

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
REGIONAL CENTER PURCHASE OF SERVICE PUBLIC MEETINGS SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS
AND PLAN TO PROMOTE EQUITY AND REDUCE DISPARITIES ANNUAL REPORT TEMPLATE**

As indicated in Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4519.5(g) and (i), regional centers are required to hold public meetings for community members within three months of posting annual purchase of service data on their websites. Regional centers submit an annual report to the Department of Developmental Services (Department) by May 31st. The Department reviews and provides feedback to the regional centers on the report, prior to its posting by August 31st. The following pages include the required components of the report. A list of questions is provided to assist regional centers when preparing the report in addition to the inclusion of regional center's public meeting notes, public comments, presentation materials and a plan with recommendations for increasing equitable access in purchase of services and supports.

Regional center name: San Diego Regional Center

Person filling out report: Brenda Bello Vazquez, Cultural Specialist

Date of completion: 5/23/25

PROPER MEETING COMMUNITY INCLUSION

W&I Code section 4519.5 (g)" ...each regional center shall meet with stakeholders (community members) in one or more public meetings regarding the (purchase of service) data... consider the language needs of the community and shall schedule the meetings at times and locations designed to result in a high turnout by the public and underserved communities."

1. **How many meetings did your regional center conduct?** 4
2. **Did your regional center hold at least one meeting by March 31st?** Yes
3. **How were the meetings scheduled to accommodate community participation? Select all that apply.**
 - ☐ Webinar (e.g., GoToMeeting, YouTube)
 - ☐ Virtual platform (e.g., Zoom)
 - ☐ In-person
 - ☒ Hybrid
 - ☐ Other

All meetings were held in-person with a zoom option.

PROPER MEETING NOTIFICATION

W&I Code section 4519.5(g) "...regional centers shall inform the department of the scheduling of those public meetings 30 days prior to the meeting. Notice of the meetings shall also be posted on the regional center's internet website 30 days prior to the meeting and shall be sent to individual stakeholders and groups representing underserved communities in a timely manner."

4. **Was the Department informed at least 30 days prior to ALL meetings?** Yes
5. **How was the Department informed?** Liaison direct email
6. **Were notices of ALL meetings held, posted on the regional center's website 30 days prior to each meeting(s)?** Yes

7. **Select the best option that represents when individual community members impacted by disparities and barriers to equitable access to services and supports were informed? 30 days or more**

8. **What outreach efforts were utilized to inform individual community members impacted by disparities and barriers to equitable access to services and supports of the meeting(s)? Select all that apply.**

- ☒ Newsletter/Eblast
- ☒ POS meeting specific email
- ☒ Public meeting
- ☒ Social media
- ☒ Community partners
- ☒ Website (e.g., event page or calendar)
- ☐ Blog post
- ☐ Everbridge or another type of automated phone recording
- ☒ Mail
- ☐ Text
- ☐ Phone call by regional center staff
- ☐ Other

If "Other" selected enter here.

CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY APPROPRIATE

W&I Code section 4519.5(g) "The regional center shall provide participants of these meetings with the data and any associated information related to improvements in the provision of developmental services to underserved communities and shall conduct a discussion of the data and the associated information in a manner that is culturally and linguistically appropriate for that community, including providing alternative communication services."

9. **What languages were offered during the meeting(s)? Select all that apply.**

- ☒ English
- ☒ Spanish
- ☒ Mandarin
- ☐ Cantonese
- ☐ Hmong
- ☒ Korean
- ☒ Vietnamese
- ☒ ASL
- ☒ Other

SDRC also provided interpretation for the following requested languages: Tagalog, Hindi and Amharic

10. **Did the meeting(s) include any of the following? Select all that apply.**

- ☒ Meeting(s) held in several languages
- ☒ Closed captioning provided
- ☒ Materials were provided in several languages

☒ Information was presented in plain language (i.e. easy to understand)

☐ Other

If "Other" selected enter here.

