



San Diego Regional Center
4355 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123
858-576-2996 / www.sdrc.org

Serving individuals with developmental disabilities in San Diego and Imperial Counties

**Board of Directors
ANNUAL MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025
Town and Country Resort, San Diego**

AGENDA

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting	Pacific D
11:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Pacific E
12:00 p.m.	Luncheon	Pacific A
12:45 p.m.	Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors	Pacific A
	Board Chair's Remarks	<i>David Hadacek</i>
	Vendor Advisory Committee Chair's Remarks	<i>Wendy Forkas</i>
	Executive Director's Remarks	<i>Mark Klaus</i>
	Presentation: Forward, Together	
	Pete Cervinka, Director Department of Developmental Services	
	Board of Directors Elections Report Re-elected Members Newly Elected Members Vendor Representative Board Officers for 2025	<i>David Hadacek</i>
	Recognition of Outgoing Directors Shirley Nakawatase Timothy Riemann Angela Yates	
2:15 p.m.	Adjourn	<i>David Hadacek</i>

*Our mission is to serve and empower persons with developmental disabilities
and their families to achieve their goals with community partners.*



ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS

RESTROOMS

ELEVATOR

ADA PARKING

FIRE PIT

HYDRATION STATION

ICE

ENTER BACK PARKING LOT

FASHION VALLEY ROAD

LOOK OUT POINT

PACIFIC BALLROOM A - E

PACIFIC ROOMS F - I

SUNSET PATIO

SUNSET ROOMS 1 - 3

PACIFIC FOYER

FLAMINGO LAWN

LAPPER LAWN

LAPPER & LAP IT UP

PALM ROOMS 1 - 8

PALM LAWN

MARTINI LAWN

ARLO

THE MRKT

MAIN PARKING STRUCTURE

TOWN AND COUNTRY FOYER

TOWN AND COUNTRY BALLROOM A - D

GOLDEN STATE BOARD ROOM

GOLDEN STATE FOYER

GOLDEN STATE BALLROOM

LOADING DOCK

ADA LIFT

GARAGE BUSINESS CENTER LEVEL

FLOOR 1 - 10

PARKING

PALM TOWER Rooms 1000-1933

TWISTER WATERSLIDE

TOWER LAWN

CHILDREN'S POOL

MAIN POOL & HOT TUB

SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT

MARCO POLO UPPER: 3547-3580 LOWER: 3506-3540

REGENCY POOL

9TH FLOOR

SKYVIEW MEETING ROOMS

FITNESS CENTER

REGENCY TOWER Rooms 2100-2831

UPPER 3542-3546

LOWER 3501-3505

HAPPY CAMPER ROOMS Rooms 3400-3462

HAPPY CAMPER ROOMS Rooms 3735-3789

MONKEY BAR

LOBBY

AVIS Car Rental Budget

Town and Country

RESORT MAP

HOTEL CIRCLE NORTH - MAIN ENTRANCE



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MEETING NOTICE
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

Town and Country Resort
500 Hotel Circle N, San Diego, CA 92108

AGENDA

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------|
| 1. | Call to Order/Announcements | David Hadacek |
| 2. | Public Input | |
| 3. | Approval of the Minutes
– November 12, 2024, Board Meeting (Action Item) | David Hadacek |
| 4. | Chair’s Report | David Hadacek |
| 5. | Executive Director’s Report | Mark Klaus |
| 6. | Nominating and Bylaws Committee Report
– Reelection of Corporate Directors (Action Item)
– Election of Corporate Directors (Action Item)
– Election of Corporate Officers (Action Item)
– Results of the Election for Vendor Representative and
Chair of the Vendor Advisory Committee (Information) | Virginia Bayer |
| 7. | Mission Moments | |
| 8. | Adjourn | |

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on
Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. in the SDRC Boardroom

*Our mission is to serve and empower persons with developmental disabilities
and their families to achieve their goals with community partners.*

Components of an Ideal Board Meeting

	Everyone stays engaged for the entirety of the meeting.
	Includes an interesting and understandable educational presentation.
	Open and honest communication.
	People ask clarifying questions.
	Tough topics are addressed.
	An in-depth Executive Director's report is given.
	There are discussions about how to benefit the lives of clients.
	Large attendance by board members.
	People leave the meeting with enthusiasm and empowerment, feeling like they made a difference.
	There is a good sound system and people understand each other.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 12, 2024
Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Virginia Bayer, Tessie Bradshaw, Terri Colachis, Elmo Dill, Wendy Forkas, David Hadacek, Chris Hodge, Norma Ramos, Julie Randolph, Erik Rascon, Timothy Riemann, Kimberly Rucker, Matthew Storey, Mark Uyeda, and Angela Yates

DIRECTORS ABSENT: James Gonzalez, Shirley Nakawatase, and Laura Oakes

STAFF PRESENT: Frances Almario, Robin Bello, Bernadette Boren, Kathy Cattell, Ian Ferguson, Sarah Franco, Rafael Gaucin, Joab Gonzalez, Jose Gonzalez, Celeste Graham, Zach Guzik, Maria Hanks, Rachel Hefler, Saralynn Keenan, Mark Klaus, Miguel Larios, Christine Lux-Whiting, Dulce Morin, Seth Mader, Gabriella Ohmstede, Erik Peterson, Christo Rose, Viri Salgado, Jennifer Sanchez, Bonnie Sebright, Liz Serna, Johanna Stafford, Pamela Starmack, Kimberly Steitz, David Webb-Rex, and Brandon Zuniga

GUESTS PRESENT: Lamis Aboulhosn, Tamim Amini, Patricia Barber, Paige Bartholomew, Lorie Brown, Linda Burritt, Matthan Camacho, Viviana Camacho, William Camacho, Laura Castillo, Canella Cavada, Pam Cline, Julia Cousins, Tanya Escobedo, Jessica Farber, John Filley, Veronica Garcia, Carli Gastineau, Brenda Gonzalez, Rachel Grondin-Martinez, Caroline Guiriba, Ciara Guiriba, Gohar Gyurjyan, Zach Hill, Myles Horttor, Don Howard, Lisa Hwang, Melinda Jackson, Yeongji Jo, Hans Kulberg, Janet Latz, Michael Latz, Marcie Laws, Manmeet Litt, Jessie Martinez Leiva, Sandra Rocco Melville, Esther Merki, Greta Meyer, Norma Miranda, Blanca Morales, Karen Moyer, Max Navas, Gina Parra, Linda Pereyra, Ricky Pereyra, Edwin Pineda, Yesica Ramirez, Wanda Refaely, Rene Rodriguez, Janis Russell, Beba Saba, Peter Salgado, Joan Walker Scott, Sherlisa Steele, Michelle Stone, Mike Suckiel, Angela Tilley, Maria Tobar, Valerie Truong, Mayra Vides, Guadalupe Villanueva, Gary Walker, Sandra Weber, Sandra Whang, Becky Williams, and Cali Williams

1. **Call to Order**
David Hadacek, Chair, Board of Directors, welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.
2. **Mission Moment**
Pamela Starmack, San Diego Regional Center (SDRC) Director of Marketing and Communications, introduced a video featuring an SDRC client, Matthan Camacho, and his family sharing their positive experience with SDRC and the support they receive through the Self-Determination Program.
3. **National Core Indicator Data Report**
Kimberly Steitz, SDRC Director of Client Services, Robin Bello, SDRC Assistant Director, and Zach Guzik, SDRC Assistant Director, presented information from the National Core Indicator FY 2022-2023 Survey Data results. Public input was requested and may be submitted through December 6, 2024.
4. **Performance Contract Year End Report**
Kate Kinnamont, SDRC Associate Executive Director, presented data from the FY 2023-2024

Performance Contract Year-End Report and reviewed the objectives and outcomes. Public input may be submitted through December 12, 2024.

5. **Public Input**

Joan Walker Scott, parent of an SDRC client, commented that all clients should have an individualized program plan (IPP) and be aware of the need for one, as it drives all services received through SDRC.

Rene Rodriguez, an SDRC client, commented that he had helped develop the NCI survey.

Erik Rascon, SDRC Board Director, announced an art gala in El Centro on November 14, 2024.

Lorie Brown, parent of an SDRC client, expressed concern that in the six years the SDRC has served her son, he has had eight service coordinators. She states that the change in staff has delayed her son's progress toward his goals, including receiving dental care. She would like to know what SDRC is doing to retain staff and provide consistency to its clients.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Hadacek referred the Directors to the draft minutes of the October 8, 2024, Board of Directors meeting and asked for approval.

MOTION: M/S/C that the Minutes of the October 8, 2024, Board of Directors meeting are approved as submitted.

7. **Chair's Report**

Mr. Hadacek reported attending one day of the Tribal Symposium held at the Pala Resort on October 9 and 10. Mr. Hadacek said it was a very informative and educational event and thanked fellow Board Directors Tessie Bradshaw and Norma Ramos for attending.

Mr. Hadacek announced that the Board will meet on April 8, 2025, in Imperial County at the SDRC El Centro offices.

The Board is planning a retreat. Mr. Hadacek and Ms. Bradshaw are on the planning committee, and Mr. Hadacek invited other Board Directors to join the committee.

Mr. Hadacek reminded Board Directors that the SDRC Board of Directors Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 21, 2025, at the Town and Country Resort.

8. **Executive Director's Report**

Mark Klaus reported that by the end of October 2024, the total SDRC caseload had grown to 44,124, an increase of 1,195 since July 1, 2024.

Mr. Klaus referred Board members to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) response to SDRC's Board composition survey. DDS acknowledged SDRC's commitment to board composition in meeting the requirements of geographic, racial, ethnic, and disability representation.

El Arc of California will host the Latino Disability Leadership Summit at the SDRC offices on December 5th and 6th. Mr. Klaus thanked Norma Ramos and Tessie Bradshaw, who will represent the

Board at the summit.

Mr. Klaus recognized Francis Almario, Bernadette Boren, and Juan Gonzalez, Jr. as Employees of Distinction.

Mr. Klaus referred Board Directors to the draft Delegated Conservatorship Guidelines to mitigate conflicts of interest.

MOTION: M/S/C to approve the Delegated Conservatorship Guidelines.

9. **Finance Committee Report**

Treasurer Matthew Storey reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the proposed service provider contracts and recommended that the Board approve all nine (9) contracts.

MOTION: (Forkas abstained) M/S/C to approve the contracts for services with H59119 Blessed Home Care; PY1643 Community Interface Services; PY3543 Community Interface Services; HQ0119 First Choice Transportation; HQ1133 Home of Guiding Hands (HGH) Transportation; HQ1845 Open Arms Voc Serv Inc.; HQ1581 Pride Industries; HQ0887 Rancho Bernardo Day Program (RBDP); and HQ1338 TG Transportation.

10. **Association of Regional Center Agencies Update**

Terri Colachis thanked Virginia Bayer and Norma Ramos for attending the last Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) meeting held on October 17, 2024, in San Diego.

Ms. Colachis reported that about 1,000 individuals across the state still have sub-minimum wage jobs. All of these clients have transition plans to move to minimum-wage employment by the end of the year.

Ms. Colachis stated that SDRC has the highest number of individuals enrolled in the Self-Determination Program statewide, with 711 participants. The Self-Determination Program has grown by 30% statewide.

ARCA is focusing on creating sustainable regional center operations funding, service provider rate reform, and consistency in service provision across regional centers.

11. **Legislation Committee Report**

Mr. Hadacek reported on behalf of Norma Ramos. Tony Anderson, Associate Executive Director of ARCA, presented information on legislative outcomes of the past year.

Mr. Hadacek reported that the ARCA Grassroots Day will be scheduled for late March or early April 2025.

12. **Vendor Advisory Committee Report**

Ms. Forkas stated that service providers are focused on the final rates from the service provider rate models that will go into effect on January 1, 2025.

The next meeting of the Vendor Advisory Committee is scheduled for November 21, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

13. **Nominating and Bylaws Committee Report**

Virginia Bayer reported that the Nominating and Bylaws Committee met on October 8, 2024, and interviewed two Board applicants.

The committee members reviewed the candidate slates for the upcoming Board election. The Nominating and Bylaws Committee will nominate returning Board members Pamela Ehlers and Yasuko Mason and new Board members Taylor Wiesner and Cali Williams for election to the Board for one-year terms. The committee will recommend that the Board reelect Tessie Bradshaw, Elmo Dill, and Laura Oakes for three-year terms. The committee has approved the following slate of officers for the January 2025 elections: David Hadacek as Board Chair, Tessie Bradshaw for Vice Chair, Virginia Bayer for Secretary, Matthew Storey for Treasurer, Terri Colachis for ARCA Representative, Norma Ramos for immediate past chair, and Chris Hodge as member at large.

