



**UPDATED**  
**NOTICE/AGENDA**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
COUNCIL MEETING**

This meeting is being held in person. Members of the public may participate in person and listen by telephone. Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at [www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov).

**MEETING DETAILS:**

**PHYSICAL LOCATION:** Holiday Inn, 300 J St, Sacramento, CA 95814

**TELECONFERENCE (CALL IN NUMBER):** (888) 475-4499 or (877) 853-5257

**MEETING ID:** 895 6518 8511

**PASSCODE:** 082389

**DATE:** January 27, 2026

**INFORMAL SOCIALIZING:** 10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

**MEETING TIME:** 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM

**COUNCIL CHAIR:**

Julie Gaona

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**Item 1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

**Item 3. SWEARING IN NEW COUNCILMEMBER**

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**Item 4. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Item 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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*This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.*

*Separately, there will be up to 10 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each Council agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.*

*Members of the public must be in person to provide a public comment.*

**Item 6. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2025 MINUTES **

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*All*

**Item 7. CHAIR REPORT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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*Julie Gaona, Council Chair*

- A. Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC)
- B. Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC)
- C. Membership Report
- D. State Plan Committee (SPC)

**Item 8. STATEWIDE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK REPORT**

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*SCDD SSAN Representative Eric Aguilar*

**Item 9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT & STAFF REPORTS**

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*Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director*

- A. Executive Director Report
- B. Chief Deputy Director Report
- C. Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Report
- D. Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations Report
- E. RAP Report
- F. QA Project Update Report

**Item 10. 2026 GOVERNOR’S PROPOSED BUDGET**

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*Debra Cooper (invited), CA Health and Human Services Agency, and Pete Cervinka (invited), CA Department of Developmental Services*

**Item 11. SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM WAIVER RENEWAL**

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*Jonathan Hill, CA Department of Developmental Services*

**Item 12. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT**

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*The next Council meeting will be on Zoom on March 24, 2026.*

**Accessibility:**

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact Yaritza Sanchez at (916)-207-2856 or [yaritza.sanchez@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:yaritza.sanchez@scdd.ca.gov). In case a member of the public is unable to attend in person due to an ADA accommodation and would like to provide a public comment, please email [Yaritza.sanchez@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:Yaritza.sanchez@scdd.ca.gov). Please provide at least 3 business days prior to the meeting to allow adequate time to respond to all requests.

All times indicated and the order of business are approximate and subject to change.

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 3.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Swearing in New Councilmember***

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Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will swear in new Councilmember Azucena Garcia-Ferro.

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 5.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Public Comments***

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This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.

Separately, there will be up to 10 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each Council agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.

Members of the public must be in person to provide a public comment.

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 6.**

**ACTION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Approval of November 2025 Minutes***

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The draft minutes from the November 18, 2025 Council meeting have been included in the packet for review. Councilmembers will vote on whether to approve the minutes.

***Attachment***

November Council Meeting Minutes

***Action Recommended***

Approve the November 2025 Council meeting minutes.



**DRAFT**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**November 18, 2025**

**Members Attending**

Ana Acton (CDA)  
Andy Imparato (DRC)  
Bob Twomey (F.A.)  
Cathay Liu (F.A.)  
Eric Aguilar (S.A.)  
Harold Ashe (F.A.)  
Harold Fujita (F.A.)  
Irene Valdez (F.A.)  
Jessica Brown (F.A.)  
Joseph Billingsley (DHCS)  
Kara Ponton (S.A.)  
Kim Rothschild (F.A.)  
Kris Wallman (UCEDD)  
Larry Yin (UCEDD)  
Liz Laugeson (UCEDD)  
Maria Aliferis-Gjerde (DOR)  
Melissa Fitch (F.A.)  
Michelle Padilla (S.A.)  
Michi Gates (DDS)  
Nestor Nieves (S.A.)  
Noelia Hernandez (CDE)  
Rosanna Ryan (S.A.)  
Sascha Bittner (S.A.)  
Sonia Jones (S.A.)

**Members Absent**

Azucena Garcia-Ferro (S.A.)  
Debra Cooper (CHHS)  
Joseph Billingsley (DHCS)  
Julie Gaona (S.A.)  
Lupe Rodríguez (F.A.)  
Nicole Adler (S.A.)

**Others Attending**

Aaron Carruthers  
Annie L.  
Austin Murphy  
Barbara Imle  
Beth Hurn  
Beth Martinko  
Brian Hoang  
Bruce Joseph  
Charles Nguyen  
Charles Nutt  
Chris Arroyo  
Christine Tolbert  
David Delgado  
Dena Hernandez  
DJ Tomko  
Esteban Ortiz

**Others Attending (cont.)**

Hannah Dunham  
Hyeyoo Cho  
Jennifer Lucas  
Jennifer Rosenfeld  
Jordan Herberlein  
Julie Eby-McKenzie  
Krowell  
Lisa Hooks  
Mary Anne Ball  
Maureen Fitzgerald  
Michelle Cave  
Michael  
Michelle Robinson  
Monique Guerrero  
Nicole Patterson  
Patricia Herrera  
Rasheda  
Renee Bauer  
Rihana Ahmad  
Robin Maitino-Erben  
Ron Usac  
Scarlett K. VonThenen  
Sheraden Nicholau  
Veronica Bravo  
Yaritza Sanchez

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Julie Gaona called the meeting to order at 10:31 A.M.

**2. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

A quorum was established.

**3. SWEARING IN NEW COUNCILMEMBERS**

Executive Director Carruthers swore in new Councilmembers Eric Aguilar, Sascha Bittner, Melissa Fitch, Michelle Padilla, and Kim Rothschild. New Councilmember Azucena Garcia-Ferro was unable to attend, so will be sworn in at the January 2026 Council meeting.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**5. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2025 MINUTES**

**Action 1**

It was moved/seconded (Bittner [S.A]/ Valdez [F.A.]) and carried to approve the September 2025 meeting minutes as presented. (See last page for a voting record of members present)

**6. CHAIR REPORT AND 2026 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Chair Julie Gaona announced the 2026 committee assignments, which can be found at <https://scdd.ca.gov/councilmeetings/>. She also encouraged Councilmembers to review the committee reports and staff summaries included in the meeting packet.

**7. 2025 PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT (PPR)**

State Plan Committee Chair Jessica Brown, Chief Deputy Director Rihana Ahmad, and Branch Chief David Delgado presented highlights from the 2025 Program Performance Report (PPR). They reviewed the Council’s activities and outcomes across the three State Plan goal areas of self-advocacy, systems change and advocacy, and capacity-building and advocacy. They reported that 16 percent of activities focused on self-advocacy, 40 percent on systems change, and 44 percent on capacity-building. They noted that the increase in systems change and capacity-building work reflected the Council’s response to wildfires, emergency preparedness efforts, Medicaid trainings, and other emerging needs.

Examples of self-advocacy efforts included the Healthy U peer-led health trainings, voting rights workshops that included public testimony, youth emergency preparedness training and resource distribution, WorkAbility internships, and the continued growth of the Self Advocacy Leadership Academy (SALA). Examples of systems change efforts included partnering with a Southern California city on a five-year plan addressing

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Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate  
FA = Family Advocate

N/A = not available  
DNP = Did Not Participate

housing, economic development, and health and human services; trainings for first responders and professionals; and leading a disaster response coalition to address the needs of people with disabilities and families during and after the Los Angeles fires. Lastly, examples of capacity-building efforts included back-to-school special education trainings offered in English and Spanish, bilingual toolkit distribution, emergency preparedness trainings and GoBag distribution, and disaster response coordination related to the Los Angeles fires.

The full presentation can be accessed at <https://scdd.ca.gov/councilmeetings/>.

Beth Martinko provided a public comment on this item. She recognized Executive Director Aaron Carruthers for his leadership on Medicaid communications over the past year. She stated that he provided timely details and served as a statewide voice across agencies during a crucial time. She highlighted his consistency in holding town halls, and ongoing collection of community feedback. She thanked Mr. Carruthers for his commitment and dedication, and expressed appreciation on behalf of the community.

Charles Nutt also thanked Executive Director Carruthers and State Council staff for their work on behalf of Californians with disabilities and expressed gratitude for the Council's continued efforts.

## **Action 2**

It was moved/seconded (Twomey [F.A]/ Bittner [S.A.]) and carried to approve the 2024 – 2025 Program Performance Report (PPR). (See last page for a voting record of members present)

## **8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT & STAFF REPORTS**

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers recognized November as 22q Awareness Month and Epilepsy Awareness Month and shared a tribute honoring the life of disability rights leader Alice Wong, founder of the Disability Visibility Project. He also acknowledged the recent memorial service for Councilmember Eric Ybarra and thanked Councilmembers for their continued support to his family.

Mr. Carruthers then provided a policy update of the 2025 legislative session. He reported that the Legislature sent 917 bills to the Governor and that the Council took positions on 19 bills, supporting 18 and

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opposing one. He stated that seven of the supported bills were signed into law and that the one bill the Council opposed, which would have created procedural barriers for people seeking to enforce their civil rights under the ADA, failed in committee. He highlighted several signed measures, including legislation authorizing teleconferencing flexibility under Bagley-Keene, expanding special education protections for deaf and hard of hearing students and students attending nonpublic schools, authorizing licensed vocational nurses to assist with respiratory services in schools, prohibiting health plans from requiring re-diagnosis of autism for coverage, allowing adult day program staff to administer emergency anti-seizure medication, and requiring Caltrans to install Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) signals at intersections.

Next, he addressed public safety power shutoffs and their ongoing impact on people with access and functional needs who rely on electricity for daily living and medical support. He discussed the Disability Disaster Access Resource (DDAR) program, which provides emergency support through the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, and reported that Southern California Edison had notified CFILC that the DDAR contract would be terminated during the current power shutoff season. He stated that disability and emergency preparedness leaders had raised concerns with utilities and the Public Utilities Commission regarding the immediate risks to people with disabilities.

Mr. Carruthers reported that he conducted town halls across California to gather community input for the next five-year State Plan and shared that 4,197 surveys were received through in-person, virtual, and phone outreach. He stated that the level of participation reflected strong community engagement and trust in the Council's work. Lastly, he shared administrative updates, including that the Council's budget remained stable during the federal shutdown due to prudent financial planning, that national DD Council funding was included in proposed federal budgets, that contracts with the Department of Developmental Services were renewed for quality assurance and self-determination orientation training, and that planning was underway for an all-staff in-person training approved by the Council in 2022.

Charles Nutt provided a public comment on this item. He shared that he used to live in Paradise and referenced the community's efforts to improve wildfire safety by placing power lines underground. He stated that

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the project was intended to reduce fire risk and improve safety for the community.

## 9. 2026 POLICY PLANNING

Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Chris Arroyo presented the 2026 policy planning item and reviewed the recommended policy priorities and policy theme for the coming year. He explained that the Council had previously approved policy priorities by subject and authorized staff to advocate for them. He reviewed the current priority areas, which included protecting and enhancing civil rights; guaranteeing access to education and employment; identifying and prioritizing emerging issues in the I/DD community; promoting access to quality supports in the community; ensuring safety in the community; and improving housing and community living. He noted that LPPC recommended adding a new section titled “Ensuring Federal Policies and Laws Advance Inclusion and Self-Determination” to better address emerging federal policies and ensure alignment with the Council’s values.