11. Describe how the cultural and linguistic needs of the communities were considered.

The POS meeting held in the Imperial County was conducted in Spanish given that 42% of clients that live in Imperial primarily speak Spanish. Attendees were given the option of requesting an interpreter in their preferred language upon registration. Since transportation can sometimes be a barrier for clients and families, a meeting was conducted in-person in North County San Diego, Central San Diego, and Imperial County with the option to attend virtually via Zoom. The power point was printed and was translated in all requested languages. Flyers for the POS meetings were translated in all threshold languages and were sent out via email blast. Clients who did not have an email on file received a postcard via mail. The flyers were also posted on the SDRC website and all social media outlets. The data shared in the slides was reviewed internally multiple times to ensure that it was presented in plain language.

ACTIONS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

W&I Code section 4519.5(i)(1)(A) "Actions the regional center took to improve public attendance and participation at stakeholder meetings, including, but not limited to, attendance and participation by underserved communities."

12. Was the goal or purpose of the meeting communicated? If so, describe how?

The goal and purpose of the meeting was communicated on the flyers that were sent out to the community. All meetings included an introduction and slides on background information on the purpose of the meeting.

13. What methods were used to provide an environment that allowed attendees to feel comfortable and interact with each other? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Allowed for small group conversations
- ☐ Introduced staff in attendance
- ☐ Allowed attendees to introduce themselves
- ☒ Provided chat rooms (e.g., zoom chat function)
- ☒ Chat feature was enabled
- ☒ Opportunity for public comment
- ☒ Provided opportunities to ask questions
- ☐ Other

SDRC recognizes that not all attendees are comfortable providing input during public meetings so attendees were also offered the opportunity to provide input and recommendations after the meeting via email at deiateam@sdrc.org

14. Based on attendance did you observe any of the following? Select all that apply.

- ☒ Attendees engaged in public comment
- ☒ Innovative ideas suggested by attendees
- ☒ Diverse perspectives shared by attendees

- ☒ Attendees requested additional explanation/clarification on the information shared
- ☐ Other

If "Other" selected enter here.

15. Overall, how many individuals from the public attended the meeting(s)? Select best estimate.
50-100

16. What efforts did the regional center take to improve public attendance and participation, including any new strategies? Select all that apply.

- ☒ Collaborated with community partners
- ☐ Offered focus groups
- ☒ Offered meetings in multiple languages
- ☒ Offered multiple meeting opportunities
- ☐ Outreach through group meetings
- ☒ Outreach via flyers/public service announcements/social media
- ☒ Provided translated materials
- ☐ Shared via Everbridge
- ☒ Offered meetings virtually
- ☒ Offered meetings during non-business hours or on weekends
- ☐ Not applicable
- ☐ Other

If "Other" selected enter here.

17. Who were the meeting(s) attendees? Select all that apply.

- ☒ Self-advocates
- ☒ Parents/family members
- ☒ Regional center staff
- ☐ Board members
- ☒ Community advocates
- ☒ Community based organizations
- ☒ Department staff
- ☒ Other

Vendors/Service Providers

18. List the names of the partner agencies, community partners, and community-based organizations that participated in the meeting(s).

DDS, Explorer Development Center, Home of Guiding Hands, San Diego State University, Self-Determined Valley, North County Advocacy, Integrated Community Collaborative, Disability Rights CA, Options for All, A Better Life Together, Abacus Applied Behavioral Analysis

COPIES OF MINUTES AND ATTENDEE COMMENTS

W&I Code section 4519.5 (i)(1)(B) "Copies of minutes from the meeting and attendee comments"

19. Does the regional center report include a copy of the meeting minutes (notes) and a copy of the raw attendee comments? **Yes**

20. Which of the following themes reflect what attendees expressed as important, challenges and barriers faced? Select as top concern, concern or not a concern for each.