14. **Personnel Committee Report**

Julie Randolph reported on behalf of Laura Oakes that the SDRC currently has 946 employees.

Ms. Randolph stated that Proposition 32 appears too close to call yet. If passed, it would increase the state minimum wage.

15. **Client Advisory Committee Report**

Erik Rascon reported that the Imperial People's First is still selecting officers.

Mr. Rascon reported that the Client Advisory Committee continues to work on its website page for the new SDRC website, which will launch in 2025.

16. **Mission Moments**

Chris Hodge remarked that he and his family, including his son, served by the SDRC, spent the last two weeks in Japan. Mr. Hodge stated that it was very encouraging to see that the hotel they stayed in employed individuals with developmental disabilities. They also have a food truck staffed by individuals with developmental disabilities, who visit the hotel twice a month.

Rene Rodriguez, a former Board member, reported that he attended Fleet Week in San Diego and found that Border Patrol was hiring individuals with developmental disabilities.

Terri Colachis shared her positive experience when her daughter and her friends held their yearly Halloween Party and how their involvement in the community helped promote inclusion and acceptance. Ms. Colachis encouraged Board Directors to attend the SDRC staff holiday awards luncheon on December 12th at the Town and Country Resort.

Erik Rascon reminded all Board Directors that the Annual Meeting would be held on January 21, 2025, at the Town and Country Resort.

16. **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. at the Town and Country Resort.



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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 14, 2024
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Mark Klaus, Executive Director
RE: Executive Director's Report

San Diego Regional Center Clients Served:

During December, 560 cases were opened through intake at the San Diego Regional Center (SDRC). There were 331 (59%) cases opened in the Early Start Program for infants and toddlers younger than three years of age. During the month, 68 cases were reactivated, 117 cases were inactivated, and 370 cases were closed. At the end of December, the total regional center caseload was 44,620. This is an increase of 1,691 from July 1, 2024. I have attached a chart that shows SDRC's caseload growth.

San Diego Regional Center Staff:

As SDRC's caseload continues to expand, the team is also growing. Additional staff and resources are essential to effectively support our clients, families, vendors, and community partners.

Attached, please find a chart detailing SDRC staffing numbers from June 30, 2021, through December 31, 2024. You will note that SDRC has added 35 team members this fiscal year.

DDS Early Start Audit:

On December 3, 2024, SDRC leadership met with DDS Early Start Auditors and were notified that SDRC had achieved 100% in all areas reviewed. This is outstanding news and a testament to the entire SDRC Early Childhood team's exceptional efforts, dedication and commitment to the work they do and the individuals and families they support!

Imperial County Leading the Charge 2025:

SDRC in partnership with our community partners and the Developmental Disability Provider Network (DDPN) will be hosting the Imperial Valley Leading the Charge 2025 event on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The event will be held at Imperial Valley College at 380 East Aten Road in Imperial. This is a free event for parents, self-advocates, educators, service providers and our community partners. Sessions will highlight Employment, Benefits and Working, Financial Planning, Transition Planning, Social Recreation, Paid Internships, Self Determination, and more.

El Arc de California:

SDRC was honored to host the El Arc de California Latino Disability Leadership Summit on December 5 and 6, 2024. The two-day event was truly outstanding and featured sessions on leadership, coalition building, community mobilization, overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers, understanding how laws are made, advocacy and advancing skills for engaging policymakers. I want to thank the following SDRC representatives that participated in this event – Jennifer Sanchez, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access Program Manager,

Delia Yopez, Enhanced Service Coordination Program Manager, and Board Directors, Tessie Bradshaw and Norma Ramos. I have attached a copy of a letter of appreciation that was received on December 11, 2024, from Joe Perales, Director of El Arc de California.

Governors January Budget Proposal:

On Friday, January 10, 2025, Governor Newsom released his proposed budget for the State fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2025. Attached is a summary of the governor's budget proposal.

AB 1147:

Assembly Bill (AB) 1147, the Disability Equity, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2024, has a number of items that will impact SDRC and the statewide regional center system. Below are a few items of note:

Effective January 1, 2025:

1. Amends the Lanterman Act Section 4626.5 (g): "Prohibit a regional center employee from accepting a gift or gifts from a service provider, consumer, or consumer's family member valued over fifteen dollars (\$15) per year."
2. Requires that "a policy prohibiting regional center senior staff from hiring relatives at the center or any ancillary foundation and organization. The policy shall be included in the regional center contract and shall be included in training of the governing board."

Effective January 1, 2026:

1. Adds Section 4639.76 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read, "Regional Center with which the department maintains a contract pursuant to Section 4629 shall be subject to the California Public Records Act."

More information regarding AB 1147 will be shared, but I wanted to put this on your radar as a few of the items included in AB 1147 were effective a couple of weeks ago and having Regional Centers subjected to the Public Records Act in January of 2026 will have significant operational and cost implications.

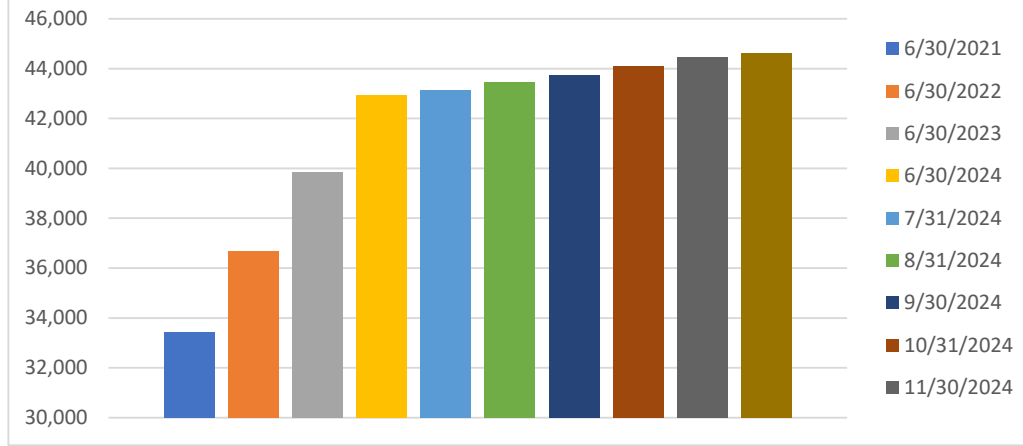
I am looking forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting next week!

If you have any questions regarding my report or anything else included in the Board Packet, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Thank you for your time, your commitment, and for all you do for SDRC... Wishing you only the best in 2025!

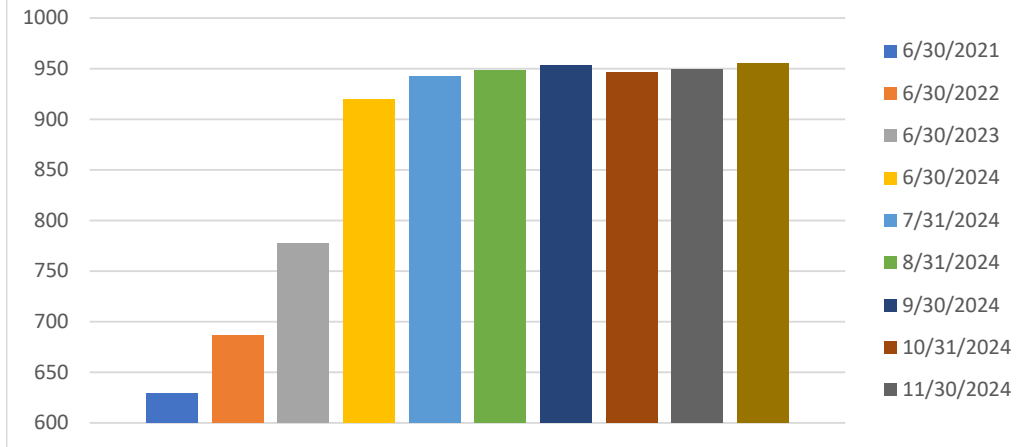
Mark

SDRC Clients



6/30/2021	33,412
6/30/2022	36,671
6/30/2023	39,830
6/30/2024	42,929
7/31/2024	43,157
8/31/2024	43,453
9/30/2024	43,743
10/31/2024	44,124
11/30/2024	44,473
12/31/2024	44,620

