



Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, January 28, 2025
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Kern Regional Center, 3200 N. Sillect Ave., Bakersfield CA 93308
 Malibu Room

| General Business | | |
|--|--------|--|
| 1. Call to Order and Introductions | | Tracey Mensch, President |
| 2. Review and Approve Agenda of January 28, 2025 | Action | Tracey Mensch, President |
| 3. Review and Approve Board Minutes (Attachment 1-2-3) a. Minutes - September 24, 2024 b. Minutes - October 22, 2024 c. Minutes - November 19, 2024 | Action | Tracey Mensch, President |
| 4. Appoint Board Member, Martin Vasquez, to Third Term | Action | Tracey Mensch, President |
| 5. Request to Waive RFP Requirements for New Provider (Attachment 4) | Action | Lynn Clark, Director of Community Services |
| 6. Overview Rate Study: Impact on Vendor Community and Service Coordination (Attachment 5) | Info | Lynn Clark, Director of Community Services |
| 7. Public Input | Info | |
| Reports | | |
| 8. Board President's Report (Attachment 6) | Info | Tracey Mensch, President |
| 9. Executive Director's Report | Info. | Enrique Roman, Executive Director |
| 10. Financial Reports a. POS Report for November 2024 (Attachment 7) b. Operations Report for November 2024 (Attachment 8) | Info. | Tom Wolfgram, CFO |
| 11. Consumer Advisory Committee Report (Attachment 9) | Info. | Tracey Mensch, President and CAC Chairperson |
| 12. Vendor Advisory Committee Report | Info. | Tamerla Prince, VAC Representative |

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89833310469?pwd=dk5zeERwekdmaXZldVBmbFdHbHpwUT09>

Webinar ID: 898 3331 0469 Passcode: 106717

Dial-In Number: (213) 338-8477

<https://tinyurl.com/23sw3vwz>



Scan QR Code for Zoom

The next KRC Board of Directors meeting is
February 25, 2025, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Attachment 1



Kern Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting September 24, 2024

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting at Kern Regional Center, 3300 N. Sillect Ave., Bakersfield, California in the Malibu Room and using remote teleconferencing technology provided by Zoom.

Board of Directors Present:

Ana Alonso, Vice President; Fernando Fermin, Treasurer; Ryan Jones, Board Member; Tracey Mensch, President; Tamerla Prince, Vendor Advisory Representative; Donald Tobias, Board Member; Mark Tolentino, Board Member; Martin Vasquez, Secretary; Ruth Watterson, Board Member. A quorum (9) was established.

Board of Directors Absent:

Carlos Isidoro, Board Member
Simon Verdugo, Board Member

Kern Regional Center Staff Present:

Rachele Berglund, Legal Advisor; Aseneth Casanova, Program Manager; Jovanni Hernandez, Program Manager; Simone Huerta, Program Manager; Kristine Khuu, Assistant Director, Client Services; Shannon Lueck, Training and Information Manager; Yesenia Mackie, Assistant Director, Client Services; Cindy Martinez, Service Coordinator; Darlene Pankey, Executive Assistant; Jamie Patino, Client Employment Specialist; Enrique Roman, Interim Executive Director; Eduardo Soriano, IT; Omelia Trigueros, Assistant Director, Client Services; Tom Wolfgram, CFO

Attendees:

Cindy Cox, support person for Board Member, Donald Tobias; Debbie Escobar, Executive Director for All-in-1 Care; Jill Green; Daniela Hernandez; Matthew LaGrand; Karina Landeros, 24-Hour Home Care; Edwin Pineda, DDS; Dennis Rutman; Rene Sandoval; Mitzi Villalon; Sandra Van Scotter, SDP Advisory Committee; Alona Yorkshire

Interpreters: Scott Barlow, ASL; Sabrina Geoghegan, ASL; Nidya Madrigal-Navia, Spanish

CALL TO ORDER: Tracey Mensch, President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and introductions were made.

AGENDA APPROVAL: President Mensch asked for a motion to approve the agenda. A change in presenters was made for topic 6 from Lynn Clark to Jamie Patino.

Moved by Alonso and seconded Prince to:

Accept the agenda for today's meeting, September 24, 2024, with the change of the presenter of topic 6, *Request to Waive RFP Requirements for Development of an 055 Community-Based Day Program and Transportation* from Lynn Clark, Interim Director of Community Service to Jamie Patino, Client Employment Specialist

PASSED: 9

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Mensch asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on August 27, 2024.

Moved by Alonso and Tobias to:

Approve the Kern Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of August 27, 2024.

PASSED: 9

APPOINT BOARD MEMBER, TRACEY MENSCH, FOR SECOND TERM

Moved by Alonso and Watterson to:

Approve that Tracey Mensch be appointed for a second term on the Kern Regional Center Board of Directors, November 30, 2024 – November 30, 2027

PASSED: 8, ABSTAINED: 1 (Tracey Mensch)

APPOINT BOARD MEMBER, CARLOS ISIDORO, FOR SECOND TERM

Moved by Watterson and Tolentino to:

Approve that Carlos Isidoro be appointed for a second term on the Kern Regional Center Board of Directors, November 30, 2024 – November 30, 2027

PASSED: 9

REQUEST TO WAIVE RFP REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN 055 COMMUNITY-BASED DAY PROGRAM AND TRANSPORTATION

A memo was sent to board members the previous week, describing the request to waive the RFP requirements to develop a community-based day program in Mojave, California called The Adult Skill Center (TASC) as well as transportation. **The request before the Board of Directors was to waive the Request For Proposal (RFP) requirement, as stipulated in KRC Board Policy C-9: Use of RFPs to address Service Needs, for the direct vendorization of The Adult Skill Center (TASC). In this case, KRC anticipates that TASC will exceed \$500,000 in revenue during the first 12 months of service provision. Per policy, if a vendor is expected to exceed \$500,000 in revenue their first year in operation, KRC is required to issue an RFP for the development of the needed service. Since TASC was willing to establish a program in an area where KRC has historically had a difficult time with resource development, without requesting start-up monies, KRC decided to petition the Board of Directors for approval to waive the RFP requirement and contract directly with TASC.**

The memo is attached to these minutes and labeled Attachment 2.

Moved by Alonso and Tobias to:

Approve to waive the RFP requirements for development of an 055 community-based day program and transportation for The Adult Skill Center (TASC) in Mojave, California.

