



San Gabriel / Pomona
Regional Center

**SAN GABRIEL/POMONA VALLEYS
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, INC.**

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JULY 9, 2025**

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige
Adriana Pinedo
Tina Wright
Teshia Obi
Daniela Barrera
Joseph Huang

STAFF

Jesse Weller, Executive Director
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and
Equity and Community Outreach Team
Willanette Steward/Satchell
Erika Gomez, Liaison to the Board of Directors and the
RDDF

ABSENT

Alayna Effinger

GUESTS

Tris Gonzales
Jenny Liu

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:
None

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Trish Gonzales, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was established.

Ms. Gonzales introduced herself and spoke about her time serving on the Board. She invited the committee members to attend Board meetings.

The agenda was reviewed, and the following item was added: Public Records Act.

M/S/C (Wright & Zarsadiaz-Ige) The committee approved the agenda change.

The minutes of the May 14, 2025, meeting were reviewed and approved.

M/S/C (Zarsadiaz-Ige & Obi) The committee approved the minutes.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

Jesse Weller, Executive Director, presented the following:

- A. Community Message from Jesse:* He acknowledged the concerns and fears about the recent federal bill passed by the House and its potential impact on individuals, families, and the community once signed into law. He reassured the community that the regional center remains a source of support and that no one is alone. He encouraged everyone to take care of themselves and reminded them that we are a strong, united community
- B. Protecting Access for ALL Californians –* DDS provided a message to the community that CMS reportedly shared Medicaid data, including from California, with the Department of Homeland Security. The exact details of what was shared are unknown. Governor Newsom and CHHS Secretary, Kim Johnson, emphasized their commitment to community trust, dignity, and legal protections.

California's developmental services remain an entitlement for *all* eligible individuals, regardless of immigration status. The state reaffirmed its strict privacy laws and shared multilingual resources, including:

- Legal and immigration support
- Privacy protection fact sheets
- Mental health and trauma resources
- Food and housing assistance
- Guardianship and advance directive templates

Regional centers are being directed to:

- Proactively support affected families
- Continue services despite guardianship changes
- Prioritize urgent IPP/IFSP updates
- Allow remote meetings and services where possible
- Expedite housing/transportation help

The Department encourages selfcare and urges families to contact service

coordinators if needs change.

C. Federal Uncertainties Updates –

- Some of the main impacts of this bill, over a period of ten years, will result in over \$1 trillion in cuts to Medicaid (what we call Medi-Cal) and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
- It includes a reduction of \$490 billion in Medicare funding and cuts ranging from \$186 to \$300 billion in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- Covered California estimates that as many as 660,000 of the approximately 2 million people enrolled in the program may lose their coverage or choose to drop out due to increased costs and the burdensome new mandates for remaining enrolled. Those who decide to stay could face an average monthly premium increase of up to 66%.
- It is too soon to know how big the cuts will end up being to California's budget and what strategy California will take in navigating this major divestment in these important programs. This could take months and even into 2026 and beyond to fully know the impact.

D. Coffee with First Responders – On June 12, 2025, Mr. Weller and Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and Equity, hosted a panel event with local First Responders. Representatives from the Glendora, Monrovia, and Azusa Police Departments were in attendance.

E. Public Records Act Request – coming soon - As a result of Assembly Bill 1147, regional centers will become subject to **Public Records Act** Requests effective **January 1, 2026**. DDS has allocated funding to help support these functions for regional centers. As such, SG/PRC will release a position that will be responsible for overseeing, coordinating, analyzing, processing, evaluating, and responding to public records requests for the center.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH-UPDATE

Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and Equity, shared a recap video of the Empowerment Conference held on June 18, 2025. This event was for individuals already connected to the regional center who want to learn more about available services.

He also announced the New Family Orientation session Scheduled for July 12, 2025. It is for new parents, guardians, and caregivers to learn about SG/PRC, what to expect in the years ahead, meet staff, and receive key resources. There are 100 people registered.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on August 13, 2025.