



San Gabriel / Pomona
Regional Center

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

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2026**

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Teshia Obi
Alayna Effinger
Jenny Liu
Karen Zarsadias-Ige
Joseph Huang
Melissa Song
Tina Wright

ABSENT

Adriana Pinedo,
Chairperson
Daniela Barrera
Diana Hernandez

GUESTS

Mark

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
Kristy Owens, Senior Executive Assistant

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Tina Wright, on behalf of Adriana Pinedo, called the meeting to order at 6:04p.m. A quorum was established.

The agenda was reviewed.

The following meeting minutes were tabled:

- May 13, 2026 and July 8, 2026 and August 12, 2026

PUBLIC INPUT

None

WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE COMMUNITY

Mr. Weller provided an update on a recent Disability Health Summit focused on the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and the supports they need. Representatives from the State Council and ARCA were among those in attendance. Individuals shared their lived experiences, including challenges accessing healthcare and finding medical providers who treat them with dignity and respect.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

Mr. Weller provided an update on the Olmstead Decision, which supports the right of individuals with disabilities to receive services in integrated community settings. He discussed recent federal developments related to the decision and noted concerns regarding their potential impact on disability services. He shared that ARCA has requested support from the Governor and Attorney General in support of the Olmstead Decision.

Mr. Weller also provided federal updates, including an update on the Self-Determination Program waiver.

Additionally, he discussed a U.S. Department of Labor change related to a federal contracting rule that encouraged contractors to work toward having individuals with disabilities comprise 7% of their workforce. Mr. Weller noted that California remains an Employment First state.

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

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

Ms. Gratianne highlighted several September awareness and recognition efforts, including National Suicide Prevention Month, National Preparedness Month, Deaf Awareness Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, World Alzheimer's Month, and Direct Support Professional (DSP) Recognition Week.

She shared that SG/PRC is promoting suicide prevention and access to mental health resources, including 988 information; emergency preparedness and safety; Deaf awareness and inclusivity; culturally responsive services and language access in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month; and Alzheimer's awareness and its impact on the community.

DSP Recognition Week will be observed September 13–19 to recognize Direct Support Professionals and the essential work they provide.

Ms. Gratianne also announced that the upcoming Richard D. Davis Foundation Golf Scramble is sold out.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH-UPDATE

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

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on October 14, 2026.