PASSED: 9

APPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A CAC SUBCOMMITTEE

Tracey Mensch, Board President, requested board approval for a local Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC). This CAC will be made up of clients who will meet monthly and brainstorm ways to meet the needs of special needs individuals in our community. The CAC will be a subcommittee of the Board of Directors and report on a regular basis.

Moved by Alonso and Watterson to:

Approve the implementation of a Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) for Kern, Inyo, and Mono counties.

PASSED: 9

STANDARDIZED PERSON-CENTERED INDIVIDUAL PROGRAM PLAN (IPP) PRESENTATION

Ernie Cruz, Deputy Director of Community Services Division, DDS and Shannon Lueck, KRC Training and Information Manager.

A presentation was made by Ernie Cruz, DDS, about the standardized IPP Form that DDS has implemented for January 1, 2025. Mr. Cruz' presentation was followed by another presentation by Shannon Lueck, KRC, regarding the local work to rollout the standardized IPP form. Both of these PowerPoints are attached to these minutes as Attachment 3.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Sandra Van Scotter made comments regarding the SDP requests that she brought before the Board of Directors last month. She thanked the Board for the reply she received from them and expressed appreciation for the meeting that took place with SDP committee members, independent facilitators and KRC staff. Ms. Van Scotter expressed that gaps exist, but that progress has been made and she looks forward to more positive steps in the future.
- Cindy Martinez came before the Board of Directors to remind everyone and promote the upcoming Thanksgiving Basket effort that is taking place now. There are two baskets prepared for raffle already, and KRC units are busy working on more baskets that will be raffled off at the Vendor Luncheon on November 8. The proceeds will be used to put together Thanksgiving Food Baskets for clients and families referred by service coordinators.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Enrique Roman, interim Executive Director brought the report.

- Mr. Roman came before the Board of Directors with brief reports on Early Start, Client Employment, Individual Family Experience, and Service Coordinator Training. He continues to work directly with Yesenia Mackie, Omelia Trigueros, Kristine Khuu, and Lulu Calvillo, all assistant directors in Client Services, as we move forward in these areas, and he is very appreciative of their support and collaboration.
- The rate increase is on schedule for implementation on January 1, 2025.
- The Director of Client Services position and the Chief Equity Officer position have both been posted.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Tom Wolfgram, CFO, provided the Financial Report for Purchase of Services and Operations as of July 31, 2024.

Purchase of Services

Total spent for month ending July 31, 2024: \$21,568,997

YTD: \$21,568,997

We have spent approximately \$4 Million more that at this time last year.

Operations Report

Total expenses for month ending July 31, 2024: \$2,910,024

YTD: \$2,910,024

The Purchase of Services and Operations Reports for the month of June 2024 are attached to these minutes.

FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

An Open House is being planned for next week at the Atrium Building on Commercenter Drive in Bakersfield. After the Open House, we will proceed to move into the building. **Mr. Wolfgram clarified that there would be no rent paid on the property in the interim time of securing the lease and the actual move in. Rent will begin when KRC takes occupancy.**

VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tamerla Prince reported.

- Work for the Vendor Luncheon continues. RSVP forms have been sent out. Please complete and return timely so that registration is streamlined.
- Ms. Prince would like to establish a committee for next year's disabled adults day at the Kern County Fair. If anyone is interested in this effort, please contact her.

With nothing further to discuss, President Mensch adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The next public Board of Directors meeting will be held on October 22, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Pankey
Executive Assistant

Attachment 2



Kern Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting October 22, 2024

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting at Kern Regional Center, 3300 N. Sillect Ave., Bakersfield, California in the Malibu Room and using remote teleconferencing technology provided by Zoom.

Board of Directors Present:

Fernando Fermin, Treasurer; Carlos Isidoro, Board Member; Ryan Jones, Board Member; Tracey Mensch, President; Tamerla Prince, Vendor Advisory Representative; Donald Tobias, Board Member; Mark Tolentino, Board Member; Ruth Watterson, Board Member.

Board of Directors Absent:

Ana Alonso, Vice President
Martin Vasquez, Secretary
Simon Verdugo, Board Member

Kern Regional Center Staff Present:

Lynn Clark, Interim Director, Community Services; Tomas Cubias, Assistant Director, SAE; Patricia Flores, Program Manager – Cultural Specialist; Kristine Khuu, Assistant Director, Client Services; Yesenia Mackie, Assistant Director, Client Services; Cindy Martinez, Service Coordinator; Darlene Pankey, Executive Assistant; Isis Rasmussen, Community Services Specialist Facilitator; Enrique Roman, Interim Executive Director; Duyen Ky Tran, IT Specialist; Omelia Trigueros, Assistant Director, Client Services; Tom Wolfram, CFO

Attendees:

Cindy Cox, support person for Board Member, Donald Tobias; Debbie Escobar, Executive Director, All-in-1 Care; Mariela Garcia; Jill Green; Karina Landeros, 24-Hour Home Care; Erika Sanchez Medrano; Edwin Pineda, DDS; Scott Rice; Rene Sandoval; Mitzi Villalon; Sandra Van Scotter, SDP Advisory Committee, two phone numbers without identification: 661-205-8347 and 805-366-1067.

Interpreters: Scott Barlow, ASL; Angellé Thomas, ASL; Nidya Madrigal-Navia, Spanish

CALL TO ORDER: Tracey Mensch, President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and introductions were made. A quorum (8) was established.

AGENDA APPROVAL: President Mensch asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by Tolentino and seconded Watterson to:

Accept the agenda for today's meeting, October 22, 2024.

PASSED: 8

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Mensch asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on September 24, 2024.

Moved by Prince and seconded by Watterson to:

Approve the Kern Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2024, with adjustments to include the presentation of the attendee from the Adult Skill Center (TASC) in Mojave, California and a more detailed notation of the RSP process review/waiver. It was also agreed to include in the minutes that KRC was not obligated to pay rent during the waiting period between signing the lease at the Atrium building and the move in date. A revised minutes will be sent to the board for final approval.

PASSED: 8

REVIEW AND APPROVE DELEGATED CONSERVATORSHIP POLICY

Presented by Mr. Enrique Roman, Interim Executive Director

The Delegated Conservatorship Policy was sent to the board members for review on October 15. There was discussion about adding OCRA (Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy) contact information to the policy in addition to KRC (Kern Regional Center) contact information. Mr. Roman will inquire with DDS and respond back to the board. It was agreed that approval of the Delegated Conservatorship Policy will be tabled until the next meeting on November 19, 2024. A copy of the Delegated Conservatorship Policy presented at this meeting is attached to these minutes and labeled Attachment 2.

