

To: Board of Directors

Date: August 5, 2026

Committee Schedule and Agenda for the WRC Board of Directors Board Meeting, **Wednesday, August 12, 2026.**

Attached is the agenda for the **August 12, 2026, WRC Board of Directors Board Meeting** which will **be held virtually on Zoom Webinar.**

All Board of Directors will receive a link inviting you to be a panelist at the August 12, 2026 meeting. On the day of the Board meeting, **please click on your link to ensure you join the meeting as a panelist (speaker). This link is unique to you and should not be shared with anyone else.**

All members of the public who wish to attend the meeting should follow these instructions to register:

1. Sign up for a [free Zoom account](#) if they have not already done so
2. [Click on this link to register](#) to attend the meeting
 - Attendees will be asked for their name and email address
 - This is so we can take attendance instead of using a sign-in sheet
 - Attendees will receive an email with a link to join the meeting
 - Webinar ID: 882 2305 6853 # • Password: 473989 #
3. On the day and time of the meeting, attendees should click the link to join and enter the password. Spanish interpretation will be available upon entering the meeting

The public session Call-to-Order is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Much of the work of the Board is done in the WRC various committees, including Finance, Policy, Client Services, and others. Your participation is needed and welcomed.

The following Committees are scheduled to meet:

Committee Name	Date & Time	Location
Board Development Committee	August 31, 4:00 p.m.	ZOOM Video Conference
Client Services Committee	August 4, 5:00 p.m.	ZOOM Video Conference
Consumer Advisory Committee	August 19, 5:00 p.m.	El Pollo Loco 1833 S. La Cienega, Los Angeles
Finance Committee	August 12, 5:00 p.m.	ZOOM Video Conference
Policy Committee	September 10, 4:00 p.m.	ZOOM Video Conference
Self Determination	August 11, 6:00 p.m.	ZOOM Video Conference
Service Provider Advisory Committee	August 18, 10:30 a.m.	WRC

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

Via Zoom

6:00 p.m. – Closed Session • 6:30 p.m. – Public Session

A G E N D A

Closed Session 4663 (a) (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (b) <i>'Real estate', 'appointment, employment, evaluation, of performance or dismissal of a Regional Center employee'. 'Pending litigation'. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 4660.</i>	
Public Session Call to Order	Almarietha Mathews
Welcome	Almarietha Mathews
Mission Statement	Almarietha Mathews
Code of Conduct	Terry Magady
Roll Call of Board Members – Quorum	Almarietha Mathews
President's Report	Almarietha Mathews
Executive Director's Report	Jane Borochoff
Public Comment on Agenda Items	
APPROVAL OF Minutes of June 17, 2026 Special Board Meeting APPROVAL OF Minutes of July 8, 2026 Board Meeting	Todd Rubien – ACTION
Committee Reports	
Board Development APPROVAL OF Board Member for 1-year Term APPROVAL OF Board Member Renewal for 2-year Term APPROVAL OF SPAC Applicants	Jennifer E. Cohen - ACTION
Client Services	Dr. Wakelin McNeel
Finance	Kyle Jones
Policy APPROVAL OF Zero Tolerance Policy APPROVAL OF Whistleblower Policy	Terry Magady - ACTION
Service Provider Advisory (SPAC)	Justin Levi
Consumer Advisory (CAC)	Esther Kelsey
Presentation of Service Access and Equity Grant/Healthcare for the Aging I/DD Community	Sarah Rasmussen
Public Comment	
Adjournment	Almarietha Mathews - ACTION

Pursuant to California Welfare and Institutions Code 4660 (c), time shall be allowed for public input on all properly noticed agenda items prior to board action on that item.

The Next Board Meeting is on Wednesday, September 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

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It is WRC's mission to support people with developmental disabilities, their families, and communities of choice by facilitating access to person-centered, culturally responsive services and resources.

La misión de WRC es apoyar a las personas con discapacidades del desarrollo, a sus familias y a las comunidades de su elección facilitando el acceso a servicios y recursos culturalmente sensibles y enfocados en la persona.



Business etiquette is essential to a well-run, successful meeting. Everyone who attends all WRC Board-related meetings agrees to:

- Understand and promote collaboration by allowing for a productive, safe and welcoming environment;
- Treat everyone with respect and consideration;
- Allow for open and inclusive discussions that do not demean, discriminate or harass others;
- Refrain from using discriminatory or demeaning language or language that could be considered bullying, threatening or intimidating;
- Critique ideas and suggestions but not individuals;
- Respect the responsibility and authority of the Board Chair in preserving order and decorum; and
- Avoid disrupting others when speaking and waiting for the Board Chair to determine the next speaker(s).

If, after being warned, anyone's actions violate this Meetings Code of Conduct, they may be asked to leave the meeting by the Board Chair.

Board Meetings Code of Conduct was Adopted on June 3rd, 2020.
Amended by the Board of Directors June 8, 2022.

La etiqueta en los negocios es esencial para el éxito de una reunión. Todas las personas que asistan a las reuniones del consejo del WRC se comprometen a:

- Comprender y fomentar la colaboración permitiendo un entorno productivo, seguro y acogedor;
- Tratar a todos con respeto y consideración;
- Permitir debates abiertos e inclusivos que no degraden, discriminen o acosen a los demás;
- Abstenerse de utilizar lenguaje discriminatorio o degradante o que pueda considerarse acoso, amenaza o intimidación;
- Criticar ideas y sugerencias, pero no a individuos;
- Respetar la responsabilidad y la autoridad del presidente de la Junta para mantener el orden y el decoro; y
- Evitar interrumpir a los demás al hacer uso de la palabra y esperar a que el presidente de la Junta determine el/los siguiente(s) orador(es).

Si, tras haber sido advertido, alguien infringe este Código de Conducta en las Reuniones, el presidente de la Junta podrá pedirle que abandone la reunión.

El Código de Conducta para las Reuniones del Consejo fue adoptado el 3 de junio de 2020.
Modificado por el Consejo de Administración el 8 de junio de 2022.

**The Next Board Meeting is on Wednesday, October 14,
2026, at 6:30 p.m.**

Save the Date!

Westside Regional Center Grand Opening

August 30, 2026

12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

*Featuring Special
Guest Star*

Sofia Sanchez
*of The Hunger
Games: The Ballad of
Songbirds & Snakes*



Save the Date!

**Westside
Regional Center
Grand Opening**

August 30, 2026
12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.



*Featuring Special
Guest Star*

Sofia Sanchez

*of The Hunger
Games: The Ballad of
Songbirds & Snakes*



Board of Directors Special Meeting

Coastal Development Services Foundation

Wednesday, June 17, 2026 | 6:00 P.M.

Via Zoom

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nilo Choudry
Jennifer E. Cohen
Kyle Jones
Justin Levi
Terry Magady
Almarietha Mathews
Dr. Wakelin McNeel
Carmen Tripp
Todd Withers
Todd Rubien

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Jane Borochoff, Peggy Bottger

GUESTS: Jose Luis Donayre (Interpreter), Leticia Soto (Interpreter)

CALL TO ORDER (ACTION*)

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Almarietha Mathews, at 6:49 p.m. The Mission Statement was read by Todd Rubien and Meeting Code of Conduct was read by Dr. Wakelin McNeel.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

It was established that the members present represented a quorum necessary pursuant to Section 7.03 (6) of the bylaws of Westside Regional Center which states:

(h) Quorum. A majority of the Directors serving on the Board at the time of the meeting of the Board shall constitute quorum at any meeting of the Board

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA (3 minutes)

None.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2026 (ACTION)

Todd Rubien (Motion) and Jennifer E. Cohen (Second) to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2026. There was no discussion.

9 AYES
0 NO
0 ABSTENTION

The motion passed.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes)

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned by Almarietha Mathews, Board President at 7:29 p.m.

Todd Rubien
Board Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting

Coastal Development Services Foundation

Wednesday, July 8, 2026 | 6:30 P.M.

Via Zoom



MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Meshell Baylor
Nilo Choudry
Jennifer E. Cohen
Kyle Jones
Justin Levi
Terry Magady
Almarietha Mathews
Dr. Wakelin McNeel
Todd Rubien
Carmen Tripp
Todd Withers

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Jane Borochoff, Stephen Browning, Linda Butler, Candace Hein, Allyson Hemar, Pablo Ibañez, Natalie Monge, Andy Ponce, Sarah Reynoso, Megan Tommet-Ramirez

GUESTS: Jose Luis Donayre (Interpreter), Antonietta Schulz (Interpreter), Willie Ramirez (DDS), D'Marcus Baptist, Esther Kelsey, Robert Schwartz, Renard Stanford

CALL TO ORDER (ACTION*)

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Almarietha Mathews, at 6:35 p.m. The Mission Statement was read by Almarietha Mathews and Meeting Code of Conduct was read by Terry Magady.

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

It was established that the members present represented a quorum necessary pursuant to Section 7.03 (6) of the bylaws of Westside Regional Center which states:

(h) Quorum. A majority of the Directors serving on the Board at the time of the meeting of the Board shall constitute quorum at any meeting of the Board

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President, Almarietha Mathews, opened the meeting by recognizing the nation's 250th anniversary and noting that July is Disability Pride Month, commemorating the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 20, 1990. This year's theme is "the world works better with us."

Almarietha directed attendees to the board packet, which includes a save-the-date notice for WRC's Grand Opening event on August 30. She thanked board members, staff, support staff, and interpreters for their contributions to the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting

Coastal Development Services Foundation

Wednesday, July 8, 2026 | 6:30 P.M.

