



NOTICE/AGENDA

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

This meeting is being held via teleconference within the meaning of Government Code section [11123.2](#). Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations. There may be members of the public body who are participating in today's meeting that were granted a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at www.scdd.ca.gov

MEETING DETAILS:

TELECONFERENCE LOCATION:

SCDD HQ OFFICE
3831 North Freeway Blvd., #125
Sacramento, CA 95834

JOIN BY TELECONFERENCE:

CALL IN NUMBER: (877) 853-5257 or
(669)-444-9171
MEETING ID: 816 9331 2334

JOIN BY ZOOM:

<https://bit.ly/ExecCmteOct2026>

MEETING ID: 813 6331 4685

PASSCODE: 233777

DATE: October 20, 2026

TIME: 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Harold Ashe

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Item 3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Item 4. 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.

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

**Item 5. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2026 MINUTES **
All

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Item 6. STAFF SPOTLIGHT

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David Delgado, Branch Chief of HQ Ops & State Plan

**Item 7. CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLANS – REQUESTS
FOR APPROVAL **

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Michael Santiago, Legal Counsel

- A. Jacqueline Armstrong, Board Member, Alta California Regional Center
- B. Jacqueline Dubois, Board Member, Far Northern Regional Center
- C. Patricia McCarthy, Board Member, Far Northern Regional Center
- D. William Moore, Board Member, Far Northern Regional Center
- E. Monica Soria, Board Member, Valley Mountain Regional Center

**Item 8. SCDD BUDGET UPDATE **

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Rihana Ahmad, Chief Deputy Director

- A. Sponsorship Increase

**Item 9. SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS **

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Rihana Ahmad, Chief Deputy Director

- A. Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County
- B. PathPoint
- C. Special Needs in My City
- D. Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego

Item 10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

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Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director

Item 11. YEAR-END DISCUSSION

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Harold Ashe, Executive Committee Chair

Item 12. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE

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The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be in February 2027.

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. 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.

OCTOBER 20, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM 4.
INFORMATION ITEM**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Public Comments

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.

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

OCTOBER 20, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 5.

ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Approval of August 2026 Minutes

The draft minutes from the August 25, 2026, Executive Committee meeting have been included in the packet for review. Committee members will vote on whether to approve the minutes.

Attachment

August 2026 Executive Committee meeting minutes

Action Recommended

Approve the August 2026 meeting minutes.



DRAFT
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2026

Members Attending

Eric Aguilar (S.A.)
Harold Ashe, Chair (F.A.)
Sascha Bittner (S.A.)
Jessica Brown (F.A.)
Harold Fujita (F.A.)
Julie Gaona (S.A.)
Kara Ponton (S.A.)

Members Absent

N/A

Others Attending

Rihana Ahmad
Aaron Carruthers
Brandon Cox
David Delgado

Others Attending (cont.)

Karina
Austin Murphy
Yaritza Sanchez
Michael Santiago
Sam Wijesiriwardane

1. CALL TO ORDER

Executive Committee Chair Harold Ashe called the meeting to order at 10:32 A.M.

2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chair Ashe invited members to introduce themselves. Members introduced themselves and disclosed whether others were in the room with them.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

5. APPROVAL OF JUNE 2026 MINUTES

Action 1

It was moved/seconded (Bittner [S.A.]/Fujita [F.A.]) and carried to approve the June 2026 Executive Committee meeting minutes as presented. (See last page of minutes for a voting record of members present.)

6. SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

Chief Deputy Director Ahmad presented one sponsorship request for the Executive Committee's consideration.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

N/A = not available
DNP = Did Not Participate

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The request for \$2,500 was from Community Interface Services on behalf of the San Diego People First Self-Advocacy Conference Committee for the San Diego People First Annual Self-Advocacy Conference. If approved, the funds would support accessibility accommodations for attendees, including ASL interpretation and sensory support accessories. Community Interface Services had not previously received SCDD sponsorship.

Action 2

It was moved/seconded (Bittner [S.A.]/Brown [F.A.]) and carried to approve the sponsorship request from Community Interface Services in the amount requested. (See last page of minutes for a voting record of members present.)

7. CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLANS – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

Legal Counsel Michael Santiago presented nine conflict-of-interest resolution plans for the Committee's consideration. Initial requests were submitted for Central Valley Regional Center Board Members Elizabeth Rodriguez and Pam Gruber and Redwood Coast Regional Center Board Member Rebekah Wilson. Renewal requests were submitted for Redwood Coast Regional Center Board Members Diana Larson, Mike Sawyer, and William Lewis; Westside Regional Center Board Members Nilo Choudhry and Terry Magady; and North Los Angeles County Regional Center Board Member Jacquie Colton. Detailed mitigation plans were provided in the meeting packet.

Action 4

It was moved/seconded (Brown [F.A.]/Ponton [S.A.]) and carried to approve the conflict-of-interest resolution plans for Regional Center Board Members Elizabeth Rodriguez, Pam Gruber, Rebekah Wilson, Diana Larson, Mike Sawyer, William Lewis, Nilo Choudhry, Terry Magady, and Jacquie Colton. (See last page of minutes for a voting record of members present.)

8. SCDD BUDGET UPDATE

Chief Deputy Director Ahmad presented the SCDD budget update for Fiscal Year 2025-26, reflecting spending through June 30, 2026. The update covered the Basic State Grant, Quality Assessment Program, Rights and Advocacy Program, and Supported Decision-Making Technical Assistance Program. She noted that staff were still closing out the fiscal year and processing invoices for purchases and activities that occurred before June 30. All four programs were expected to finish with positive balances.

For additional information on the budget, please access the meeting packet found at https://scdd.ca.gov/executive_committee/.

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SA = Self-Advocate
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9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Carruthers provided updates on SCDD's legislative work, progress on its five-year State Plan, recent requests from the Administration on Community Living, and upcoming community conversations.

SCDD's Legislative Work

Mr. Carruthers reported that both Council-sponsored bills, Senate Bill 1052 (Gonzalez) on authorized representation and Assembly Bill 2360 (Arambula) on plain language, were held in the Senate Appropriations Committee and would not move forward this year.

He also highlighted SCDD's work on policy proposals through the budget process. This included \$2.4 million in state funding for SCDD to create the Statewide Special Education Parent Action Network over three years. SCDD sought more flexibility in the requirements and enough administrative funding to support the work without putting its federal grant at risk.

He discussed the Department of Developmental Services' proposal to create standardized tools for Regional Center intake and annual assessments of service needs. He noted that a consistent statewide process could help people know what to expect, but community members were concerned that the tools could be used to deny or take away services. In response to those concerns, Mr. Carruthers shared that SCDD supported community recommendations to protect access to services and emphasized that the Individual Program Plan should continue to guide decisions about each person's needs and services.

At Porterville Developmental Center, SCDD worked on proposals to limit civil commitments to 24 months and support people moving into the community. Mr. Carruthers explained that people on civil commitments should not be kept longer than those with criminal charges. To address public safety concerns, staff reviewed cases involving approximately 580 people who left the center over ten years and found a 1.9 percent rate of return. He compared this with a reported 39.5 percent recidivism rate in the state prison system and emphasized that people could succeed when appropriate supports were in place. Final language for these budget proposals was still pending.

Progress on 5-Year State Plan

Mr. Carruthers reported that SCDD had met or exceeded all measurable objectives in the 2022–2026 State Plan, with progress ranging from 100% to 205% of the targets. SCDD reached 5,024 Spanish-speaking family members and self-advocates to help reduce disparities in special education services,

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exceeding its goal of 5,000. Staff were preparing the Program Performance Report and five-year report. The 2027–2031 State Plan was submitted by the August 15 deadline and awaiting review by the Administration on Community Living.

Administration on Community Living Requests

The Administration on Community Living asked Developmental Disabilities Councils to describe their engagement with Tribal Nations and their assistance to individuals who experienced fraud. Mr. Carruthers highlighted SCDD's advocate training with the Hoopa Education Department, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training with Tribal law enforcement, outreach events, and ongoing collaborative efforts. SCDD staff also helped a self-advocate report suspected financial abuse and obtain further assistance. Another example involved support for a family whose son died following neglect in a residential care home. Community Care Licensing investigated the home, found it at fault, and fined it.

There Should be a Law Contest & Community Conversations

Mr. Carruthers announced that the "There Should Be a Law" contest received 184 ideas. Submissions included 84 human services ideas, 30 education ideas, 20 civil rights ideas, and 18 public safety and emergency preparedness ideas. The report was expected to be released by the September 10th Legislative and Public Policy Committee meeting and would help the Council identify future sponsored legislation. Legislators and other advocates could also use the community's ideas.

Upcoming community conversations were scheduled for the Bay Area on August 27, Sacramento on September 11, and North Bay on September 26 to share SCDD updates and hear community concerns. For additional details on upcoming community conversations, please visit:

<https://scdd.ca.gov/community-conversations/>.

10. CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL

The Executive Committee went into a closed session.

11. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

The Executive Committee reconvened from closed session with no actions to report.

12. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Executive Committee meeting was scheduled for October 20, 2026. The meeting adjourned at 1:39 P.M.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

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Name	Action 1 Minutes	Action 2 Sponsorship	Action 3 CRPs
Aguilar, Eric	NP	NP	NP
Ashe, Harold	Aye	Aye	Aye
Bittner, Sascha	Aye	Aye	Aye
Brown, Jessica	Aye	Aye	Aye
Fujita, Harold	NP	Aye	Abstain
Gaona, Julie	Aye	Aye	Aye
Ponton, Kara	Aye	Aye	Aye

OCTOBER 20, 2025

**AGENDA ITEM 6.
INFORMATION ITEM**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Staff Spotlight: David Delgado

The Executive Committee is recognizing an SCDD staff member. This will provide Committee members with an opportunity to learn more about SCDD's staff, their roles throughout the organization and some of their personal interests or aspirations. This month's spotlight will feature a short presentation from SCDD's Branch Chief of HQ Operations and State Plan, David Delgado.

OCTOBER 20, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 7.

ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Conflict Resolution Plans – Requests for Approval

Legal Counsel Michael Santiago will present nine conflict-of-interest resolution plans from the following members:

- A. Jacqueline Armstrong, Board Member, Alta California Regional Center
- B. Jacqueline Dubois, Board Member, Far Northern Regional Center
- C. Patricia McCarthy, Board Member, Far Northern Regional Center
- D. William Moore, Board Member, Far Northern Regional Center
- E. Monica Soria, Board Member, Valley Mountain Regional Center

The Executive Committee will vote on whether to approve the requests.

Attachments

Staff analysis detail sheets for Regional Center Board Members Jacqueline Armstrong, Jacqueline Dubois, Patricia McCarthy, William Moore, and Monica Soria.

Action Recommended

Approve the conflict-of-interest resolution plans.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION PLAN APPROVAL REQUEST

NAME: Jacqueline Armstrong

REGIONAL CENTER: Alta California Regional Center (ACRC)

REGIONAL CENTER POSITION: Board Member

REPORTING STATUS: Renewal

BACKGROUND:

Codified in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code sections 4500 et. Seq., the Lanterman Act requires Regional Centers to submit Conflict of Interest Reporting Statements and where applicable, a proposed Conflict Resolution Plan (Plan) to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council).ⁱ In the event of an identified conflict of interest, an individual must either eliminate the conflict of interest or obtain an approved Plan.ⁱⁱ The Council is being presented with information reviewed under the existing criteria and process approved by the Council. This approach provides for staff analysis of regional center conflict of interest issues.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

According to section 54520 of DDS' regulations, a conflict exists when the board member/executive director or a family member of a Regional Center board member/executive director holds any of the following positions for a provider:

- (1) a governing board member;
- (2) a board committee member;
- (3) a director;
- (4) an officer;
- (5) an owner;
- (6) a partner;
- (7) a shareholder;
- (8) a trustee;
- (9) an agent;
- (10) an employee;
- (11) a contractor;
- (12) a consultant;
- (13) a person who holds any position of management; or
- (14) a person who has decision or policy making authority.

ACTUAL CONFLICT: Armstrong works as an administrative assistant for Progressive Employment Concepts, which is a vendor of ACRC.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLAN:

1. Armstrong will not participate in any discussion or vote on any matter involving Progressive Employment Concepts.
2. ACRC's Board of Directors and ACRC's Executive Management staff will be informed of this conflict resolution plan and will be informed of the need to ensure that as a board member, Armstrong does not participate in any discussion or vote on any matter relating to Progressive Employment Concepts.
3. ACRC's Board of Directors has been informed of and has approved the submission of this proposed conflict resolution plan.
4. ACRC's Board of Directors will be responsible for ensuring that the provisions contained in this conflict resolution plan are applied and monitored.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Conflict Resolution Plan.

PREPARED BY: Michael R. Santiago, Legal Counsel – October, 2026

^{i i} W&I Code § 4626, subd. (f).

^{ii ii} California Code of Regulations, title 17, §54525. DDS' current regulations are published at California Code of Regulations, title 17, § 50201 et seq.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION PLAN APPROVAL REQUEST

NAME: Jacqueline Dubois

REGIONAL CENTER: Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC)

REGIONAL CENTER POSITION: Board Member

REPORTING STATUS: Renewal

BACKGROUND:

Codified in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code sections 4500 et. Seq., the Lanterman Act requires Regional Centers to submit Conflict of Interest Reporting Statements and where applicable, a proposed Conflict Resolution Plan (Plan) to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council).ⁱ In the event of an identified conflict of interest, an individual must either eliminate the conflict of interest or obtain an approved Plan.ⁱⁱ The Council is being presented with information reviewed under the existing criteria and process approved by the Council. This approach provides for staff analysis of regional center conflict of interest issues.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

According to section 54520 of DDS' regulations, a conflict exists when the board member/executive director or a family member of a Regional Center board member/executive director holds any of the following positions for a provider:

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- (2) a board committee member;
- (3) a director;
- (4) an officer;
- (5) an owner;
- (6) a partner;
- (7) a shareholder;
- (8) a trustee;
- (9) an agent;
- (10) an employee;
- (11) a contractor;
- (12) a consultant;
- (13) a person who holds any position of management; or
- (14) a person who has decision or policy making authority.

ACTUAL CONFLICT: This board member works for Plumas Rural Services, which is a vendor of FNRC.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLAN:

1. Dubois will not participate as a board member in any discussion, recommendations, action, or resolution of any complaints pertaining to Plumas Rural Services, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
2. Dubois will not use his position as a board member to exert influence on decision making regarding Plumas Rural Services, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
3. Dubois will not promote Plumas Rural Services to FNRC staff or consumers.
4. Dubois will not participate individually or as part of a group, in the preparation, presentation, formulation, or approval of reports, plans, policies, analyses, opinions, or recommendations pertaining to Plumas Rural Services, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
5. Dubois will not take part in any decisions regarding vendor appeals, or fair hearings involving Plumas Rural Services, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
6. Dubois will not access vendor files or any other information the regional center maintains about Plumas Rural Services, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
7. The Board of Directors' officers, with support from the remaining board members, shall be responsible for ensuring the conditions stated in the plan are applied and monitored.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Conflict Resolution Plan.

PREPARED BY: Michael R. Santiago, Legal Counsel – October, 2026

^{i i} W&I Code § 4626, subd. (I).

^{ii ii} California Code of Regulations, title 17, §54525. DDS' current regulations are published at California Code of Regulations, title 17, § 50201 et seq.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION PLAN APPROVAL REQUEST

NAME: Patricia McCarthy

REGIONAL CENTER: Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC)

REGIONAL CENTER POSITION: Board Member

REPORTING STATUS: Renewal

BACKGROUND:

Codified in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code sections 4500 et. Seq., the Lanterman Act requires Regional Centers to submit Conflict of Interest Reporting Statements and where applicable, a proposed Conflict Resolution Plan (Plan) to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council).ⁱ In the event of an identified conflict of interest, an individual must either eliminate the conflict of interest or obtain an approved Plan.ⁱⁱ The Council is being presented with information reviewed under the existing criteria and process approved by the Council. This approach provides for staff analysis of regional center conflict of interest issues.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

According to section 54520 of DDS' regulations, a conflict exists when the board member/executive director or a family member of a Regional Center board member/executive director holds any of the following positions for a provider:

- (1) a governing board member;
- (2) a board committee member;
- (3) a director;
- (4) an officer;
- (5) an owner;
- (6) a partner;
- (7) a shareholder;
- (8) a trustee;
- (9) an agent;
- (10) an employee;
- (11) a contractor;
- (12) a consultant;
- (13) a person who holds any position of management; or
- (14) a person who has decision or policy making authority.

ACTUAL CONFLICT: This board member has a family member who is employed by FNRC vendors.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLAN:

1. McCarthy will not participate as a board member in any discussion, recommendations, actions, or resolution of any complaints pertaining to Siskiyou County Opportunity Center, O2 Staffing, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
2. McCarthy will not use their position as a FNRC board member to exert influence on decision making regarding Siskiyou County Opportunity Center or O2 Staffing to FNRC staff or consumers.
3. McCarthy will not promote Siskiyou County Opportunity Center or O2 Staffing to FNRC staff or consumers.
4. McCarthy will not participate individually or as part of a group, in the preparation, presentation, formulations, or approval of reports, plans, policies, analyses, opinions, or recommendations pertaining to Siskiyou County Opportunity Center or O2 Staffing or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
5. McCarthy will not take part in any decisions regarding vendor appeals, or fair hearings involving Siskiyou County Opportunity Center or O2 Staffing or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
6. McCarthy will not access vendor files or any other information FNRC maintains about Siskiyou County Opportunity Center or O2 Staffing or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
7. The Board of Directors' officers, with support from the remaining board members, shall be responsible for ensuring the conditions stated in the plan are applied and monitored.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Conflict Resolution Plan.

PREPARED BY: Michael R. Santiago, Legal Counsel – October, 2026

^{i i} W&I Code § 4626, subd. (f).

^{ii ii} California Code of Regulations, title 17, §54525. DDS' current regulations are published at California Code of Regulations, title 17, § 50201 et seq.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION PLAN APPROVAL REQUEST

NAME: William Moore

REGIONAL CENTER: Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC)

REGIONAL CENTER POSITION: Board Member

REPORTING STATUS: Renewal

BACKGROUND:

Codified in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code sections 4500 et. Seq., the Lanterman Act requires Regional Centers to submit Conflict of Interest Reporting Statements and where applicable, a proposed Conflict Resolution Plan (Plan) to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council).ⁱ In the event of an identified conflict of interest, an individual must either eliminate the conflict of interest or obtain an approved Plan.ⁱⁱ The Council is being presented with information reviewed under the existing criteria and process approved by the Council. This approach provides for staff analysis of regional center conflict of interest issues.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

According to section 54520 of DDS' regulations, a conflict exists when the board member/executive director or a family member of a Regional Center board member/executive director holds any of the following positions for a provider:

- (1) a governing board member;
- (2) a board committee member;
- (3) a director;
- (4) an officer;
- (5) an owner;
- (6) a partner;
- (7) a shareholder;
- (8) a trustee;
- (9) an agent;
- (10) an employee;
- (11) a contractor;
- (12) a consultant;
- (13) a person who holds any position of management; or
- (14) a person who has decision or policy making authority.

ACTUAL CONFLICT: This board member works for We Care a Lot Foundation, and The Little Red Hen, both of which are vendors of FNRC.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLAN:

1. Moore will not participate as a board member in any discussion, recommendations, action, or resolution of any complaints pertaining to We Care a Lot Foundation, The Little Red Hen, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
2. Moore will not use his position as a board member to exert influence on decision making regarding We Care a Lot Foundation, The Little Red Hen, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
3. Moore will not promote the We Care a Lot Foundation or The Little Red Hen, to FNRC staff or consumers.
4. Moore will not participate individually or as part of a group, in the preparation, presentation, formulation, or approval of reports, plans, policies, analyses, opinions, or recommendations pertaining to We Care a Lot Foundation, The Little Red Hen, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
5. Moore will not take part in any decisions regarding vendor appeals, or fair hearings involving We Care a Lot Foundation, The Little Red Hen, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
6. Moore will not access vendor files or any other information the regional center maintains about We Care a Lot Foundation, The Little Red Hen, or any other vendor/competitor in the same services categories.
7. The Board of Directors' officers, with support from the remaining board members, shall be responsible for ensuring the conditions stated in the plan are applied and monitored.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Conflict Resolution Plan.

PREPARED BY: Michael R. Santiago, Legal Counsel – October, 2026

^{i i} W&I Code § 4626, subd. (f).

^{ii ii} California Code of Regulations, title 17, §54525. DDS' current regulations are published at California Code of Regulations, title 17, § 50201 et seq.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION PLAN APPROVAL REQUEST

NAME: Monica Soria

REGIONAL CENTER: Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC)

REGIONAL CENTER POSITION: Board Member

REPORTING STATUS: Renewal/Change Status

BACKGROUND:

Codified in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code sections 4500 et. Seq., the Lanterman Act requires Regional Centers to submit Conflict of Interest Reporting Statements and where applicable, a proposed Conflict Resolution Plan (Plan) to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council).ⁱ In the event of an identified conflict of interest, an individual must either eliminate the conflict of interest or obtain an approved Plan.ⁱⁱ The Council is being presented with information reviewed under the existing criteria and process approved by the Council. This approach provides for staff analysis of regional center conflict of interest issues.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

According to section 54520 of DDS' regulations, a conflict exists when the board member/executive director or a family member of a Regional Center board member/executive director holds any of the following positions for a provider:

- (1) a governing board member;
- (2) a board committee member;
- (3) a director;
- (4) an officer;
- (5) an owner;
- (6) a partner;
- (7) a shareholder;
- (8) a trustee;
- (9) an agent;
- (10) an employee;
- (11) a contractor;
- (12) a consultant;
- (13) a person who holds any position of management; or
- (14) a person who has decision or policy making authority.

ACTUAL CONFLICT: This board member is employed by a vendor, Wide Horizons, Inc., that is funded by VMRC. This vendor provides outreach, education, advocacy, resource navigation, and support to individuals with IDD, and their families.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION PLAN:

1. Soria will recuse herself and not take part in any discussions or actions relating to Wide Horizons, Inc.
2. Soria will recuse herself from any discussions or board actions that could potentially affect Wide Horizons, Inc.
3. Soria will recuse herself from any board discussions or action relating to any Adult Day Programs.
4. Soria will not discuss or promote Wide Horizons with others in her capacity as a VMRC board member.
5. The President of the Board of Directors will be responsible for ensuring the actions included in this plan are followed and monitored, and will ensure that matters relating to Wide Horizons, Inc. are not discussed with Soria either individually or during board meetings.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Conflict Resolution Plan.

PREPARED BY: Michael R. Santiago, Legal Counsel – October, 2026

^{i i} W&I Code § 4626, subd. (f).

^{ii ii} California Code of Regulations, title 17, §54525. DDS' current regulations are published at California Code of Regulations, title 17, § 50201 et seq.

OCTOBER 20, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 8.

ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

SCDD Budget Update

Chief Deputy Director Rihana Ahmad will provide Committee members with an update on the Council's budget.

The Committee will consider whether to use \$25,000 from the \$360,000 set aside from the External Contracts budget to fund a one-time increase in Sponsorships, raising the total from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Attachments

Budget Narrative

Budget Projections

Budget Display

Handout(s)

May be handouts the day of the meeting.

Actions Recommended

Approve a one-time increase to Sponsorship funding from \$25,000 to \$50,000.



SFY 2026-27 Budget Update

Key Takeaways:

- All expenditures and projected balances are as of August 31, 2026.
- Some program areas reflect modest spending given the early months of the fiscal year.
- Spending trends are, generally, consistent with spending rates this time last fiscal year.

Discussion:

The package before the Committee includes the first budget report for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026-27 expenditures through August 31, 2026, and a summary of program budget balances.

SFY 2026-27 Basic State Grant (BSG) Expenditures

The SFY 2026-27 BSG budget is \$8,176,000. Expenditures for the fiscal year, so far, total \$1,315,027. The budget balance is \$6,860,973, or 83.9 percent.

- Personal Services: Total expenditures to date (\$1,115,634) result in a remaining balance of \$5,309,366 (82.6 percent). As of September 1, 2026, there were 5 vacancies, we have several active recruitments.
- OE&E: Expenses under this category total \$199,393, with a remaining balance of \$1,580,611 (88.6 percent).
- Unexpended Funds and Council Reserve: The Council continues to maintain a reserve of approximately \$1.75 million and Council staff will continue to work as usual.

SFY 2026-27 Quality Assessment Project (QA) Reimbursements from DDS

Total QA funding available is \$4,513,000. Expenditures for the fiscal year, so far, total \$205,247. The budget balance is \$3,906,725, or 86.6 percent.

- Personal Services: Year-to-date expenditures of \$181,025 give us a remaining balance of \$2,223,679 (86.3 percent). There is 1 vacancy.
- OE&E: Year-to-date expenditures (\$24,222) give us a remaining balance of \$1,683,046 (87 percent).

SFY 2026-27 Rights Advocacy Program (RAP) Reimbursements from DDS

Total RAP funding available is \$1,660,000. Year-to-date expenditures are \$125,446 with a remaining balance of \$1,426,004 (85.9 percent).

- Personal Services: Expenditures to-date total \$214,375 and reflect a remaining balance of \$1,035,625 (82.9 percent). There is 1 vacancy.
- OE&E: Spending for this category totals \$17,743, with a remaining balance of \$390,379 (95.2 percent).

It's important to note that the QA and RAP programs are funded by reimbursement from DDS, and that SCDD is reimbursed for actual expenses. Any projected savings have no fiscal impact on other programs.

Special Projects and Reimbursements

Total program funding for Special Projects and Reimbursements is \$1,881,000. Programs include Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC), Supported Decision-making Technical Assistance Program (SDM-TAP), and Self-Determination Program (SDP).

Total funding available is \$1,881,000. Year-to-date expenditures are \$53,097 with a remaining balance of \$1,776,896 (94.5 percent).

- Personal Services: Expenditures to-date total \$42,336 and reflect a remaining balance of \$717,909 (89.5 percent). There is 1 vacancy.
- OE&E: Spending for this category totals \$10,760, with a remaining balance of \$1,058,987 (98.1 percent).

Special Education Parent Action Network

Total Special Education Parent Action Network funding available is \$2,400,000. There are no expenditures yet as we are in active recruitment to fill positions to administer the program.