PRESENTATION OF THE YEAR-END REPORT 2023-2024 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT FOR KERN REGIONAL CENTER

Presented by Mr. Tomas Cubias, KRC Assistant Director, SAE

Mr. Cubias provided a summary of the report, highlighting key performance metrics and outcomes. A copy of the report is included in these minutes and labeled Attachment 3.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) REPORT

Presented by Tracey Mensch, President, KRC Board of Directors

President Mensch reported that she has been working with Enrique Roman to coordinate the first CAC Meet and Greet on November 7. Notices of the meeting are being sent out to vendors and the community. Mr. Roman stated that there was a need to appoint a temporary chairperson for the CAC until a permanent chair can be established. He recommended that Tracey Mensch be appointed the temporary chair of the newly-formed CAC.

Moved by Tolentino and seconded by Tobias to:

Appoint Tracey Mensch as the temporary chairperson of the Consumer Advisory Committee until a permanent chairperson can be appointed.

PASSED: 7 ABSTAINED: 1 (Tracey Mensch)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Renee Sandoval presented information about Medi-Cal Transformation: Enhanced Care Management. KRC will connect with Renee to obtain more information for KRC for publication. Sandra Van Scotter also put information in the chat that will be made available to everyone in the notes.
- Sandra Van Scotter commented on recent progress on SDP outreach. Currently, KRC has 200 clients enrolled in the Self Determination Program. This is approximately 1.6% of eligible clients. KRC is working hard to pinpoint disparities geographically in order to identify which clients are being missed so we can reach out to them.

Sandra also announced a new financial management services company, Sentinel Four. The contact information for this company can be found on the DDS website under the Financial Management Services section.

- Cindy Martinez came before the Board of Directors to promote the annual Thanksgiving Basket event. There is one more week remaining to provide referrals, with the last day being November 1. KRC has presently received 69 referrals, which is far less than what is normally received, so we are hoping for a lot more referrals in the coming week. There are 12-15 baskets donated by KRC staff that will be raffled at the Vendor Luncheon on November 8 at the DoubleTree Hotel.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Reported by Enrique Roman, Interim Executive Director

- Mr. Roman came before the Board of Directors with updates on the following:
 - Chief Equity Officer position – The first round of interviews took place yesterday and we are going through the scoring of applicants. Excellent applicants!
 - Director of Client Services position – Interviews are scheduled for next week. Again, great applicants! Mr. Roman anticipates someone will be chosen by the next board meeting.
 - Office Space – The Early Start unit officially moved into the Atrium building yesterday. We are looking to get a second office space area at the Atrium building, as well. A satellite office in Delano has been in operation for the past 2 years, but now we are reorganizing caseloads so those clients residing in Delano will have staff assigned to them in the Delano office. This service coordinator team is now in Delano with a new program manager, Gumaro Mendoza, heading the team in Delano.
 - New space in Bishop - We will be having an Open House for the community in Bishop on November 6, 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Invitations will be sent out via social media.
- Statewide Update: August 31 was the deadline to have all site visits completed for HCBS. Mr. Roman is proud to say that KRC met the deadline. KRC did not meet the September 30 deadline to clear any correction plans for HCBS, but we are very close and should be compliant soon. This was a tremendous feat!
- All indicators point to the unlikelihood of any cuts in the State’s budget for the coming year. No cuts are expected, but no additional funds are expected either. We will know more as we progress through the budget process.
- Standardization processes are moving forward as outlined in the trailer bill language for SB138. DDS is working on standardizing the intake process. At the last ARCA meeting, we discussed in depth, streamlining intake processes for premature babies and those babies admitted to hospital NICU units. Premature birth and/or NICU stays increases the likelihood of these babies needing KRC services. The ARCA team discussed and brainstormed ways to streamline intake for these families so they can bypass the standard process.
- The State continues efforts to complete the rate reform and DDS committed to finalizing and submitting the guidelines to complete this project this week. January 1 is the first day the reform is to be implemented.
- DDS is in the process of choosing a client who is going to assist in lighting the Christmas tree at the state level. We have heard that a client will be chosen in the Central Valley; we hope it is a KRC client!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Tom Wolfgram, CFO, provided the Financial Report for Purchase of Services and Operations as of August 31, 2024.

Purchase of Services

Total spent for month ending August 31, 2024: \$23,076,330
YTD: \$47,133,270

We have spent approximately \$3.4 Million more than at this time last year. Year-to-date, we have spent \$7.4 Million dollars more than at this time last year for services to clients.

Operations Report

Total expenses for month ending August 31, 2024: \$2,557,703
YTD: \$5,467,727

The Proposed Expenditures for the year are not yet listed. This is because we are determining the staff needed for expansion to meet our ratios. Next month we will have our proposed expenditure budget.

Our numbers this month are consistent with what was spent last year, so we are on target. We expect that we will be spending more for salaries this coming year.

The Purchase of Services and Operations Reports for the month of June 2024 are attached to these minutes.

VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Enrique Roman reported for Tamerla Prince who had to leave the meeting.

Vendor luncheon will be held on November 8 at the Doubletree Hotel. The deadline for reservations has ended, however, if anyone is interested in attending, please contact Tamerla Prince. Thanksgiving Baskets will be raffled at the luncheon, so don't forget to buy your raffle tickets.

With nothing further to discuss, President Mensch adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m. The next public Board of Directors meeting will be held on November 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Pankey
Executive Assistant

Attachment 3



Kern Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting November 19, 2024

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting at Kern Regional Center, 3300 N. Sillect Ave., Bakersfield, California in the Malibu Room and using remote teleconferencing technology provided by Zoom.