Mr. Arroyo then presented the proposed policy theme for 2026 and explained that the Council had historically adopted annual themes to guide advocacy and communications efforts. He stated that LPPC recommended the theme “Better, Stronger, Together” and that it reflected community feedback received during outreach related to proposed Medicaid changes and advocacy around HR 1, where participants expressed a strong desire for connection, community, and collective action. Mr. Arroyo concluded by recommending that the Council approve LPPC’s recommendations to adopt the revised policy priorities and approve the 2026 policy theme.

Beth Martinko provided a public comment on this item. She expressed strong support for the proposed policy theme “Better, Stronger, Together.” She stated that the theme reflected current events and the growing importance of collective action. She shared that the theme captured what she is seeing across the country, with people coming together to use their voices and push for change.

### **Action 3**

It was moved/seconded (Fitch [F.A]/ Bittner [S.A.]) and carried to approve the Legislative and Public Policy Committee’s (LPPC) recommendations to adopt the 2026 Policy Priorities and the theme, “Better, Stronger, Together”. (See last page for a voting record of members present)

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The full presentation can be accessed at <https://scdd.ca.gov/councilmeetings/>.

## 10. **2027 – 2031 STATE PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

State Plan Committee Chair Jessica Brown and Chief Deputy Director Rihanna Ahmad presented the draft 2027–2031 State Plan and provided an overview of the development process, timeline, and key components. They explained that the State Plan serves as the Council’s contract with the federal Administration on Community Living and functions as a five-year strategic plan that guides the Council’s goals, objectives, and activities statewide. They reported that the State Plan Committee continued to use the federally recognized three-goal model focused on self-advocacy, systems change, and capacity-building, and that the draft plan was developed based on community input gathered through a statewide survey, town halls, data analysis, and stakeholder feedback.

Ms. Ahmad reported that the statewide survey received 4,197 responses and identified consistent barriers and challenges in housing, health and safety, and employment. It also identified concerns related to regional centers, community building, and inclusion. She stated that the feedback was integrated into the draft goal and objective language and informed the development of measurable, SMART objectives with projected outcomes over the five-year plan period. She explained that the objectives were based on analysis of prior State Plan performance, Council staff capacity, and available resources, and that a contingency objective was included to address unexpected or emerging statewide needs.

Ms. Brown presented the draft goals and objectives for the 2027–2031 State Plan. She reported that Goal 1 focuses on strengthening self-advocacy by increasing the number of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who become effective self-advocates, peer trainers, and community leaders. Goal 2 focuses on systems change and advocacy to protect and enhance civil rights and improve statewide and community-based systems to be fully inclusive and supportive. Goal 3 focuses on capacity-building and advocacy to increase partnerships and support individuals and families to know their rights, advocate for themselves, and receive personalized services. She noted that the projected outcome numbers represent starting targets that may be adjusted over time based on implementation and emerging needs.

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Ms. Brown thanked the State Plan Committee and staff for their work on the draft plan. She also shared that the draft was presented for the Council's review ahead of the public comment period and final submission to the federal Administration on Community Living. She reported that the State Plan Committee was recommending that the Council adopt the 2027–2031 State Plan as presented and open the required 45-day public comment period.

Maureen Fitzgerald provided a public comment on this item. She expressed support for the draft 2027–2031 State Plan and thanked the State Plan Committee and staff for their work. She stated that the plan reflected increased community participation and greater awareness of its purpose and impact. She also raised concerns about regional center board meeting accessibility, noting that many regional centers do not offer Zoom access or post meeting packets and handouts online. She encouraged the Council to advocate for more transparent and accessible regional center board practices, including virtual access, online posting of materials, and removing registration barriers for public participation.

Charles Nutt also provided a public comment. He shared that recent changes have helped streamline the Individual Program Plan (IPP) process. He stated that the IPP format is now standardized statewide, creating a more consistent process for individuals and families across California.

#### **Action 4**

It was moved/seconded (Bittner [S.A]/ Aguilar [S.A.]) and carried to adopt the 2027-2031 State Plan as recommended by the State Plan Committee. (See last page for a voting record of members present)

#### **11. 2026 COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETING DATES AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next Council meeting will be held on January 27, 2026. Chair Gaona adjourned the meeting at 1:41 P.M.

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| Name                   | Vote 1  | Vote 2 | Vote 3  | Vote 4  |
|------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| Acton, Ana             | Aye     | Aye    | Abstain | Abstain |
| Aguilar, Eric          | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Aliferis-Gjerde, Maria | Aye     | Aye    | Abstain | NP      |
| Ashe, Harold           | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Bittner, Sascha        | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Brown, Jessica         | Abstain | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Fitch, Melissa         | Abstain | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Fujita, Harold         | Aye     | Aye    | NP      | NP      |
| Gates, Michi           | Abstain | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Hernandez, Noelia      | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Imparato, Andy         | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Jones, Sonia           | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Laugeson, Liz          | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Liu, Cathay            | NP      | NP     | NP      | NP      |
| Nieves, Nestor         | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Padilla, Michelle      | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Ponton, Kara           | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Rothschild, Kim        | NP      | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Ryan, Rosie            | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Twomey, Bob            | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Valdez, Irene          | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Wallman, Kris          | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |
| Yin, Larry             | Aye     | Aye    | Aye     | Aye     |

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 7.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Chair Report and Committee Reports***

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Council Chair Julie Gaona will provide Councilmembers with an oral report about her recent activities and current priorities for the Council.

SCDD committee summaries have been provided for informational purposes.

***Attachments***

Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC) Summary 11/17/25

Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) 12/2/25

Membership Report 1/13/26

State Plan Committee (SPC) Summary 1/15/26

***Handout***

Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC) Summary 1/20/26

## **AGENDA ITEM 7A.**

### ***SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY***

#### ***Date of Meeting***

November 17, 2025

#### ***Meeting's Focus***

The November Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC) began with members sharing their favorite holiday traditions. During the meeting members reviewed Council business relating to self-advocacy, voted on a new SCDD representative to the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN), reflected on the SAAC Impact, heard about updates to the Service Code Website Project, and the National Association Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Leaders with Lived Experiences (LLE).

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided the committee updates on agency, state, and national updates with the committee. Executive Director Carruthers told committee members about the development of a new 5-year state plan to guide the agency's work. Members of the public are encouraged to submit their feedback on the proposed plan following the Council's approval.

Members shared examples of their self-advocacy work in their communities. One member shared their work with a self-advocacy theater troupe that teaches self-advocates about issues that affect their lives. Another member shared their work with various advocacy groups and committees. Members also shared that they participated in advocacy efforts to protect Medicaid and other disability supports and services.

The committee reviewed and provided feedback on the Service Code Website Project. Feedback given included increasing the font size, making the "select topic" option more visible, and making it easier to search for services available by regional center.

#### ***Items Acted Upon***

- Approved the September 29, 2025, meeting minutes.
- Selected Councilmember Eric Aguilar to serve as the SCDD SSAN Representative

#### ***Future Meeting Dates***

January 20, 2026

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**AGENDA ITEM 7B.****STATEWIDE SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSDAC)  
SUMMARY**

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***Date of Meeting***

December 2, 2025

***Meeting's Focus***

The Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) met via Zoom on December 2, 2025, to receive updates from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and learn about the upcoming renewal of the Self-Determination Program Waiver. The meeting began with an update from SSDAC Co-Chairs, who informed members about the SSDAC Workgroup's determination of next steps on the Committee's goals and priorities, and efforts to plan a Townhall meeting in February 2026.

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided members with an update on SCDD's SDP related activities which included updates on SCDD's SDP Orientations, the release of SCDD's Draft 2027-2031 State Plan for public comment, and a brief overview of the impact of the Council's work, as reported in SCDD's 2025 Program Performance Report.

DDS staff provided members with an update on SDP-related activities, including SDP enrollment and Ombuds data and upcoming areas of focus. DDS staff reviewed the status of SSDAC's recent recommendations, reporting that some of the recommendations have resulted in new policies being adopted or directives being issued, while others will require further discussion and collaboration.

The meeting concluded with a presentation on the July 2026 renewal of the Self-Determination Program Waiver. Members were informed about the purpose of the waiver and provided with a timeline of the process. The Committee will hold a Townhall meeting in February to collect public comment/input to provide to DDS in support of continued funding of the SDP.

***Item's Acted Upon***

Approval of the September 2025 meeting minutes.

***Future Meeting Dates***

The next meeting will take place on February 17, 2025.



## January 13, 2026 Membership Committee Report to the Council

### SEC 1. Existing Vacancies

| Seat       | Date Seat Became Vacant | Months Vacant<br>Asterisk (*) indicates vacancy of more than 4 months |
|------------|-------------------------|---|
| At Large 1 | August 2025             | *   |
| Sequoia    | August 2025             | *   |

### SEC 2. Expired Appointments

| Seat        | Date Appointment Expired<br>Number of Months Expired<br>Asterisk (*) indicates eligible for reappointment |
|-------------|---|
| At Large 7  | 9   |
| North Coast | 5   |
| North State | 5   |

### SEC 3. Upcoming Terms Set to Expire

| Seat | Date Appointment Will Expire<br>Asterisk (*) indicates eligible for reappointment |
|------|---|
| None |   |
|      |   |

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## **SEC 4. Recommendations Solicited**

**Has a solicitation for multiple recommendations for Council appointment been distributed?**

Yes  No

| <b>Agencies Solicited</b> | <b>Date</b> |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| SCDD Website              | Continuous  |

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## **SEC 5. Councilmember Terms**

**Appointment Roster Listing Each Members Term Attached?**

Yes  No

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## **SEC 6. Nominees**

**Number of candidates forwarded to the Governor's Office for consideration: 4**

(At Large 5, At Large 7, North State, and Sequoia)

**Number of candidates the Membership Committee moved forward to the interview process: 4**

1 (Orange County), 2 (North Coast), and 2 (North State).

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**Agenda Item 7D.****STATE PLAN COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

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***Date of Meeting***

January 15, 2026

***Meeting's Focus***

On January 15, 2026, the State Plan Committee (SPC) met to review public feedback received on the proposed 2027-2031 5-year State Plan. The draft plan was posted for public review on November 21, 2025, initiating a 45-day public comment period that concluded on January 5, 2026. Public feedback was collected through an online survey and data collection platform.

SCDD staff conducted a comprehensive analysis of all feedback and presented their findings and recommendations to the Committee for consideration. After reviewing the public feedback and staff analysis, the Committee determined that no substantive revisions were necessary to ensure that the 5-year State Plan adequately reflects the needs of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in the state of California.

The Committee will inform the Council of this determination at its January 27, 2026 meeting. The State Plan will be posted online and submitted to the Administration for Community Living (ACL) on or before August 15, 2026.

***Items Acted Upon***

- The Committee approved the November 2025 Meeting Minutes.

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 8.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Report***

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The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is a project of the Council. Members will hear updates from Councilmember Eric Aguilar on recent activities.

***Attachments***

December 2025 SSAN Update Report  
SSAN Update - PPT

**December 15, 2025**

**AGENDA ITEM 8.**

**INFORMATION ITEM**



**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Summary of December 2025 Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Meeting***

**SSAN Meeting Date and Location:** The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) held virtual meetings on December 10 & 11, 2025, over Zoom.

**Summary of Meeting:**

Day one began with a moment of silence for Alice Wong, a Bay Area disability rights activist who passed away. Following the moment of silence, members provided updates on local self-advocacy efforts and their favorite holiday traditions. Highlights of advocacy efforts included: hosting trainings; meeting with elected officials to advocate for issues important to the disability community; participating in Master Plan on Developmental Services implementation efforts; serving on panels; and attending regional center board meetings. Favorite holiday traditions mentioned included: spending time with friends and family; attending holiday celebrations; shopping, and cooking seasonal holiday foods, such as tamales and latkes.