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Council Report for State Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

As of September 1, 2026

Federal Grant	Annual Budget	Monthly Expenditures	Year-To Date Expenditures	Balance	Positions
Personal Services & Benefits	\$ 6,425,000	\$ 569,653	\$ 1,115,634	\$ 5,309,366	# Positions 51
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,751,000	\$ -	\$ 199,393	\$ 1,551,607	# Vacancies 5
Grants / Special Items	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 8,176,000	\$ -	\$ 1,315,027	\$ 6,860,973	Vacancy % 10%

Quality Assessment	Annual Budget	Monthly Expenditures	Year-To Date Expenditures	Balance	Positions
Personal Services & Benefits	\$ 2,578,000	\$ 181,025	\$ 354,321	\$ 2,223,679	# Positions 17
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,935,000	\$ -	\$ 251,954	\$ 1,683,046	# Vacancies 1
Total	\$ 4,513,000	\$ 181,025	\$ 606,275	\$ 3,906,725	Vacancy % 6%

Rights and Advocacy Program	Annual Budget	Monthly Expenditures	Year-To Date Expenditures	Balance	Positions
Personal Services & Benefits	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 107,703	\$ 214,375	\$ 1,035,625	# Positions 6
Operating Expenses	\$ 410,000	\$ -	\$ 19,621	\$ 390,379	# Vacancies 1
Total	\$ 1,660,000	\$ 107,703	\$ 233,996	\$ 1,426,004	Vacancy % 17%

Special Projects and Reimbursements	Annual Budget	Monthly Expenditures	Year-To Date Expenditures	Balance	Positions
Personal Services & Benefits	\$ 802,000	\$ 42,336	\$ 84,091	\$ 717,909	# Positions 6
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,079,000	\$ 10,760	\$ 20,013	\$ 1,058,987	# Vacancies 0
Grant Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 1,881,000	\$ 53,097	\$ 104,104	\$ 1,776,896	Vacancy % 0%



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Council Report for State Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

As of September 1, 2026

Special Education Parent Action Network	Annual Budget	Monthly Expenditures	Year-To Date Expenditures	Balance	Positions
Personal Services & Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	# Positions 0
Operating Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	# Vacancies 0
Grant Awards	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 2,400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400,000	Vacancy % 0%

Total	
# Positions	80
# Vacancies	7
Vacancy %	9%



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Council Report for State Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

As of September 1, 2026

Federal Grant	Budgeted Base	Current Month Expenditure	YTD Expenditure	Remaining Balance	Remaining Percentage
PERSONAL SERVICES (PS & PB)					
Salaries & Wages w/ Benefits	6,425,000	569,653	1,115,634	5,309,366	82.6%
OPERATING EXPENSE (OE&E)					
General Expense (Meeting/Conf/ Office Equip)	125,000	23,111	23,611	101,389	81.1%
Printing	31,000	-	-	31,000	100.0%
Communications	76,000	2,265	2,292	73,708	97.0%
Postage	6,000	-	-	6,000	100.0%
Travel-in-State	182,000	3,183	3,183	178,817	98.3%
Out-of-State Travel	7,000	-	-	7,000	100.0%
Training (Tuition and Registration)	25,000	-	-	25,000	100.0%
Facilities Operations (Rent)	633,000	45,251	102,202	530,798	83.9%
Facilities Plng/Maint. & Utilities	8,000	14	14	7,987	99.8%
Interdepartmental Services	100,000	-	-	100,000	100.0%
External Contract Services	360,000	3,250	3,250	356,750	99.1%
Information Technology (Computer, Software)	168,000	64,842	64,842	103,158	61.4%
Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP)	25,000	-	-	25,000	100.0%
Other Items of Expense	5,000	-	-	5,000	100.0%
Subtotal OE&E	1,751,000	141,915	199,393	1,551,607	88.6%
SPECIAL ITEM (PROGRAM 20)	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	8,176,000	711,568	1,315,027	6,860,973	83.9%

Quality Assessment	Budgeted Base	Current Month Expenditure	YTD Expenditure	Remaining Balance	Remaining Percentage
PERSONAL SERVICES (PS & PB)					
Salaries & Wages w/ Benefits	2,578,000	181,025	354,321	2,223,679	86.3%
OPERATING EXPENSE (OE&E)	-				
General Expense (Meeting/Conf/ Equipment)	25,000	-	-	25,000	100.0%
Printing	25,000	-	-	25,000	100.0%
Communications	73,000	670	670	72,330	99.1%
Postage	35,000	-	-	35,000	100.0%
Travel-in-State	40,000	366	366	39,634	99.1%
Training (Tuition and Registration)	10,000	-	-	10,000	100.0%
Facilities Operations (Rent)	266,000	19,349	38,697	227,303	85.5%
Facilities Plng/Maint. & Utilities	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interdepartmental Services	140,000	-	-	140,000	100.0%
External Contract Services	175,000	765	208,836	(33,836)	-19.3%
Data Processing (Software, Supplies & Misc.)	166,000	3,072	3,385	162,615	98.0%
Other Items/ Client Services	980,000	-	-	980,000	100.0%
Subtotal OE&E	1,935,000	24,222	251,954	1,683,046	87.0%
TOTAL	4,513,000	205,247	606,275	3,906,725	86.6%



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Council Report for State Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

As of September 1, 2026

Rights and Advocacy Program	Budgeted Base	Current Month Expenditure	YTD Expenditure	Remaining Balance	Remaining Percentage
PERSONAL SERVICES (PS & PB)					
Salaries & Wages w/ Benefits	1,250,000	107,703	214,375	1,035,625	82.9%
OPERATING EXPENSE (OE&E)					
General Expense (Meeting/Conf/ Equipment)	5,000	-	-	5,000	100.0%
Printing	9,000	-	-	9,000	100.0%
Communications	10,000	307	307	9,693	96.9%
Postage	1,000	-	-	1,000	100.0%
Travel-in-State	32,000	803	803	31,197	97.5%
Training (Tuition and Registration)	15,000	-	-	15,000	100.0%
Facilities Operations (Rent)	24,000	1,878	3,757	20,243	84.3%
Interdepartmental Services	134,000	-	-	134,000	100.0%
External Contract Services	3,000	-	-	3,000	100.0%
Data Processing (Software, Supplies & Misc.)	45,000	1,902	1,902	43,098	95.8%
Other Items/ Client Services	132,000	12,853	12,853	119,148	90.3%
Subtotal OE&E	410,000	17,743	19,621	390,379	95.2%
TOTAL	1,660,000	125,446	233,996	1,426,004	85.9%

Special Projects and Reimbursements	Budgeted Base	Current Month Expenditure	YTD Expenditure	Remaining Balance	Remaining Percentage
PERSONAL SERVICES (PS & PB)					
Salaries & Wages w/ Benefits	802,000	42,336	84,091	717,909	89.5%
OPERATING EXPENSE (OE&E)					
General Expense (Meeting/Conf/ Equipment)	13,000	-	-	13,000	100.0%
Printing	5,000	-	-	5,000	100.0%
Communications	9,000	-	-	9,000	100.0%
Postage	5,000	-	-	5,000	100.0%
Travel-in-State	17,000	1,738	1,738	15,262	89.8%
Training (Tuition and Registration)	3,000	-	-	3,000	100.0%
Facilities Operations (Rent)	17,000	1,252	2,504	14,496	85.3%
Facilities Plng/Maint. & Utilities	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interdepartmental Services	757,000	-	-	757,000	100.0%
External Contract Services	172,000	7,050	15,050	156,950	91.3%
Data Processing (Software, Supplies & Misc.)	66,000	720	720	65,280	98.9%
Other Items/ Client Services	15,000	-	-	15,000	100.0%
Subtotal OE&E	1,079,000	10,760	20,013	1,058,987	98.1%
Grant Awards	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	1,881,000	53,097	104,104	1,776,896	94.5%