Board of Directors Present:

Ana Alonso, Vice-President; Fernando Fermin, Treasurer; Carlos Isidoro, Board Member; Ryan Jones, Board Member; Tracey Mensch, President; Donald Tobias, Board Member; Mark Tolentino, Board Member, Martin Vasquez, Secretary

Board of Directors Absent:

Tamerla Prince, VAC Representative
Simon Verdugo, Board Member
Ruth Watterson, Board Member

Kern Regional Center Staff Present:

Lynn Clark, Director, Community Services; Tomas Cubias, Assistant Director, SAE; Ricardo Del Hoyo, Community Services Specialist; Mark Felisilda, IT; Kristine Khuu, Assistant Director, Client Services; Yesenia Mackie, Assistant Director, Client Services; Lori Molhook, RN; Anh Nguyen, KRC Contractor; Marisol Resendiz, Executive Assistant; Enrique Roman, Executive Director; Frances Rubio, Language and Access Specialist; Duyen Ky Tran, IT Specialist; Omelia Trigueros, Assistant Director, Client Services; Tom Wolfgram, CFO

Attendees:

Cindy Cox, support person for Board Member, Donald Tobias; Alondra Delgado; Adriana Gutierrez; Matthew LeGrand; Karina Landeros, 24-Hour Home Care; Suzana Montoya; Edwin Pineda, DDS; Diane Taylor; Julia Santana; Sandra Van Scotter, SDP Advisory Committee; dayostain88@gmail.com; Brianna.mom316@yahoo.com

Interpreters: Scott Barlow, ASL; Caitlinn Broad, ASL; Nidya Madrigal-Navia, Spanish

CALL TO ORDER: Tracey Mensch, President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and introductions were made. A quorum (8) was established.

AGENDA APPROVAL: President Mensch asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by Alonso and seconded by Tobias to:

Change the person presenting #12 on the November 19, 2024 agenda to Enrique Roman in place of Tamerla Prince, VAC Representative.

PASSED: 8

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President Mensch asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on October 22, 2024. Mr. Tolentino asked if the minutes approval should remain open as the minutes of the September revised minutes were not sent to board members for review. It was determined that the October minutes should remain open until board members could review the September minutes revision.

Moved by Tolentino and seconded by Alonso to:

Ensure the revised September minutes are sent to the board members for review. Review the edits of the September revised minutes along with the October 22, 2024 and November 19, 2024 at the meeting on January 28, 2025.

PASSED: 8

The possibility of making recorded minutes available to the board members was also discussed. Enrique Roman will investigate.

REVIEW AND APPROVE DELEGATED CONSERVATORSHIP POLICY

Presented by Mr. Enrique Roman, Executive Director

The Delegated Conservatorship Policy was brought before the Board of Directors at the September meeting, but it was decided, at that time, that more clarification was needed. A question was asked if other available resources for clients could be added to the policy. Mr. Roman followed up with DDS and received the following information:

- For clarification, the intent of the policy is to address individuals that are conserved by DDS whereas DDS has provided the regional centers with delegated authority to function as a conservator. What KRC is being asked to do, per statute, is to separate the day-to-day service coordination activities from the conservator responsibility. This means that KRC will maintain the service coordinator activities and services and assign the conservator responsibilities to a separate person at KRC. KRC is planning to assign these conservator responsibilities to KRC's Forensic Specialist, who is overseen by the Assistant Director of Client Services in the Adult Unit.
- Mr. Roman addressed the question of adding available resources for clients to the policy. The question was posed to DDS who responded that the statute calls for including the DDS Ombudsman. Per this response, DDS is asking that we add only the DDS Ombudsmen to the Policy.

The board was satisfied with the clarifications and questions answered by Mr. Roman.

Moved by Alonso and seconded by Tobias to:

Approve the Delegated Conservatorship Policy as presented.

PASSED: 8

LEGISLATIVE PLANS

Presented by Tracey Mensch, President and Anh Nguyen, KRC Consultant

Ms. Mensch and Ms. Nguyen shared information describing their current accomplishments and future plans in the legislative arena. The presenters focused on the reimplementation of the Client Advisory Committee (CAC) as a key tool towards legislative collaboration. Highlights covered in this presentation were:

- A CAC meeting kick-off presented as a "Meet and Greet" which included discussion of CAC history, goals, and planning content and projects for future meetings.
- The vision of the committee – "Informed and Empowered = Empowered and Informed."
- Understanding what Kern Regional Center does and making CAC members *KRC Ambassadors*.
- Reaching out and connecting with the community and making CAC members *Advocates* by bringing community needs to the legislative process.

Tracey Mensch is the temporary chairperson of the CAC Committee, but the committee is actively looking for a permanent chairperson. The PowerPoint for this presentation is included with these minutes.

NATIONAL CORE INDICATORS

Presented by Tomas Cubias, KRC Assistant Director, Service Access and Equity

Mr. Tomas Cubias presented data and results of the National Core Indicators. Mr. Cubias explained that the survey is provided to our clients and families every year, giving them the opportunity to share their experiences and give input on how they feel services can be improved at KRC. DDS then takes this information, compiles it, and presents it as the National Core Indicators report. The information is compared between regional centers in the State of California to form a state average. The data is also compared between States to help determine satisfaction, access, and planning. The NCI Report brought to this meeting was for the Fiscal Year 2020-21 and was focused on the:

- Adult In Person Survey

- Child Family Survey
- Adult Family Survey
- Family Guardian Survey

The PowerPoint with the data reported is attached to these minutes. The presentation in this meeting is a snapshot of the data. Access to the full NCI report can be found at the DDS website [NCI Domain Dashboards: CA Department of Developmental Services](#).

The data being presented occurred in FY 2020-21. These results for this timeframe reflected COVID-19 challenges indicating that clients and families did not have as much access as desired to service coordinators. Steps have since been taken to allow clients and families better access to service coordinators through recruitment, limiting service coordinator transfers within units, and timely communication to clients and families when service coordinator departures or replacements occur. In addition, IPP improvements have taken place. There is a lot of work to be done, but we are laying the foundation for service coordinators to be better equipped through training and we anticipate much better results with the next survey.

A question was asked about how many people participated in the survey? It was also asked when the next survey is due to happen and when the next survey results will be available. This information will be verified and brought to the next Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Sandra Van Scotter thanked KRC for the Open House at the KRC Office in Bishop. It was well received and appreciated. Also, Sandra congratulated Tracey Mensch on the successful CAC Meet and Greet.
- Ana Alonso expressed thanks for the successful Padres Unidos meeting held on November 5.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tracey Mensch, Board President

- President Mensch is very excited about the CAC Committee. She participated in the successful Vendor Luncheon held on November 8 at the DoubleTree Hotel and the Building Bridges conference, an organization teaching First Responders better ways to interact with people with disabilities. Tracey encouraged staff and families to be involved in this wonderful organization.
- Tracey continues to participate in ARCA. She will be attending the next ARCA Executive Committee and Board of Directors on January 15, 2025. She is also the Chairperson of the Statewide Client Advisory Committee (CAC), so her recent efforts with the local CAC is done with the goal of ensuring KRC is part of the Statewide CAC collaboration.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Reported by Enrique Roman, Executive Director

Mr. Roman came before the Board of Directors with updates on the following:

- Recruitment
 - Chief Equity Officer: There are three candidates and the panel is tallying their scores; a choice should be made soon.
 - Director of Community Services: Enrique is pleased to announce that Lynn Clark, former Community Services Program Manager, has been appointed as the new Director of Community Services.
 - Director of Client Services position: Interviews are ongoing at this time.
- New IPP Rollout
 - KRC is waiting for inclusion of the IPP in SANDIS. KRC is ahead of the curve as we have already provided training on the new IPP. We are ready to work on the roll out.

