

State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Executive Director Report

July 22, 2025

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Overview

Updates on:

- National Core Indicator Update
- State Plan Survey Launch
- Medicaid Trainings Update
- Tell Your Story Letter Wrap Up
- CA Passes State Budget
- Resources for Separated Families
- SCDD Administration and Announcements



Medicaid Trainings

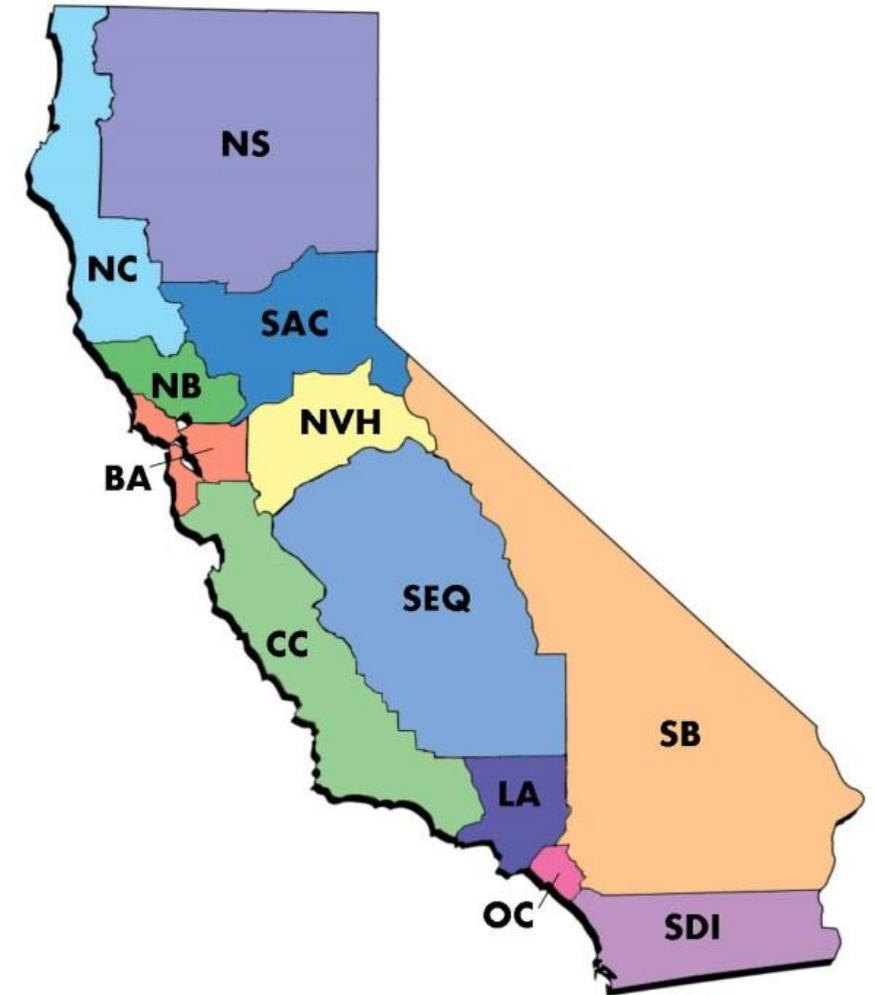
National Core Indicator Quality Assurance Program

- Task: 400 in-person surveys for each of the 21 regional centers
 - Goal 8,400 surveys
- Goal Achieved!
 - 8,627 surveys!
- Great teamwork by SCDD QA staff and over 200 independent contractors



State Plan Survey

- In August we will launch a survey to ask the community what they want SCDD working on for the next 5-year plan.
 - The next plan runs October 2026 through September 2031.
- Results will be analyzed and brought to the State Plan Committee.
 - State Plan Committee will draft goals and objectives for the 2027-2031 State Plan.
- The Council will review and approve the final 27-31 State Plan.



Medicaid Trainings Update

| | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Total | 10,297 |
| ▪ Aaron | 7,771 |
| ▪ Bay Area Office | 1,247 |
| ▪ San Bernardino Office | 511 |
| ▪ Los Angeles Office | 448 |
| ▪ Orange County Office | 176 |
| ▪ Sacramento Office | 117 |



Medicaid Trainings Update

Just last week: 2,565

- Key partnership with Ryder's Room
- R&B singer Faith Evans and her son Ryder



Medicaid Trainings Update

“Aaron held meetings to bring back hope and to hold space for our collective suffering and help us find our fierce self-compassion.

“Aaron reminded us that we are not alone and that our stories do matter; together, we can continue to show up and keep telling the truth.

“In summary, there is still a lot of work to do together. His message was one of hope, and that is what I felt.”



Tell Your Story Community Letters

- Over 2,600 people sent their stories of Medicaid-funded services
 - Collected between March 17, 2025 – June 2, 2025
- Why they matter
 - People have stories to tell
 - Brings the human story back to policy and budget discussions that can go abstract
 - Decision makers better understand the impact of proposals
- Impact
 - Delivered to the House and Senate, and individual members of Congress
 - Identify individuals when media asks



CA Passes State Budget

- CA Legislature passes the state 2025-2025 budget
- Highlights:
 - \$18.5 billion for regional center services
 - \$3 billion increase from last year
 - In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
 - Rejects Governor's proposal to cap overtime hours for IHSS providers
 - Rejects Governor's proposal to eliminate IHSS for undocumented Californians.
 - Rejects the Governor's proposal to eliminate long-term care and in-home-supportive-services for adults with unsatisfactory immigration status.
 - Restores the Medi-Cal Asset limit at \$130,000 rather than the Governor's \$2,000 proposal.



CA Passes State Budget



■ Highlights

■ DDS Proposals

- Rejects the Governor’s proposal to eliminate the Direct Service Professional Workforce Training and Development program for developmental services workers.
- Approves Governor’s proposal to require developmental services providers to meet certain mandates to earn quality incentives to achieve \$221.7 million in savings.
- Approves Governor’s proposal to move forward the developmental services provider hold harmless by four months to achieve \$75 million in savings.
- Modifies Governor’s proposal to align funding to recent spending at Porterville Developmental Center to achieve \$25 million in savings.

CA Passes State Budget



- For SCDD, the Legislature approved both of the Governor’s proposals to
 - 1) Reappropriate remaining Supported Decision Making-Technical Assistance Program funds
 - What does this mean? The clock doesn’t run out on funds. SCDD can keep spending available dollars (approximately \$800,000).
 - 2) Expand reimbursement authority for the QA contract
 - What does this mean? This gives SCDD permission to bill DDS for increased costs, and DDS agreed (approximately \$200,000 more).

Resource for Separated Families

- We will be promoting **Authorized Representation**
- SCDD has the legal authority to appoint an authorized representative for someone with a regional center case if there are concerns that the person's rights may not be protected or advocated.
- In light of recent community concerns about family separations, appointing an authorized representative can be a powerful way to help ensure that people's rights are protected and their services continue with minimal disruption during a very difficult and traumatic time. It can also help families in fear prepare.



SCDD Administration and Announcements

- Budget continues to be in good health
 - Balanced and well-managed
 - Closing out state fiscal year 2024-2025
- Saying hello
 - DJ Tomko, Los Angeles Region Manager
- Saying goodbye
 - Deputy Director Tania Morawiec



Thank
you!

THANK YOU!