Aaron Carruthers, SCDD Executive Director, provided members with an update on SCDD activity since the September Meeting. This update included changes to MediCal and CalFresh, as well as the development of SCDD's next 5-year State Plan. Starting in January 2026, CalFresh will have additional work requirements, but people with disabilities should be able to qualify for exemptions. Changes to MediCal are delayed until 2027. Members were encouraged to review the proposed plan and provide comments using the [SCDD State Plan Public Comment Survey](#).

Chris Arroyo, SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs, presented the fourth and final segment of the Systemic Advocacy Leadership Academy (SALA) training for SSAN members. This item covered how ideas become laws and the different ways advocates can participate in the process. Members of the public can work with an organization or directly with their elected officials to submit ideas for legislation, share their lived experiences by writing letters, calling their elected officials, and/or providing testimony during hearings.

Jennifer Lucas, SCDD Regional Manager, Central Coast Office and Yolanda Cruz, SCDD Regional Manager, San Diego and Imperial Office, provided a sensory-friendly emergency preparedness training. This agenda item reviewed the eight senses that people experience and explained why some people may experience sensory overload during an emergency.

**December 15, 2025**

**AGENDA ITEM 8.**

**INFORMATION ITEM**



**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Summary of December 2025 Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Meeting***

Ideas to prevent or reduce sensory overload included, having access to communication supports; creating sensory-friendly kits with items like ear plugs and fidgets; providing extra time for people to process information; and training emergency response staff on disability awareness.

Day one ended with members sharing their favorite parts of the day.

Day two began with members sharing their hopes for the new year. Hopes and resolutions included: prioritizing mental and physical health, improving work-life balance, meeting new people, and advocating for positive change in their communities.

Members reflected on the year's accomplishments highlighted in the SSAN Annual Report. During the 2024-2025 federal fiscal year, members used information from SSAN meetings to create and host leadership trainings, speak at conferences and events, and partnered with regional offices to provide training and outreach. Other accomplishments included SSAN hosting 3 virtual webinars over the year and publishing quarterly newsletters.

Members discussed the challenges of participating in SSAN meetings and other self-advocacy activities while managing life demands, such as attending medical appointments, maintaining their health, meeting personal and work-related obligations, and dealing with Zoom fatigue. Members highlighted the importance of ensuring members and attendees feel included at meetings, which can be hard to accomplish in virtual settings. Some members reported preferring the convenience of online meetings, while others preferred in-person meetings for better collaboration and networking. Overall, members expressed the need for future meetings to be flexible and accommodate both in-person and virtual participation.

Ellen Sweigert, SSAN Secretary and North Bay Regional Representative provided a presentation on the different types of advocates. The presentation provided definitions, approaches, and tools used by individual focused advocates, self-advocate ambassadors, community self-advocates, nonprofit advocates, and self-advocate peer leaders. Members shared which type of advocate they identify as, and several members noted that they identified with multiple types, depending on the situation.

**December 15, 2025**

**AGENDA ITEM 8.**

**INFORMATION ITEM**



**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Summary of December 2025 Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Meeting***

Ellen Sweigert, SSAN Secretary and North Bay Regional Representative, along with Executive Director of North Bay Regional Center, Gabriel Rogin, led a conversation about how SSAN members can collaborate with regional centers. Ideas included sharing SSAN materials and newsletters with regional centers, reaching out to regional center client information specialists, and maintaining a list of specialists for each regional center. Gabriel also encouraged SSAN to put together a list of ways regional centers can support SSAN that he can share with regional center leaders.

Visit the [SSAN Page](#) on the SCDD website for updates on meeting dates and group activities.

**Actions Taken**

- Approved September 2025 Meeting Minutes

# Update from SSAN

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**Meeting Dates:** December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> over Zoom

- Members Approved Minutes
- Members have been busy leading self-advocacy meetings, hosting trainings, giving presentations, meeting with elected officials, working with regional centers, and implementing recommendations from Master Plan on Developmental Services
- Were Updated on SCDD activity
- Learned about how ideas become laws and how members of the public can participate in different parts of the process
- Learned about sensory-friendly emergency preparedness

# Update from SSAN Continued

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**Meeting Dates:** December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> over Zoom

- Reflected on 2024 – 2025 FFY Accomplishments
- Shared barriers and challenges to self-advocacy
- Learned about the different types and levels of advocacy
- Shared ideas and ways to collaborate with regional centers to increase awareness of SSAN

# 2024-2026 SSAN Leadership Team

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- ❖ **Chair:** Rebecca Donabed, DO Network Representative
- ❖ **Vice-Chair:** Eric Aguilar, San Bernardino Regional Representative
- ❖ **Secretary:** Ellen Sweigert, North Bay Regional Representative

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 9.  
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Executive Director Report and Staff Reports***

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SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will provide Councilmembers with an oral report regarding recent Council activities. Additionally, SCDD Staff reports have been included in the packet for informational purposes.

***Attachments***

Chief Deputy Director Report  
Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations Report  
RAP Report  
QA Project Report

***Handouts***

Executive Director Report  
Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Report

# Chief Deputy Director Report

## January 2026

Rihana Ahmad

### Overview:

The Chief Deputy Director (CDD) continues to oversee operational functions in collaboration with staff, while identifying tools and strategies to strengthen organizational effectiveness. Recent efforts have focused on engaging with staff, leadership, and external partners to support program development, policy implementation, and operational alignment.

Key initiatives include implementation and oversight of the Supported Decision-Making Technical Assistance Program (SDM-TAP), along with collaborative discussions with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on the Quality Assurance (QA) program, Self-Determination Program (SDP) Orientations and Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) projects.

Core administrative responsibilities are being prioritized, including executive oversight of the agency's budget development and monitoring processes, contract and procurement oversight, personnel management, interagency coordination, and day-to-day operational support across the organization.

**The following sections highlight recent activities and accomplishments from some of the operational and program support units under the Chief Deputy Director's oversight.**

### Personnel:

- ✓ Statewide Generalist Consolidation went into effect January 1, 2026
- ✓ Annual duty statement/Performance Appraisals will conclude at the end of January
- ✓ Conducted 18 recruitments in FY 2026 (July 1, 2025 – present), with 5 active recruitments currently ongoing.
- ✓ 2025 Workforce Analysis Report completed - full compliance
- ✓ Hired 9 staff members in FY 2026, with 2 new hires since November
  - North Valley Hills Office Technician - Valerie Telles (February 9)
  - Sequoia Regional Officer Manager I – Nicholas Lutton (February 9)

### Budget:

- ✓ Provided Fiscal Health Reports to regional offices and programs
- ✓ Submitted annual SCIF payroll reporting

- ✓ Rectified and created a procedure manual for Voucher Build Errors in FI\$Cal.
- ✓ Improved processes for monthly program reimbursement statements with DDS.
- ✓ Completed DOF galley review for the January Governor's Budget Proposal.
- ✓ Finalized renewal of the IAA with CDSS for 2025-26 support services
- ✓ Submitted annual federal SF425 reporting.
- ✓ Provided operational support for Chief Deputy Director

## IT:

- ✓ SCDD IT Staff continued to partner with internal SCDD staff as well as external agencies to advance key projects including:
  - Developing Service Code Descriptions webpages to enhance accessibility and clarity of Regional Center service information
  - Meeting with CDSS Telecommunications in preparation for Microsoft Teams Calling Project Rollout (Estimated July 2026 Completion)
  - Completing agency rollover from Verizon Mobile Devices to T-Mobile
- ✓ SCDD's IT staff continued to provide the agency with support and access to up to date technology by:
  - Overseeing the ongoing IT Refresh Cycle, including upgrades to laptops, copiers, and software licenses
  - Providing ongoing technical support to staff to resolve IT issues and maintain smooth operations
- ✓ IT analyst participated in quarterly DOR's Assistive Technology Advisory Committee to stay informed on merging assistive technology needs and resources

## Business Operations and Committee Supports:

- ✓ Processed invoices and purchase orders to ensure timely payments and compliance with procurement requirements
- ✓ Processed travel claims and reimbursements for Councilmembers and staff, ensuring accuracy and adherence to state travel policies
- ✓ Updated and expanded internal guides and procedures to support consistent operations and accurate, timely compliance reporting.
- ✓ The SSDAC met on December 2nd and discussed the next steps for their identified goals and priorities. They received updates from DDS on the recommendations provided over the past year. DDS also provided a presentation on the Self-Determination Program Waiver, which is up for renewal in June 2026. The SSDAC is planning to hold a Townhall on February 17th to collect public input on the waiver renewal application, which will be posted for public comment within the next month.

## State Plan:

- ✓ State Plan Team (SPT) staff partnered with the IT analyst to update and launch key data reporting platforms in Qualtrics for agency staff including:
  - 2026 Activity Reporting dashboards
  - Post Training Satisfaction Surveys
  - Monthly Technical assistance logs
- ✓ In partnership with key staff across the agency, the SPT successfully wrote and submitted the agencies Program Performance Report (PPR) to the Feds on 12/30/25 highlighting the goals advanced by the Council in the past fiscal year as well as lessons learned and emerging issues.
- ✓ The State Plan Committee (SPC) finalized the draft 27-31 State Plan and posted it for public comment.
  - The SPT has begun its analysis of these comments and will present it to the SPC on January 15th.

## Self-Advocacy:

- ✓ The Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) produced its 2024-2025 annual report
- ✓ SSAN held a 2-day meeting over Zoom in December and its SAVE workgroup met to discuss ideas for its March outreach event
- ✓ The Self Advocacy Committee (SAAC) welcomed 3 new members and appointed a new SAAC Chair and SSAN Representative
- ✓ Staff met with SA leaders to discuss voting outreach and education (Disability Vote CA)

## Supported Decision-Making Technical Assistance Program (SDM-TAP):

- ✓ Grant management with the Supported Decision-Making Technical Assistance Program team and external partners continued and all grant activities are set to be completed by February 13th , 2026.
  - Over the course of the program grantees held over 1,200 activities statewide in 15 languages (English, Spanish, Tagalog, Traditional Chinese, Mam, Hindi, Punjabi, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, Cantonese, Korean, Arabic, Vietnamese and ASL)
- ✓ SDM-TAP staff will continue collaboration with UC Davis through March 2026 to collect data on outcomes and persons reached through the program.
  - UC Davis will provide an evaluation report of the program with recommendations on future priorities and initiatives to promote SDM in California

## Self-Determination Program Orientation Project

The SCDD Statewide Self-Determination Program (SDP) Orientation Project is a long-term Interagency Agreement with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to conduct the required first step of the Self-Determination Program: the SDP Orientation. Since July 2022, SCDD has offered these sessions statewide in multiple languages. The project is carried out by SCDD staff working alongside co-trainers who are family members of participants and SDP participants themselves, bringing lived experience to the training.

Participants who attend the full session and provide the required information receive an orientation certificate that is honored by all 21 regional centers. This certificate allows eligible individuals to enroll in the Self-Determination Program, if desired.