	Top Concern	Concern	Not a Concern
Regional center services satisfaction (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Case management satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lack of regional center knowledge/service options (4)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of community trainings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Concern with language and cultural competency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Service coordinator/staff training concerns (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caseload concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Communication/outreach concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lack of regional center trust	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unmet needs (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Service accessibility concerns (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rates and vendorization concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vendor concerns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lack of community, regional center, and other community member collaboration (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Need for advocacy training and support (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. Were there any additional topics or themes mentioned in the meeting(s) that are not listed in question 20? Please list and indicate if they were a top concern (mentioned by multiple people).

No additional topics or themes were mentioned.

IDENTIFIED DISPARITIES IN POS DATA

W&I Code section 4519.5 (i)(1)(C) "Whether the data...indicate a need to reduce disparities in the purchase of services among consumers in the regional center's catchment area."

22. Did the regional center report data about number of instances when written copies of individual program plans (IPP) were provided at the request of consumers or their legal representatives more than 45 days for threshold languages and 60 days for non-threshold languages after request was made?
[Yes](#)
23. Summarize the type of disparities that were identified and discussed (e.g., by race/ethnicity, primary language, residence, age, diagnosis, etc.)

The data presented showed that differences exist in Purchase of Services (POS) spending, particularly as clients approach adulthood. These variations highlight important opportunities to understand and address the unique needs of clients at different life-stages. It's also important to note that sample sizes vary across groups, which can significantly influence average spending per person. As such, the data presented should be interpreted cautiously and warrants further analysis before drawing definitive conclusions.

The following data points emerged as areas for further inquiry and focused support:

- Hispanic clients had lower average service utilization for both age groups (3–21 and 22+), however, they had the highest authorized services and expenditures in Community & Intermediate Care facilities.
- Vietnamese-speaking clients showed the lowest average spending per person across both age groups, however they had the highest authorized and expenditures in services children ages 0-2 (Early Start).
- Individuals identifying as Other or Multicultural utilized Social Recreation services at lower rates, offering a chance to evaluate cultural relevance and accessibility of these services.
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander clients did not access Camp services in the past fiscal year, pointing to a possible gap in outreach or alignment with community needs.
- Black/African-American clients had the lowest average spending on Non-Medical Therapies, however they had the highest per capita authorization and expenditures for Social Recreation services. This may reflect the intense educational outreach to that community.
- Clients speaking languages classified as “All Other Languages” spent the least per person on Social Recreation, presenting an opportunity to ensure inclusivity in recreational offerings.
- Vietnamese-speaking clients did not access Camp services; however, the Asian community had the highest authorized services and expenditures for non-medical therapies.
- English-speaking clients had the lowest per-person spending on Non-Medical Therapies, warranting further exploration into access and utilization patterns.
- No Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander clients were living in Intermediate Care Facilities, however they had the highest authorized services and the second highest expenditures for in-home services.

- American Indian or Alaska Native clients had the lowest average spending on Independent Living Services, suggesting a need to better understand and support their transition to independence.
- Individuals identifying as Other or Multicultural and living in-home had lower service utilization, inviting a review of service accessibility for in-home supports.
- There were no American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander clients who accessed Supported Living Services during the past fiscal year, indicating an opportunity for outreach and education about these options.
- Spanish-speaking individuals had the lowest average spending on Independent Living Services, however the Hispanic community had the highest authorized services and expenditures in supported living services.
- Vietnamese-speaking clients living in-home had the lowest average service spending in the past fiscal year, reinforcing the importance of tailored outreach strategies.
- Clients identifying as Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander represented the largest group with no POS in the past fiscal year, suggesting a need for intentional inclusion efforts.
- Black/African-American clients made up the largest proportion (40%) of individuals ages 3–21 with no POS, underscoring the importance of equity-driven outreach in early development.
- Clients identifying as Other or Multicultural had the highest number of individuals with no POS for the 22+ age group, pointing to potential service gaps in adulthood.
- Vietnamese-speaking clients had the highest number of individuals with no POS overall, highlighting a need for language-accessible engagement strategies.
- Among clients ages 3–21, those who selected English as their primary language had the highest percentage (39%) with no POS, indicating a broader need for universal outreach.
- For the 22+ age group, 42% of Vietnamese-speaking clients had no POS, again pointing to critical opportunities to improve access for this community.
- A notable percentage (56%) of IPP translation requests from Hispanic clients were not completed within 45 days, identifying an area where service timelines could be improved.
- Similarly, 59% of Spanish-speaking clients' IPP translation requests were not fulfilled within 45 days, suggesting a need for process enhancements to ensure timely and equitable service delivery.

REGIONAL CENTER'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND PLANS TO PROMOTE EQUITY AND REDUCE DISPARITIES

W&I Code section 4519.5 (i)(1)(C) "...If the data do indicate that need, the regional center's recommendations and plan to promote equity, and reduce disparities, in the purchase of services."

24. What other venues were utilized, in addition to holding the POS annual meetings, to gather information to develop the regional center's recommendations and plan¹ to promote equity and reduce disparities? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Other regional center meetings
- ☒ Feedback requested from support groups
- ☒ Recommendations from focus groups
- ☒ Surveys
- ☐ Call for public input (e.g., social media, eblasts, website)
- ☐ Other

If "Other" selected enter here.

25. Does the regional center's attached report include how the prior year's recommendations and plan were implemented? [Yes](#)

REPORTS POSTED ON INTERNET WEBSITES

W&I Code section 4519.5 (c)(1)(B).

The Department posted final, de-identified Fiscal Year 2023/24 Annual POS reports on its website. Regional centers shall post a link on its internet website to the reports on the Department's webpage.

26. Did the regional center post a link on its internet website to the reports on the Department's webpage?
[Yes](#)

IDENTIFIED RESTORED SERVICES IN POS DATA

W&I Code section 4519.5(a)(8) "the numbers, percentages, and total and per capita expenditure and authorization amounts, by age, as applicable, according to race or ethnicity and preferred language, for all combined residence types and for consumers living in the family home, regarding the following service types..."

27. Did the regional center report data on the numbers, percentages and total and per capita expenditure and authorization amounts, by age, as applicable, according to race or ethnicity and preferred language, for all combined residence types and for individuals living in the family home, specific to the following service types:

Select all that apply:

- ☒ Camping and associated travel expenses
- ☒ Social recreation activities
- ☐ Educational services
- ☒ Nonmedical therapies, including, but not limited to, specialized recreation, art, dance and music

¹ Regional center to attach recommendations and plan.



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Serving individuals with developmental disabilities in San Diego and Imperial Counties

San Diego Regional Center – Imperial Valley
Community Meeting Purchase of Service Data
Public Meeting 3/20/2025

Attendance

The first public meeting was held in-person at the San Diego Regional Center Imperial Valley office. There was a total of 20 attendees. 7 of the participants were SDRC staff, one was a DDS representative, 5 interpreters, 6 community partners and one was a parent.

Call to Order

Brenda Bello Vazquez, the SDRC Cultural Specialist, began the meeting at 6:00 PM. Interpretation was available in the following requested languages via Zoom: ASL, English, and Korean. The meeting was conducted in Spanish. Attendees had printed slides in all threshold languages so they could follow along with the PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion Items

A PowerPoint was displayed in-person and shared on Zoom. To begin our discussion attendees were provided with background information in regard to the purpose of the meeting followed by an explanation of what a Purchase of Service is. Attendees were provided with general information about the community we serve. Emphasis was made to the following tables: Total Number of Clients, Age of Clients, Diagnosis of Clients, Where Clients Live, Ethnicity of Clients, and Languages Clients Speak, Ethnicity of Clients in Imperial Valley, Languages Clients Speak in Imperial Valley, Where Imperial Valley Clients Live.