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Jane thanked Almarietha and the board for their continued volunteer service and for committing to serve on the Board for another fiscal year.

In response to board member questions, Jane addressed the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS) update to the legal definition of “cost effective” for developmental disability services, effective August 1, in response to Assembly Bill 143. The prior standard's focus on the “least costly service” has been difficult to apply consistently.

Under the proposed definition, a lower-cost option is not automatically appropriate if it does not meet an individual's needs or support the goals identified in their Individual Program Plan (IPP). To be considered cost effective, a service must: Not replace generic services; Meet federal funding requirements; Be provided by a qualified provider; Be provided at a reasonable rate; and address the individual's specific circumstances and disability-related needs.

The deadline to submit feedback to DDS on this definition is July 31. Feedback may be submitted via the DDS feedback form, through the Q&A during tonight's meeting, or by email to Jane directly at JaneB@westsiderc.org. Jane said that this definition may affect all services provided by the Regional Center.

The organization remains behind on several compliance items. Most notably, the independent CPA audit remains overdue, which is delaying completion of this year's audit; the Finance Committee is working on next steps to resolve this. In addition, a biennial fiscal audit from the department is scheduled to begin the first week of August.

Several urgent positions remain open, including an Emergency Specialist, an IT Help Desk position, and multiple Service Coordinator roles. New HR Manager Sarah Reynoso is working to post these openings on the organization's website sometime next week.

Jane invited the board to the organization's Grand Opening, on Sunday, August 30, at the new facility located at 777 South Aviation Boulevard, El Segundo. Special guest Sofia Sanchez, known for her role in The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, will speak and hold a book signing.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA (3 minutes)

None.

APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2026 (ACTION)

Todd Rubien (Motion) and Jennifer E. Cohen (Second) to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2026. There was no discussion.

11 AYES

0 NO

Board of Directors Meeting

Coastal Development Services Foundation

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Via Zoom



0 ABSTENTION

The motion passed.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 8, 2026

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Development

Committee Chair, Jennifer E. Cohen, reported that seven candidates came forward for board review, and an additional application was received. The committee expressed satisfaction with the current recruitment flyer and optimism heading into the next fiscal year, and thanked board members for their continued service.

Client Services

Committee Chair, Dr. Wakelin McNeel, reported that the committee met to review previous service standards, including standardized policies on Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical therapies, for which board approval was sought. This policy was previously passed by DDS and is being adopted without changes so that it aligns with DDS approval. The policy does not include an educational component, which the committee will review later this year. A vote was taken to approve the policy.

APPROVAL OF STANDARDIZED SOCIAL RECREATION, CAMPING, AND NON-MEDICAL THERAPIES (ACTION)

Meshell Baylor (Motion) and Jennifer E. Cohen (Second) to approve the STANDARDIZED SOCIAL RECREATION, CAMPING, AND NON-MEDICAL THERAPIES. There was no discussion.

11 AYES

0 NO

0 ABSTENTION

The motion passed.

RESOLUTION: APPROVAL OF THE STANDARDIZED SOCIAL RECREATION, CAMPING, AND NON-MEDICAL THERAPIES.

Finance

Chair, Kyle Jones, reported that the committee reviewed financial reports through the month of April 2026, and WRC's projected expenditures are expected to remain within the approved WRC budget allocation. WRC projects a balanced budget for FY 25-2026. Some WRC Operation allocations consist of

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Via Zoom



restricted funds due to policy mandates. With the B-4 budget allocation for FY 25-2026, WRC projects a balanced Purchase of Service (POS) budget. Additionally, the CPA audit is currently ongoing. The DDS biennial audit will begin following completion of the CPA audit. Every Regional Center receives a full compliance biennial audit conducted by DDS.

Policy

Committee Chair, Terry Magady, reported that the next committee meeting will take place September 10 at 4:00 p.m.

Service Provider Advisory (SPAC)

Committee Chair, Justin Levi, reported that SPAC held a productive discussion regarding the primary concerns and priorities identified by service providers. These discussions will help guide the committee's agenda and work plan moving forward. The committee also thanked the eight individuals who volunteered to serve on SPAC following the recent recruitment process. The Board Development Committee is nearly finished interviewing applicants, and the selection process is expected to be finalized within the next several weeks. The next SPAC meeting will take place on August 18 at 10:30 a.m.

Consumer Advisory (CAC)

Esther Kelsey reported on CAC advocacy activities, including engagement with law enforcement. On June 19, advocates showed support for U.S. Representative Maxine Waters (California's 43rd District), whose current term runs through 2027 and who will appear on the general election ballot. Advocates from Harbor Regional Center, North Los Angeles County Regional Center, and the State Council continue to support one another at IPP meetings. Esther also raised a complaint regarding Board and CAC member Todd Rubien, and Almarietha Mathews acknowledged the comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes)

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned by Almarietha Mathews, Board President, at 7:02 p.m.

Todd Rubien

Board Secretary

Westside Regional Center

Zero Tolerance Policy for Abuse or Neglect **[August 12, 2026]**

POLICY:

Westside Regional Center (WRC) will protect the rights of adults and children with developmental disabilities. Under the direction of Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 15630 and Penal Code (PC) 11164-11174.3, WRC will maintain a zero tolerance for abuse and neglect for the individuals we serve. This policy applies to:

- A. All of WRC's vendored service providers that provide direct services and supports (as defined by Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) section 4512(b)) to individuals with developmental disabilities within WRC's catchment area (consumers).
- B. All long-term health care facilities serving WRC's consumers.
- C. WRC employees, if any, who are considered "mandatory reporters" under either of the reporting laws described in sections 2 and 3 below.

1. Background

The California Legislature has adopted various laws to protect all children, dependent adults, and elder adults from various types of abuse and neglect. These laws also apply to all mandated reporters. This policy concerns the application of such laws.

2. The Adult Reporting Law

California WIC sections 15600-15675, known as the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act (adult reporting law) provides (among other things) that any person who has assumed responsibility for the care or custody of an adult client, including administrators, supervisors, and any licensed staff of a facility that provide care or services for adult clients, is a mandated reporter.¹ Under the adult reporting law, any mandated reporter who experiences any of the following shall report the abuse to the applicable governmental authorities (subject to certain limited exceptions described in the adult reporting law).²

¹ The definition of "mandated reporter" under the Adult Reporting Law is found in Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 15630(a). The list of care custodians who are mandated reporters is found in WIC section 15610.17.

² Definitions of elder and adult abuse are found in WIC sections 15610-15610.70.

- A. Has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be physical abuse, abandonment, abduction, isolation, financial abuse, or neglect of an adult client.
- B. Is told by an adult client that he or she has experienced adult abuse.
- C. Reasonably suspects the existence of adult abuse.

3. The Child Reporting Law

California Penal Code sections 11164 – 11174.3., known as the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (child reporting law) provides (among other things) that various categories of persons who interact with a client under the age of 18 are mandated reporters.³ Under Penal Code section 11166, any mandated reporter who has knowledge of or observes a person under 18 whom the mandated reporter knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect (child abuse), shall report the abuse to the applicable government authorities (subject to certain limited exceptions described in the child reporting law).³ It is important to note that the list of mandated reporters who are obligated to report child abuse is different than the list of mandated reporters obligated to report adult abuse.

4. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect the interests of WRC's s and their families by:

- A. Educating all mandated reporters about their legal obligation to report adult and child abuse (consumer abuse).
- B. Requiring mandated reporters to fully comply with the adult and child reporting laws (reporting laws).
- C. Providing information to assist mandated reporters in reporting consumer abuse to the proper authorities.
- D. Describing the consequences resulting from a mandated reporter's failure to comply with the reporting laws and this policy. The implementation of this policy will assist in ensuring a safe and healthful environment to all individuals with a developmental disability who are provided services or supports by a service provider or a long-term health care facility.

³ Penal Code section 11165.7 identifies those individuals who are mandated reporters under the child reporting law.

WRC Zero Tolerance Policy

5. The Policy

- A. Duty to Comply with Reporting Laws. All service providers and long-term health care facilities shall insure all of their employees and contractors understand and are educated regarding their mandated reporter status and that they must strictly comply with the reporting laws at all times. All of WRC's employees, as mandated reporters, shall also strictly comply with the reporting laws at all times. A mandated reporter must (unless exempt under law) report all client abuse to the applicable governmental authorities immediately after becoming aware of the suspected abuse or as soon as practicably possible.
- B. Service Provider/Health Care Facility Compliance Policies. Each service provider and long-term health care facility shall ensure maximum compliance with the reporting laws by developing its own written compliance policy for its respective employees and contractors (provider compliance policy). Each provider compliance policy shall incorporate all of the following information:
1. The types and signs of client abuse.
 2. The responsibility to protect clients from client abuse.
 3. The process for reporting client abuse to applicable authorities under the reporting laws.
 4. Identification of the entities entitled to receive reports of client abuse under the reporting laws.
 5. A requirement that this policy be provided to all employees upon hire.
 6. A requirement that this policy be reviewed annually by all employees.
 7. The consequences of failing to follow the reporting laws and this policy.
- C. Delivery of Provider Compliance Policy to WRC. All service providers and long-term health care facilities shall provide their provider compliance policies to WRC upon request.
- D. Taking Action to Ensure Client Health and Safety. If WRC, a service provider, or a long-term health care facility becomes aware of abuse, such entity shall take immediate action, to the extent permitted by law, to ensure the health and safety of the affected and all others receiving services and supports from WRC, the service provider or long-term health care facility. This obligation is in addition to a mandated reporter's obligation to report client abuse under the reporting laws.