- Rate Reform
 - Customer Services continues to rollout ID services and categories. Rate reform takes place on January 1, 2025.
- Technology Improvements
 - We have been working on technology improvements at KRC. The improvements have been apparent in the meeting tonight which has gone smoothly with minimal technology problems. Thank you, Tom!
- Open House in Bishop
 - Well attended and the community genuinely seemed to appreciate it!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Tom Wolfgram, CFO, provided the Financial Report for Purchase of Services and Operations as of September 30, 2024.

Purchase of Services

Total spent for month ending September 30, 2024: \$21,391,582
YTD: \$70,381,501

We have spent approximately \$2 Million more than last September. Year-to-date, we have spent \$10 Million dollars more than in September 2023 for services to clients, specifically in the areas of day training, medical services, transportation, and in-home respite care.

Operations Report

Total expenses for month ending September 30, 2024: \$2,751,664
YTD: \$8,219,391

The proposed budget is in. It reflects \$2 Million more than last year, allocating for 466 employees. So far, we have added 329 employees which is approximately 71% of KRC's planned work force. All other programs remain consistent.

The Purchase of Services and Operations Reports for the month of September 2024 are attached to these minutes.

VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Enrique Roman reported for Tamerla Prince

Mr. Roman provided a recap on the Vendor Luncheon held on November 8, 2025.

- The luncheon was well attended – 305 attendees
- Jeff Popkin was the Keynote Speaker and did a great job. He spoke about the history of the Vendor Luncheon and compared it to where the Vendor Luncheon is today and how far it has come.
- A person with disabilities gave a very inspirational presentation. He told the story of how he was able to meet his goal of being accepted to Chico State University to work toward a Mechanical Engineering degree. He follows in the footsteps of his father.
- The next Vendor Advisory Committee will take place on January 28, 2025 at 10:00 AM. Information will be posted on the KRC website.

With nothing further to discuss, President Mensch adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m. The next public Board of Directors meeting will be held on January 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Pankey
Executive Assistant

Attachment 4

MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS, KERN REGIONAL CENTER

FROM: LYNN CLARK, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

SUBJECT: WAIVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) REQUIREMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN 862 IN-HOME RESPITE AGENCY.

APPLICABLE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S POLICY: USE OF RFPS TO ADDRESS SERVICE NEEDS

DATE: JANUARY 16, 2025

Board of Directors,

I present to you today a request to waive the RFP requirement to develop an In-Home Respite Agency in Bakersfield, California.

Integrated Life Choices (ILC) is a full-service provider in Nebraska and Colorado offering services such as respite, group home, vocational day program, supported employment and job development. ILC is pursuing an opportunity to assume ownership for Full Circle Support. They are an In-Home Respite Agency that has been vendored with KRC and has served our individuals and families for many years, and the owners are retiring. ILC would be able to provide continuity of care for these individuals and their staff. ILC currently offers an array of services in other states and are interested in bringing these services to California, specifically to KRC's catchment area. They bring a different perspective on person centered supports and services and bring a broad range of knowledge on how to provide these services. ILC is also open to providing supports to our under-served areas.

ILC is not asking for start-up funds for this development. Full Circle Support serves approximately 170 individuals and families. Individuals will be able to choose to stay with ILC or choose a different In-Home Respite Agency.

KRC requests your approval to waive the RFP requirement to have ILC come into our area and assume ownership for Full Circle Support, our outgoing respite provider.

Respectfully,

Lynn Clark
Director of Community Services

Attachment 5



California DDS Vendor Rate Study

Agenda

- Rate Determination
- Background
- Final implementation and Next Steps
- Questions

Background: Rate Determination

Rates determined by the Department of Developmental Services (E.g., day programs, independent living, work activity programs, in-home respite, supported employment, respite worker, FMS)

Negotiated Rates are determined through a review of actual operational costs that are submitted to and developed directly with the regional center. These rates are negotiated up to the median rate for the specific service.

Median Rates are determined by the Median Rate Schedule which is published by The Department of Developmental Services.

Usual and Customary (E.g., recreational therapist, interpreter, translator, public transit). Must meet Title 17, Section 57210(a)(19) requirement for a Usual and Customary rate including where at least 30% of the recipients of the service are not regional center consumers or their families.

Community Care Facilities (Alternative Residential Model "ARM Rates")

Schedule of Maximum Allowances- rates that are established by the Department of Health Services for services reimbursable under the Medi-Cal program (E.g., physical/ occupational therapist, nursing, dentist)

Background: History of Rate Study

Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4519.8, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) submitted a rate study addressing the sustainability, quality, and transparency of community-based services for individuals with developmental disabilities to the Legislature in March 1, 2019. This is where the Rate Study began.

To assist with this effort, DDS contracted with health-policy consulting firm Burns & Associates, Inc. to conduct the rate study with DDS oversight (also known as HMA-Burns)

Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4519.10, the Department is implementing the rate models proposed in the rate study authorized by AB 136 in phases.

BACKGROUND: RESULTS



RATE
METHODOLOGIES
AND PRACTICES
VARY ACROSS THE
STATE AND ACROSS
SERVICE CODES



RATES OFTEN VARY
FOR THE SAME
SERVICE, EVEN
WITHIN A REGIONAL
CENTER



VARIETY OF
DIFFERENT RATE-
SETTING
METHODOLOGIES



FOR SOME SERVICE
CODES, MULTIPLE
METHODOLOGIES
APPLY



MANY SERVICE
CODES EMPLOY
MULTIPLE BILLING
UNITS (FOR
EXAMPLE, A DAILY
OR HOURLY RATE)









OFTEN BASED ON
LOCAL PRACTICE
WITH ONE
REGIONAL CENTER
USING ONE UNIT
AND ANOTHER
REGIONAL CENTER
USING A DIFFERENT
UNIT (REGIONAL
CENTERS ALSO
FREQUENTLY USE
DIFFERENT UNITS
FOR A SINGLE
SERVICE CODE)