- ✓ Between October and December 2025, the SDP Orientation Project delivered 25 sessions in English, Spanish, Arabic, and ASL, reaching 1,345 participants. Cumulatively, the project has served 12,789 participants statewide.
- ✓ Participants have offered recent feedback on receiving clear information as well as the value of including co-trainers with lived experience. Examples include:
  - “[Co-Trainer] is such a great role model and public speaker! I really appreciate their insight.”
  - “Many thanks [Trainers, Co-Trainer] for facilitating this meeting. It’s very informative and super helpful! I truly gained so much knowledge.”
  - “This was a super helpful orientation. Thank you so much and to [Co-Trainer] for sharing her experience.”
- ✓ In addition to providing dedicated interpreters for contracted languages, SCDD continues to offer an AI translation tool during English-language sessions. Over the past quarter, participants utilized this tool in Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Persian (Farsi), Russian, Spanish, and Telugu, helping extend access to more of California’s diverse language communities.
- ✓ Finally, SCDD continues to work closely with DDS on curriculum updates to align the orientation with recent statutory changes and to improve clarity around roles, responsibilities, and program processes.



# Deputy Director, Regional Office Operations (DDR00) Report, January 2026

## Sheraden Nicholau

### Overview:

The Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations is the lead position fulfilling the department's federal and state mission for systems change and capacity building. This position leads the 12 regional teams to carry out the work of the State Plan, including systemic identification and removal of barriers that keep people with IDD from living integrated lives in the community.

Additionally, this position:

- Represents SCDD externally to build partnerships and advance the work of the SCDD.
- Leverages change management to maximize SCDD's impact.
- Provides leadership and oversight of the programmatic, administrative, and strategic work of the SCDD regional teams.
- Supervises SCDD Regional Managers.

### Recent Regional Office Highlights:

- ✓ Regional Offices are developing SCDD themed month content for the 2026 calendar year, to include panels featuring experts with lived-experience, webinars, and resources statewide.
- ✓ Regional Offices are preparing to execute on the 2026 Community Care Licensing (CCL) contract, featuring statewide training of hundreds of California licensing analysts and facilitating panels featuring experts with lived-experience. SCDD is funded for this work, through a contract with U.C. Davis.



- ✓ Regional Offices have completed initial assessment of their teams' project portfolios and planning work, as a part of strategic planning for this last year of the current State Plan.
- ✓ An offer has been extended and accepted for the Regional Manager position for the Sequoia Regional Office. The new Regional Manager will begin in February 2026.
- ✓ An offer will be extended for the Regional Manager position for the Bay Area Regional Office, this month, in January 2026.

#### **Recent External Partnership Highlights:**

- ✓ SCDD DDROO was a keynote speaker or featured presenter at the following conferences, trainings, and events:
  - Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area Conference, leading a panel on Self-Determination
  - An Inclusive Education presentation for administrators, educators, students, and families, leading a panel of subject matter experts with lived-experience
  - The East Bay Legislative Coalition Annual Breakfast, leading a panel of experts on the impacts of federal changes within the U.S. Dept of Education
  - Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) sessions for law enforcement, fire department, EMT, and crisis street teams across counties
  - Additional Medicaid Law & H.R.1 updates for professional groups and community groups, including housing service and support professionals



### **Recent Administrative Highlights:**

- ✓ SCDD duty statements have been refreshed at the end of 2025 calendar year; SCDD teams are currently completing annual performance evaluations.
- ✓ SCDD Regional teams, in collaboration with HQ teams, continue to expand the priorities list for updated in-house procedures and best-practices, for effective and efficient regional office operations. This work will result in more effective and efficient internal processes and external facing work.

### **State Plan Activities Year-to-Date from the Regional Offices & HQ Team Members:**

SCDD team members continue to lead and contribute to a variety of statewide and regional activities and are celebrating a successful fourth year of the State Plan (Federal Fiscal Year 2025).

Activities conducted for the fiscal year include:

- ✓ 2,157 Self-Advocacy activities (Goal 1), impacting 14,551 individuals
- ✓ 1,792 Systems Change activities (Goal 2), impacting 37,840 individuals
- ✓ 1,394 Capacity-Building activities (Goal 3), impacting 53,526 individuals
- ✓ Delivering 1,045 trainings, and 2,298 meetings, chats, and clinics
- ✓ Preparing 821 Self-Advocates and 116 Family Advocates to be trainers, meeting facilitators, presenters across 521 prep sessions



## **A Few Recent State Plan Activities and/or Highlights:**

### **Goal 1: Self-Advocacy**

- ✓ The SCDD San Diego Imperial Regional Office facilitated a San Diego People First Officer Retreat, where new officers assumed their roles and outgoing officers shared institutional knowledge and support. The retreat included team-building activities, reflection on accomplishments and lessons learned, and discussions on habits to start, stop, or continue. This officers' retreat also served to define success for the chapter. Goals for the year were explored, including outreach and membership, a self-advocacy conference, professional training, leadership development, and advocacy in areas such as transportation, education, Medicaid rights and benefits, mentorship, and systems navigation.

### **Goal 2: Systems Change**

- ✓ The San Bernardino Regional Office convened an in-person Neurodivergent Business Roundtable in the Inland Empire, to facilitate peer-to-peer employer learning, best practice sharing, and to build a cohesive and productive network of businesses and employment support entities (including Dept. of Rehabilitation, Dept. of Developmental Services, Inland Regional Center, Inland Empire Chamber of Commerce, Teaching Autism Community Trades, and local school districts, and more). Thirty-one roundtable members participated. Successes include four companies developing or offering paid internship opportunities, one employer providing a 12-week employment skills training cohort supporting neurodivergent job seekers, and another employer employing three employees who identify as neurodivergent.
- ✓ The SCDD North Coast Regional Office has worked closely with the Mendocino Continuum of Care to include community members with IDD in their planning, housing development, and outreach to those that are unhoused. As a result, this



regional office has been recognized as a valued member of and subject-matter expert for the Continuum of Care. As another result, community members with IDD are now better represented in transitional housing and permanent housing planning.

- ✓ The SCDD North Bay Regional Office has progressed in strengthening cross-agency and community partnerships across Solano, Napa, and Sonoma Counties, while advancing systems-level work benefiting transition-age youth and inclusive service delivery. This work includes convening and supporting the Transition Age Youth Consortium. This consortium deepens collaboration between regional centers, school districts, colleges, and nonprofit organizations. This consortium addressed persistent gaps between school exit, postsecondary education, employment, and adult services. Concurrently, the office has held accessible trainings, outreach events, and learning modules that center equity, representation, and plain language, ensuring information is responsive to community needs.
- ✓ The SCDD Orange County Regional Office has continued advancement of statewide projects aiming to streamline and/or improve access to work incentives. People with IDD and other disabilities utilize work incentives while employed, to maintain needed benefits and/or insurance. Examples of these statewide projects include a OCLPA White Paper, entitled “IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY BY INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (IDD) WITHIN THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA) SYSTEM”. Projects also include job coaching policy recommendations to the Secretary of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency and the Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency to improve job coaching services throughout California.
- ✓ The SCDD Sacramento Regional Office participated in a Home and Community Based Services, Title 17, and Title 22 training for IDD service providers. The training was designed to strengthen understanding of person-centered practices to improve service quality and protect the rights of people with IDD. A total of 22 service professionals participated. These targeted trainings promote and enhance provider capacity, improve service quality, and advance health, safety, and person-centered



support for individuals with IDD living and receiving services in community-based settings.

- ✓ The SCDD North State Regional Office contributed to and supported the Butte County Tribal Task Force. Members include the Mechoopda Tribe, Berry Creek Rancheria, Mooretown Rancheria, Enterprise Rancheria, Feather River Tribal Health, Oroville Police Dept., Butte County Highway Patrol, Butte County Public Health, educators, Far Northern Regional Center, and others. SCDD team members provided updates on SCDD, statewide impacts, grant opportunities, upcoming trainings, and events, etc. SCDD provided targeted information and resources that work towards equity for this historically underserved community. As a result of this regional office's work, community members with IDD are better represented and included in planning and projects. SCDD is viewed as a trusted partner for providing technical assistance, and these partnerships have led to collaborative training, such as an IEP Strategy training and resource fair.
- ✓ The SCDD Central Coast Regional Office helped lead a training exercise for Emergency Services Volunteers (ESVs) on interacting with people with communication differences. This was requested by Palo Alto CERT volunteers. The training exercise strengthened ESVs' skills so they can provide effective, inclusive assistance to all individuals during and after disasters. This was part of a larger training exercise held by Palo Alto's Office of Emergency Services that included three classes for ESVs to rotate through. Thirty-eight ESVs participated over the day. Three individuals with lived experience assisted in co-leading the exercise. Some feedback shared:
  - *"I learned so much. I didn't know much about this but your presentation and being able to talk with John was great."*
  - *"You were a champ! Four presentations, four half-hour sessions - that was a lot! Thank you!"*
  - From the organizers: *"You saved the day... Your presentation provided guidance, and our co-trainers added realism. We couldn't have done it*

*without you."*

- ✓ The SCDD Bay Area Regional Office provided Medicaid law and H.R.1 updates and impact training, at the request of housing support and services providers. This provided professionals with information on H.R.1 timelines, and what law changes may impact housing resources, funding, and rights enforcement. These housing support and services providers are now able to integrate these changes into their awareness and planning process. Additionally, they can educate other housing advocates and people served in the community. Feedback from participants included:
  - *"Thank you again for the information you provided- many of us were not aware of the actual dollar amount impact (these changes) will have on the people we serve. We look forward to the (resources shared) so that we can share with our staff. We will encourage everyone to advocate and contact our government officials (to share their experience with housing supports and services)".*

### Goal 3: Capacity-Building

- ✓ The Los Angeles Regional Office led a Spanish-language training for family advocates from the support group, Un Paso Más . 'Sensory Implications in Developmental Disabilities: Understanding the Sensory Impact on Behavior, Learning, and Communication' provided 110 family advocates with an increased understanding of their children's sensory needs, validation of their children's experiences, and greater confidence in advocating for appropriate supports. Additional participants provided similar feedback verbally at the end of the session, reinforcing the impact of the training.
  - *"Thank you... for reminding us of the importance of understanding that more is not always better for our children, that what they feel matters, and that their decisions are valid and important."*
  - *"Because of this class, I better understand my child's sensory needs and that*



*I need to set new goals in my daughter's IPP and IEP related to her sensory challenges in order to access appropriate services across both systems."*

- ✓ The SCDD San Diego Imperial Regional Office provided In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) education, in Spanish, for a family support group focused on autism. This training addressed language barriers identified in the region, and ensured Spanish-language families can better access IHSS services for their families. Twenty participants were engaged, and these participants reported an increased understanding of IHSS services and rights. Participants also shared appreciation for the provided resources and training content in Spanish.
- ✓ The SCDD North Valley Hills Regional Office SCDD collaborated with Valley Mountain Regional Center's (VMRC) Popplewell Fund, board members, and Self Advocacy Council 6 members for an annual event to deliver Thanksgiving meals to those in need, in the 5-county catchment area. As a part of this work, SCDD team members and community advocates directly delivered meals within San Joaquin County. This annual event is a way for those engaged to give back to their communities and to address food insecurity.
- ✓ The SCDD Sequoia Regional Office is building on the success of their 2025 Healthy Relationship training series, focused on young adults navigating healthy boundaries, relationships, sexual safety, and more. This series started regionally and expanded statewide, based on demand. After a successful series, the community provided feedback requesting this training series extend to the 2026 year. Multiple stakeholder groups, from individuals with IDD, family advocates, and regional center service coordinators, provided input regarding the need for this training series, and the impact it is having on young adults in the region. The SCDD team is responding and is building plans for the expansion of this project.