SDRC Staff



6/30/2021	629
6/30/2022	686
6/30/2023	777
6/30/2024	920
7/31/2024	942
8/31/2024	948
9/30/2024	953
10/31/2024	946
11/30/2024	949
12/31/2024	955



December 11, 2024

San Diego Regional Center
Mark Klaus, Executive Director

Subject: Heartfelt Thanks for Your Generous Partnership

Dear Mark,

On behalf of El Arc de California, I am writing to extend our deepest gratitude for the San Diego Regional Center's generous sponsorship of the Latino Disability Community Leadership Summit. Your support plays a crucial role in advancing our shared mission of empowering and uplifting the Latino disability community.

The Latino Disability Community Leadership Summit, taking place on December 5-6, 2024, at the San Diego Regional Center, is a vital platform for education, advocacy, and systemic change. We had over 45 leaders in attendance, representing diverse perspectives from across the state. Your sponsorship and support directly contributed to the success of this initiative, allowing us to provide essential training, leadership development, and advocacy tools for our community members. This event enabled participants to engage in meaningful discussions and foster a stronger, more equitable future for individuals with disabilities and their families.

We are especially grateful for the San Diego Regional Center's support in providing the space to hold the summit, the food, interpretation services, and all the staff who made the summit possible. Your generosity ensured that all attendees could fully participate in the event and created an environment where leaders could connect, learn, and inspire each other.

The San Diego Regional Center's commitment to supporting inclusive initiatives reflects the values of compassion, equity, and community well-being. Your partnership strengthens our efforts to create lasting change and build a movement that champions justice for all. Your belief in our vision affirms that together, we can achieve more significant impact and progress.

Once again, thank you for your invaluable support. We look forward to continuing our partnership and achieving our shared goals. We welcome any opportunity to collaborate and explore additional ways to join forces in the future.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,

Joe Perales, MBA (Pronouns: He/Him)
Director of El Arc de California
323- 909-9635 cell | 916-552-6619 office
The Arc of California
joe@thearca.org | TheArcCA.org | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

**The 2025-2026 Governor's Budget
Summary
January 14, 2024**

Budget Highlights:

- Anticipates that by June 2025 we will be serving 465,165 and by June of 2026 we will be serving 504,905 people.
- Growth rate of approximately 8.5% statewide
- The total funds for DDS is projected to grow by 20.2% to \$19 billion (\$3.2 billion over current fiscal year)
- 64% of these funds come from state general fund and 36% from other resources (primarily Medicaid match)
- \$11.5 Million to implement Public Records Act requirements effective January 1, 2026
- \$9.7 million to regional centers “to address the expected increase in workload”
- Delayed implementation of the Direct Service Professional (DSP) Workforce Training of \$17.9 Million
- Delayed implementation of the Bilingual Differentials for DSP's of \$7.2 Million
- \$2.67 Million reduction in regional center operations to support the replacement electronic case management and fiscal system

Budget also noted uncertainty as to what Federal Policy will change:

- Federal Match
- Immigration
- What will evolve between now and the May Revise
- IRS and CA Tax Board – 6-month extension in filing and paying of taxes for LA County may impact projected revenue for ~ 1/3 of the State population
- Slight projected Surplus draws funds from the Rainey Day Funds... it that really a surplus

Full Summary of Governor's DDS Budget (18) pages:

- [Department of Developmental Services 2025-26 Governor's Budget \(ca.gov\)](#)



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Board of Directors

FROM: Virginia Bayer, Chair
Nominating and Bylaws Committee

DATE: January 14, 2025

RE: Election of Directors and Officers

At their meeting on October 8, 2024, members of the Nominating and Bylaws Committee reviewed current Board membership, reviewed applicants, and developed the following slates for elections at the Board of Directors meeting on January 21, 2024.

For re-election of current Directors:

Three-Year Term beginning February 1, 2025, and ending January 31, 2028
Tessie Bradshaw for a third term;
Elmo Dill for a second term;
Laura Oakes for a second term;
Matthew Storey for a third term; and,
Mark Uyeda for a second term.