6. Procedures

- A. WRC's Annual Notice. WRC shall notify its employees, service providers and long-term health care facilities of this policy on an annual basis.
- B. WRC's Posting of this Policy on its Website. WRC shall promptly post and maintain this policy on its website.
- C. Vendor's Distribution of Policies to its Employees and Contractors. Each service provider and long-term health care facility shall:
 - 1. Provide a copy of this policy and its own provider compliance policy to each of its respective employees and contractors upon hire/engagement, as well as annually thereafter.
 - 2. Retain documentation of its compliance with this requirement (such as signed and dated receipts from its employees). Each service provider or long-term health care facility shall provide such compliance documentation to WRC upon request.
- D. Incorporation of this Policy into Vendor Contracts. This policy shall be attached as an exhibit and/or incorporated by reference into all WRC contracts and contract amendments that are entered into after the effective date of this policy with WRC's service providers and long-term health care facilities.

10. How to Report Adult Abuse Under the Adult Reporting Law

- A. Reporting Generally. When a mandated reporter is required to report adult abuse, the mandated reporter shall immediately, or as soon as practicably possible, submit such report to the county adult protective services agency (APS) or the local law enforcement agency. The mandated reporter shall submit either:
 - 1. A confidential Internet report (as noted in Section 10.B below), or
 - 2. Both a telephonic and written report (as noted in Sections 10.C and 10.D below).
- B. Internet Report. To report suspected adult abuse to APS via the Internet, the mandated reporter should complete a confidential Internet report. For clients

residing in Los Angeles County, the reporting website is: <https://hsslacountyprod.wellsky.com/assessments/?WebIntake=A6DCB64F-7D31-4B6D-88D6-0A8FA7EA505F/>.

- C. Telephonic Report. To report suspected adult abuse to APS via telephone, the mandated reporter should call the office of APS in the county where the client is located. In Los Angeles County, the reporting phone number is: (877)477-3646. Within two working days after the mandated reporter submits a telephonic report, the mandated reporter shall submit either the Internet report described in Section 10.B above or the written report described in Section 10.D below.
- D. Written Report. To report suspected adult abuse to APS in writing, the mandated reporter should file a report on California Department of Social Services (DPSS) Form SOC 341 (entitled, "Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse"). The form can be found on the following website: https://cdss.ca.gov/MandatedReporting/story_content/external_files/SOC341.pdf
- E. Special Rules for a Client in a Long-Term Care Facility. If adult abuse occurs in a long-term care facility (as defined by the reporting law), the mandated reporter shall submit both a telephonic report and a written report (on DSS Form SOC 341) to the local ombudsman or the local law enforcement agency. Further, if a client has suffered physical abuse in a long-term care facility, then the mandated reporter shall also report such abuse to the entities described in WIC sections 15630(b)(1)(A)(i) or (ii), as applicable.
- E. Contents of Report. A telephonic report or Internet report of adult abuse shall include, if known:
 - 1. The name of the person making the report.
 - 2. The name and age of the client.
 - 3. The present location of the client.
 - 4. The names and addresses of family members or any other adult responsible for the client's care.
 - 5. The nature and extent of the client's condition.
 - 6. The date of the incident, and any other information, including information that led that person to suspect adult abuse, as requested by the agency receiving the report.
- G. Review the Law in Full to Understand Your Responsibilities. This policy only highlights a portion of the adult reporting law. All service providers, long term health care facility providers, and mandated reporters are encouraged to read

the adult reporting law in full. A copy of the adult reporting law can be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html> by checking the box next to “Welfare and Institutions” and looking for the appropriate section numbers.

- H. Additional Resources. The California Office of the Attorney General has published two videos and a related training document, entitled, “Your Legal Duty...Reporting Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse,” which contain additional information. The videos are on the web at: <http://oag.ca.gov/dmfea>. The training document is on the web at: https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/bmfea/yld_text.pdf.

11. **How to Report Child Abuse Under the Child Reporting Law**

- A. Recipient of Report. Mandated reporters shall make reports of suspected child abuse to:
1. Any police department or sheriff's department (not including a school district police or security department),
 2. A county probation department, if designated by the county to receive mandated reports, or
 3. The county welfare department.
- B. Telephonic Report. The mandated reporter shall make an initial report of child abuse by telephone to the applicable agency immediately or as soon as is practicably possible. For example, the emergency response child abuse reporting telephone number for Los Angeles County is: (800)540-4000.
- C. Written Report. The mandated reporter shall prepare and send, fax, or electronically transmit a written follow-up report (on CDSS Form SS 8572) within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident. The report form, entitled “Suspected Child Abuse Report,” can be found at: http://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/childabuse/ss_8572.pdf.
- D. Contents of Report. Reports of suspected child abuse shall include:
1. The name, business address, and telephone number of the mandated reporter.
 2. The capacity that makes the person a mandated reporter.
 3. The information that gave rise to the reasonable suspicion of child abuse and the source or sources of that information.

If a report is made, the following information, if known, shall also be included in the report:

4. The child's name.
5. The child's address, present location, and, if applicable, school, grade, and class.
6. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the child's parents or guardians.
7. The name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information about the person or persons who might have abused or neglected the child.

The mandated reporter shall make a report even if some of this information is not known or is uncertain to him or her.

- E. Review the Law in Full to Understand Your Responsibilities. This policy only highlights a portion of the child reporting law. All service providers, long term health care facility providers, and mandated reporters are encouraged to read the child reporting law in full. A copy of the Child Abuse Law and Neglect Reporting Act can be downloaded from the Internet at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html> by checking the box next to "Penal Code" and looking for the appropriate section numbers.
- F. Additional Resources. The Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) provides training and resources which may be accessed on the web at: <https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/ocap>

12. Consequence of Failure to Comply

- A. WRC's Intention to Enforce. WRC expects all service providers and long-term health care facilities to comply with this policy and the reporting laws. To the extent they fail to do so, WRC will utilize all remedies available to it in statute and regulations to protect the health and safety of its clients.
- B. Breach of Contract. The failure of a service provider or a long-term health care facility to strictly comply with this policy or either of the reporting laws shall constitute a material breach of its contract with WRC, and shall give WRC the right and option to terminate such contract.

- C. Statutory Penalties For Failure to Report Adult Abuse (WIC section 15630(h))
A mandated reporter's failure to report, or impeding or inhibiting a report of, adult abuse, in violation of the adult reporting law, is a misdemeanor, punishable by not more than six months in the county jail, by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment. Any mandated reporter who willfully fails to report, or impedes or inhibits a report of, adult abuse, in violation of the adult reporting law (if that abuse results in death or great bodily injury), shall be punished by not more than one year in a county jail, by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment.
- D. Statutory Penalties for Failure to Report Child Abuse (Penal Code sections 11166(c) and 11166.01(b)). Any mandated reporter who fails to report an incident of known or reasonably suspected child abuse as required by the child reporting law is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months confinement in a county jail or by a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or by both that imprisonment and fine. Any mandated reporter who willfully fails to report child abuse in violation of the child reporting law (where that abuse or neglect results in death or great bodily injury to the child) shall be punished by not more than one year in a county jail, by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment.
- E. Statutory Penalties for Impeding a Report of Child Abuse (Penal Code section 11166.01). Any supervisor or administrator who impedes or inhibits the reporting duties of a mandated reporter concerning child abuse shall be punished by not more than six months in a county jail, by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment. However, such punishment shall be increased to up to one year in a county jail, or by a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by both that fine and imprisonment, where that abuse or neglect results in death or great bodily injury to the child.

13. Inconsistencies

If any inconsistency exists between this policy and the reporting laws, the provisions in the reporting laws shall prevail.

WESTSIDE REGIONAL CENTER COMMUNITY & STAFF WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

PURPOSE:

This policy is intended to provide Westside Regional Center (WRC) employees, board members, service providers, contractors, individuals served and their families and other partners and friends with guidance and structure for reporting any perceived improper regional center activity and/or any perceived improper service provider/contractor activity, without fear of retaliation. WRC welcomes reports of reasonable suspicions, concerns or evidence of illegal, unethical or inappropriate activity so long as such reporting is in good faith. Good faith in this context means that the complaint is filed for the purpose of correcting a WRC employee or service provider/contractor related problem or eliminating a bad practice, and that the complaint is based on reasonable suspicion or knowledge of the facts.

WRC's Whistleblower policy protects those making whistleblower complaints from any form of retaliation for the good faith reporting of perceived improper activity committed by WRC employees, board members or service providers/contractors. No adverse action will be taken against the person filing the complaint simply because a complaint has been filed. WRC employees, service providers/contractors and board members are expected to adhere to the highest standards of business and personal ethics in carrying out their duties and responsibilities.

POLICY:

Definition of Regional Center or Service Provider/Contractor Whistleblower

Complaints: Regional Center or Service Provider/Contractor Whistleblower complaints are defined as the reporting of an "improper regional center or service provider/contractor activity".

- An "improper regional center activity" refers to an activity by a regional center or an employee, officer, or board member of a regional center, in the conduct of regional center business, that is in violation of a state or federal law or regulation; is in violation of contract provisions; amounts to fraud or fiscal malfeasance; amounts to misuse of government property; or constitutes gross misconduct, incompetency, or inefficiency.