DUE TO RATE
FREEZES, USE OF
MEDIAN RATES,
NEGOTIATION

Background: Rate Study Goals

-  Comprehensive study of vendor payment rates (ABX 2-1)
-  Proposed standardized rates (based on detailed rate models) within each Regional Center for most services
-  Generally proposed significant increases to payment rates for most vendors
-  Given the significant variability in existing negotiated rates, impact varies by vendor and some have rates that exceed the applicable proposed rate
-  Rate study included recommendations to simplify and standardize services (including consolidation of service codes)
-  For services without regulations, the rate study included the expectations on which the rate models are based

Background:
AB 136 RATE
REFORM



Enhanced person-centered,
outcomes-based system

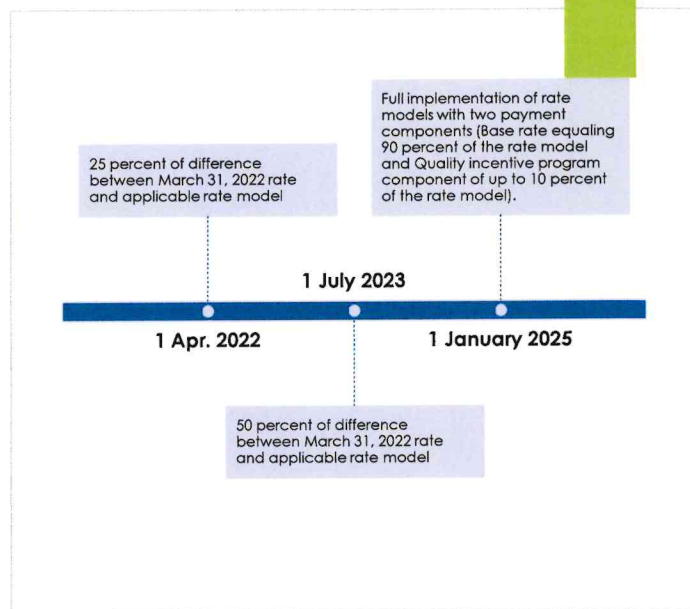


Quality incentive program



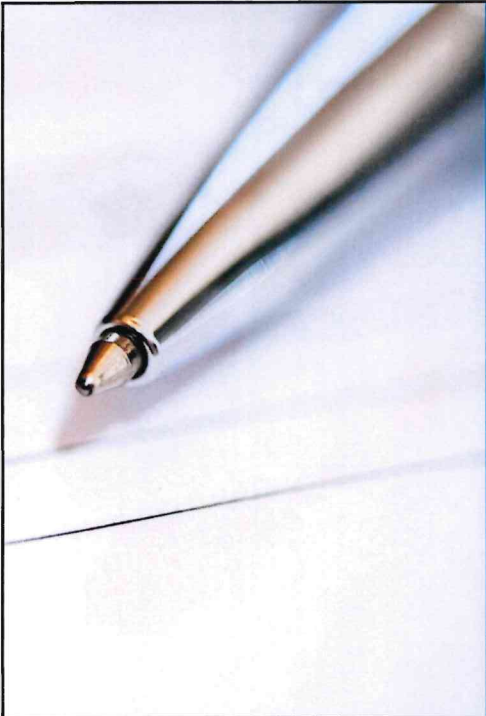
Phased implementation of
rate models

Background: Rate Study Phases



Final Implementation:

As part of continued rate reform implementation pursuant to Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4519.10, service providers shall align with standardized service descriptions, billing codes and payments.



Final Implementation Update:

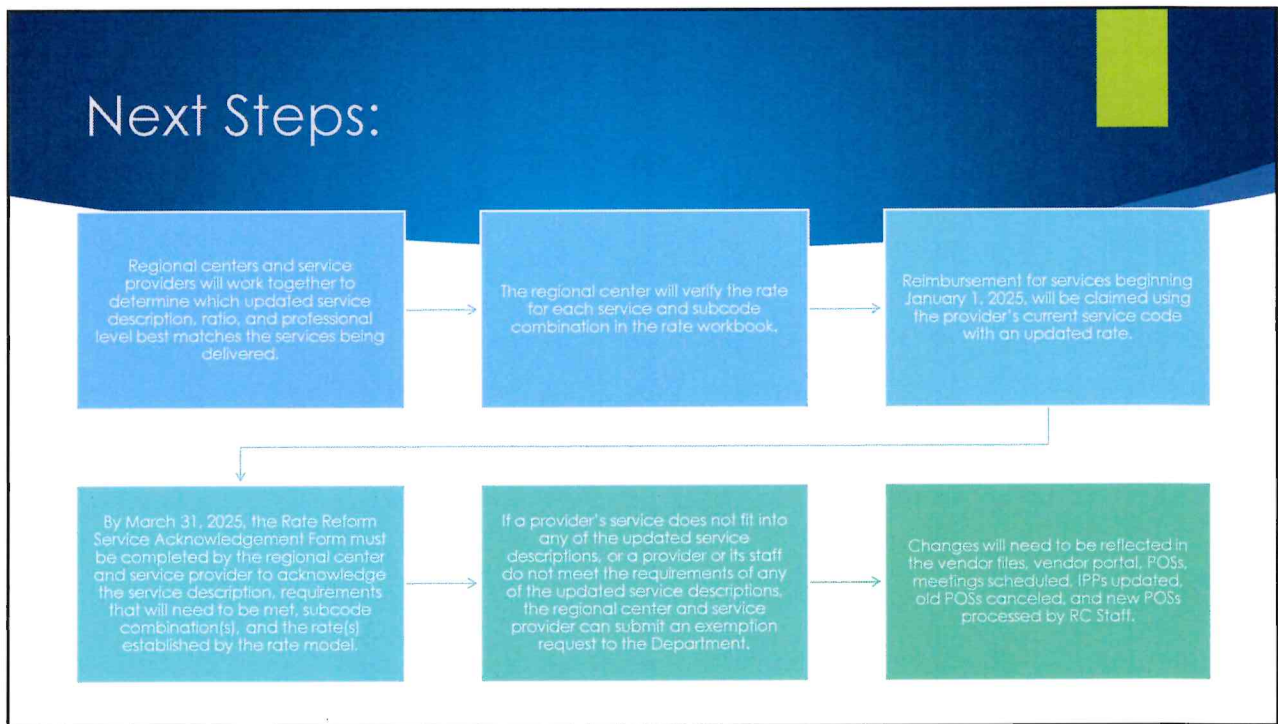
- ▶ Information for January 2025 rate reform implementation continues to be released in a series of directives.
- ▶ Rate reform directives provide regional centers and service providers with instruction on updated service descriptions, new components for qualifications and billing, and timelines involved in implementation.
- ▶ Almost all directives for service codes have been issued.
- ▶ Directives are posted on the DDS Rate Reform Directives and Updates webpage.
- ▶ Service Specific Rate Reform RC Office Hours are being held with RC staff. Previous trainings and Webinars can be viewed on the DDS website as well as published Directives.
- ▶ All services within rate reform that use rates set with Usual and Customary rates may continue to use that rate structure after any alignment.