The first slide that was shared, represented Total Purchase of Service Expenditures by Service Type. It was noted that SDRC's costliest services included: Out-of-Home, Day Activities and "Other" services. Next, a graph was shared that displayed Total Services and Expenditures by Diagnosis for All Ages. The following were presented in bar graphs with a side by side comparison of Per Capita Authorized Services and Per Capita Expenditures: Services and Expenditures by Race/Ethnicity Ages 0-2, 3-21 and 22+ and Services and Expenditures by Language Ages 0-2, 3-21, and 22+. It was noted that there were differences in terms of POS spending with the biggest differences emerging when clients are approaching adulthood. Clients who identify as Asian had the most POS spending for ages 0-2 and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander spent the least. Clients who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native had the most spending for ages 3-21 and Hispanic clients spent the least. Clients that identify as White had the most POS spending for ages 22+ and Hispanic clients spent the least. Clients who chose Vietnamese as their primary language had the most POS spending for ages 0-2 and clients who chose Chinese as their primary language spent the least. Clients who chose English as their primary language had the most POS spending for ages 3-21 and ages 22+. Vietnamese speaking clients spent the least on average per person for ages 3-21 and ages 22+.

For this meeting, SDRC presented data on Purchase of Service specific to the Imperial Valley as was requested at last year's meeting. The data included: Total Services and Expenditures by Race/Ethnicity, Per Capita Services and Expenditures by Race/Ethnicity and Per Capita Services and Expenditures by Language. Key points that were discussed were that 86% of clients in IV identify as Hispanic or Latino and 42% of clients chose Spanish as their primary language. As a result, Hispanic clients spent the most on services in total. When looking at spending per capita, African-American clients spent the most on services and Hispanic clients spent the least.

Attendees were then presented with Purchase of Service data on Social Recreation, Camps and Non-Medical Therapies. Emphasis was made on the following: Social Recreation Per Capita Services and Expenditures, Camp Per Capita Services and Expenditures, Non-Medical Therapies Per Capita Services and Expenditures by Race/Ethnicity and Language. It was noted that Black/African-American individuals on average spent the most on Social Recreation and individuals who identified as Other or Multicultural spent the least. White individuals spent the most on average, per person on Camp services. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander clients did not access Camp services. Individuals who identified as Asian spent the most on average per person on Non-Medical Therapies and individuals who identified as Black/African-American spent the least in this category. Individuals



who chose English as their primary language spent the most on average per person on Social Recreation and Camp services. Individuals who spoke “All Other Languages” spent the least on Social Recreation services. There were no Vietnamese speaking clients that accessed Camp services. It was noted that individuals who chose Chinese as their primary language spent the most on average per person on Non-Medical Therapies and those who chose English as their primary language spent the least.

The next set of slides displayed information on Purchase of Service by Residence. It was noted that the costliest Residential service is Supported Living Services followed by Community Care Facilities, State-Operated Facilities and Family Home Agency’s. Individuals who live In-Home receive less POS dollars than those who live outside of the home. It was also noted that Hispanic individuals on average per person, spent the most on Community Care and Intermediate Care Facilities and Supported Living Services. White individuals spent the most on average per person on Independent Living Skills services and American Indian or Alaska Native clients spent the least. White individuals who live In-Home had the most per capita expenditures and those who identified as Other or Multicultural spent the least. American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander individuals did not access Supported Living Services. Spanish-speaking individuals who live in Community Care Facilities had the most Per Capita Expenditures and those who spoke “All Other Languages” spent the least. English-speaking individuals receiving ILS had the most Per Capita Expenditures and those who spoke Spanish spent the least. Individuals who live In-Home and chose Vietnamese as their primary language had the least Per Capita Expenditures and those who spoke “All Other Languages” spent the most.