## **State Council on Developmental Disabilities Rights & Advocacy Program (RAP)**

### **Council Report for January 2026**

During this reporting period, the Rights and Advocacy Program (RAP), *formerly CRA/VAS*, continued to provide essential oversight, individual advocacy, and system support across Canyon Springs Community Facility, Porterville Developmental Center (PDC), and the community. The programs remain deeply engaged in supporting individuals' rights, facilitating transitions, addressing health and safety concerns, and strengthening coordination across facilities, regional centers, and community providers.

Across both facilities and community settings, advocacy staff and volunteers were actively involved in transition planning, Individual Program Plan (IPP) meetings, court-related matters, rights protections, and systemic issue resolution. This work reflects the Council's core mission of ensuring that individuals receive services in the most appropriate, least restrictive, and rights-respecting settings possible.

As of January 1, 2026:

**Canyon Springs General Population: 36 Porterville Developmental Center: 155**

Placement activity during November–December 2025:

- Canyon Springs: 2 individuals placed into the community
- PDC: 1 individual placed in community
- PDC: 8 individuals were restored to competency and returned to their respective counties for continuation of criminal proceedings
- Transfers from PDC to Canyon Springs: 1

### **Individual Impact and Program Value**

Throughout the reporting period, RAP staff and volunteers provided meaningful, direct support to individuals across a wide range of circumstances, including:

- Supporting individuals through hospitalizations, rehabilitation stays, and behavioral health placements
- Assisting with placement instability and helping teams identify alternatives and additional supports
- Participating in court hearings and legal status reviews to ensure rights and due process are protected
- Resolving communication barriers, including long-standing phone access issues in both facility and community settings
- Supporting individuals in maintaining and strengthening family connections through letters, drawings, and communication

- Addressing complex medical and ethical situations, including treatment refusal and informed consent discussions

Notably, Porterville Developmental Center concluded this period with **zero outstanding Denials of Rights**, reflecting consistent and proactive rights oversight.

These examples illustrate the practical, day-to-day impact of advocacy: ensuring access, dignity, communication, safety, and informed participation in decisions affecting individuals' lives.

### **Transition and Placement System Performance**

Advocacy staff across programs continue to devote substantial time and attention to transition and placement activities:

- PDC RAP participated in more than 50 transition meetings over the two-month period
- Canyon Springs RAP participated in 15 transition meetings
- All RAP staff also remained consistently involved in IPPs, special meetings, and court-related planning

While progress continues, the overall pace of transitions reflects broader system capacity and infrastructure considerations, including:

- Workforce shortages among community providers
- Licensing and approval timelines
- Limited availability of specialized services, including employment supports and services for aging or medically complex individuals
- Administrative delays related to benefits, trust accounts, and essential documentation

These factors highlight the importance of continued cross-agency collaboration and system-level problem-solving to support timely and successful transitions.

### **Rights, Health, and Safety Oversight**

Advocacy staff remained highly engaged in health and safety oversight activities, including:

- Incident Action Team meetings
- Human Rights Committee and Behavior/Medication Committee reviews
- Bioethics and treatment planning discussions
- Court hearings and legal coordination
- Ongoing Denial of Rights monitoring and prevention

This work plays a critical role in identifying concerns early, supporting informed decision-making, and maintaining a consistent focus on individual rights and well-being.

### **Cross-Cutting System Themes**

Several recurring themes continue to shape the operating environment:

- Placement and capacity constraints: Staffing availability, licensing timelines, and provider capacity remain key factors influencing the pace of transitions.
- Communication and coordination: Ongoing efforts are needed to strengthen information flow between facilities, providers, regional centers, and advocacy staff.
- Access to benefits and resources: Delays in SSI, trust accounts, and documentation continue to affect some individuals' ability to fully access community life.
- Evolving population needs: The system continues to see increasing complexity related to aging individuals and those with higher medical or behavioral support needs.
- Employment and meaningful activity: Expanding access to employment and structured community activities remains an important goal across programs.

These themes reflect system-wide opportunities for continued improvement and alignment.

### **Workload and System Stewardship**

Across all programs, advocacy staff and volunteers maintained a substantial workload involving:

- Transition planning and coordination
- Rights protection and monitoring
- Committee participation and clinical oversight
- Court and legal process support
- Training, onboarding, and compliance activities

This level of engagement underscores the role of RAP not only as individual advocates, but also as essential contributors to system stability, quality assurance, and continuous improvement.

### **Concluding Perspective**

This reporting period reflects a system that continues to make steady progress, supported by a strong and effective advocacy infrastructure. RAP remains essential to

rights protection, oversight, and cross-system coordination. At the same time, the data underscore the importance of continued focus on system capacity, interagency alignment, and infrastructure readiness to support timely community transitions and sustained quality-of-life outcomes.



# Quality Assessment Project (QAP) Report

## January 2026

### **Upcoming Cycle: Family Surveys**

DDS will continue to stratify data collection with a focus on obtaining a targeted sample of 400 surveys from each RC that has proportionate representation from five ethnorracial groups (i.e., African American/Black, Asian, Hispanic, White, and Other). The tables in the following pages are from the UC Davis Population Plan identifying the target sample for each ethnorracial group. See Table 1 for AFS, Table 2 for CFS, and Table 3 for FGS.

For this FY 2025-26 cycle, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has elected to sample all eligible families per regional center, per family survey as opposed to a sampling of eligible families for the CFS and AFS. Challenges with collecting updated contact information for family members in previous cycles resulted in extremely low response rates for the FGS for certain regional centers, so this survey has a statewide goal this cycle.

DDS has also elected to examine responses for family members of clients who entered the Self Determination Program (SDP) based on the following criteria: 1) For clients who exited as of 5/7/25: client was enrolled in SDP for at least 6 months or more and 2) For current clients as of 5/7/25: client entered SDP at least six months before the FY25-26 survey cycle launch.

Surveys are offered in a total of 19 languages: Arabic, Armenian (Eastern), Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), English, Farsi, Hindi, Hmong, Japanese, Khmer, Lao, Mien, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese. Survey mailing is anticipated to start by February 2026.

### **Eligibility for Family Surveys**

Family Surveys collect demographic information on both the individual receiving services ('family member') as well as the person who fills out the survey (the 'respondent') and information on services and supports received.

Child Family Survey (CFS): Mailed to families who have a child family member (ages 17 and under) who lives with the respondent and receives at least one regional center funded service in addition to case management.

Adult Family Surveys (AFS): Mailed to families who have an adult family member (ages

18+) who lives with the respondent and receives at least one regional center funded service in addition to case management.

Family Guardian Survey (FGS): Mailed to families who have an adult family member (ages 18+) who lives in the community (outside the family home) and receives at least one regional center funded service in addition to case management.

*Table 1: AFS Target Number of Surveys Returned for Each Regional Center by Ethno-racial Category and Overall*

| <b>Regional Center</b> | <b>Asian Sample</b> | <b>Black Sample</b> | <b>Hispanic Sample</b> | <b>White Sample</b> | <b>Other Sample</b> | <b>Total RC Sample</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ACRC                   | 46                  | 46                  | 83                     | 187                 | 38                  | 400                    |
| CVRC                   | 31                  | 20                  | 250                    | 84                  | 15                  | 400                    |
| ELARC                  | 56                  | 4                   | 299                    | 31                  | 10                  | 400                    |
| FDLRC                  | 57                  | 27                  | 201                    | 108                 | 7                   | 400                    |
| FNRC                   | 14                  | 10                  | 67                     | 290                 | 19                  | 400                    |
| GGRC                   | 147                 | 26                  | 107                    | 94                  | 26                  | 400                    |
| HRC                    | 60                  | 40                  | 186                    | 76                  | 38                  | 400                    |
| IRC                    | 20                  | 47                  | 219                    | 89                  | 25                  | 400                    |
| KRC                    | 13                  | 31                  | 231                    | 106                 | 19                  | 400                    |
| NBRC                   | 35                  | 44                  | 118                    | 161                 | 42                  | 400                    |
| NLACRC                 | 30                  | 42                  | 201                    | 116                 | 11                  | 400                    |
| RCEB                   | 94                  | 73                  | 103                    | 104                 | 26                  | 400                    |
| RCOC                   | 81                  | 9                   | 147                    | 118                 | 45                  | 400                    |
| RCRC                   | 10                  | 12                  | 76                     | 274                 | 28                  | 400                    |
| SARC                   | 109                 | 9                   | 165                    | 89                  | 28                  | 400                    |
| SCLARC                 | 4                   | 81                  | 302                    | 5                   | 8                   | 400                    |
| SDRC                   | 38                  | 25                  | 189                    | 116                 | 32                  | 400                    |
| SGPRC                  | 63                  | 18                  | 249                    | 50                  | 20                  | 400                    |
| TCRC                   | 20                  | 7                   | 187                    | 167                 | 19                  | 400                    |
| VMRC                   | 42                  | 33                  | 174                    | 124                 | 27                  | 400                    |
| WRC                    | 20                  | 105                 | 156                    | 82                  | 37                  | 400                    |
| Total Statewide Sample | 990                 | 709                 | 3710                   | 2471                | 520                 | 8,400                  |

*Table 2: CFS Target Number of Surveys Returned for Each Regional Center by Ethno-racial Category and Overall*

| <b>Regional Center</b> | <b>Asian Sample</b> | <b>Black Sample</b> | <b>Hispanic Sample</b> | <b>White Sample</b> | <b>Other Sample</b> | <b>Total RC Sample</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| ACRC                   | 57                  | 45                  | 89                     | 128                 | 81                  | 400                    |
| CVRC                   | 24                  | 15                  | 264                    | 54                  | 43                  | 400                    |
| ELARC                  | 54                  | 5                   | 287                    | 24                  | 30                  | 400                    |
| FDLRC                  | 48                  | 30                  | 207                    | 105                 | 10                  | 400                    |
| FNRC                   | 11                  | 8                   | 81                     | 255                 | 45                  | 400                    |
| GGRC                   | 118                 | 21                  | 144                    | 72                  | 45                  | 400                    |
| HRC                    | 49                  | 40                  | 198                    | 42                  | 71                  | 400                    |
| IRC                    | 19                  | 28                  | 173                    | 53                  | 127                 | 400                    |
| KRC                    | 15                  | 28                  | 265                    | 66                  | 26                  | 400                    |
| NBRC                   | 30                  | 29                  | 159                    | 100                 | 82                  | 400                    |
| NLACRC                 | 28                  | 39                  | 226                    | 91                  | 16                  | 400                    |
| RCEB                   | 98                  | 50                  | 135                    | 62                  | 55                  | 400                    |
| RCOC                   | 91                  | 9                   | 142                    | 75                  | 83                  | 400                    |
| RCRC                   | 6                   | 10                  | 109                    | 219                 | 56                  | 400                    |
| SARC                   | 104                 | 5                   | 192                    | 49                  | 50                  | 400                    |
| SCLARC                 | 2                   | 55                  | 323                    | 3                   | 17                  | 400                    |
| SDRC                   | 36                  | 16                  | 185                    | 75                  | 88                  | 400                    |
| SGPRC                  | 71                  | 14                  | 273                    | 26                  | 16                  | 400                    |
| TCRC                   | 10                  | 3                   | 224                    | 127                 | 36                  | 400                    |
| VMRC                   | 46                  | 31                  | 199                    | 70                  | 54                  | 400                    |
| WRC                    | 19                  | 96                  | 172                    | 70                  | 43                  | 400                    |
| Total Statewide Sample | 936                 | 577                 | 4047                   | 1766                | 1074                | 8,400                  |

*Table 3: FGS Target Number of Surveys Returned for Each Regional Center by Ethno-racial Category and Overall*

| <b>Race/Ethnicity</b>  | <b>Sample Target</b> |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Asian                  | 93                   |
| Black                  | 103                  |
| Hispanic               | 223                  |
| White                  | 747                  |
| Other                  | 58                   |
| Total Statewide Sample | 1224                 |

## About National Core Indicators

National Core Indicators {NCI} strives to provide states with valid and reliable tools to help improve system performance and better serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Through a contract with Department of Developmental Services {DDS}, State Council on Developmental Disabilities {SCDD}, using the NCI Survey tools, collects quantitative data on consumer satisfaction, provision of services, and personal outcomes. Data collection is completed through face-to-face interviews with consumers as well as mail-in surveys from families.