Next Steps:

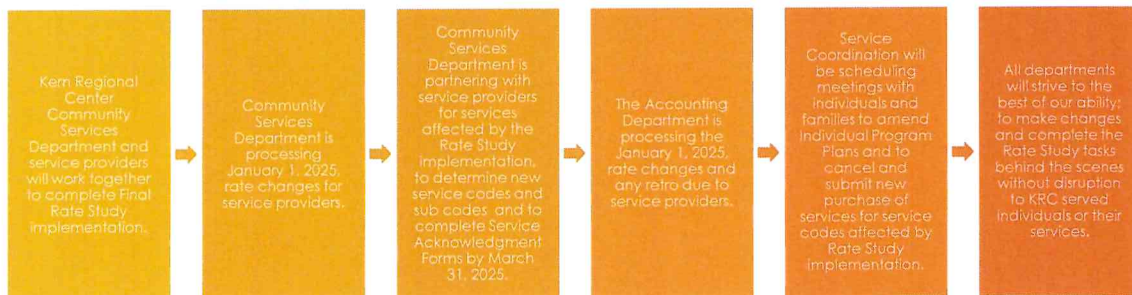
Regional centers and affected service providers will follow DDS's directives to crosswalk into which updated service description most closely matches the services they are currently providing or will be delivered, and follow the procedures described in the directive including any new requirements for staffing, consultant hours, etc to fit the new rate module.

If a provider's service does not fit into any of the updated service descriptions, or a provider or its staff do not meet the requirements of any of the updated service descriptions, the regional center and service provider shall refer to the exemption process developed by DDS.

Next Steps:



Next Steps: Kern Regional Center



Helpful Links:

Rate Models and rates:

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/rate-reform/rate-models/>

Past Rate Reform trainings:

https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/RateReform_RefreshTraining_20240926.pdf



Attachment 6

KEYPOINTS FROM THE ARCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2024

- Emphasized the importance of **defending the system** as the new year approaches.
- **Financial results** for October showed better-than-expected net income due to underspending. Overall projections are tracking as expected.
- **Draft Legislative Positions Standard:** Developed a draft protocol for regional centers' legislative positions, including "No Consensus" and "Position Pending" recommendations.
- **FY 2025-26 Budget:** Discussed budget positions and potential federal funding changes. LAO Fiscal Outlook Report indicates a neutral year for 2025-2026 but significant deficits in future years.
- **Service Coordinators Funding:** Identified shortfall and working with DDS to address it.
- **Housing Data Initiative:** DDS will collect accurate housing data for individuals receiving services.
- **Lanterman Coalition Priorities:** Focus on rate model implementation and ending remote services authorization.
- **Public Records Act:** Established contact with an organization to aid with public records requests.
- **Partnership with J. Gould Consulting:** No financial obligation; ARCA logo use allowed but no formal agreement signed.
- **Voter Voice Legislative Advocacy Proposal:** Approved to increase legislative activity information sharing.
- **Election Outcomes:** Democrats maintain majority; changes in county voting patterns.
- **Legislative Updates:** California legislature to convene on January 6, 2025. List of relevant bills to be shared soon.
- **Proposed Sponsored Legislation:** Drafting bill language for developmental services workforce. Addressing prohibition of Seizure Rescue Medications with potential legislation.
- **Board Delegates Group:** Discussing ideas for Board training on on-boarding.
- **Directors Group:** Discussed regional center employment contracts' public release.
- **Standards and Practices Committee:** Identifying next priorities based on surveys.
- **Client Advisory Committee:** Discussed local advisory activities and upcoming Housing Symposium.
- **Caregiver Succession Planning:** Advocacy for a tool related to succession planning.
- **211 Offices:** Willingness to share regional center information statewide.