An "improper service provider/contractor activity" means an activity by a service provider/contractor or an employee, officer, or board member of a service provider/contractor, in the provision of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) funded services, that is in violation of a state or federal law or regulation; is in violation of contract provisions; amounts to fraud or fiscal malfeasance; amounts to misuse of government property; or constitutes gross misconduct, incompetency, or inefficiency.

1. FILING COMPLAINTS

WRC has a variety of complaint and appeal processes available to individuals served and their families, service providers, agencies, community members, and WRC staff. These include Consumer Rights Complaints (Welfare and Institutions section 4731 Complaints); Early Start Complaints, Due Process Requests, and Mediation Conference Requests; Lanterman Act Fair Hearing Requests; Title 17 Complaints; Citizen Comments and Complaints; and Whistleblower Complaints. (See <https://www.dds.ca.gov/general/appeals-%20complaints-comments/> for additional information). Each of these complaint and appeal processes has separate and distinct procedures for resolution. The process described in this Policy relates only to Westside Regional Center or Service Provider/Contractor Whistleblower complaints as described above.

Any complaint should include a clear and concise statement of the improper activity and include any available evidence to support the allegation. It should be **factual** and not speculative.

If those who submit the complaint do not provide a name or other information (witnesses or documents) that clearly identifies the person whom the complaint alleges has acted improperly, and the regional center or service provider/contractor where that person works, the regional center and its Board may not have sufficient information to investigate. Copies of documents, rather than originals, should be submitted, because such materials cannot be returned.

Although complaints may be filed anonymously, if insufficient information is provided and the Regional Center or its Board have no means to contact the individual or group lodging the complaint, investigation of the allegation may not be possible.

This Whistleblower Policy shall not be used to resolve disputes concerning the nature, scope, or amount of services and supports that should be included in an individual program plan (IPP) or individualized family service plan (IFSP), for which there is an appeal procedure established in the Lanterman Act and or the Early Intervention Services Act, or disputes regarding rates or audit appeals for which there is an appeal procedure established in regulations. Those disputes shall be resolved through the appeals procedure established by the Lanterman Act, the Early Intervention Services Act or in applicable established regulations.

1. Complaints may be filed with WRC staff by contacting:

Executive Director – Westside Regional Center
777 Aviation Blvd, Suite 105, El Segundo, CA 90245(310) 258-4000 or
JaneB@WestsideRC.org
Executive Assistant (310) 258-4201 or EA@westsiderc.org
Deputy Executive Director (310) 258-4042 or AndyP@WestsideRC.org

2. Complaints may also be filed with DDS by contacting:

Community
Services Division
1215 O Street
MS 8-20
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-6309, fax (916) 654-3641

3. Complaints may also be filed with the Board of Directors

A complaint may also be filed with the President of the WRC Board of Directors by contacting wrc-bod@westsiderc.org.

2. NO RETALIATION

No individual or agency who or which reports a violation of the law or regulation or other inappropriate action or condition, in good faith, shall suffer harassment, retaliation or adverse consequence. A WRC staff member who retaliates against someone who has reported a violation in good faith is subject to discipline up to and including immediate termination of employment. This Whistleblower Policy is intended to encourage and enable

individuals served and their families, service providers, agencies, community members, and WRC staff to report serious concerns within WRC prior to seeking resolution outside of the agency. Accordingly, no Service Provider/Contractor, individual served or family member will be retaliated against in any way for filing a Whistleblower Complaint in good faith.

3. PROCESS OF INVESTIGATION

A Regional Center or Service Provider/Contractor Whistleblower complaint may be received by anyone listed above via phone, fax, e-mail, letter, or in person. The recipient of the complaint shall obtain sufficient information from the complainant to refer the complaint to the appropriate person or division for review and resolution. If the complaint is verbal, the recipient of the complaint shall document the information provided by the complainant, including the complainant's name (if provided); contact information, the nature of the complaint; who or what the complaint is regarding; the names of the possible witnesses; and the date and time the complaint was received. The name of the person who received the complaint shall also be noted in the referral to the appropriate person or division.

All reports will be promptly investigated and appropriate corrective action will be taken if warranted by a whistleblower complaint investigation. The recipient of the complaint will notify the person complaining of its conclusions and any action taken if the complaint is not anonymous. This information will be provided to the extent that it does not breach any confidentiality right of an individual served, their family or of an employee. This investigation process also applies to complaints of retaliation.

4. ACTING IN GOOD FAITH

Anyone filing a Whistleblower complaint concerning a violation or suspected violation must be acting in good faith and have reasonable grounds for believing that the information disclosed supports a finding of violation of the law or regulation or other inappropriate behavior or condition. Any allegations that prove to be unsubstantiated and which are found to have been made maliciously or to be knowingly false will be viewed as a serious offense.

5. CONFIDENTIALITY

WRC will make best efforts to maintain the confidentiality of a complainant making a whistleblower complaint if the complainant requests confidentiality. However, there may be circumstances in which WRC is unable to maintain confidentiality due to its statutory responsibilities (including ensuring the health and safety of individuals served and regional center contract compliance). In those circumstances, WRC will attempt to inform the complainant of its need to disclose certain information prior to releasing identifying information. Additionally, the identity of the complainant may be revealed to appropriate law enforcement agencies conducting a criminal investigation. All mandatory abuse reporting requirements will remain in effect as an exception to confidentiality.

6. NOTIFICATION OF WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

WRC will post the Whistleblower Policies on its website and notify employees, board members, individuals served and their families, and the service provider community of both WRC's and the State's Whistleblower Policies within 30 days of the effective date of any change in those policies and annually thereafter in the following ways:

1. Employees will receive an annual e-mail with attachments of the policies at the time they sign their annual conflict of interest statements.
2. Board Members will receive copies of the policies in their Board Packets.
3. Individuals served and their families will receive notification of how they can access the policies upon completion of the IPP service agreement form or during the IFSP meeting.
4. The service provider community will receive an annual notification in the eBilling portal during the payment process of how they can access the policies.

SPAC Meeting Notes – 7/21/26

- I. Introductions
- II. WRC Information
 - a. Jane
 - i. Grand Opening
 - 1. Looking for volunteers
 - b. Andy
 - i. Courtesy vendorization
 - 1. DDS working on getting rid of courtesy vendorization by March 2028
 - ii. Equitable and Consistent Needs Assessment
 - 1. Should clarify in August
 - 2. Standardizing RC intake practices
 - a. Does NOT change what makes someone eligible
 - 3. CDER
 - a. No correlation between CDER score and RC services
 - i. Looking at modifying, but not sure how they are going to do it
 - c. Ricardo
 - i. FMS agencies
 - 1. Family is responsible for informing FMS that there is a problem with the provider – not going to Regional Center
 - 2. QA done by FMS
 - 3. (need to get more information about the 51% rule)
 - d. Ellen
 - i. Needs assessment
 - 1. Email blast going out July 29
 - 2. Vendors need to complete survey
- III. Madeline – CalABLE
 - a. Financial program for children and adults and disabilities
 - i. Help clients save for the future while protecting their benefits
 - ii. CA version of federal program
- IV. Announcements
 - a. Monica Jauregui
 - i. Need the whole planning team to agree on IPP increase of hours
 - ii. In-home day services

1. Really intended for those that cannot access day programs in the community

b. Andy

- i. Do NOT start services until POS is issued
 1. Real possibility you won't get paid
 - a. No obligation if the service isn't in the IPP
 2. This applies to new services, not reauthorizations

8/12/2026

Good evening, Bord Members & Guest:

Here is our CAC report for the month of August.

On July 16th CAC attended the Culver City Concerts, it is located at the Culver City Steps. It will be from July 16th through August 20th .

On August 4th we attended 43rd Annual national night with police. Some CAC members attended Culver City, and others attended National Night, the police in Inglewood. For those who attended the one in Inglewood. We met with Maxine Waters she represents California 43rd Congressional District U.S House, Alex Padilla Senior United States Senator from California, and he is the Latino Representative of the California U.S Senate. We spoke with the Mayor of Inglewood James Butts.

Every 4th Sunday of each month. We participate in the Drumming circle, we learn different types of drums we have been participating in this for about four years.

CAC continues to attend and support one another in each IPP meeting. CAC continues to partner with other Regional Centers. For example, Harbor Regional center, and State SCDD. Peer Advocate Wesley Witherspoon attends CAC to discuss upcoming elections and propositions.

