



LDC Closure News

S U M M E R 2 0 1 4

This issue highlights the budget's effects on DDS, explains the new role of the DC Task Force and gives an overview of the QMAG.

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Follow-up questions, comments, suggestions?

Contact Amy Wall at (916) 654-1946 or amy.wall@dds.ca.gov

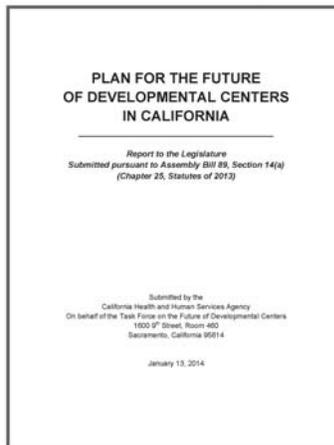
SB 856: Budget Trailer Bill Summary

Senate Bill 856 (Chapter 30, Statutes of 2014) was this year's budget trailer bill dedicated to Developmental Services items.

Key provisions of SB 856 implement the recommendations of the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS) Task Force on the Future of Developmental Centers (DC Task Force) that were made in the DC Task Force's January 13, 2014, report to the Legislature, *Plan for the Future of Developmental Centers in California*. These provisions include:

Community State Staff Program - Expansion of the existing program that allows state staff to work in the community to enhance continuity of care for people who have transitioned to the community from Agnews DC and Lanterman DC to also include other individuals transitioning to the community from a DC, or at risk of institutionalization.

Enhanced Behavioral Support Homes (EBSHs) and Community Crisis Homes - The establishment of two new residential service models in the community to serve individuals currently residing in a state DC and individuals at risk of place-



ment in a DC, an out-of-state placement, a general acute hospital, an acute psychiatric hospital, or an institution for mental disease. The bill requires DDS and the State Department of Social Services (DSS) to develop emergency regulations pertaining to these new community models.

Acute Crisis Homes at Fairview and Sonoma DCs - Establish an acute crisis unit at Sonoma DC and provide additional resources to the existing acute services at Fairview DC to serve individuals in acute crisis for whom no other service resource exists.

Evaluation and Reporting - Requires DDS to evaluate and report to the Legislature on the new models established by this bill, including enhanced behavioral supports homes, community crisis homes, and

acute crisis centers at Fairview and Sonoma DCs.

In addition to implementing parts of the DC Task Force recommendations, SB 856 also does the following:

- Beginning January 1, 2015, the eligibility criteria for the California Early Intervention Services Act (Early Start) program is revised to restore eligibility criteria to 2009 levels for infants and toddlers.
- Authorizes rate adjustments for service providers impacted by increases to the state minimum wage, and allows for a 5.82% rate increase for providers impacted by changes in federal regulations implementing the federal Fair Labor Standards Act affecting overtime compensation to individuals providing select services.
- Deletes the prohibition against regional center payment of health insurance co-payments and health plan deductibles for services provided pursuant to a consumer's individual program plan (IPP) otherwise covered by a health insurance policy or health plan.

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From a Former Lanterman Family...

Duane & Sharon Ferrell

[REDACTED]
Danville, CA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

May 29, 2014

Dave Magno and Virgil Fernando
Meridian Manor II
345 Burnett Ave
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Dear Virgil and Dave,

We are sorry it has taken so long to get this note to you, but Duane and I want to commend you on the care and attention that is being provided for my sister, Mary Lou Kinney.

As you know, we were very skeptical about placing Mary Lou in any private residence, after her being in a State facility for the past 45 years. Even though we had several medical issues with each of the State facilities that she has resided, we felt secure and trusted the overall care she was given. It was a scary thought to have Mary Lou away from immediate medical care if needed.

After meeting both of you, visiting one of your San Jose Homes and meeting many of your staff members, we decided to place Mary Lou in your beautifully remodeled, well-furnished and very comfortable Morgan Hill Home, which would also bring Mary Lou closer to my residence.

Mary Lou has been living in Morgan Hill now for several months, and we could not be more delighted in our decision. We have been able to visit Mary Lou several times, and it is such a joy to see her relaxing and well cared for in a real family setting.