Attachment 7

KERN REGIONAL CENTER
PURCHASE OF SERVICE
FY 2024-2025
AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2024

| PURCHASE OF SERVICES | 07/31/24 | 08/31/24 | 09/30/24 | 10/31/24 | 11/30/24 | 2024-2025 Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| OUT-OF-HOME | | | | | | |
| Community Care Facility | 6,187,385 | 6,333,627 | 6,199,379 | 6,141,590 | 6,199,458 | 31,061,439 |
| ICF/SNF Facility | 239,601 | 248,076 | 229,210 | 214,626 | 185,322 | 1,116,835 |
| TOTAL OUT OF HOME | 6,426,986 | 6,581,703 | 6,428,589 | 6,356,216 | 6,384,780 | 32,178,274 |
| DAY PROGRAMS | | | | | | |
| Day Care | 54,231 | 57,531 | 59,567 | 49,750 | 37,480 | 258,559 |
| Day Training | 4,268,859 | 4,529,386 | 4,238,491 | 4,873,172 | 4,246,652 | 22,156,560 |
| Supported Employment | 463,087 | 450,518 | 405,098 | 444,546 | 329,525 | 2,092,774 |
| Work Activity Program | 8,506 | 8,650 | 7,444 | 9,742 | 7,300 | 41,642 |
| SUBTOTAL DAY PROGRAMS | 4,794,683 | 5,046,085 | 4,710,600 | 5,377,210 | 4,620,957 | 24,549,535 |
| OTHER SERVICES | | | | | | |
| Non Medical Services Prof | 1,068,602 | 1,145,447 | 1,131,228 | 1,092,985 | 1,058,033 | 5,496,295 |
| Non Medical Services Prog | 2,038,147 | 2,123,520 | 2,155,411 | 2,223,331 | 1,777,464 | 10,317,873 |
| Home Care Services Prog | 19,186 | 23,571 | 19,763 | 17,647 | 5,866 | 86,033 |
| Transportation | 516,579 | 511,232 | 474,546 | 632,151 | 536,979 | 2,671,487 |
| Transportation Contracts | 941,334 | 956,782 | 895,279 | 969,359 | 835,322 | 4,598,076 |
| Prevention Services | 786,429 | 766,336 | 715,572 | 763,747 | 256,837 | 3,288,921 |
| Other Authorized Services | 4,340,602 | 4,381,049 | 4,290,629 | 4,339,168 | 3,919,315 | 21,270,763 |
| P & I Expense | 10,226 | 10,580 | 10,580 | 10,518 | 9,633 | 51,537 |
| Hospital Care | | | | | | - |
| Medical Equipment | 7,559 | 14,274 | 11,306 | 6,507 | 4,243 | 43,889 |
| Medical Services Prof | 269,235 | 261,434 | 245,010 | 236,879 | 190,463 | 1,203,021 |
| Medical Services Prog | 35,636 | 31,658 | 33,479 | 33,667 | 29,663 | 164,103 |
| Respite Care - In Home | 3,586,860 | 3,666,138 | 3,487,590 | 3,563,737 | 1,931,555 | 16,235,880 |
| Respite Care - Out of Home | 20,719 | 69,162 | 11,295 | 17,442 | 13,384 | 132,002 |
| Camps | 8,025 | 9,225 | 5,645 | 3,570 | 6,425 | 32,890 |
| | | | | | | - |
| TOTAL OTHER SERVICES | 13,649,139 | 13,970,408 | 13,487,333 | 13,910,708 | 10,575,182 | 65,592,770 |
| TOTAL PURCHASE OF SERVICES | 24,870,808 | 25,598,196 | 24,626,522 | 25,644,134 | 21,580,919 | 122,320,579 |
| COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PLAN | | | | | | |
| Community Care Facility | 98,699 | 98,699 | 76,946 | 80,238 | 81,357 | 435,939 |
| ICF/SNF Facility | | | | | | - |
| Day Training | | | | | | - |
| Non-Medical Services | 1,000 | | | | | 1,000 |
| Non-Medical Services-Programs | 6,211 | 4,848 | 4,848 | 9,204 | 6,120 | 31,231 |
| Transportation | | | | | | - |
| Other Authorized Services | | | | | | - |
| Other Services | | | | | | - |
| Medical Care - Prof | | | | | | - |
| TOTAL COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PLAN | 105,910 | 103,547 | 81,794 | 89,442 | 87,477 | 468,170 |
| TOTAL PURCHASE OF SERVICE | 24,976,718 | 25,701,743 | 24,708,316 | 25,733,576 | 21,668,396 | 122,788,749 |

Attachment 8

KERN REGIONAL CENTER
 OPERATIONS
 FY 2024/2025
 AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2024

| | PROPOSED EXPENDITURES | PROPOSED YEAR TO DATE BUDGET | 07/31/24 | 08/31/24 | 09/30/24 | 10/31/24 | 11/30/24 | TOTAL | (OVER)/UNDER |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| OPERATIONS | | | | | | | | | |
| Salaries & Benefits | 29,744,051 | 12,584,021 | 2,212,180 | 2,035,138 | 2,045,379 | 2,199,888 | 2,053,278 | 10,545,864 | 2,038,158 |
| Operating Expenses | 8,868,000 | 3,695,000 | 670,999 | 417,244 | 592,724 | 876,917 | 778,599 | 3,336,481 | 358,519 |
| SUBTOTAL OPS | 38,612,051 | 16,279,021 | 2,883,179 | 2,452,381 | 2,638,103 | 3,076,805 | 2,831,877 | 13,882,345 | 2,396,677 |
| COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PLAN | | | | | | | | | |
| Salaries & Benefits | 518,006 | 219,156 | | 78,142 | 61,995 | 42,214 | 24,738 | 207,089 | 12,067 |
| Operating Expenses | 19,400 | 8,083 | | | 20,005 | 1,333 | 1,333 | 22,672 | (14,588) |
| SUBTOTAL CPP | 537,406 | 227,240 | - | 78,142 | 82,000 | 43,547 | 26,072 | 229,761 | (2,521) |
| FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM | | | | | | | | | |
| Salaries & Benefits | 95,402 | 40,362 | 7,586 | 5,641 | 7,401 | 7,527 | 7,220 | 35,375 | 4,987 |
| Operating Expenses | 183,401 | 76,417 | 6,803 | 11,633 | 12,342 | 13,376 | 13,671 | 57,824 | 18,593 |
| SUBTOTAL FGP | 278,803 | 116,779 | 14,389 | 17,274 | 19,743 | 20,903 | 20,891 | 93,200 | 23,580 |
| SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM | | | | | | | | | |
| Salaries & Benefits | 71,970 | 30,449 | 5,722 | 4,255 | 5,583 | 5,640 | 5,447 | 26,648 | 3,801 |
| Operating Expenses | 137,594 | 57,331 | 6,734 | 5,650 | 6,234 | 6,771 | 7,677 | 33,067 | 24,264 |
| SUBTOTAL SCP | 209,564 | 87,780 | 12,457 | 9,906 | 11,817 | 12,411 | 13,124 | 59,714 | 28,065 |
| TOTAL OPERATIONS | 39,637,824 | 16,710,820 | 2,910,024 | 2,557,703 | 2,751,664 | 3,153,666 | 2,891,963 | 14,265,020 | 2,445,801 |

Attachment 9

CAC Meeting
December 17, 2024




We Make Room for Fun at CAC

Ice Breaker

Attendees shared their
dream travel destinations
including Paris, Hawaii,
Spain, Mexico, Australia,
Ireland and Japan!



... And then we played
Bingo, both in-person in the
Malibu and also on Zoom!





Information Shared

**ARCA ADVOCACY:
TRACEY AND ENRIQUE DISCUSSED
ARCA'S ADVOCACY EFFORTS THROUGH
TRAININGS, EVENTS, AND SUPPORT
FOR REGIONAL CENTERS**



Future Meeting Topics Suggested by CAC Members

- **SSI**
- **Working/Employment**
- **Home and Community-Based Standards (HCBS)**
- **Community-Related Topics**
- **Changes in 2025**
- **Navigating the KRC Website**
- **Rate Changes**
- **Group Outings!**



KRC Website and Social Media

**INFORMATION ABOUT PAST AND UPCOMING
CAC MEETINGS IS AVAILABLE ON THE
KRC WEBSITE CALENDAR, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND
WILL ALSO BE E-MAILED.**

***A SUGGESTION WAS MADE TO CREATE A
DEDICATED SECTION FOR THE CAC ON THE
KRC WEBSITE***



Next Meeting

Friday, January 24, 2025

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Kern Regional Center, Malibu Room