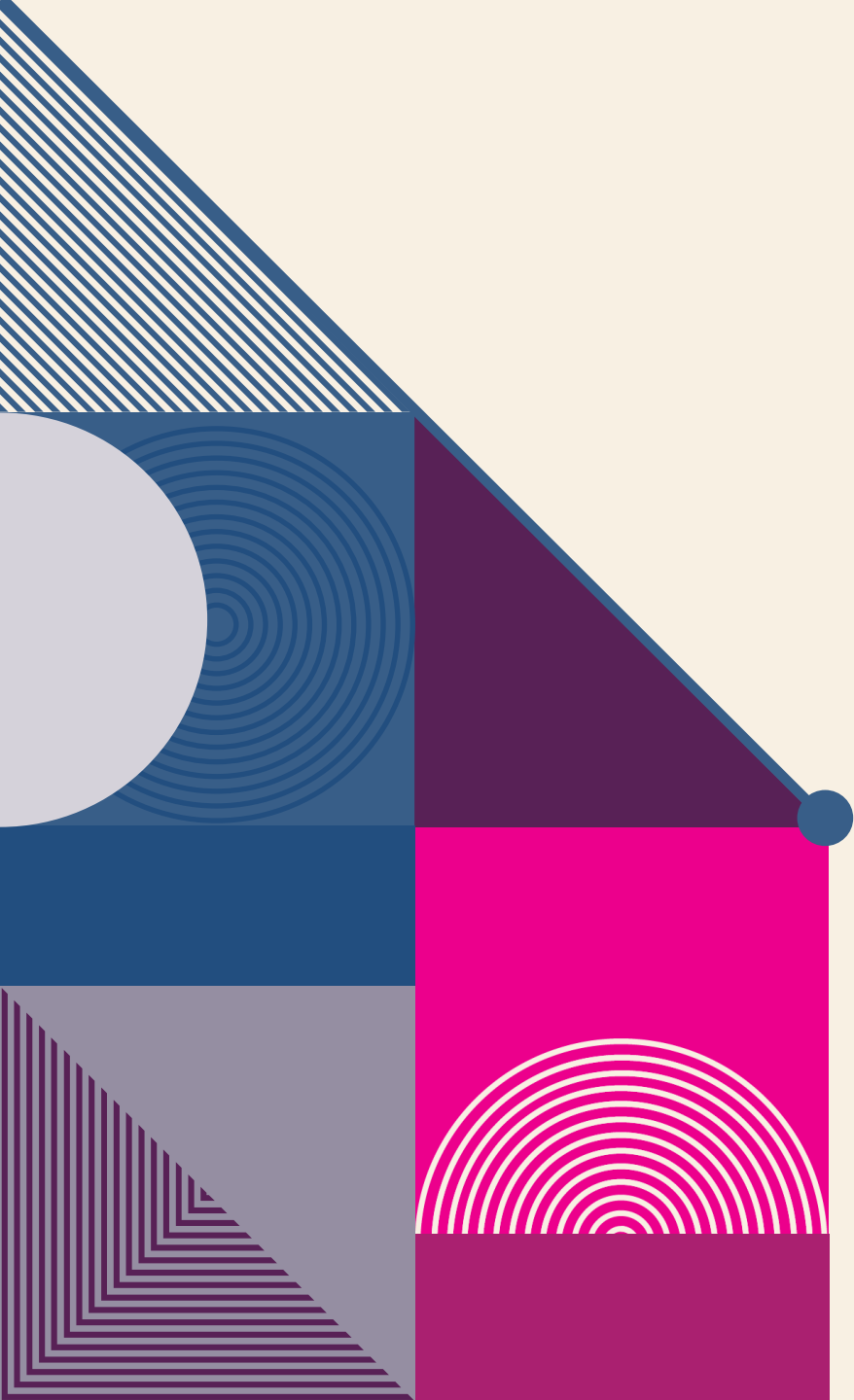
And that's the CAC Report!

AUGUST SELF ADVOCACY CALENDAR 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3. PUBLIC RELATION @ Westfield Mall Fox Hills Mall 6000 Sepulveda Blvd Culver City (Cross street Slauson Ave) 5PM-7PM	4. National Night out with the Police @ Culver City Steps 9300 Culver Blvd (Cross Street Ince Blvd) 5PM-8PM	5. VOLUNTEER INFORMATION @ WENDY'S 9036 Venice Blvd Culver City (Cross street Culver Blvd) 5PM-7PM	6. CULVER CITY Concert Trader's Joes 9290 Culver Blvd Culver City (Cross street Ince Blvd) 7PM-9PM	7. Exercise Dr. Paul Carlson Memorial Park 10400 Braddock Dr. Culver City (Cross street Le Bourget Ave) 5PM-7PM
10. EXERCISE LINDBERG PARK 5041 Rhoda Way Culver City (Cross street Ocean Dr.) 5PM-7PM	11. SELF DETERMINATION 6PM-8PM ZOOM	12. WRC Board of Directors Meeting Please Register 6:30PM-8PM	13. CULVER CITY Concert Trader's Joes 9290 Culver Blvd Culver City (Cross street Ince Blvd) 7PM-9PM	14. CULVER CITY Senior Center Dance @ 4095 Overland Ave Culver City (Cross Street Culver Blvd) 7PM-9PM
17. RELATIONS @ ONO Hawaiian BBQ 10814 Jefferson Blvd Culver City (Cross street Cota Ave) 5PM-7PM	18.	19. CAC @ EL Pollo Loco 1833 S La Cienega Blvd Los Angeles (Cross street 18 th street) 5PM-7PM	20. CULVER CITY Concert Trader's Joes 9290 Culver Blvd Culver City (Cross street Ince Blvd) 7PM-9PM	21. Exercise @ Dr. Paul Carlson Memorial Park 10400 Braddock Dr. Culver City (Cross street Le Bourget Ave) 5PM-7PM
24. SLARC/AAC 2500 S Western Ave Los Angeles (Cross street Adams Blvd) 10AM-12PM	25.	26. MOVERS @ Hamburger Habit 11223 National Los Angeles Cross street Sepulveda Blvd 5PM-7PM	27.	28.
31.	FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT LINDA BUTLER (310) 258-4245			



WESTSIDE SAE GRANT 2026-2028



GOAL OF THE GRANT

To strengthen education and care-management supports for older adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), through the Westside Regional Center (WRC) – enhancing advocacy, promoting healthy aging, enabling early detection of cognitive changes, and linking individuals and caregivers to aging-services.

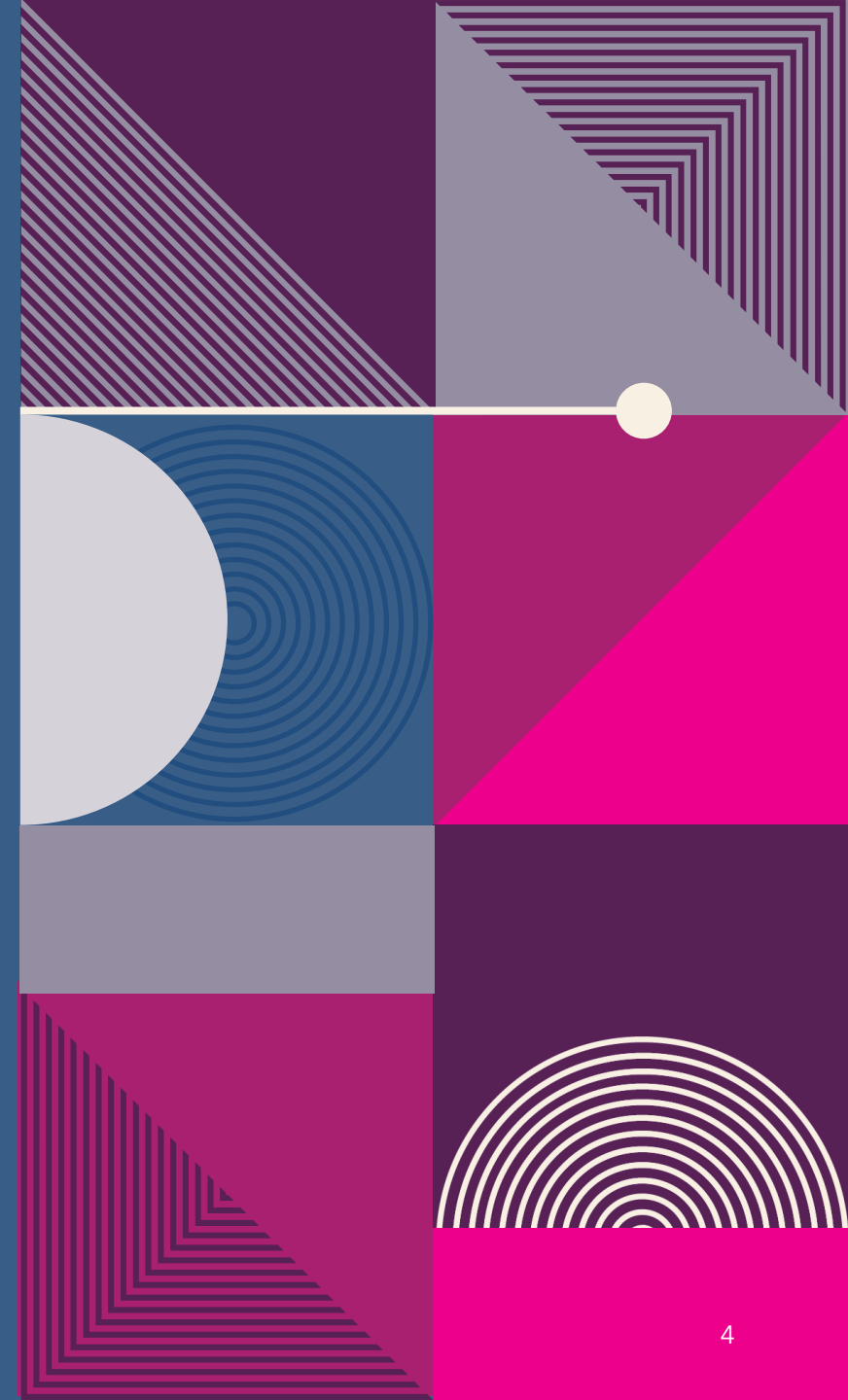


DELIVERABLES

EXPERIENTIAL DEMENTIA TRAINING

Partners: Silverado

1. Training that takes place on-site at WRC quarterly
2. Gives staff an opportunity to complete tasks with age-related conditions simulated.
3. Takes about 20 minutes



TRAINING SERIES

Community partners: JFS Care and Yukon Learning

1. The bio-psycho-social aspects of aging in the I/DD population (e.g. earlier onset of age-related conditions and comorbidities)
2. Dementia and cognitive decline in adults with I/DD (including screening, communication strategies, and non-pharmacological interventions)
3. Cultural lens of aging and I/DD (e.g. how race/ethnicity, language, and culture influence aging experiences, care access, family caregiving)
4. Care advocacy, resource navigation, and bridging the aging/disability service networks

INDIVIDUALIZED CARE MANAGEMENT PILOT

Partners: JFS Care and Aging Life Care Association

1. Serve up to 60 individuals with I/DD
 - a. Wellness and aging assessments, advocacy around health care, and connection to community aging/resources as well as RC-funded services

**ARE YOU A PARENT OR
CAREGIVER WHO RECEIVED AN
EARLY START FAMILY OUTCOMES
SURVEY? THIS IS A REMINDER TO
PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY!**



***Surveys are due by
Friday, October 30th***

◀ Use your cell phone
camera & this QR code
to open the survey.