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Council Report for State Fiscal Year 2026 - 2027

As of September 1, 2026

Special Education Parent Action Network	Budgeted Base	Current Month Expenditure	YTD Expenditure	Remaining Balance	Remaining Percentage
PERSONAL SERVICES (PS & PB)					
Salaries & Wages w/ Benefits	-	-	-	-	0.0%
OPERATING EXPENSE (OE&E)					
General Expense (Meeting/Conf/ Equipment)	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Printing	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Communications	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Postage	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Travel-in-State	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Training (Tuition and Registration)	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Facilities Operations (Rent)	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Facilities Plng/Maint. & Utilities	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Interdepartmental Services	-	-	-	-	0.0%
External Contract Services	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Data Processing (Software, Supplies & Misc.)	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Other Items/ Client Services	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Subtotal OE&E	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Grant Awards	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	2,400,000	-	-	-	0.0%



State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Fiscal Year 2026-27 Council Budget
July 2026

	Council Budget	Department Budget - Other Programs				
Categories	*Basic State Grant	Quality Assessment	Rights and Advocacy Program	Special Projects and Reimbursements	Special Education Parent Action Network	TOTAL
	Federal Grant	State Contract	State Contract	State Contract	General Fund	
1. Personal Services:						
Net Salaries & Wages	\$ 4,349,182	\$ 1,674,000	\$ 833,000	\$ 511,000		\$ 7,367,182
Temporary Help / Honorarium	\$ 106,223	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 106,223
Staff Benefits	\$ 2,588,590	\$ 904,000	\$ 417,000	\$ 291,000		\$ 4,200,590
Less 9% Salary Savings from Vacancies	\$ (618,845)					\$ (618,845)
Total Personal Services	\$ 6,425,000	\$ 2,578,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 802,000	\$ -	\$ 11,055,000
2. Operating Expense and Equipment:						
General Expense	\$ 125,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 13,000	\$ -	\$ 168,000
Printing	\$ 31,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 70,000
Communications	\$ 76,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -	\$ 168,000
Postage	\$ 6,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 47,000
Travel-in-State :	\$ 182,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 17,000		\$ 271,000
Out-of-State Travel	\$ 7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,000
Training	\$ 25,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 53,000
Facilities Operations (Rent)	\$ 633,000	\$ 266,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 17,000	\$ -	\$ 940,000
Utilities	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000
Interdepartmental Services	\$ 100,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 134,000	\$ 757,000	\$ -	\$ 1,131,000
External Contract Services	\$ 360,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 172,000		\$ 710,000
Information Technology	\$ 168,000	\$ 166,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 66,000	\$ -	\$ 445,000
Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP)	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Other Items of Expense	\$ 5,000	\$ 980,000	\$ 132,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ 1,132,000
Total Operating Expense and Equipment	\$ 1,751,000	\$ 1,935,000	\$ 410,000	\$ 1,079,000	\$ -	\$ 5,175,000
3. Community Grants / Other Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4. Total SCDD Budget by Source	\$ 8,176,000	\$ 4,513,000	\$ 1,660,000	\$ 1,881,000	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 18,630,000
5. Total Basic State Grant Award	\$ 8,032,000					
6. Difference between Total Council Budget and Basic State Grant Award	\$ (144,000)					
*Footnotes						
3 Month Reserve	\$ 1,750,000					
Estimated Unexpended Funds Available	\$ 169,000					

OCTOBER 20, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 9.

ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sponsorship Requests

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities allocates \$25,000 a year to support events that promote self-advocacy, leadership, and education. These sponsorships help people with developmental disabilities and their family members expand their knowledge and skills.

To date, the Council has expended \$14,779.83 on sponsorships, with \$10,220.17 remaining. Chief Deputy Director Rihana Ahmad will present the following four sponsorship requests for the Committee's consideration.

- A. Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County
- B. PathPoint
- C. Special Needs in My City
- D. Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego.

To assist the Executive Committee in making funding decisions, members will receive a detailed sheet that outlines the event, indicates any prior Council funding, identifies the relevant State Plan Goal(s), and includes any other pertinent information.

The Council has enough funds to award the four sponsorships. Following the presentation, the Committee will vote on whether to approve the sponsorship requests.

Attachments

Staff analysis detail sheets for Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County, PathPoint, Special Needs in My City, and Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego. Sponsorship Summary Chart.

Actions Recommended

Approve the sponsorship requests.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SPONSORSHIP DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2,500.00

BACKGROUND:

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities allocates \$25,000 each fiscal year to support events that promote self-advocacy, leadership and education so people with developmental disabilities and their family members can increase their knowledge and skills.

Organizations can request up to \$2,500 per event. Priority is given to events that are free or low-cost for consumers and families, or that feature them as speakers or panelists.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County (ESNOC) is requesting sponsorship for its Talk to the Doc event, scheduled for Friday, November 13, at the Rady Children's Health Hospital.

ESNOC is a patient advocacy organization that serves individuals and families affected by epilepsy and intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) through education, specialized medical referrals, resources, and community support.

The event aims to close the gap between individuals living with epilepsy and I/DD and the specialized care they require by bringing specialists from comprehensive Level IV epilepsy centers into a low-pressure community-based environment.

Held each November during Epilepsy Awareness Month and the health insurance open enrollment period, the event is timed to help families evaluate coverage and provider options for the coming year. The evening is planned to open with a light dinner and networking, followed by a one-hour panel on three topics selected by the participating centers' medical directors and an interactive question and answer session.

A component for teens and young adults transitioning from pediatric to adult care is anticipated to let participants practice self-advocacy and

connect with adult providers. The event will be conducted in English and Spanish.

Following the attendance of 251 participants at the 2025 event, organizers anticipate 250+ this year. Participants are expected to include newly diagnosed individuals, Spanish-speaking families, low-income households, individuals preparing to change insurance plans or providers, case carriers, nonprofit organizations, and family advocates.

More than 20 medical professionals are expected to participate as presenters and panelists, representing epilepsy specialties across three Orange County hospitals. Thirty have been invited and sixteen are confirmed to date.

SCDD sponsorship funds would support the translation, design, and printing of Spanish-language educational and event materials, as well as the setup of an accessible stage.

Other sponsors and contributors are expected to include UCB Pharma, Xenon, SK, Neuropace, Hoag, and Rady Children's Health.

This is Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County's first SCDD sponsorship request.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE:

Objective 3.2 – The Council will engage in 150 projects and events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety, and/or emerging issues, reaching 45,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with information and resources to enhance their knowledge and increase their capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY:

The Council allocates \$25,000 per fiscal year for sponsorships. Since the fiscal year began on July 1, 2026, the Council has awarded \$14,779.83 in sponsorship funds, leaving a remaining balance of \$10,220.17.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the sponsorship request.