For election of new Directors:

One-Year Term beginning February 1, 2025, and ending January 31, 2026
Pamela Ehlers
Yasuko Mason
Taylor Wiesner
Cali Williams

Pamela Ehlers has served previously on the Board of Directors. During her time on the Board, Ms. Ehlers served on the Audit, Finance, Investment Policy, Legislation, Personnel, and Program Services Committees. Ehlers has a son who is served by the San Diego Regional Center (SDRC).

Yasuko Mason has served previously on the Board of Directors. During her time on the Board, Ms. Mason served on the Audit, Finance, Nominating and Bylaws, Personnel, and Program Services Committees. Ms. Mason has a son who is served by SDRC.

Taylor Wiesner is an individual served by SDRC. Ms. Wiesner has served on the San Diego People's First Board.

Cali Williams is an individual served by SDRC. She is the Secretary on the San Diego People's First Board and has previously served as Board President and Treasurer. In high school, Ms. Williams served as a peer tutor.

The members of the Nominating and Bylaws Committee believe that all four nominees would bring knowledge, skills, and experience that would contribute positively to the work of the Board of Directors.

At their meeting on October 8, 2024, the Nominating and Bylaws Committee reviewed the current Board membership and developed a slate for election of the Board of Directors officers for a one-year term from February 1, 2025, through January 31, 2026. All Board members on the slate have agreed to serve if elected.

For election of the Board of Directors officers:

David Hadacek	Chair
Tessie Bradshaw	Vice-Chair
Virginia Bayer	Secretary
Matthew Storey	Treasurer
Terri Colachis	ARCA Representative
Norma Ramos	Immediate Past Chair
Chris Hodge	Member at Large

c: Mark Klaus



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VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 21, 2025 @11:00 AM

AGENDA

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Wendy Forkas |
| 2. Approval of Agenda/Additions | Wendy Forkas |
| 3. Approval of Minutes (<i>November 21, 2024</i>) | Wendy Forkas |
| 4. SDICDSI Board Updates | SDRC Staff |
| 5. CA State Assembly Bill 1147 | Miguel Larios |
| 6. Rate Reform Updates | Miguel Larios |
| 7. New Staff in Community Services | Miguel Larios |
| 8. 2025 Legislation | All |
| 9. 2025 – 2026 State Budget | All |
| 10. DDPN Update | Anthony DeSalis |
| 11. Announcements | All |
| 12. Adjourn | Wendy Forkas |

****Next VAC Meeting: March 27, 2025****



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VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday November 21, 2024

Miguel Larios	SDRC
Tiffany Swan	SDRC
Alicia Villegas	Synergy Home Care of San Diego
Molly Nocon	Noah Homes
Emeka Okeke	Synergy Home Care of San Diego
Kevin McPartland	LIFE
Dalia Villa	Self Determined Futures
Maki Osawa	Integrated Resources Institute
Stacy Sullivan	Mountain Shadows
Kim Mills	A Better Life together
Cecilia Bello	Mountain Shadows
Taylor Sotiropoulos	Homies
Angie Gallon	Social Vocational Services
Kealoha Paule	The Paule Home
Christopher Paule	The Paule Home
Laurie Purcell	Home of Guiding Hands
Beba Saba	24 Hr Home Care
Marcie Laws	Generations
Erika Gil	YMCA
Maritza Rodriguez	Self Determined Futures LLC
Kimberly Larsen	Community Interface Services
Emmanuel Garcia	Imperial Valley Respite
Kala' Farley	L.I.F.E. Living

1. **Call to Order:** Wendy Forkas called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** No changes or additions were made to the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting (10/3/2024) were approved.
4. **SDICDSI Board Updates:**

- The annual meeting of the San Diego Regional Center Board of Directors will be on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at the Town and Country Hotel. The Vendor Advisory Committee will be at 11am, the luncheon is scheduled at 12pm and the annual meeting is scheduled at 12:45pm. The Eventbrite link has been sent out for registration.
- The guest speaker will be Pete Cervinka, acting Director of the State of California Department of Developmental Services.
- The Board of Directors is invited to the SDRC Holiday party on December 12th.