**Your feedback is important and helps
us improve the Early Start Program.**

Questions? Call 800-515-2229



**¿ES USTED PADRE, MADRE O LA PERSONA
A CARGO DE UN MENOR Y HA RECIBIDO
LA ENCUESTA SOBRE LOS RESULTADOS
FAMILIARES DE EARLY START? ¡ESTE ES UN
RECORDATORIO PARA QUE, POR FAVOR,
COMPLETE LA ENCUESTA!**



***La fecha límite para
enviar las encuestas es
el viernes 30 de octubre***

◀ Utilice la cámara de su
celular y este código
QR para acceder a la
encuesta.

**Su opinión es importante y nos ayuda a
mejorar la programa de Early Start.**

¿Tiene alguna pregunta? Llame al 800-515-2229





Needs Assessment Survey Fiscal Year 2026/2027

Help Shape Future Services in the WRC Community

**Dear WRC, Self-Advocates, Family Members, Service Providers,
Community Members, and Staff,**

**Westside Regional Center (WRC) is developing its 2026–2027 Community
Resource Development Plan (CRDP) and would like your input.**

**Each year, WRC submits a CRDP to the California Department of
Developmental Services (DDS) to request funding for new or expanded
community-based services that address unmet needs within our
community. These resources help strengthen support for individuals and
families, including people with complex support needs, older adults, and
aging caregivers, while promoting opportunities to live and thrive in
community settings.**

**Your feedback is essential in helping us identify service gaps, understand
emerging needs, and prioritize future resource development efforts.**

Please take a few minutes to complete our brief survey (just 4 questions). Your responses will help guide the development of services and support that are most important to the people WRC serves.

Complete our online survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRPD26-27>

Thank you for sharing your perspective and helping us build a stronger, more responsive network of services for our community.

Survey Link

Encuesta de Evaluación de Necesidades Ejercicio Fiscal 2026/2027

Ayuda a moldear los servicios futuros en la comunidad WRC

Estimados WRC, autodefensores, familiares, proveedores de servicios, miembros de la comunidad y personal,

El Centro Regional Westside (WRC) está desarrollando su **Plan de Desarrollo de Recursos Comunitarios (CRDP) 2026–2027** y me gustaría recibir vuestra opinión.

Cada año, el WRC presenta un CRDP al Departamento de Servicios para el Desarrollo de California (DDS) para solicitar financiación para nuevos o ampliados servicios comunitarios que aborden necesidades no cubiertas dentro de nuestra comunidad. Estos recursos ayudan a fortalecer el apoyo a individuos y familias, incluyendo a personas con necesidades complejas, adultos mayores y cuidadores mayores, al tiempo que promueven oportunidades para vivir y

prosperar en entornos comunitarios.

Tu feedback es esencial para ayudarnos a identificar carencias en los servicios, comprender las necesidades emergentes y priorizar los futuros esfuerzos de desarrollo de recursos.

Por favor, dedica unos minutos a completar nuestra breve encuesta (solo 4 preguntas). Tus respuestas ayudarán a guiar el desarrollo de servicios y apoyos que son más importantes para las personas a las que atiende el WRC.

Complete nuestra encuesta en línea:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRPD26-27>

Gracias por compartir tu perspectiva y ayudarnos a construir una red de servicios más fuerte y receptiva para nuestra comunidad.

[Enlace a la encuesta](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRPD26-27)

Westside Regional Center

777 S Aviation Boulevard Suite 105

El Segundo, CA 90245

This email was sent to janeb@westsiderc.org

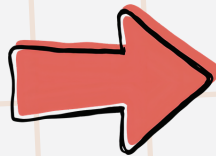
You've received this email because you've subscribed to our newsletter.

[Unsubscribe](#)

back to school

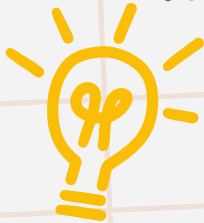
Thank you to
our
wonderful
Sponsors for
making this
happen!

Westside Regional Center Families
Stop by the WREC First Floor to pick up
FREE backpacks and school supplies for
your children and share some goodies.



Register Here

We look forward to seeing you!



WHEN

Monday, August 17TH
10:00-12:00 AND
1:00-4:00PM

WHERE:

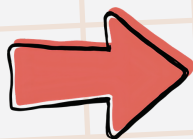
777 S. Aviation Blvd, #105
El Segundo CA 90245
310-258-4063



back to school

¡Gracias a
nuestros
maravillosos
patrocinador
es por hacer
esto posible!

Familias del Centro Regional del Oeste
¡Pasen por el primer piso del WFREC para
recoger mochilas y útiles escolares
GRATIS para sus hijos y disfrutar de
algunas golosinas!



Register Here



¡Esperamos verlos!

CUÁNDO

Lunes, 17 de agosto
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Y 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

DÓNDE:

777 S. Aviation Blvd., #105
El Segundo, CA 90245
310-258-4063





New Federal Public Charge Rule: What You Need to Know

The federal government has announced a new **Public Charge Rule**. This rule may affect some people who are applying for a green card (lawful permanent residency).

The rule is expected to take effect in **September 2026**. The federal government is expected to share more information before then.

The California Health & Human Services Agency (CalHHS), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), and other state departments are reviewing the new rule and what it may mean for Californians.

What You Should Know:

- This rule does not affect everyone.
- Do not make decisions based on rumors or social media.
- If you have questions about how this rule may affect you or your family, talk with a trusted immigration attorney or accredited legal service provider before making any decisions.
- More information is expected in the coming weeks.

California is committed to helping people get accurate information and connect with trusted resources.

Learn More:

Read the **Joint Statement from California Health & Human Services Leaders:** <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/blog/2026/07/16/joint-statement-from-california-health-and-human-services-leaders-on-new-federal-public-charge-rule/>

Find a **qualified immigration legal service provider:** <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/benefits-services/more-services/immigration-services/immigration-services-contractors/public-charge-contact-list>

Visit the **California Health & Human Services Agency** website for updates: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/>

Public Charge Rule: <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2026-14539.pdf>

CA Department of Social Services: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/benefits-services/more-services/immigration-services/immigration-services-contractors/public-charge-contact-list>

Nueva regla federal sobre la carga pública: Lo que necesita saber

El gobierno federal anunció una nueva **regla sobre la carga pública**. Esta regla podría afectar a algunas personas que solicitan una tarjeta de residencia permanente (green card).

Se espera que la nueva regla entre en vigor en **septiembre de 2026**. Antes de esa fecha, el gobierno federal compartirá más información.

La Agencia de Salud y Servicios Humanos de California (CalHHS), el Departamento de Servicios del Desarrollo (DDS) y otras agencias estatales están revisando esta nueva regla y lo que podría significar para las personas que viven en California.

Lo que debe saber:

- Esta regla no afecta a todas las personas.
- No tome decisiones basándose en rumores o en información de las redes sociales.
- Si tiene preguntas sobre cómo esta regla podría afectar a usted o a su familia, hable con un abogado de inmigración de confianza o con un proveedor acreditado de servicios legales antes de tomar cualquier decisión.
- En las próximas semanas habrá más información disponible.

California está comprometida a ayudar a las personas a obtener información confiable y a conectarse con recursos de confianza.