PREPARED: Austin Murphy, September 10, 2026

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SPONSORSHIP DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: PathPoint

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2,500.00

BACKGROUND:

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities allocates \$25,000 each fiscal year to support events that promote self-advocacy, leadership and education so people with developmental disabilities and their family members can increase their knowledge and skills.

Organizations can request up to \$2,500 per event. Priority is given to events that are free or low-cost for consumers and families, or that feature them as speakers or panelists.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

PathPoint is requesting sponsorship for The In's & Outs of Informed Decision Making conference, scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2026 in Santa Maria.

PathPoint is a nonprofit service provider that supports children, adults, and families across Southern California in building life skills, accessing support systems, and developing meaningful relationships.

The conference aims to give individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their support networks real-time opportunities to discuss and problem-solve around informed decision making, personal and digital safety, healthy relationships and sexual and body awareness, emergency preparedness, the HCBS Final Rule, and Choice.

Programming will address balancing dignity of risk with the level and type of support individuals need when pursuing intimate relationships. Additional topics are expected to include supported decision-making, alternatives to conservatorship, voting access, parenting with a disability, mental health supports, and the Self-Determination Program. The conference will also highlight the local advocacy history of People First-SLO and the Coalition on Healthy Relationships and Sexuality.

The event is expected to feature five panelists and moderators, at least five presenters, and a DJ who is a person served. A workgroup of TCRC staff, peer advocates, individuals served, service providers, and community partners will support outreach and engagement.

The event anticipates more than 200 attendees, including families and individuals supported by TCRC, service providers, community partner agencies, and legislative representatives within the Santa Maria catchment area. 25-50% of attendees are expected to be individuals served.

SCDD sponsorship funds would support stipends for speakers and panelists, event supplies, and assistive care services.

TCRC received SCDD sponsorship for a conference in June of this year.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE:

Objective 3.2 – The Council will engage in 150 projects and events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety, and/or emerging issues, reaching 45,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with information and resources to enhance their knowledge and increase their capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY:

The Council allocates \$25,000 per fiscal year for sponsorships. Since the fiscal year began on July 1, 2026, the Council has awarded \$14,779.83 in sponsorship funds, leaving a remaining balance of \$10,220.17.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the sponsorship request.

PREPARED: Austin Murphy, September 24, 2026

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SPONSORSHIP DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: Special Needs In My City

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2,500.00

BACKGROUND:

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities allocates \$25,000 each fiscal year to support events that promote self-advocacy, leadership and education so people with developmental disabilities and their family members can increase their knowledge and skills.

Organizations can request up to \$2,500 per event. Priority is given to events that are free or low-cost for consumers and families, or that feature them as speakers or panelists.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

Special Needs In My City (SNIMC) is requesting sponsorship for its 8th Annual Health and Wellness Conference, scheduled for Saturday, November 14, 2026, in Modesto.

SNIMC is an organization that serves individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families in Stanislaus County. The conference aims to give consumers, families, and the professionals who support them practical knowledge, resources, and tools that promote health, independence, and informed decision-making, with sessions addressing regional center services, transportation, wellness, employment, and technology.

This year's program is anticipated to focus on helping families understand how their children's disabilities affect learning, drawing on experts in education, psychiatry, and clinical psychology. Featured sessions are expected to include effective prompting using artificial intelligence and parent-led group discussions on building circles of support.

The conference expects 100 to 110 in-person attendees and approximately 500 livestream participants across Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Merced, and Alameda counties. Of in-person attendees, roughly 70% are expected to be parents, 14% consumers, 8% educators and specialists, and 8% special needs leaders.

Four to five presenters and nine panelists are expected to participate, including 10 to 12 consumers and self-advocates. Self-advocates are planned to open the conference and take on additional responsibilities based on their comfort and skill level, and panels of parents and self-advocates are anticipated to share experiences with advocacy and the use of artificial intelligence tools.

SCDD sponsorship would support livestream services, Spanish interpretation, speaker fees, and print and social media advertising.

Other potential sponsors, such as local government, regional service providers, community organizations, businesses, and private donors, are expected to cover the remaining event costs, with combined contributions not to exceed the total cost of the event.

Special Needs In My City received SCDD sponsorships in 2021 and 2025 for its Health and Wellness Conference.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE:

Objective 3.2 – The Council will engage in 150 projects and events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety, and/or emerging issues, reaching 45,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with information and resources to enhance their knowledge and increase their capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY:

The Council allocates \$25,000 per fiscal year for sponsorships. Since the fiscal year began on July 1, 2026, the Council has awarded \$14,779.83 in sponsorship funds, leaving a remaining balance of \$10,220.17.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the sponsorship request.

PREPARED: Austin Murphy, September 14, 2026

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SPONSORSHIP DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$2,500.00

BACKGROUND:

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities allocates \$25,000 each fiscal year to support events that promote self-advocacy, leadership and education so people with developmental disabilities and their family members can increase their knowledge and skills.

Organizations can request up to \$2,500 per event. Priority is given to events that are free or low-cost for consumers and families, or that feature them as speakers or panelists.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego (SNRFSD) is requesting sponsorship for its Winter Carnival and Resource Village, scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 2026, at the Park de la Cruz Community Recreation Center in San Diego.

SNRFSD is a nonprofit organization that connects families and individuals with disabilities to resources, services, and opportunities while encouraging an inclusive community and enhancing quality of life.

The event aims to connect families seeking support with advocates and service providers in one accessible setting. The Resource Village is expected to feature approximately 40 booths where parents can receive personalized information about their child's diagnosis, learn about available resources, and have questions answered directly by professionals. Craft and activity stations are planned throughout the fair so that children have opportunities to take part while parents and caregivers speak with providers.

The City of San Diego's Therapeutic Recreation Services is planned to coordinate the activity areas, which plan to include a snow play area, petting zoo, holiday crafts and card making, lawn games, face painting, and a photo opportunity with Santa. The venue also offers specialized recreation programs for children, teens, or adults with I/DD.

The event is free and anticipates around 1,000 attendees, including parents, caregivers, families, and children, along with roughly 60 to 80 community resource professionals staffing the vendor booths. The primary audience is families raising children with special needs, and the event is open to the entire community. The event does not include presenters or panelists.

SCDD sponsorship would support the costs of advertising, marketing, and event promotion.

Additional solicited sponsors include First 5 San Diego, SUNDT, Sycuan, and the San Diego Downtown Lions Club.

SNRFSD received SCDD sponsorships for two of their events in 2026.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE:

Objective 3.2 – The Council will engage in 150 projects and events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety, and/or emerging issues, reaching 45,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with information and resources to enhance their knowledge and increase their capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY:

The Council allocates \$25,000 per fiscal year for sponsorships. Since the fiscal year began on July 1, 2026, the Council has awarded \$14,779.83 in sponsorship funds, leaving a remaining balance of \$10,220.17.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the sponsorship request.