5. Independent Audits:

- Just a reminder if your vendor category is not usual and customary and you receive more than \$500,000 but less than \$2,000,000 you are required to submit a financial review of the payments received. A CPA is enlisted to give their opinion as an auditor. If you receive \$2,000,000 or more, you are required to submit an actual audit.
- Approximately 600 vendors have not replied to the audit request letter that was sent out on September 16, 2024. A second notice will be sent out soon. Please let us know if you are engaging a CPA or are going through the process.
- Please send the audits or reviews to Miguel.Larios@sdrc.org.

6. Request for Proposals:

- The CPP team is working on the request for proposal information sheets that will be posted on the website. This information will be emailed to the providers on the RFP list, the Vendor Advisory Committee and DDPN.
- This year we are looking for a housing developer to build some EBSH homes (Enhanced Behavioral Support Homes) and an Enhanced state program to work with our individuals in those Enhanced Behavioral Support Homes.
- We will be send out a RFP for an Early Start provider in Imperial Valley. The Needs Assessment indicated this was an area that should be expanded. If

interested there will be some award money to build your infrastructure in Imperial Valley to provide Early Start services.

- Once posted we will give approximately two weeks to develop your proposal and budget. The Regional Center Internal Committee will review the proposals and notify the recipients.
- One of the EBSH providers gave notice. We have two EBSH homes we are looking to contract and the previous provider will stay onboard until a new provider is identified. The homes are established with residents located in Ramona. A RFP will be submitted. We are looking for a residential provider to do a management agreement with the current EBSH provider. More information will follow.

7. Rate Crosswalk Updates:

- DDS will be issuing directives for specific vendor categories. The directives will list the service codes under the vendor categories. The first DDS directive has been released for Adaptive Skills, Training and Behavioral Services. The Early Start directives are first, followed by Day Services, ILS and Supported Living.
- DDS will release a workbook stating whether the vendor completed the Provider Directory. If completed, the vendor qualifies for the full 100% rate. If not completed, the vendor qualifies for 90%. The vendors and the Regional Center will meet and discuss the Rate Reform Service Acknowledgement Form.
- The Rate Reform Service Acknowledgement form certifies that the vendor accepts the rate workbook and the qualifications now required. If there are new qualifications, the vendor has a year and a half to come into compliance. This document will in a Seamless format to make it easier to fill out and return.
- The Acknowledgement will address the hold harmless as well as count as a program design. No new program designs will be necessary. The acknowledgement will have to be signed by March 31, 2025.
- If you are having difficulty contacting DDS please document your attempts and let Miguel know.
- If your vendor service or service code doesn't align with Rate Reform, SDRC will be requesting exemptions until guidance about the rate is clear.
- Kimberly Mills and Miguel are setting up a meeting with DDS regarding the Supported living administrative monthly fee.
- The links to the directives and the upcoming office hours are posted in the chat.

8. 2025 Legislation:

- No significant cuts are anticipated but no increases are anticipated either.
- More discussions will be had once the January budget is released.

9. 2025 – 2026 State Budget:

- Items were discussed above in 2025 Legislation.

10. DDPN Update:

- A meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2024 at 10am.
- The date for Leading the Charge in Imperial Valley is February 5, 2025. Speakers and food are being finalized. Information will be out soon.
- Leading the Charge in San Diego will be held on April 4, 2025 at the Hazard Center Doubletree Hotel. The program is being finalized. Registration is planned to begin in March 2025.
- There will be sponsorship opportunities for both locations.
- Questions can be addressed to either Tiffany Swan at Tiffany.Swan@sdr.org or to Joab Gonzalez at Joab.Gonzalez@sdr.org.
- Wendy will send out the membership form.

11. Announcements:

- Cathy was promoted to Rates Specialist.
- If there are any announcements or flyers you want to share, send them to Wendy Forkas at Wendy.Forkas@adjoin.org.
- The next Vendor Advisory Meeting is on January 21, 2025 at the Town and Country Hotel. Attendance is free, please register through the Eventbrite link by December 30, 2024. This meeting will not have a zoom option.

12. VAC Chair Election:

- Wendy Forkas was elected to another term as Vendor Advisory Committee Board Chair.

15. Adjourn:

- The meeting was adjourned by Wendy Forkas at 11:04 am.

****Next VAC Meeting: January 21, 2025 @11:00am Town & Country Hotel ****

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miguel Larios', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Miguel Larios, M.Ed.
Director of Community Services
San Diego Regional Center
(858) 576-2856