Más información:

Lea la **declaración conjunta de los líderes de la Agencia de Salud y Servicios Humanos de California (CalHHS)**:

<https://www.chhs.ca.gov/blog/2026/07/16/joint-statement-from-california-health-and-human-services-leaders-on-new-federal-public-charge-rule/>

Encuentre un **proveedor calificado de servicios legales de inmigración**:

<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/benefits-services/more-services/immigration-services/immigration-services-contractors/public-charge-contact-list>

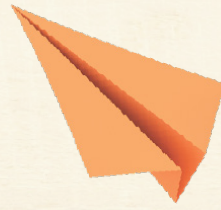
Visite el sitio web de **la Agencia de Salud y Servicios Humanos de California (CalHHS)** para obtener actualizaciones: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/>

Regla sobre la carga pública: <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2026-14539.pdf>

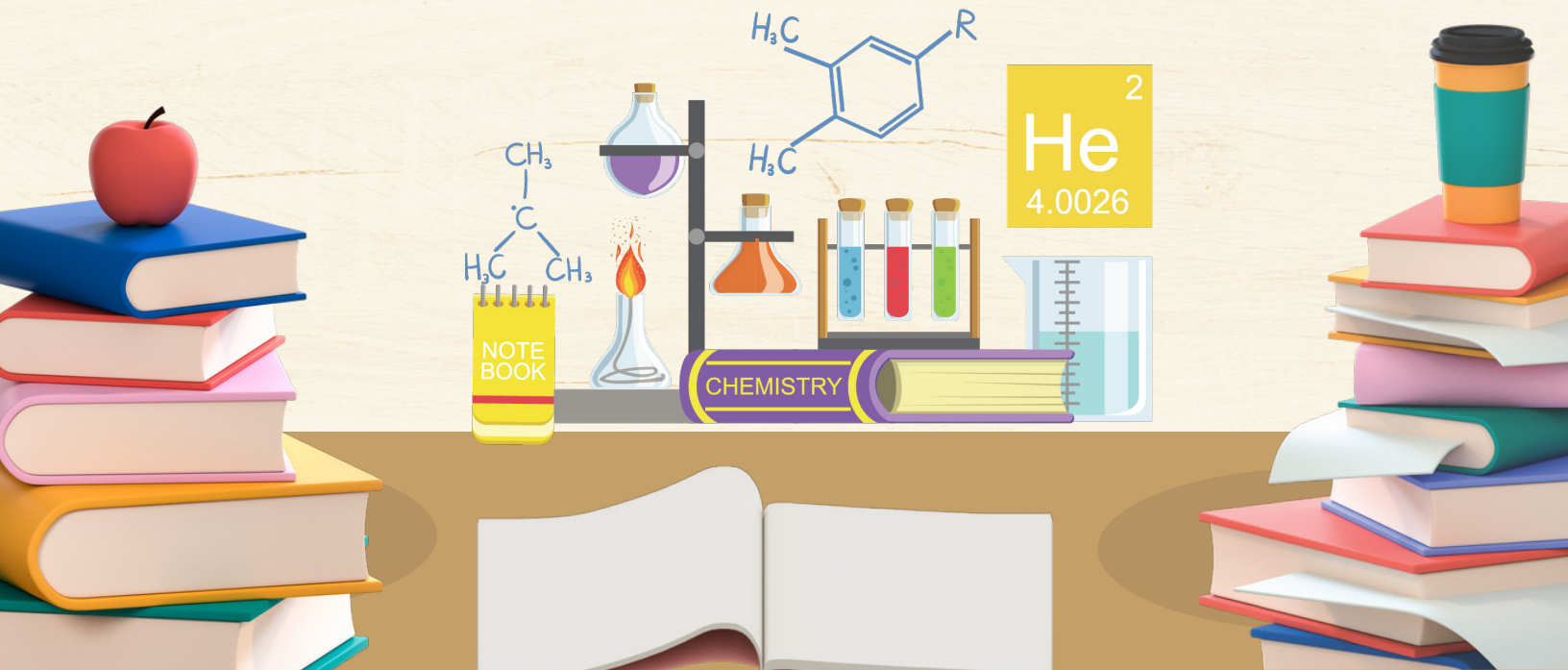
Departamento de Servicios Sociales de California (CDSS):
<https://www.cdss.ca.gov/benefits-services/more-services/immigration-services/immigration-services-contractors/public-charge-contact-list>

Please share this email / Por favor, compártalo

Follow us! / ¡Sigamos!



Back-to-School Resource Guide 2026-2027



GENERAL & SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

Early Start Overview for Parents

<https://bit.ly/4vVpvp1>

Child Find Fact Sheet

<https://bit.ly/4ytbqkq>

Back to School Support Guide

<https://www.understood.org/en/topics/back-to-school>

Back to School Resources from Autism Research Institute

<https://autism.org/back-to-school-resources/>

Benefits of Inclusive Classrooms

<https://www.understood.org/en/articles/4-benefits-of-inclusive-classrooms>

IEP Strategy – Understanding the Process So You Can Get What You Need

<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/IEP-STRATEGY---UNDERSTANDING.pdf>

Inclusive Education – Advocating for the Least Restrictive Environment

<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2025/07/Inclusive-Education-Advocating-for-the-Least-Restrictive-Environment-Booklet.pdf>

Making Inclusion a Reality

<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/Making-Inclusion-a-Reality-SCDD.pdf>

New Pathway to a High School Diploma

<https://undivided.io/resources/californias-new-pathway-to-a-high-school-diploma-for-students-with-intellectual-disabilities-1243>

Parent Training & Information Centers

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/california/>

Self-Advocacy

<https://www.understood.org/en/articles/the-importance-of-self-advocacy>



SMART IEP Goals

<https://www.understood.org/en/articles/how-to-tell-if-your-childs-iep-goals-are-smart>

Special Education Advocacy Tips

<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/publications/17-special-education-advocacy-tips>

Special Education Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

<https://dredf.org/special-education/>

Special Education Rights & Responsibilities Manual (SERR)

<https://serr.disabilityrightsca.org/>

Supporting Innovative Practices

<https://www.sipimpact.org/What-We-Do/Archived-Virtual-Events/ParentFamily-Engagement/>

Transitioning to Adulthood

<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/07/Transition-new-format-English-v2.pdf>

Transition and Adulthood: Resources for People with Disabilities and Their Families

<https://www.php.com/cca-transition-and-adulthood/>

SPECIAL EDUCATION PODCASTS

EdSource Podcast

<https://edsources.org/podcast>

Inclusive Education Project

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/inclusive-education-project-iep-podcast/id1307157016>

NavigateED Podcast Series

<https://www.copaa.org/page/podcasts>

Understood Explains

<https://www.understood.org/en/podcasts/understood-explains-ieps>



HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLNESS

Active Shooter Guide for People with Disabilities Plain Language

https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/AS-Guide_ENG_2022-07_WEB.pdf

Behavior and Discipline Toolkit Disability Rights California

<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/resources/special-education/behavior-and-discipline-toolkit>

Bilingual Bullying Resources

<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/Bilingual-Bullying-Resources-1.pdf>

Developmental Milestones Ages 0-5

https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/ENG_Developmental-Milestones-Ages-0-5.pdf

Understanding Restraint and Seclusion in Schools

<https://us2.campaign-archive.com/?u=d8372142072c8ce7f2e90e349&id=c7cfcdee6f>

Enough is Enough

<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/Enough-is-Enough-Anti-Bullying-Strategies-2.pdf>

Helping Children and Adolescents Cope with Traumatic Events

https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/ENG_helping-children-adolescents-cope-with-disasters-other-traumatic-events.pdf

Laws Around Bullying: <https://www.understood.org/en/articles/bullying-laws>

School Rights After a Disaster

<https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/publications/school-rights-after-a-disaster>

Together for Wellness: <https://www.togetherca.org/m/tfw-2/56>

Voice Options Program (Free Assistive Technology):

<https://www.dor.ca.gov/Home/VoiceOptions>

Youth Mental Health Resources (CalHSS): <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/youthresources/>



CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

HEADQUARTERS
3831 North Freeway Blvd. Suite #125
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 263-7919
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www.scdd.ca.gov



Este mensaje está disponible en español a continuación;



Dear Community,

The Administration introduced a proposal during the May Revision of the state's budget called the **Equitable and Consistent Needs Assessment**. There has been a lot of misinformation being shared about this proposal, which has caused confusion. We want to provide clear information to help you understand what the proposal actually does so you can decide what you think about it.

The name of the proposal has been updated to **Equitable Access to Intake and Services** to clarify that the proposal has **two different parts**. Both parts are designed to make the system more fair and consistent for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across California. You can see [the latest version of the proposal](#) and the [fact sheet](#).

Here's what it would do:

Make the Intake Eligibility Assessment Process the Same Everywhere

- **This does NOT change the eligibility rules.** It only makes the process more fair.
- **No one will lose eligibility or services.**
- Currently, when someone applies for regional center services, each regional center uses different ways to decide if the person meets the definition of a developmental disability or a substantial disability.
- The proposal would create **one standard intake eligibility assessment process**, so everyone is assessed the same way, no matter where they live.
- The community will provide input on the standard intake eligibility assessment process, and the Legislature must approve before the Department can move forward.

Replace the Current Client Evaluations Diagnostic Report (CDER) With a New Strengths and Needs Evaluation

- After someone is eligible, most regional centers use a tool called the **CDER** to understand a person's needs. This happens every year, but the CDER is old and not very useful today. Regional centers also use the CDER in different ways.
- The proposal would create a **new, modern, and person-centered evaluation** of strengths and needs to better understand what each person needs.
- This new evaluation will **help Individual Program Plan (IPP) teams**, not replace them. Planning teams will still decide which services and supports are best. The evaluation helps the IPP team know what strengths and needs require consideration. IPP teams will still make decisions about services and how much of them.

- The community will provide input on proposed evaluation, and the Legislature must approve the evaluation before the Department can replace the CDER.

What The Proposal Does NOT Do

- It **does NOT** change eligibility definitions.
- It **does NOT** take eligibility for Lanterman services away from anyone.
- It **does NOT** limit person-centered planning.
- It **does NOT** cut costs or connect to Rate Reform.
- It **does NOT** take the place of the IPP or the IPP meeting.

Why This Matters

The community spoke, and we are listening. The Master Plan for Developmental Services (MPDS), driven by the community, talked about the importance of having a reliable and equitable way to understand people's needs and to measure if and how the developmental service system is meeting people's needs. The MPDS also recommends standardizing not only intake, but intake eligibility assessments.

The Department heard the community, and this proposal is responding to the call to action. These changes are meant to make the system **more consistent, more fair, and more focused on each person's needs**—no matter where they live in California.

