



San Gabriel / Pomona
Regional Center

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

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JULY 8, 2026**

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Trish Gonzales,
Chairperson
Joseph Huang
Melissa Song
Teshia Obi
Alayna Effinger
Jenny Liu

STAFF

Jesse Weller, Executive Director
Yvonne Gratianne, Communications
& Public Engagement Officer
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access &
Equity
Erika Gomez, Liaison to the Board of Directors and
the RDDF

ABSENT

Adriana Pinedo
Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige
Tina Wright
Daniela Barrera

GUESTS

Mark

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, Trish Gonzales, called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. A quorum was established.

The agenda was reviewed.

The following meeting minutes were reviewed:

- March 11, 2026 - M/S/C (*Gonzales/Huang*) *The Committee approved the minutes. Abstains: Barrera*
- April 8, 2026 - M/S/C (*Gonzales/Huang*) *The Committee approved the minutes.*
- May 13, 2026 – The minutes were tabled.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE COMMUNITY

The committee members shared the following events:

- Rosebowl Community Walk – July 19, 2026 at 9:00am
- Splash and Play – July 23, 2026 at 10am in Hacienda Heights
- Asian Support Group Summer Potluck – August 22, 2026 – 9:30am – 2pm at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (Conference Room)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

Federal and State Budget Updates

- Jesse Weller, Executive Director, provided updates regarding federal and state budget matters. He shared that the Governor indicated the state budget has sufficient reserves to help offset potential impacts from federal changes, while noting that circumstances could shift depending on future federal decisions. He also discussed concerns related to the Early Start Program, which serves infants and toddlers from birth to age three. Mr. Weller explained that Early Start has historically been administered through the Office of Special Education and that the federal administration's decision to move oversight to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has raised concerns within the community regarding maintaining specialized expertise.
- Mr. Weller reported that the FY 2026/27 State Budget was approved and discussed several budget-related items, including the rejection of proposed In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) changes. He also shared that Proposition 56 dental funding was extended through July 2027.
- Mr. Weller discussed changes related to the Medi-Cal asset limit, noting that a proposal to reduce the asset limit to \$2,000 was not adopted. Instead, the asset limit will transition to \$21,000 beginning July 1, 2027. He shared that additional education and outreach efforts will be needed to inform individuals and families about available tools, such as CalABLE accounts.

Trailer Bill Language

- Mr. Weller provided an update on recent legislative changes affecting regional center Boards. He reviewed changes to Board composition, member qualifications, training requirements, representation requirements, advisory group involvement, and annual Board and Executive Director evaluations under WIC Section 4622.
- Mr. Weller also reviewed changes related to Board contract review requirements under WIC Section 4625.5, including updates to contract review thresholds and exemptions for certain contracts. He discussed new requirements under WIC Section 4625.6 regarding regional centers retaining independent legal counsel to advise Boards on governance, meetings, compliance, and other Board responsibilities.
- Mr. Weller noted that staff will continue reviewing the requirements and preparing for implementation.

STATEWIDE/LOCAL UPDATES BY YVONNE GRATIANNE, COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

Yvonne Gratianne, Communications & Public Engagement Officer, presented on the following:

- July recognition events: Disability Pride Month, National Developmental Disability Professionals Day, and UV Safety Month.
- Ollie the Sea Lion continues to encourage individuals to practice water safety and protect their skin while enjoying water activities. The #BeSplashSafe campaign will continue through September. She shared that postcards promoting water safety are being distributed and that DDS and other regional centers are supporting the campaign. She also shared information regarding Assembly Member Michelle Rodriguez's efforts related to modernizing the definition of swim vests through AB 1571.
- The Advocacy Connection is a platform for adult individuals served with topics driven by community input. The July session will feature the Dental Coordinator discussing oral health, and the flyer is available in the meeting materials folder.
- The agency's Instagram account recently reached 1,000 followers.
- The Safety Signal, Volume 2, an emergency preparedness newsletter was is available in the meeting materials folder and will also be posted on the SG/PRC website.
- Ms. Gratianne announced upcoming voting rights training for adult individuals served. She shared that the training will be followed by a TAC session.
- The Richard D. Davis Foundation Golf Scramble is scheduled for September 14, 2026 at South Hills Country Club. She shared that planning is underway and that the event is more than halfway toward its goal. Proceeds from the

event support community activities, including events such as Sirens of Silence and dances.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH-UPDATE

Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and Equity, shared about the community outreach his department has participated in. Please see his report, attached or click [here](#).

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on August 12, 2026.