

Alta California Regional Center  
Finance Committee Meeting  
Monday, March 9, 2026  
Minutes

**Present:**

Anwar Safvi, Chair  
Johnny Deng  
Tom Hopkins  
Dan Lake  
Kelly Pennington  
Akkia Pride-Polk

**Board Members:**

Carmen Aguilar  
Amy Lampe  
Steven Sanchez

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk  
Naomi Smith

**Visitors:**

Maureen Fitzgerald  
Terri Scheufele

**Staff:**

Lori Banales, Executive Director  
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Operating Officer  
Tracy Brown, Associate Client Services  
Director  
John Decker, Director of Community  
Services  
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake  
& Clinical Services  
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client  
Services  
Jaspreet Mann, Associate Client Services  
Director  
Faye McKenzie, Associate Client Services  
Director  
Jeff Nguyen, IT Specialist  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Finance Committee met on Monday, March 9, 2026, at 5:07 p.m. to discuss:  
1) Monthly Financial Report; and 2) Contracts of \$250,000 and above.

**Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to adopt the Finance Committee meeting minutes of February 9, 2026, as submitted.**

1. ***Monthly Financial Report***

**Issue:** The monthly financial report is reviewed by the Finance Committee prior to presentation to the Board.

**Discussion and Action:** The January 31, 2026 financial report indicates that with 58.3% of the year elapsed, ACRC has expended 54.7% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 54.1% of Operations (OPS) for the current fiscal year (FY).

Mr. Ahmad noted that ACRC received another allocation from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) which will largely fund the service provider rate increases that were applied in January 2026. He expects that ACRC will fully exhaust the POS budget for this FY. Some late expenditures will apply to our OPS budget.

Cashflow remains an issue for regional centers across the state.

**Without objection, Kelly Pennington made the motion to recommend to the full Board the acceptance of the monthly financial statement as submitted.**

**ACRC 2026 Caseload Reporting**

Date	Complex Needs	Low to No POS	Medicaid Waiver	Age 0-5	Moved from DC within Last 12 Months	All Others	Internal Early Intervention Tracking (Age 0-2)
3/1/2023 Ratio	23	36	81.0	64	53.6	77	
3/1/2024 Ratio	21.2	32.4	74.7	52.1	20.9	73.2	
3/1/2025 Ratio	24.1	34.3	71.7	42.7	10.7	71.1	
3/1/2026 Ratio	15.1	34	72.2	43	4	71.4	36.0
<b>Required Ratio</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>40</b>

\*\* Per WIC 4640.6 certain positions are not allowed to be counted towards the ratio even when fully staffed. If this restriction was not in place, ACRC noted there were 21 recently hired staff members that would have been reflected in these ratios; thus, improving them further.

Annually, regional centers are required to send their caseload ratio report to DDS on March 1<sup>st</sup>. This chart shows four years of trends for ACRC’s caseload ratios; we are trending downward.

It is important to note that any staff who have been hired within the last 60 days are not included in these ratios. ACRC has 21 new hires that are not factored into these ratios, which would bring the ratios down further.

Internally, ACRC tracks Early Intervention (birth to 2 years old) ratios – we are currently at a 1:36 ratio.

Ms. Banales noted that under Ms. Bloom and Ms. McKenzie’s leadership, ACRC created intentional Early Childhood units carry children ages three through five. If ACRC focused on meeting the required ratio of 1:40 for children birth through five years, it would be to the detriment of clients six years and over. Ms. Banales discussed this with DDS and even though they direct regional centers to report on what is in statute, it is up to each center to do determine where to allocate resources based on their community needs.

With the growth that is coming through our Intake Departments, we have been able to keep ratios steady. Ms. Banales wants the Board, our community and staff to understand that this is a delicate balance and we are doing what is best for those that we serve, to equalize ratios and workload.

2. **Contracts for \$250,000 and above**

**Issue:** Enhanced Behavioral Support Home (EBSH) for Children

**Discussion and Action:** In looking at the needs of our agency, Mr. Decker shared that ACRC is seeking to enter into contract with Brilliant Corners for the purpose of locating, acquiring, and renovating a property that will operate as a 4-bed EBSH for children. ACRC received Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) funding for this project as our agency has young children that have been assessed as needing an EBSH due to exhibiting sexual maladaptive behaviors.

**Without objection, Dan Lake made the motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the \$950,000 contract for Brilliant Corners as presented.**

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 11, 2026**.  
The meeting adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales