

**SAN GABRIEL/POMONA VALLEYS
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

August 6, 2026

The following committee members attended said meeting:

PRESENT:

Sharon Ehrig
Valerie Donelson
Jaime Currie
Johnnie Martinez
Baldo Paseta
Mario Escobedo

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kelly Privitt, Chairperson
Jazmyne Robinson
Beba Saba (LOA)
Janee Blackburn
Jazmine Ulibarri
Christopher Trevilla
Ookie Voong
Edgar Cartagena

STAFF:

Jesse Weller, Executive Director
Lucina Galarza, Deputy Executive Director
Tim Travis, Director, Community Services
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services
Jaime Anabalon, Quality Assurance Specialist
Yvonne Gratianne, Communications & Public
Engagement Officer
Elba Moreno, Assistant Communications
Department

GUEST:

Lucy Aguilar, Manager, Fiscal Services POS I

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

None

A. CALL TO ORDER

Sharon Ehrig, on behalf of Kelly Privitt, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.
A quorum was not established.

The minutes of the meeting on July 2, 2026, were tabled.

B. MOST PRESSING CONCERNS FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

Vendor shared information on SB 177, which proposes that employers with over 250 employees pay \$4000 annually if their employees are part-time and receiving Medi-Cal.

C. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS

Adult Programs

Vocational – Christopher Trevilla and Jazmyne Robinson were not present.

Adult Day – Johnnie Martinez shared that they met on July 22nd, 2026, and had a great turnout. Some of the concerns, again, were purchasing services, transportation, outside vendorization. Some vendors were stating that individuals are sitting on transportation buses for extended periods. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2026, at 10 A.M.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Jazmine Ulibarri was not present.

Transportation

Baldo Paseta shared that they met on July 9th, 2026, in person they had a low turnout. Some of the concerns shared were the raising gas prices and a substantial decrease on referrals for specialized transportation. There is no date for the next Transportation subcommittee meeting.

Independent Living Services

ILS – Sharon Ehrig individuals who receive EBT benefits have started to get letters stating that they must work 30 hours a week or attend a school program up to 120 hours per month. But if they are receiving social security benefits, then that exempts them from that requirement by submitting CF 887 form, for medical verification.

SLS Services – Mario Escobedo shared that DDS is holding an EVV office hour session, entitled Using Reports in CalEVV on August 18th from 3:00pm-4:00pm on Zoom. He also shared the new trailer bill language that states individuals receiving SLS and ILS services may continue choosing to receive remote services through December 31st, 2028, the choice must be documented in their IPP.

Residential Services

Specialized – Janee Blackburn was not present.

CCF – Valerie Donelson shared that the Residential Subcommittee met on August 4, 2026, some of the concerns that the ICF vendors shared that a lot of the homes are suffering due to low referrals. Another concern expressed regarding medications, a vendor shared that they were paying for individual medications, because medicaid is not paying for them.

ICF- Ookie Voong was not present.

Other Vended Services- Beba Saba shared on (LOA)

At Large- Jaime Currie shared that the At Large subcommittee meets on the first Wednesday of the month. The last meeting was very well attended; the following concerns were raised:

- Provider shortages: Not enough medical doctors & clinicians, especially in primary care, psychiatry, neurology, GI, etc. and it's hardest for families on Medi-Cal/Medicaid. The same for Speech, OT, ABA.
- Access despite "coverage": Even when insurance or regional centers are supposed to cover services, families face long waitlists and can't find providers who will take the plan.
- Primary care gaps: Very limited primary care access for children and adults with developmental disabilities, leading to over-reliance on urgent care/ER.
- SDP/provider sustainability: Agencies are worried about providing services under SDP because:
 - Regional centers are applying strict ideas of "cost-effective".
 - Chirps about SDP approval committees?
 - There is uncertainty about what counts as "reasonable rates" under DDS rate models and SDP budgets.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jamie Currie shared the following:

Recent policy and DDS issues:

1. State budget & oversight: The 2026–27 budget grows DDS and regional center funding, but also adds more standardized procedures and oversight (rate reform, grievance changes, stronger payer-of-last-resort enforcement).
2. Self-Determination Program (SDP): Recent laws and budget changes tighten SDP by:
 - a. Basing initial budgets more strictly on prior authorized services.
 - b. Requiring RCs to certify spending plans as "reasonable" and aligned with IPP goals.
 - c. Directing DDS to issue a statewide definition of "cost-effective" that RCs must apply to SDP and other services.
3. Rate reform: DDS is rolling out standardized rate models for most service codes, which cap what RCs can pay and may not match providers' actual costs, especially for complex, in-home supports.
4. Respite "calculator" / Standardized In-Home Respite Tool:
 - a. DDS created a statewide tool to standardize how respite hours are calculated, but after testing and heavy feedback, DDS has now paused further development and use of the tool. tool.dds.ca+2
 - b. Regional centers have been told to continue using their existing methods to authorize respite hours; the tool should not be used as an automatic cap on respite. tool.dds.ca+1

RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Recruiting for FY 26/27 (effective July 1, 2026)

- Residential CCF

To apply, please email elba.moreno@sgprc.org or egomez@sgprc.org

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Lucy Aguilar, Manager, Fiscal Services POS I, gave vendors a detailed walkthrough of the POS tab in the San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center website.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATES

Jesse Weller, Executive Director, had nothing to report.

SG/PRC UPDATES

Elisa Herzog, Advocacy Liaison made the following announcement:

- The next advocacy connection meeting via Zoom will be held on Thursday, September 24, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The topic will be “Voter Registration, Voting Rights, and Accessibility at the Polls.”

Tim Travis, Director, Community Services:

- Heat Ready
- Roommate Training
- Community Needs Survey for FY 26/27
- Important Changes to the required DSP 1 and 2 training
- DSP Collaborative LA County
- DSP University
- DSP Internship Program
- Statewide Provider Directory
- Standardized Vendorization
- ICF - Bed holds during temporary absences
- Rate Reform
- DDS QIP – Provider Eligibility to Earn Quality Incentive Rate for FY 2026-27
- How to Check Your Provider Survey Status
- Day Program: Updates for length of day and corresponding billing
- Transportation
- Transportation Additional Component
- Fiscal Year 26/27 Work Activity Program (WAP) Services Maximum Billing Days
- Swimming/Drowning Prevention

- American Sign Language Training Support
- Home and Community-Based Services Final Rule
- HCBS – SCLARC Free HCBS training for Service Providers on Community Connecting
- HCBS – SCLARC Free HCBS training for Service Providers on Compassion @ work
- Future HCBS Projects
- HCBS trainings coming soon
- Road Safety
- Stay Connected with SGPRC

Detailed notes can be found in meeting materials.

PUBLIC INPUT

Richard D. Davis Foundation Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, September 14, 2026.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on September 4, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.