We look forward to your partnership in meeting these goals.



Estimada Comunidad:

La Administración presentó una propuesta durante la Revisión de Mayo del presupuesto estatal llamada **Evaluación Equitativa y Consistente de las Necesidades**. Se ha compartido mucha información incorrecta sobre esta propuesta, lo que ha causado confusión. Queremos proporcionar información clara para ayudarle a entender lo que la propuesta realmente hace, para que pueda decidir qué opinas al respecto.

El nombre de la propuesta se ha actualizado a **Acceso Equitativo a la Admisión y a los Servicios** para aclarar que la propuesta tiene **dos partes diferentes**. Ambas partes están diseñadas para que el sistema sea más justo y consistente para las personas con discapacidades intelectuales y del desarrollo en toda California. Puede ver [la versión más reciente de la propuesta](#) y la [hoja informativa](#).

Esto es lo que hará la propuesta:

Hacer que el proceso de evaluación de elegibilidad sea igual en todos lados

- **Esto NO cambia las reglas de elegibilidad.** Solo hace que el proceso sea más justo.
- **Nadie perderá elegibilidad ni servicios.**
- Actualmente, cuando alguien solicita servicios de un centro regional, cada centro regional usa diferentes maneras de decidir si la persona cumple con la definición de discapacidad del desarrollo o discapacidad significativa.

- La propuesta crearía **un proceso de evaluación estándar para determinar la elegibilidad para la admisión**, de modo que todos sean evaluados de la misma manera, sin importar dónde vivan.

Reemplazar el actual Informe Diagnóstico de Evaluaciones del Cliente (CDER por sus siglas en inglés) con una nueva evaluación de fortalezas y necesidades

- Después de que alguien es elegible, la mayoría de los centros regionales usan una herramienta llamada **CDER** para entender las necesidades de la persona. Esto ocurre cada año, pero el CDER es antiguo y hoy en día no es muy útil. Además, los centros regionales utilizan el CDER de distintas maneras.
- La propuesta sería crear una **evaluación nueva, moderna y centrada en la persona**, que destaque las fortalezas y necesidades para entender mejor sus necesidades.
- Esta nueva evaluación **ayudará a los equipos de trabajo del Plan de Programa Individual (IPP por sus siglas en inglés)**, no los reemplazará. Los equipos de planificación aún decidirán qué servicios y apoyos son los mejores. La evaluación ayuda al equipo del IPP a saber qué fortalezas y necesidades requieren consideración. Los equipos del IPP seguirán tomando decisiones sobre los servicios y la cantidad de los mismos.
- La comunidad proporcionará comentarios sobre la evaluación propuesta, y la Legislatura debe aprobar la evaluación antes de que el Departamento pueda reemplazar el CDER.

Lo que la propuesta NO hace

- **NO** cambia las definiciones de elegibilidad.
- **NO** quita a nadie la elegibilidad para los servicios de Lanterman.
- **NO** limita la planificación centrada en la persona.
- **NO** reduce costos ni está conectada con la Reforma de Tarifas.

- **NO** reemplaza el IPP ni la reunión del IPP.

Lo que la propuesta hará

- Mejora la equidad y ofrece una experiencia consistente para las personas que reciben una evaluación de elegibilidad durante el proceso de admisión.
- Mejora la equidad y consistencia en cómo se identifican, discuten y planifican las fortalezas y necesidades de las personas en el proceso de planificación centrado en la persona.
- Requiere la participación de la comunidad y la aprobación legislativa antes de cualquier implementación de la propuesta para ambas partes de la propuesta.

Por qué esto importa

La comunidad habló, y nosotros estamos escuchando. El Plan Principal de Servicios de Desarrollo (MPDS por sus siglas en inglés), impulsado por la comunidad, destacó la importancia de contar con una manera confiable y equitativa de entender las necesidades de las personas. También recomienda que midamos si y de qué manera el sistema de servicios de desarrollo está respondiendo a esas necesidades. El MPDS también recomienda estandarizar no solo la admisión, sino también las evaluaciones de elegibilidad para la admisión.

El Departamento escuchó a la comunidad, y esta propuesta responde a ese llamado a la acción. Estos cambios están pensados para hacer que el sistema sea **más consistente, más justo y más enfocado en las necesidades de cada persona**, sin importar dónde viva en California.

Esperamos contar con su colaboración para alcanzar estos objetivos.

California Department of Developmental Services

info@dds.ca.gov

www.dds.ca.gov

See what's happening on our social sites:



Este mensaje está disponible en español a continuación;



Dear Community,

Work has been done over the past year to develop a statewide standardized [respite tool](#). We want to share an update on where things stand.

State law (SB 138 in 2023) requires California to create a statewide tool to help make decisions about respite hours fairer and more consistent. Individuals, families, and community partners tested and shared helpful feedback on the first draft of the respite tool. Based on everyone's input, significant changes created a second draft of the tool before more testing.

During the second testing process:

- Regional centers **continued using their current** respite assessment processes.
- Service coordinators tested the second draft of the tool too. It was NOT used to change anyone's hours of respite service.

The updated tool received positive feedback. However, the testing and analysis of the second draft of the tool showed it could lead to unclear impacts on services across the regional center system. Because of this:

- **The Department is pausing further development and use of a respite assessment tool.**
- **Regional centers will continue using their existing methods for authorizing respite hours.**

A public webinar will be scheduled for late August. The Department still wants to share more details on how the first draft of the respite tool was revised after everyone's comments. The webinar also will review data collected during testing of the second draft of the tool, and some examples of why we are pausing more work on this.



Estimada comunidad:

Durante el último año se ha trabajado en el desarrollo de una [herramienta de respiro](#) estandarizada a nivel estatal. Deseamos compartir con ustedes una actualización sobre el estado actual del proyecto.

La ley estatal (SB 138 de 2023) exige que California cree una herramienta estatal que ayude a que las decisiones sobre las horas de respiro sean más justas y consistentes. Las personas, las familias y los socios comunitarios probaron y compartieron comentarios útiles sobre el primer borrador de la herramienta de

respiro. Con base en las aportaciones de todos, se realizaron cambios significativos que dieron lugar a un segundo borrador de la herramienta antes de realizar más pruebas.

Durante el segundo proceso de pruebas:

- Los centros regionales **continuaron utilizando sus actuales** procesos de evaluación de respiro.
- Los coordinadores de servicios también probaron el segundo borrador de la herramienta. NO se utilizó para modificar las horas de servicio de respiro de ninguna persona.

La herramienta actualizada recibió comentarios positivos. Sin embargo, las pruebas y el análisis del segundo borrador de la herramienta revelaron que podría generar impactos pocos claros en los servicios de todo el sistema de centros regionales. Por este motivo:

- **El Departamento está suspendiendo temporalmente el desarrollo y el uso de una herramienta de evaluación de respiro.**
- **Los centros regionales seguirán utilizando sus métodos actuales para autorizar las horas de servicio de respiro.**

Se programará un seminario web público para finales de agosto. El

Departamento aún desea compartir más detalles sobre cómo se revisó el primer borrador de la herramienta de servicio de respiro tras recibir los comentarios de todos. En el seminario web también se revisarán los datos recopilados durante las pruebas del segundo borrador de la herramienta, así como algunos ejemplos de por qué estamos suspendiendo el trabajo adicional en este tema.



Public Meeting Notice:

**Office of Administrative Hearings Advisory Committee (OAHAC) for
Lanterman Act Programs**

Thursday, August 13, 2026

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The upcoming meeting is to provide recommendations to the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) regarding mediation and hearing operations as part of the Lanterman Act service and eligibility appeal process. This meeting is open to the public.

You are invited to share your comments and valuable input, either verbally or in writing by email at: OAHACcomments@dgs.ca.gov, during the public comment period of the scheduled meeting.

You may join the meeting virtually using the posted webinar link below, or in-person at OAH's Los Angeles location:

Office of Administrative Hearings

320 West 4th Street

6th Floor, Suite 630, Courtroom 1A

Los Angeles, CA 90013

[CLICK HERE: MEETING ZOOM LINK](#)

[Access the OAH website](#) for the meeting agenda, materials, and attendance information.

Aviso de Reunión Pública:

Comité Asesor de la Oficina de Audiencias Administrativas (OAHAC, por sus siglas en inglés) para los programas de la Ley Lanterman

Jueves 13 de agosto de 2026

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

La próxima reunión es para proporcionar recomendaciones a la Oficina de Audiencias Administrativas (OAH, por sus siglas en inglés) en relación con las operaciones de mediación y audiencia como parte del proceso de apelación de servicios y elegibilidad de la Ley Lanterman. Esta reunión está abierta al público.

Le invitamos a compartir sus comentarios y sugerencias, ya sea verbalmente o por escrito enviando un correo electrónico a: OAHACcomments@dgs.ca.gov, durante el período de comentarios públicos de la reunión programada.

Puede participar de la reunión de forma virtual utilizando el enlace del seminario web publicado abajo, o en persona en la sede del OAH en Los Angeles.

Oficina de Audiencias Administrativas

320 West 4th Street

6th Floor, Suite 630, Courtroom 1A

Los Angeles, CA 90013

<https://oah-dgs-ca-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1609549599>

[Haga clic aquí: Para el enlace de Zoom de la reunión](#)

[Acceda al sitio de web del OAH](#) para obtener la agenda de la reunión, los materiales y la información para asistir.



California Department of Developmental Services

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/office-of-administrative-hearings-advisory-committee-oahac>