Board member. The Department of Developmental Services (Department) is in receipt of the COI Reporting Statement and proposed Conflict Resolution Plan (CRP) for Nilo Choudhry. The Department received written approval of the proposed CRP from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities on March 2, 2026, as required by Title 17 Section [54534\(a\)](#).

A potential conflict exists as Nilo Choudhry's brother, Hamid Choudhry, is employed by Maxim Healthcare Services (Maxim), which is a vendor of WRC. Hamid Choudhry provides personal assistance and respite services to a family member. Hamid Choudhry does not provide services to any other individuals receiving services from WRC.

Based on the information provided, the proposed CRP is approved for Nilo Choudhry effective for 12 months from the date of this letter. If, at any time, there is a change of status that creates a new COI, WRC must have Nilo Choudhry prepare and file a new COI Reporting Statement, and WRC must submit a new CRP, as appropriate, pursuant to Title 17, Article 1 Regional Center COI Standards and Procedures.

This approval is based on the implementation of the safeguards identified in WRC's letter dated January 15, 2026, and the CDSF Governing Board's assurance that the following conditions are met.

As a member of CDSF's Board of Directors, Nilo Choudhry shall have no role or involvement with any matter that might affect Maxim, including, but not limited to:

1. Participation in any discussions, recommendations, or decisions about contracts, service agreements, or any other fiduciary related items that may apply to Maxim.
2. Nilo Choudhry shall fully disclose the existence and nature of the COI to the CDSF Board of Directors and have it noted in the official board records.
3. Nilo Choudhry shall abstain from voting on any matter pertaining to Maxim or any matter which could impact Maxim services and supports or any competitor in the same service category.

4. Nilo Choudhry shall not use their position as a board member of CDSF's Board of Directors to exert influence on decision-making regarding Maxim services and supports or any competitor in the same service category.
5. Given the specific set of circumstances, CDSF's Board President and other board members are responsible for having Nilo Choudhry comply with Welfare & Institutions Code Section 4622(k)(2).
6. CDSF's Board President and members are responsible for applying and monitoring the plan and its safeguards.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Willie Ramirez, Primary Regional Center Liaison, Community Operations Branch, at (951) 554-1048 or by email at Willie.Ramirez@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

ERNIE CRUZ
Deputy Director
Community Services Division

cc: Aaron Carruthers, State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Michael Santiago, State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Yaritza Sanchez, State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Michi Gates, Department of Developmental Disabilities
Tiffani Andrade, Department of Developmental Services
Jacqueline Gaytan, Department of Developmental Services
Elizabeth Tom, Department of Developmental Services
Willie Ramirez, Department of Developmental Services