PREPARED: Austin Murphy, September 25, 2026

Sponsorship Summary Chart

Applicant	Event	Date of Event	\$ Requested	SCDD Funds For:	Total Budget	State Plan Goal & Objective	#/Type of Attendees	Event Details:
Epilepsy Support Network of Orange County	Talk to the Doc	11/13/2026	\$2,500	Stage/setup for medical panel and Spanish translation, design & printing	\$46,153	3.2	Anticipates ~250 Targeted audience is newly diagnosed individuals, Spanish-speaking families, and low-income households, along with case carriers, other nonprofits, and family member advocates.	Details: Annual event held during Epilepsy Awareness Month and the health insurance open enrollment period, bringing specialists from comprehensive Level IV epilepsy centers into a community-based setting. Conducted in English Spanish. The evening opens with informal networking, followed by a one-hour expert panel on three topics selected by the medical directors of the participating centers, then an interactive Q&A. Highlights: - 20+ medical professionals as presenters and panelists; 16 confirmed of 30 invited - Specialists from three Orange County hospitals across epileptology, neurosurgery, sleep medicine, neuropsychology, and advanced practice nursing - Dedicated component for teens and young adults transitioning from pediatric to adult care - Spanish-language materials and bilingual programming - Six other confirmed sponsors including UCB Pharma, Neuronpace, Hoag, and CHOC/Rady Children's Health Goals: - Connect individuals with epilepsy and I/DD to specialists ahead of insurance and provider decisions - Reduce language barriers for Spanish-speaking families - Build self-advocacy skills among teens and young adults preparing for adult care - Provide current, evidence-based information on epilepsy treatment options
Special Needs In My City	8th Annual Health and Wellness Conference	11/14/2026	\$2,500	Livestream services, Spanish interpretation, speaker fees, and print & social media advertising	\$24,200	3.2	Anticipates 100-110+ in person & ~500 watching the livestream. Approximately 70% parents, 14% consumers, 8% educators and specialists, and 8% special needs leaders. Also therapists, community leaders, regional center and provider staff, and local physicians.	Details: Hybrid conference giving individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and supporting professionals practical knowledge, resources, and tools that promote health, independence, and informed decision-making. Sessions address regional center services, transportation, wellness, employment, and technology. Livestream extends reach to Stanislaus, Joaquin, Merced, and Alameda counties. Highlights: - 4-5 presenters and 9 panelists, including 10-12 consumers and self-advocates - Self-advocates open the conference and take on expanding roles by comfort and skill level - Featured session on effective prompting using artificial intelligence - Parent-led group discussions on building circles of support - Panels of parents and self-advocates on advocacy and AI tools - Spanish interpretation provided Goals: - Give consumers and families the tools to make informed choices about services and supports - Help families understand how their children's disabilities affect learning - Extend access across four counties through livestream - Position self-advocates as leaders and contributors rather than attendees
PathPoint	The In's & Outs of Informed Decision Making	11/3/2026	\$2,500	Stipends for panelists, and breakout presenter; childcare for caregivers and persons served; and supplies	\$12,500	3.2	Anticipates 200+. Families and individuals supported by Tri-Counties Regional Center, service providers, community partner agencies, and legislative representatives in the Santa Maria catchment area. Five panelists and moderators, at least five presenters, and a DJ who is a person served.	Details: Full-day conference at the Veterans' Memorial Community Center in Santa Maria, giving individuals with I/DD and their networks real-time opportunities to discuss and problem-solve around informed decision making, personal and digital skills, healthy relationships and sexual/body awareness, emergency preparedness, the HCBS Final Rule, and choice. Highlights: - Panel discussions featuring individuals sharing lived experience - Topics include supported decision making, alternatives to conservatorship, voting education and access, inter-abled relationships, parenting with a disability, and the Self-Determination Program - Get Safe training resources and mental health supports for families and individuals - Highlights local advocacy history of People First-SLO and COHRS - Childcare provided for caregivers and persons served - Outreach workgroup of TCRC-supported individuals, TCRC Peer Advocates, Service Access Equity team, providers, and community partners Goals: - Balance dignity of risk against the supports individuals need to pursue intimate relationships - Build understanding of informed and supported decision making - Connect families and providers across the Santa Maria catchment area - Support individuals to live lives of their own choosing with greater autonomy
Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego	Winter Carnival & Resource Village	12/5/2026	\$2,500	Advertising and promotion: half-page ad in San Diego Family Magazine, 2 newsletter blasts, 2 web ads	\$11,350	3.2	Anticipates ~1,000 attendees Including parents, caregivers, families, and children, plus roughly 60-80 community resource professionals staffing booths. The primary audience are families raising children with I/DD. Approximately 40 vendor booths, mostly nonprofit service providers with some for-profit vendors. No presenters or panelists.	Details: Free community event at Park de la Cruz Community Recreation Center, San Diego, combining a winter carnival with village. Roughly 40 booths where parents can get personalized information about their child's diagnosis and ask providers questions directly. Co-organized with the City of San Diego's Therapeutic Recreation Services. New event for the fourth year. Highlights: - ~40 resource booths as a one-stop hub for local services - Craft and activity stations so children are engaged while parents speak with providers - Winter Fun Area with snow play, petting zoo, crafts, lawn games, face painting, photos with Santa - Venue is the city's Therapeutic Recreation Services site, used for specialized recreation programs for children, teens, and adults with disabilities - Vendor networking intended to build referral partnerships between providers - Promotion via San Diego Family Magazine, Flourishing Families resource guide, TRS channels Goals: - Connect families with local resources, services, and opportunities - Identify unmet needs and strengthen connections to services - Encourage an inclusive community and enhance quality of life - Give families a free, accessible holiday event designed for their children
TOTAL REQUESTED			\$10,000					

FY 2026-27 SPONSORSHIP FUNDS		
Annual allocation	\$25,000.00	
Awarded since July 1, 2026	\$15,167.00	
Less: CLC Sponsorship Unused Funds	(\$387.17)	Granted \$2,500.00, invoiced \$2,112.83. Difference returned to available funds.
Net awarded to date	\$14,779.83	
Remaining available	\$10,220.17	
Requested (4 requests)	\$10,000.00	
Balance if all four approved	\$220.17	

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**AGENDA ITEM 10.
INFORMATION ITEM**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Executive Director Report

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will update Committee members on recent Council activities and upcoming goals.

Handout

Executive Director Report

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**AGENDA ITEM 11.
INFORMATION ITEM**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Year-End Discussion

Executive Committee Chair Harold Ashe and Committee members will engage in an end-of-year discussion to reflect on accomplishments from the past year and express priorities and goals for the coming year as the Committee concludes its work.

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**AGENDA ITEM 12.
INFORMATION ITEM**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be in February 2027.