This data collection effort will enable DDS to evaluate the quality and performance of California's developmental disability service delivery system and among all 21 regional centers over time.

For RC results of past surveys go to:

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/nci/reports/>

For more information about the NCI go to:

<https://www.nationalcoreindicators.org/>

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Scan QR code below to go to QA Project Webpage

[scdd.ca.gov/qap](https://scdd.ca.gov/qap)



## QAC Regional Center Assignments

*QAC: Sarah Wirrig*  
*Support Staff: Jennifer Rosenfeld*

**Far Northern  
Redwood Coast  
North Bay**

*QAC: Ron Usac*  
*Support Staff: Valerie Buell*

**East Bay  
Golden Gate**

*QAC: George Lewis*  
*Support Staff: Vacant*

**Alta California  
Central Valley  
Valley Mountain**

*QACs: Lia Cervantes-Lerma ■ Vacant ■*  
*Jenny Villanueva*

*Support Staff: Vacant and*  
*Marina Bchtikian*

**East Los Angeles Frank D. Lanterman  
Harbor**

**North Los Angeles  
San Gabriel Pomona  
South Central Los Angeles  
Westside**

*QAC: Nancy Carlson-Zapata*  
*Priscilla Huang, AGPA*  
*Support Staff: Vacant*

**Golden Gate  
Orange County  
San Diego**

*QAC: Esteban Ortiz*  
*Support Staff: Jose Valle*

**Inland  
Kern  
San Diego**

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 10.  
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***2026 Governor's Proposed Budget***

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Debra Cooper, Council delegate and Assistant Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHSA), was invited to provide an overview of the Governor's proposed budget for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Additionally, Pete Cervinka, Councilmember and Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), will highlight key aspects of the DDS budget.

The Governor's proposal for the Health and Human Services Agency and Departments, and the DDS Budget Highlights, have been provided in the meeting packet for informational purposes.

***Attachment***

Department of Developmental Services 2026-27 Governor's Budget Highlights

***Handout***

Governor's Proposal for Health and Human Services Agency and Departments

**Department of Developmental Services**

**2026-27 Governor's Budget Highlights**



**Gavin Newsom  
Governor  
State of California**

**Kim Johnson  
Secretary  
California Health and Human Services  
Agency**

**Pete Cervinka  
Director  
Department of Developmental Services**

**January 2026**

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

### 2026 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Department of Developmental Services (Department) is responsible for administering the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act). The Lanterman Act provides for the coordination and provision of services and supports to enable people to achieve their goals. Additionally, the Early Start Program provides services to infants and toddlers who have or are at risk of having a developmental disability. Services are delivered through a statewide network of 21 private, nonprofit, locally based community agencies known as regional centers, as well as through state-operated programs.

The number of individuals served by regional centers in the community is expected to be 489,254 in the current year and increase to 526,848 in fiscal year (FY) 2026-27. In addition, the proposed budget supports capacity for 302 individuals that can be served through state-operated services.

### 2026 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET SUMMARY

The Governor's Budget includes \$21.1 billion (\$13.5 billion General Fund) for FY 2026-27; a net increase of \$2.4 billion (\$1.6 billion General Fund) over the updated FY 2025-26 budget, a 13 percent increase.

In addition to caseload and utilization updates, the proposed FY 2026-27 budget includes the following major adjustments:

- Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS): Increase of \$14.6 million (\$5.7 million General Fund). One-year limited-term resources equivalent to 20 positions to continue the planning phase of the project.
- Federal Access Rule: Increase of \$2.4 million (\$2.1 million General Fund). Includes ongoing resources and 9 positions to address increased workload related to compliance with the federal Home and Community-Based Services Access Rule.
- State Operations: The transfer of 70 positions and associated dollars within the Department to support department-wide operations and address programmatic needs, including autism and employment services.
- Fairview Developmental Center: A decrease of \$8.1 million General Fund, reflecting the cold shutdown of Fairview Developmental Center while the property's disposition process continues.

## Program Highlights

(Dollars in Thousands)

|   | FY 2025-26          | FY 2026-27          | Difference         |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Community Services Program</b>           |                     |                     |                    |
| Regional Centers                            | \$18,196,079        | \$20,632,003        | \$2,435,924        |
| <b>Total, Community Services</b>            | <b>\$18,196,079</b> | <b>\$20,632,003</b> | <b>\$2,435,924</b> |
| General Fund                                | \$11,546,678        | \$13,154,785        | \$1,608,107        |
| Program Development Fund                    | \$434               | \$0                 | (\$434)            |
| Developmental Disabilities Services Account | \$150               | \$150               | \$0                |
| Federal Trust Fund                          | \$55,482            | \$55,399            | (\$83)             |
| Reimbursements                              | \$6,592,595         | \$7,420,929         | \$828,334          |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund             | \$740               | \$740               | \$0                |
| <b>State Operated Services</b>              |                     |                     |                    |
| Personal Services                           | \$262,685           | \$244,015           | (\$18,670)         |
| Operating Expense & Equipment               | \$41,920            | \$49,267            | \$7,347            |
| <b>Total, State Operated Services</b>       | <b>\$304,605</b>    | <b>\$293,282</b>    | <b>(\$11,323)</b>  |
| General Fund                                | \$274,363           | \$263,784           | (\$10,579)         |
| Lottery Education Fund                      | \$141               | \$141               | \$0                |
| Reimbursements                              | \$30,101            | \$29,357            | (\$744)            |
| <b>Headquarters Support</b>                 |                     |                     |                    |
| Personal Services                           | \$132,934           | \$140,097           | \$7,163            |
| Operating Expense & Equipment               | \$41,235            | \$43,143            | \$1,908            |
| <b>Total, Headquarters Support</b>          | <b>\$174,169</b>    | <b>\$183,240</b>    | <b>\$9,071</b>     |
| General Fund                                | \$111,277           | \$118,365           | \$7,088            |
| Federal Trust Fund                          | \$4,116             | \$4,167             | \$51               |
| Program Development Fund                    | \$461               | \$461               | \$0                |
| Reimbursements                              | \$57,799            | \$59,731            | \$1,932            |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund             | \$516               | \$516               | \$0                |
| <b>Total, All Programs</b>                  | <b>\$18,674,853</b> | <b>\$21,108,525</b> | <b>\$2,433,672</b> |
| <b>Total Funding</b>                        |                     |                     |                    |
| General Fund                                | \$11,932,318        | \$13,536,934        | \$1,604,616        |
| Federal Trust Fund                          | \$59,598            | \$59,566            | (\$32)             |
| Lottery Education Fund                      | \$141               | \$141               | \$0                |
| Program Development Fund                    | \$895               | \$461               | (\$434)            |
| Developmental Disabilities Services Account | \$150               | \$150               | \$0                |
| Reimbursements                              | \$6,680,495         | \$7,510,017         | \$829,522          |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund             | \$1,256             | \$1,256             | \$0                |
| <b>Total, All Funds</b>                     | <b>\$18,674,853</b> | <b>\$21,108,525</b> | <b>\$2,433,672</b> |
| <b>Caseloads</b>                            |                     |                     |                    |
| State Operated Services                     | 302                 | 302                 | 0                  |
| Regional Centers                            | 489,254             | 526,848             | 37,594             |
| <b>Departmental Positions</b>               |                     |                     |                    |
| State Operated Services                     | 1,753.7             | 1,715.1             | (38.6)             |
| Headquarters                                | 810.0               | 824.0               | 14.0               |

## COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM

### FY 2025-26

#### Costs and Fund Sources

The FY 2025-26 updated regional center budget includes \$18.2 billion (\$11.5 billion General Fund). This includes increased federal financial participation of \$199.8 million and ongoing reflecting claiming of increased federal match for those individuals eligible for Medi-Cal under the Affordable Care Act Expansion Population and increase in overall percent of caseload with established Medi-Cal eligibility.

| <b>Costs and Fund Sources</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                       |                     |                   |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b>   | <b>Difference</b> |
| Operations   | \$1,650,677           | \$1,650,677         | \$0               |
| Purchase of Services   | \$16,523,975          | \$16,523,975        | \$0               |
| Early Start Part C/Other Agency Costs                          | \$19,424              | \$19,424            | \$0               |
| Early Start Family Resource Services                           | \$2,003               | \$2,003             | \$0               |
| <b>Total Costs</b>   | <b>\$18,196,079</b>   | <b>\$18,196,079</b> | <b>\$0</b>        |
| General Fund (GF)  | \$11,781,341          | \$11,546,678        | (\$234,663)       |
| <i>GF Match</i>  | \$6,106,947           | \$5,939,454         | (\$167,493)       |
| <i>GF Other</i>  | \$5,674,394           | \$5,607,224         | (\$67,170)        |
| Reimbursements   | \$6,357,932           | \$6,592,595         | \$234,663         |
| Program Development Fund                                       | \$434                 | \$434               | \$0               |
| Developmental Disabilities Services Account                    | \$150                 | \$150               | \$0               |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund                                | \$740                 | \$740               | \$0               |
| Federal Funds  | \$55,482              | \$55,482            | \$0               |
| <b>Fund Sources</b>  | <b>\$18,196,079</b>   | <b>\$18,196,079</b> | <b>\$0</b>        |

#### Population

The Department forecasts a net decrease of 1,826 consumers compared to the Enacted Budget.

| <b>Caseload</b>                 | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26*</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Lanterman                       | 419,923               | 418,361            | (1,562)           |
| Early Start                     | 58,979                | 56,020             | (2,959)           |
| Provisional Eligibility         | 12,178                | 14,873             | 2,695             |
| <b>Total Community Caseload</b> | <b>491,080</b>        | <b>489,254</b>     | <b>(1,826)</b>    |

\*Updated FY 2025-26 caseload reflects no change from Enacted Budget for purpose of core staffing assumptions.