The following set of slides represented the number and percentage of clients, broken down by age groups, with no POS by Race/Ethnicity and Language. It was noted that the percent of clients with No POS by Race/Ethnicity was similar across all groups with the exception for Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander clients. All American Indian or Alaska Native clients were receiving purchase services for ages 0-2. 8% of clients who identified as Other or Multicultural were not receiving purchased services in this age group. It was noted that during ages 3-21 the number of clients with no POS increases since children are accessing needed services through their schools. 40% of Black/African-American clients ages 3-21 did not receive purchased services while 34% of White clients in this age group did not receive purchased services. For ages 22+, 21% of clients who identify as Other or Multicultural did not receive purchased services and 14% of clients who identify as White did not receive purchased services. Vietnamese-speaking individuals had the highest percentage of clients with no POS at 35.8% and individuals who chose Chinese as their primary language had the least number of clients with no POS at 15.8%. For ages 0-2, all Vietnamese-speaking clients were receiving purchased services and 5% of English and Spanish-speaking clients were not receiving purchased services. For ages 3-21, 39% of English-speaking clients were not receiving purchased services while only 21% of Chinese-speaking individuals received no purchased services. For ages 22+, 42% of Vietnamese-speaking clients were receiving no purchased services while 13% of Spanish-speaking clients received no purchased services.

The last set of slides shared data regarding IPP Translation Requests into a Threshold Language by Race/Ethnicity and Language. The following data was highlighted for Race/Ethnicity: 29% of IPP translation requests from Asian clients were not completed within 45 days, 56% of requests from Hispanic clients were not completed within 45 days and 73% of requests by clients who identified as Other or Multicultural were not completed within 45 days. The following data was highlighted for Language: 48% of requests by clients who chose English as their primary language were not completed within 45 days, 59% of requests by clients who chose Spanish as their primary language were not completed within 45 days and 50% of requests made by clients who speak All Other Languages were not completed within 45 days.

The next slide was a Trend Analysis of Per Capita Expenditures by Race/Ethnicity over the past 8 years. It was noted that POS expenditures have gone up for all ethnicities over the past 8 years with American Indian or Alaska Native clients showing the largest increase out of the other groups. An additional slide comparing Per Capita POS Expenditures by Race/Ethnicity for the past 2 fiscal years was presented. It was shared that POS spending has increased for all races and ethnicities over the past fiscal year.

There was follow-up discussion regarding the recommendations and input from last year’s public meeting and how SDRC



responded to that input.

1. For SDRC to separate San Diego and Imperial Valley POS Data
 - a. **Separate data for Imperial was compiled and presented at the Imperial Valley public meeting**
2. For SDRC to collaborate with Adult Transition Programs to help students transition into adulthood.
 - a. **SDRC has provided presentation to local school districts on SDRC services. SDSU Research Foundation is collaborating with SDRC on a Service Access and Equity grant focused on transition aged youth.**
3. For SDRC to consider different marketing avenues to reach as many underserved individuals and families such as through a newsletter or text messages.
 - a. **A texting system is currently being rolled out. SDRC also posts advertisements via printed media outlets such as newspapers and magazines.**
4. For SDRC to increase access and awareness of SDRC services that can be accessed for Early Intervention and children ages (3-21).
 - a. **SDRC has two Early Start Outreach coordinators that focus on sharing information and education about Early Start to the community. Their outreach includes tabling at events, presenting to community partners and doing on-site developmental screenings. Additionally, a number of presentations on Social Rec, Camps and Non-Medical Therapies were coordinated in the past year.**
5. For SDRC to host their public meetings as a Zoom meeting as opposed to a Zoom webinar to allow participants to see each other.
 - a. **This year all POS meetings were scheduled as regular zoom meetings not webinars.**
6. For SDRC to maintain an updated list of vendors.
 - a. **The SDRC service provider list is updated on a monthly basis and is available on our website. DDS is also creating a statewide service provider portal to standardize the way we keep track of current vendors.**

Attendees were then presented with strategies SDRC is implementing to address disparities shown in the data. The following projects/initiatives were discussed:

- Collaboration with Service Access & Equity grantees
- Language Access & Cultural Competency Plan – African-American Support Group, Middle Eastern Support Group, Our Hands Speak
- Annual Family and Vendor Resource Fair
- PUENTE Project
- Tribal Outreach
- Early Start Outreach in San Diego & Imperial counties
- SDRC Deaf & Hard of Hearing Specialist
- Enhanced Service Coordination

Public Input

The following comments/questions were made via Zoom Chat:

1. Question: Where can I find a list of SDRC service providers?
2. Question: Is there a place to see where all the outreach events are happening?

Recommendations to SDRC:

There was no input or recommendations from attendees at this meeting.



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San Diego Regional Center – North County
Community Meeting Purchase of Service Data
Public Meeting 3/25/2025

Attendance

A second public meeting was held in-person at the San Diego Regional Center San Marcos office. There were a total 40 attendees. 6 of the participants were SDRC staff, one was a DDS representative, 4 were interpreters, and all others were community partners, clients and their families.

Call to Order

Brenda Bello Vazquez, the SDRC Cultural Specialist, began the meeting at 6:00 PM. Interpretation was made available in the following requested languages via Zoom: Spanish and ASL. The meeting was conducted in English. Attendees had printed slides in all threshold languages so they could follow along with the PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion Items

****Discussion Items were the same as previous meeting. Imperial Valley data was only presented at the Imperial Valley POS meeting****

Public Input

The following comments and questions were made via Zoom Chat:

1. My sincerest appreciation to SDRC for the many fine services that have been provided my dear adult son for the past 30 years.
2. Estoy de acuerdo, yo también he tratado de asistir al grupo de apoyo en español, pero son demasiado lejos, yo vivo en Vista y los grupos de español solo son en Eastlake y solo en persona.
 - a. English Translation: I agree, I have also tried to attend the support group in Spanish, but they are too far away. I live in Vista and the Spanish groups are only in Eastlake and only in person.
3. Question: ¿Cómo puedo saber más sobre los servicios disponibles en mi condado? ¿Ay algún sitio específico para ver la lista de servicios?
 - a. English Translation: How can I find out more about the services available in my county? Is there a specific site to see the list of services?
4. Question: Are there concerns about cutbacks or reductions in funding for SDRC?

The following comments and questions were made in-person:

1. Question: Why are Hispanics still lower than the other ethnicities? What is SDRC doing to increase services?
2. Parent requested to have Board meetings in San Marcos as they live in North County.
3. Question: What is PUENTE? Parent stated that she was not aware of this program.
4. Parent stated that their Service Coordinator is not sharing information, denying services, and SDRC is giving money back to the State. Service Coordinators are the main point of contact and parents don't attend all the events where information to services are being provided.
5. Parent stated the support groups existed pre-pandemic and would like them to start again.
6. Parent shared that Regional Centers in Los Angeles have personal assistance available but SDRC does not. Parent stated that their kids needs those services.
7. Parent stated it has taken her 3-4 meetings with SDRC to get services. She stated that SCs do not know or do not explain services to them.
8. Parent asked for a list of available services. Brenda shared the location of our service providers on our website.
9. Parent stated that services are being denied. She stated that SDRC needs to support their children.
10. Parent stated that SDRC should be more supportive rather than putting barriers.



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11. Parent shared that SCs are constantly changing, and services may be available, but SCs are not sharing the services available. She stated that she is the one that has to learn about services available and request them from their SC.
12. Parent stated that she wishes things will be different next year.
13. Parent stated that obtaining social recreation services has taken a long time (3 months). The agencies that provide the services will put their services on hold because it takes SDRC too long to pay.
14. Question: Parent asked if SCs have the knowledge about services or does SDRC not have enough SCs?
15. Several parents requested a public meeting for families to voice their concerns.
16. Parent requested Board Meeting 100% in zoom. Parent stated that the current hybrid board meeting is hard to see all of the people/board members since the camera is far away. She stated that the connection with the community is important. She feels somewhat disconnected.