The service, personal attention and patience by each team member are always exceptional. Every team member is truly focused on providing the best of care to each resident's needs, including making sure that their physical and medical needs are met in a timely manner.

On a couple of occasions, Mary Lou has displayed an unknown health concern. The team took the necessary steps to discover the root cause, either by observation, if the issue seems minor, and then seeking medical attention as needed. In each case we were immediately notified and consulted. No longer are her symptoms simply passed over or given more medication in hopes of resolution, and not being notified for several days.

We are pleased with the activities that are provided in and out of the home on a regular basis. Daily walks around the large yard, going into town, going to church on Sundays, eating out and going to the park just add another dimension of a genuine family atmosphere.

We have met the families of the other clients, and each visit seems to have a festive quality, with great food, conversation, singing and lots of picture taking.

We could not have asked for a better place for Mary Lou to live.

Please share this letter to anyone that you feel would like to know the feelings of an involved family member of someone that has been developmentally disabled for 56 years and institutionalized for over 45 years.

Thank you so much, and God Bless your entire staff.

Sincerely Yours,



Sharon & Duane Ferrell

Staff Reduction Plan Update

On July 2, 2014, DDS headquarters and LDC executive staff attended two general staff meetings to review the third phase of the staff reduction plan for LDC. As the closure date of December 31, 2014 draws near, almost all LDC employees are subject to Phase III layoffs.

A total of 294 positions at LDC were identified as surplus within 82 classifications. 317 employees received notice of SROA (State Restriction of Appointment) status beginning July 3, 2014. Surplus and SROA status affords those employees impacted with an opportunity at jobs throughout the state as long as they meet the minimum

qualifications for the position. The effective date of the Phase III layoff, if natural attrition does not meet the surplus need, will be October 30, 2014.

As was demonstrated in Phase II of the layoff, if the resident population is more than projected, the Department will seek an extension of the SROA status from CalHR for some employees (which employees would stay is determined by CalHR and based on seniority) to ensure resident services and supports can continue until the last resident transitions.

Staff in limited-term positions in the impacted classifications re-

ceived notification that their limited-term appointments will be ending prior to the October 30th layoff date.

When the closure plan was originally announced in 2010, all Lanterman employees were given Department Restriction on Appointment (DROA) status. This affords LDC employees with an opportunity at jobs within DDS as long as they meet the minimum qualifications for that position.

The Department, in partnership with the Lanterman Executive Team, remains committed to providing the necessary support to all employees during this time of transition and change.

FACTS & FIGURES (AS OF AUGUST 1)

- **322 residents of LDC have transitioned to the community.**
- **85 homes developed for people moving from LDC have been licensed.**
- **47 former LDC residents have moved into ARFPSHs, or 853 Homes.**

Task Forces & Workgroups Defined

Diana Dooley, Secretary of the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), convened the Future of the State Developmental Centers Task Force (**DC Task Force**) on June 17, 2013 to identify options for the future of developmental centers.

The DC Task Force released their *“Plan For The Future of Developmental Centers In California”* on January 13, 2014. The Plan highlights six (6) recommendations for the future of developmental centers in California.

Recognizing that the community system issues were beyond the scope of its 2013 work, the DC Task Force included “Recommendation 6,” calling for another task force to be formed to address ways to make the community system stronger.

On July 24, 2014, in response to “Recommendation 6,” legislative interests, and direction by the Governor, CHHS Secretary Diana Dooley reconvened the DC Task Force with a new purpose: to examine how to make the community system stronger.

To reflect their new purpose, the DC Task Force was renamed “the Developmental Services Task Force” (**DS Task Force**) and will add community-based expertise to supplement their existing membership.

Workgroups made up of the DS Task Force members will meet between full DS Task Force meetings. There is not currently a defined timeline for the work of the DS Task Force.

More information on the DS Task Force (formerly the DC Task Force) is available at:

<http://www.chhs.ca.gov/>.

Also held this summer was a series of three DC Task Force Implementation Workgroup Meetings held by the DDS.

DDS invited stakeholder representatives to meetings in Fresno, Los Angeles and Sacramento as part of a stakeholder process to gather initial input on proposals implementing the DC Task Force Recommendations passed with the 2014-15 Budget, and the development of related regulations. (See the front page article on SB 856 for more details on what was passed).