Regional Center Operations – Caseload

There is no change to the current year from the Enacted Budget.

| <b>Operations – Caseload</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                       |                    |                   |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b>  | <b>Difference</b> |
| Staffing Expenditures   | \$1,541,654           | \$1,541,654        | \$0               |
| Federal Compliance  | \$49,552              | \$49,552           | \$0               |
| Projects  | \$40,483              | \$40,483           | \$0               |
| Intermediate Care Facility-Developmentally Disabled           | \$2,037               | \$2,037            | \$0               |
| Quality Assurance Fees  |                       |                    |                   |
| <b>Total Operations – Caseload</b>                            | <b>\$1,633,726</b>    | <b>\$1,633,726</b> | <b>\$0</b>        |

Regional Center Operations – Policy

There is no change to the current year Operations policies from the Enacted Budget.

| <b>Operations – Policy</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                       |                   |                   |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS)                     | \$7,255               | \$7,255           | \$0               |
| Public Records Act - (AB 1147)                              | \$9,696               | \$9,696           | \$0               |
| <b>Total Operations – Policy</b>                            | <b>\$16,951</b>       | <b>\$16,951</b>   | <b>\$0</b>        |

Purchase of Services (POS) – Caseload

There is no change to the current year purchase of services from the Enacted Budget.

| <b>Purchase of Services<br/>Caseload (Utilization and Growth)</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                           |                     |                   |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>Enacted<br/>Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b>   | <b>Difference</b> |
| Behavioral Services  | \$151,530                 | \$151,530           | \$0               |
| Day Services   | \$2,468,362               | \$2,468,362         | \$0               |
| Early Intervention Services  | \$1,334,405               | \$1,334,405         | \$0               |
| Employment   | \$153,392                 | \$153,392           | \$0               |
| Medical Services   | \$316,932                 | \$316,932           | \$0               |
| Other Services   | \$221,859                 | \$221,859           | \$0               |
| Residential Services   | \$6,537,876               | \$6,537,876         | \$0               |
| Respite  | \$2,008,311               | \$2,008,311         | \$0               |
| Social Recreation  | \$379,319                 | \$379,319           | \$0               |
| Support and Training Services  | \$2,355,318               | \$2,355,318         | \$0               |
| Transportation   | \$690,073                 | \$690,073           | \$0               |
| <b>Total POS – Caseload</b>  | <b>\$16,617,377</b>       | <b>\$16,617,377</b> | <b>\$0</b>        |

POS – Policy

There is no change to the current year in policy-related expenditures compared to the Enacted Budget. The table below reflects enacted budget solutions from the 2025 Budget Act, a reduction of \$113 million (\$75 million General Fund) related to ending the Rate Reform Hold Harmless provision at the end of February 2026 and a reduction of \$22.5 million General Fund related to Self-Determination Program Protections.

| <b>Purchase of Services – Policy</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                       |                   |                   |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Ongoing Purchase of Services Items                                    | \$42,050              | \$42,050          | \$0               |
| Self-Determination Program Protections                                | (\$22,500)            | (\$22,500)        | \$0               |
| Rate Reform Hold Harmless Provision                                   | (\$112,952)           | (\$112,952)       | \$0               |
| <b>Total POS – Policy</b>   | <b>(\$93,402)</b>     | <b>(\$93,402)</b> | <b>\$0</b>        |

## Reimbursements

The updated current year reflects a net increase of \$234.7 million in reimbursements compared to the Enacted Budget primarily driven by improvements in the claiming of federal financial participation for eligible individuals.

Adjustments are reflected in the table below.

| <b>Reimbursements</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                     |                       |                    |                   |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b>  | <b>Difference</b> |
| Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver                            | \$4,272,225           | \$4,420,602        | \$148,377         |
| HCBS Waiver Administration   | \$25,916              | \$25,690           | (\$226)           |
| Medicaid Administration  | \$24,080              | \$28,055           | \$3,975           |
| Targeted Case Management   | \$427,294             | \$456,367          | \$29,073          |
| Title XX Block Grant   | \$213,421             | \$213,421          | \$0               |
| (1) <i>Social Services</i>   | \$136,264             | \$136,264          | \$0               |
| (2) <i>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families</i>                         | \$77,157              | \$77,157           | \$0               |
| Intermediate Care Facility-Developmentally Disabled State Plan Amendment   | \$67,917              | \$77,406           | \$9,489           |
| Intermediate Care Facility-Developmentally Disabled Quality Assurance Fees | \$12,019              | \$12,019           | \$0               |
| 1915(i) State Plan Amendment   | \$960,378             | \$994,107          | \$33,729          |
| Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment                           | \$19,798              | \$21,640           | \$1,842           |
| Behavioral Health Treatment Fee-for-Service                                | \$6,040               | \$5,915            | (\$125)           |
| Self-Determination Program Waiver  | \$328,844             | \$337,373          | \$8,529           |
| <b>Total Reimbursements</b>  | <b>\$6,357,932</b>    | <b>\$6,592,595</b> | <b>\$234,663</b>  |

## Federal Funds

There is no change in current year federal funds compared to the Enacted Budget.

| <b>Federal Funds</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                       |                   |                   |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Early Start Part C/Other Agency Costs                 | \$54,337              | \$54,337          | \$0               |
| Foster Grandparent Program                            | \$1,145               | \$1,145           | \$0               |
| <b>Total Federal Funds</b>                            | <b>\$55,482</b>       | <b>\$55,482</b>   | <b>\$0</b>        |

**FY 2026-27**

**Costs and Fund Sources**

The FY 2026-27 community programs budget includes \$20.6 billion (\$13.2 billion General Fund), a net increase of \$2.4 billion (\$1.6 billion General Fund) compared to the updated current year. This reflects ongoing increased federal financial participation for those individuals eligible for Medi-Cal under the Affordable Care Act Expansion Population and increase in overall percent of caseload with established Medi-Cal eligibility. Additionally, this includes a projected \$2.3 billion increase in purchase of services expenditures, and a \$132 million increase in regional center operations costs.

| <b>Costs and Fund Sources</b>               |                     |                     |                    |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>               |                     |                     |                    |
|   | <b>FY 2025-26</b>   | <b>FY 2026-27</b>   | <b>Difference</b>  |
| Operations                                  | \$1,650,677         | \$1,782,689         | \$132,012          |
| Purchase of Services                        | \$16,523,975        | \$18,827,975        | \$2,304,000        |
| Early Start Part C/Other Agency Costs       | \$19,424            | \$19,336            | (\$88)             |
| Early Start Family Resource Services        | \$2,003             | \$2,003             | \$0                |
| <b>Total Costs</b>                          | <b>\$18,196,079</b> | <b>\$20,632,003</b> | <b>\$2,435,924</b> |
| General Fund (GF)                           | \$11,546,678        | \$13,154,785        | \$1,608,107        |
| <i>GF Match</i>                             | \$5,939,454         | \$6,756,704         | \$817,250          |
| <i>GF Other</i>                             | \$5,607,224         | \$6,398,081         | \$790,857          |
| Reimbursements                              | \$6,592,595         | \$7,420,929         | \$828,334          |
| Program Development Fund/Parental Fees      | \$434               | \$0                 | (\$434)            |
| Developmental Disabilities Services Account | \$150               | \$150               | \$0                |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund             | \$740               | \$740               | \$0                |
| Federal Funds                               | \$55,482            | \$55,399            | (\$83)             |
| <b>Fund Sources</b>                         | <b>\$18,196,079</b> | <b>\$20,632,003</b> | <b>\$2,435,924</b> |

**Population**

The Department forecasts a net increase of 37,594 individuals compared to the updated current year.

| <b>Caseload</b>         | <b>FY 2025-26*</b> | <b>FY 2026-27</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Lanterman               | 418,361            | 452,615           | 34,254            |
| Early Start             | 56,020             | 56,073            | 53                |
| Provisional Eligibility | 14,873             | 18,160            | 3,287             |
| <b>Total Caseload</b>   | <b>489,254</b>     | <b>526,848</b>    | <b>37,594</b>     |

\*Updated FY 2025-26 caseload reflects no change from Enacted Budget for purpose of core staffing assumptions.

Regional Center Operations – Caseload

The budget year includes \$1.8 billion (\$1.2 billion General Fund) for regional center operations, an increase of \$128.8 million (\$98.7 million General Fund) compared to the current year. The increase is primarily attributed to anticipated caseload growth.

| <b>Operations – Caseload</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                    |                    |                   |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>FY 2025-26</b>  | <b>FY 2026-27</b>  | <b>Difference</b> |
| Staffing Expenditures   | \$1,541,654        | \$1,668,691        | \$127,037         |
| Federal Compliance  | \$49,552           | \$49,552           | \$0               |
| Projects  | \$40,483           | \$41,941           | \$1,458           |
| Intermediate Care Facility-Developmentally Disabled           | \$2,037            | \$2,322            | \$285             |
| Quality Assurance Fees  |                    |                    |                   |
| <b>Total Operations – Caseload</b>                            | <b>\$1,633,726</b> | <b>\$1,762,506</b> | <b>\$128,780</b>  |

Regional Center Operations – Policy

The budget year includes \$20.2 million (\$2.7 million General Fund) for policies impacting regional center operations, an increase of \$3.2 million (\$2.3 million General Fund) compared to the updated current year.

Updated Policies:

- Public Records Act – (AB 1147): Increase of \$3.2 million (\$2.3 million General Fund) to reflect full year implementation costs.

| <b>Operations – Policy</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                   |                   |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>FY 2026-27</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS)                     | \$7,255           | \$7,255           | \$0               |
| Public Records Act - (AB 1147)                              | \$9,696           | \$12,928          | \$3,232           |
| <b>Total Operations – Policy</b>                            | <b>\$16,951</b>   | <b>\$20,183</b>   | <b>\$3,232</b>    |

**Purchase of Services (POS) Caseload**

The budget year includes \$19.2 billion (\$12.3 billion General Fund) for purchase of services, an increase of \$2.5 billion (\$1.7 billion General Fund), compared to the updated current year. The increase primarily is due to projected caseload increases and updated expenditure trends in the utilization of various budget categories, as shown below.

| <b>Purchase of Services<br/>Caseload (Utilization and Growth)</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                     |                     |                    |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|  | <b>FY 2025-26</b>   | <b>FY 2026-27</b>   | <b>Difference</b>  |
| Behavioral Services  | \$151,530           | \$200,000           | \$48,470           |
| Day Services   | \$2,468,362         | \$2,859,631         | \$391,269          |
| Early Intervention Services  | \$1,334,405         | \$1,427,184         | \$92,779           |
| Employment   | \$153,392           | \$153,647           | \$255              |
| Medical Services   | \$316,932           | \$366,601           | \$49,669           |
| Other Services   | \$221,859           | \$254,817           | \$32,958           |
| Residential Services   | \$6,537,876         | \$7,255,497         | \$717,621          |
| Respite  | \$2,008,311         | \$2,388,155         | \$379,844          |
| Social Recreation  | \$379,319           | \$538,419           | \$159,100          |
| Support and Training Services  | \$2,355,318         | \$2,945,635         | \$590,317          |
| Transportation   | \$690,073           | \$775,725           | \$85,652           |
| <b>Total POS – Caseload</b>  | <b>\$16,617,377</b> | <b>\$19,165,311</b> | <b>\$2,547,934</b> |

**POS – Policy**

The budget year includes a reduction of \$337.3 million (\$433.4 million General Fund) for policies impacting regional center purchase of services, a decrease of \$243.9 million (\$174.5 million General Fund) compared to the updated current year budget.

**Updated Policies:**

- Enacted Budget Solutions: Reduction of \$333.9 million (\$221.7 million General Fund) to reflect the Quality Incentive Program’s eligibility provider mandate requirements and a reduction of \$23 million General Fund to reflect full year impact of the Self-Determination Program Protections.

| <b>Purchase of Services – Policy</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                   |                    |                    |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|   | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>FY 2026-27</b>  | <b>Difference</b>  |
| Ongoing Purchase of Services Items                                    | \$42,050          | \$42,050           | \$0                |
| Quality Incentive Program Eligibility Provider Mandate                | \$0               | (\$333,886)        | (\$333,886)        |
| Self-Determination Program Protections                                | (\$22,500)        | (\$45,500)         | (\$23,000)         |
| Rate Reform Hold Harmless Provision                                   | (\$112,952)       | \$0*               | \$112,952          |
| <b>Total POS – Policy</b>   | <b>(\$93,402)</b> | <b>(\$337,336)</b> | <b>(\$243,934)</b> |

\*The impact of the Rate Reform Hold Harmless Provision in FY 2026-27 is carried in Purchase of Services Caseload.

### Reimbursements

The budget year includes \$7.4 billion in reimbursements, an increase of \$828.3 million compared to the updated current year. Adjustments are reflected in the table below and the main drivers are changes in caseload and utilization, and improvements in the claiming of federal financial participation for eligible individuals.

| <b>Reimbursements</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>                     |                    |                    |                   |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>FY 2025-26</b>  | <b>FY 2026-27</b>  | <b>Difference</b> |
| Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver                            | \$4,420,602        | \$5,032,564        | \$611,962         |
| HCBS Waiver Administration   | \$25,690           | \$26,809           | \$1,119           |
| Medicaid Administration  | \$28,055           | \$28,055           | \$0               |
| Targeted Case Management   | \$456,367          | \$486,122          | \$29,755          |
| Title XX Block Grant   | \$213,421          | \$213,421          | \$0               |
| (1) Social Services  | \$136,264          | \$136,264          | \$0               |
| (2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families                                | \$77,157           | \$77,157           | \$0               |
| Intermediate Care Facility-Developmentally Disabled State Plan Amendment   | \$77,406           | \$77,406           | \$0               |
| Intermediate Care Facility-Developmentally Disabled Quality Assurance Fees | \$12,019           | \$13,698           | \$1,679           |
| 1915(i) State Plan Amendment   | \$994,107          | \$1,131,834        | \$137,727         |
| Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment                           | \$21,640           | \$21,869           | \$229             |
| Behavioral Health Treatment Fee-for-Service                                | \$5,915            | \$5,915            | \$0               |
| Self-Determination Program Waiver  | \$337,373          | \$383,236          | \$45,863          |
| <b>Total Reimbursements</b>  | <b>\$6,592,595</b> | <b>\$7,420,929</b> | <b>\$828,334</b>  |

### Federal Funds

The budget year includes \$55.4 million in direct federal funds, a net decrease of \$83,000 compared to the updated current year budget.

| <b>Federal Funds</b><br><i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i> |                   |                   |                   |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>FY 2026-27</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Early Start Part C/Other Agency Costs                 | \$54,337          | \$54,249          | (\$88)            |
| Foster Grandparent Program                            | \$1,145           | \$1,150           | \$5               |
| <b>Total Federal Funds</b>                            | <b>\$55,482</b>   | <b>\$55,399</b>   | <b>(\$83)</b>     |

## STATE OPERATED SERVICES

### FY 2025-26

The FY 2025-26 updated state-operated services budget is \$304.6 million (\$274.4 million General Fund), a decrease of \$5 million (\$3.9 million General Fund) compared to the Enacted Budget due to Control Section Adjustments and a Complex Needs Residential Program timeline update.

#### Facilities Update

- Complex Needs Residential Program: Postponement of three positions and \$628,000 General Fund.

#### Baseline Adjustments

- Control Section 26.00 Resource Reallocation: A transfer of \$8.0 million (\$6.4 million General Fund) and 70 positions within the Department.
- Control Section 3.60 Adjustments: An increase of \$7.8 million (\$7.0 million General Fund).
- Item 9800 Employee Compensation: a reduction of \$4.3 million (\$3.8 million General Fund).

| <b>Costs and Fund Sources</b>    |                       |                   |                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>    |                       |                   |                   |
|                                  | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Personal Services                | \$266,221             | \$262,685         | (\$3,536)         |
| Operating Expenses and Equipment | \$35,148              | \$33,658          | (\$1,490)         |
| Lease Revenue Bond               | \$8,272               | \$8,262           | (\$10)            |
| <b>Total Costs</b>               | <b>\$309,641</b>      | <b>\$304,605</b>  | <b>(\$5,036)</b>  |
| General Fund (GF)                | \$278,228             | \$274,363         | (\$3,865)         |
| <i>GF Match</i>                  | \$31,388              | \$30,101          | (\$1,287)         |
| <i>GF Other</i>                  | \$246,890             | \$244,262         | (\$2,628)         |
| Reimbursements                   | \$31,338              | \$30,101          | (1,237)           |
| Lottery Fund                     | \$75                  | \$141             | \$66              |
| <b>Fund Sources</b>              | <b>\$309,641</b>      | <b>\$304,605</b>  | <b>(\$5,036)</b>  |

**FY 2026-27**

The FY 2026-27 budget includes \$293.3 million (\$263.8 million General Fund), a decrease of \$11.3 million (\$10.6 million General Fund) compared to FY 2025-26 due to Fairview cold shutdown, Control Section Adjustments, a Complex Needs Residential Program timeline update, and the Lease Revenue Debt Service Bond.

**Facilities Update**

- Fairview Cold Shutdown: A reduction of \$8.4 million General Fund and 40 positions to reflect the cold shutdown of Fairview Developmental Center as the property’s disposition process continues.
- Complex Needs Residential Program: Increase of 1.4 positions and \$255,000 General Fund, reflecting the updated timeline for the project.

**Baseline Adjustments**

- Control Section 26.00 Resource Reallocation: An additional transfer of \$4.0 million (\$3.2 million General Fund) supporting 70 positions within the Department.
- Item 9800 Employee Compensation: Increase of \$940,000 (\$883,000 General Fund).
- Control Section 3.60 Adjustments: Reduction of \$149,000 General Fund reflecting Fairview Developmental Center cold shutdown.

| <b>Costs and Fund Sources</b>    |                   |                   |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>    |                   |                   |                   |
|                                  | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>FY 2026-27</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Personal Services                | \$262,685         | \$244,015         | (\$18,670)        |
| Operating Expenses and Equipment | \$33,658          | \$41,010          | \$7,352           |
| Lease Revenue Bond               | \$8,262           | \$8,257           | (\$5)             |
| <b>Total Costs</b>               | <b>\$304,605</b>  | <b>\$293,282</b>  | <b>(11,323)</b>   |
| General Fund (GF)                | \$274,363         | \$263,784         | (\$10,579)        |
| <i>GF Match</i>                  | \$30,101          | \$29,357          | (\$744)           |
| <i>GF Other</i>                  | \$244,262         | \$234,427         | (\$9,835)         |
| Reimbursements                   | \$30,101          | \$29,357          | (\$744)           |
| Lottery Fund                     | \$141             | \$141             | \$0               |
| <b>Fund Sources</b>              | <b>\$304,605</b>  | <b>\$293,282</b>  | <b>(\$11,323)</b> |

## HEADQUARTERS

### FY 2025-26

The FY 2025-26 updated budget includes \$174.2 million (\$111.3 million General Fund), a net increase of \$11.3 million (\$8.0 million General Fund) compared to the Enacted Budget.

- Control Section Adjustments – Employee Compensation: An increase of \$2.3 million (\$1.6 million) General Fund to reflect adjustments pursuant to Control Sections 3.60 and Item 9800.
- Control Section 26.00 Resource Reallocation: A transfer of \$8.0 million (\$6.4 million General Fund) and 70 positions within the Department.
- Federal Trust Fund Adjustment: An increase of \$1.0 million.

| <b>Costs and Fund Sources</b>    |                       |                   |                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>    |                       |                   |                   |
|                                  | <b>Enacted Budget</b> | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Personal Services                | \$123,815             | \$132,934         | \$9,119           |
| Operating Expenses and Equipment | \$39,007              | \$41,235          | \$2,228           |
| <b>Total Costs</b>               | <b>\$162,822</b>      | <b>\$174,169</b>  | <b>\$11,347</b>   |
| General Fund (GF)                | \$103,288             | \$111,277         | \$7,989           |
| <i>GF Match</i>                  | \$35,277              | \$37,292          | \$2,015           |
| <i>GF Other</i>                  | \$68,011              | \$73,985          | \$5,974           |
| Reimbursements                   | \$55,559              | \$57,799          | \$2,240           |
| Program Development Fund         | \$447                 | \$461             | \$14              |
| Federal Trust Fund               | \$3,026               | \$4,116           | \$1,090           |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund  | \$502                 | \$516             | \$14              |
| <b>Fund Sources</b>              | <b>\$162,822</b>      | <b>\$174,169</b>  | <b>\$11,347</b>   |

**FY 2026-27**

The FY 2026-27 budget includes \$183.2 million (\$118.4 million General Fund), a net increase of \$9.1 million (\$7.1 million General Fund) compared to the updated current year. This includes limited-term resources expiring June 30,2026, an adjustment to employee compensation from Item 9800, Control Section 3.60 pension contribution updates, and the following adjustments:

- Federal Access Rule Resources: An increase of \$504,000 (\$433,000 General Fund) and nine positions to reflect the ongoing workload related to compliance with the federal Home and Community-Based Access Rule.
- Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS): An increase of \$1.3 million (\$543,000 million General Fund): Includes one-year limited-term resources equivalent to 20 positions to continue the planning phase of the project.
- Control Section 26.00 Resource Reallocation: An additional transfer of \$4.0 million (\$3.2 million GF) for a total transfer of \$12 million (\$9.6 million General Fund) supporting 70 positions within the Department.
- Self-Determination Program Administrative Costs: An increase of \$2.0 million General Fund
- Federal Trust Fund Adjustment: An increase of \$1.0 million

| <b>Costs and Fund Sources</b>    |                   |                   |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>    |                   |                   |                   |
|                                  | <b>FY 2025-26</b> | <b>FY 2026-27</b> | <b>Difference</b> |
| Personal Services                | \$132,934         | \$140,097         | \$7,163           |
| Operating Expenses and Equipment | \$41,235          | \$43,143          | \$1,908           |
| <b>Total Costs</b>               | <b>\$174,169</b>  | <b>\$183,240</b>  | <b>\$9,071</b>    |
| General Fund (GF)                | \$111,277         | \$118,365         | \$7,088           |
| <i>GF Match</i>                  | \$37,292          | \$39,224          | \$1,932           |
| <i>GF Other</i>                  | \$73,985          | \$79,141          | \$5,156           |
| Reimbursements                   | \$57,799          | \$59,731          | \$1,932           |
| Program Development Fund         | \$461             | \$461             | \$0               |
| Federal Trust Fund               | \$4,116           | \$4,167           | \$51              |
| Behavioral Health Services Fund  | \$516             | \$516             | \$0               |
| <b>Fund Sources</b>              | <b>\$174,169</b>  | <b>\$183,240</b>  | <b>\$9,071</b>    |

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 11.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Self-Determination Program Waiver Renewal***

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In February 2026, Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) members will host a townhall to gather input for the renewal of the Self-Determination Program Waiver (Waiver).

In preparation for this, DDS will provide an overview of the purpose of the Waiver to the Council, why it's important and the part the public plays in the process.

**Additional Background**

The Self-Determination Program Waiver is the process that the Department of Developmental Services uses to get funding to support the Self-Determination Program. The waiver is submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and must be renewed every five years. As part of this process, the Department is required to seek feedback from the community prior to submitting the renewal application.

***Handout***

SDP Waiver Presentation

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**JANUARY 27, 2026**

**AGENDA ITEM 12.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Next Meeting Date and Adjournment***

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The Council's next meeting date is scheduled for March 24, 2026 on Zoom.