Recommendations to SDRC:

1. Create a support group for Spanish-speaking parents in North County with a zoom option.
2. Parent recommended to provide more training for SC's on how to share information about services.



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**San Diego Regional Center – Main Office
Purchase of Service Expenditure Data
Public Meeting 3/26/2025 @ 10am**

Attendance

The third public meeting was held in person at the San Diego Regional Center Main office. There were a total 41 attendees. 7 of the participants were SDRC staff, 1 was a DDS representative, 6 were interpreters, and all others were community partners, clients and families.

Call to Order

Brenda Bello Vazquez, the SDRC Cultural Specialist, began the meeting at 10:00 AM. Interpretation was made available in the following requested languages via Zoom: Spanish, ASL, Amharic, Korean and Mandarin Chinese. The meeting was conducted in English. Attendees had printed slides in all threshold languages so they could follow along with the PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion Items

****Discussion Items were the same as previous meetings. Imperial Valley data was only presented at the Imperial Valley POS meeting****

Public Input

The following comments and questions were made via Zoom Chat:

1. We also work with African American, Hispanic, and other ethnicities in the BRIDGE project by A Better Life Together

The following comments and questions were made in-person:

1. Question: Does the enhanced unit support the homeless population? Service provider suggested this might be a good idea to add the homeless population to the enhanced unit.
2. Parent stated the disparity between multicultural and White populations.
3. Question: Will the Imperial Valley data be posted online? Brenda answered that it would be posted along with our presentation on our website.
4. Question: How does SDRC measure success in lowering disparity in the Hispanic community?
5. Question: Is SDRC data different than the one that is required by DDS? Brenda answered that we do collect more data than the DDS requirement.
6. Question: Do we have a measure of our efforts? Brenda answered that we can share the data via email.
7. Question: What is non-medical therapy? Do we have a description and service code? Miguel stated he would send her the information via email.
8. Question: Is Self Determination Program data included in the POS data? Brenda answered that it is included.

Recommendations to SDRC:

1. Since most clients live in home, focus on increasing access to in home supports for those living at home.
2. Vendor more Medi-Cal and K-12 providers
3. Extend Enhanced Service Coordination to the homeless population



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Serving individuals with developmental disabilities in San Diego and Imperial Counties

San Diego Regional Center – Main Office
Purchase of Service Expenditure Data
Public Meeting 3/26/25 @ 6pm

Attendance

A fourth public meeting was held on Thursday evening in-person at the San Diego Regional Center Main office. There was a total of 37 attendees. 6 of the participants were SDRC staff, one was a DDS representative, 8 were interpreters, and the rest were community partners, clients and families.

Call to Order

Brenda Bello Vazquez, the SDRC Cultural Specialist, began the meeting at 6:00 PM. Interpretation was made available in the following requested languages via Zoom: Spanish, ASL, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Hindi, and Mandarin Chinese. The meeting was conducted in English. Attendees had printed slides available in all threshold languages to follow along with the PowerPoint presentation.

Discussion Items

****Discussion Items were the same as previous meetings. Imperial Valley data was only presented at the Imperial Valley POS meeting****

Public Input

The following comments and questions were made via Zoom Chat:

1. Question: What does no purchased services mean? Jennifer Sanchez responded that it means clients are receiving case management services but no additional services.
2. Question: What do you mean by non-medical therapies? What would be an example? Jennifer Sanchez responded with: Examples of some non-medical therapies can be equestrian, and some music and art therapies.
3. Question: what kind of services are offered to individuals that are 22+? Jennifer Sanchez responded with: There are various services based on the individual's needs and goals. Some examples are supported employment, independent living services, supported living services, social recreation, and more

There were no comments or questions made in-person.

Recommendations to SDRC:

There was no input or recommendations from attendees at this meeting.