Anyone who is interested in providing input on the topics reviewed by the workgroups can submit written comments.

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QMAG Update

When the closure of LDC was announced, DDS set out to ensure that processes were in place to achieve the safe and successful transition for residents from LDC.

The Lanterman Closure plan identified several quality assurance components that included a Quality Management Advisory Group (QMAG) tasked with providing guidance to DDS on the refinement of the Lanterman Quality Assurance System (LQAS), and informing DDS and regional centers on findings from their review of the data collected on the quality of services being provided to former Lanterman residents. The members of the QMAG include the 12 regional centers participating in the closure, family members of former residents of LDC, advocacy groups and DDS.

On Friday, July 25, 2014, the QMAG met at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center to review the results of the quality assurance data findings regarding consumer and family satisfaction with services being provided.

Melanie Schindell with the University of California, Davis presented findings for individuals who have transitioned into the community from LDC on, or after July 1, 2009, from the National Core Indicators Adult (NCI) Consumer Survey Fiscal Year 2011-2012.



The NCI is part of the DDS Quality Assessment Project. It is California's ongoing effort to assess consumer and family satisfaction, provision of services, and personal outcomes. In 2010, California joined the NCI in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code section 4571. In order to continue to measure satisfaction and outcomes among individuals who have transitioned from LDC into the community, the NCI Adult Consumer Survey will be conducted annually for 5 years after the last person has transitioned from LDC.

Ms. Schindell's presentation compared data for individuals who have transitioned from Lanterman (L2) compared to all other individuals who have moved from other developmental centers (M2) in the last 5 years. L2 have a higher percentage of individuals with profound or severe levels of intellectual disability and L2 has a higher percentage of individuals who use gestures

or body language as their primary means of expression compared to M2. Many of the findings for L2 and M2 were similar.

Dr. Peggy O'Brien-Strain with Mission Analytics, the DDS risk management contractor, presented a report summarizing quality indicators regarding individuals who transitioned into the community from LDC on, or after January 1, 2009. The presentation examined the amount of services and changes in the "Skills of Daily Living" through analysis of purchase of service and CDER data, and Special Incident Report data.

Dr. O'Brien-Strain's presentation noted Community Care Facilities (CCF) with negotiated rates continued to be the most common residence type for all individuals who have transitioned from Lanterman.

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Make sure to visit:
<http://www.dds.ca.gov/lantermannews>
 for the latest news, e-versions of this newsletter, public notices, updates, reports, press releases and other information and resources related to the LDC closure process.





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BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS, SUPPORTING CHOICES

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Budget Summary, cont.

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- Requires regional centers (RCs) to provide comprehensive assessments of individuals residing in DCs, conducted pursuant to current law, to the clients' rights advocate for the RC and the superior court with jurisdiction over the consumer's placement, and would require notification of the clients' rights advocate of IPP meetings concerning the assessments.
- Requires notification of the clients' rights advocate when a consumer is at risk of admission to a DC, or when a required IPP meeting is scheduled following a consumer's admission to an institution for mental disease (IMD).

DDS convened a stakeholder process in late August/early September to address the implementation of these items and the development of emergency regulations required for the two new residential service models (EBSH's and community crisis homes).

QMAG Update, cont.

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In addition, for 16 of the 19 elements on skills in daily living and challenging behaviors, average CDER scores rose between the last CDER completed at the DC and the first CDER after transition. For nine of these elements, the increase was statistically significant and indicates an improvement in the outcomes.

The next QMAG meeting is planned for October 2014.

If you'd like more information on the QMAG, or the findings the QMAG has reviewed, please contact Renee Kurjiaka at 916-653-6599 or

renee.kurjiaka@dds.ca.gov.

Task Forces & Workgroups Defined, cont.

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Written comments should be submitted to John Schmidt at: john.schmidt@dds.ca.gov, or by mail to:

John Schmidt, Special Assistant to the Director
Department of Developmental Services
P.O. Box 944202
Sacramento, CA 94244-2020

Please ensure that all written comments are received by the Department no later than September 30, 2014.

More information on the workgroups, participants and items for discussion is available at: <http://www.dds.ca.gov/publicforums/>, or you are welcome to email John Schmidt with questions.