

Alta California Regional Center
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 9, 2026
Minutes

Present:

Andrea Croom, InAlliance, Chair
Lindsey Dyba, Futures Explored,
Inc., Co-Chair & Design. Dir.
Beza Admassu, Maxim Healthcare
Services
James Astorga, F&A Astorga Care
Home
Taylor Berry, 24 Hour Home Care
Janet Brandon, A.I.M. &
Associates
Garrett Broadbent, Creative
Living Options
Eric Ciampa, UCP of Sacramento
Bonnie Douglas, Turning Point
Kate Halecky, Southside
Unlimited
Joe Jaquez, EGA CT
Jay Kolvoord, STEP, Inc.
Christa McClure, Tri-County
Respite Care Service
Michelle Ramirez, On My Own
Carole Watilo, Progressive
Employment
Max Woodford, Learning to Thrive

Absent: (* excused)

Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills
Manor

Interpreters

Crystal Vanderwal
Cory Watson

Visitors

Sheila Abrams
Rosanna Aragon
Beth Conn-Ossenfort
Meddie Cueva
Melanie Gonzales
Pam Haney-Slinkard
Erica Horn
Dawn Horwath
Jessica Knuth
Devon Morgan
Cody Newport
Branee Owens
Becca Pressnell
Madeline Ronchetto
Jen Roney
Kristianne Scheier
Jasmine Vollenweider
Rafael Wagas
Joseph Zeidan

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Michelle Duchene, Community
Services & Supports Manager
Jordan Eller, Specialized Services
Manager
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &
Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client
Services
Carly Moorman, Client Employment
Specialist
Helen Neri, Community Services &
Supports Manager
Norma Vidaurreta, Lead Community
Services Specialist
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 9:31 a.m. to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Resource Sharing/Vendor

Collaboration; 3) ACRC Vendor Forum Representative Updates; 4) System Reform and Legislative Updates; 5) PAC Committee Reports; and 6) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Andrea Croom made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 11, 2026, as submitted.

1. *Executive Director's Report*

- Ms. Johnson shared that ACRC has 13 client participants in the Person-centered Advocacy Vision Education (PAVE) pilot and we are still recruiting; our hope is to have 30 to 40 clients in this program. Eligible clients (minors and adults) must be receiving one or more of the following services to participate: Respite, Supported Living Services (SLS), Independent Living Services (ILS) and/or Employment Services.
 - Dr. Julie Beadle-Brown will be sharing a PAVE presentation during ACRC's August 5th Community Meeting, which begins at 11 a.m. The link is posted on ACRC's website.
 - Yesterday, Dr. Beadle-Brown met with Service Coordinators (SCs) to share information on PAVE. ACRC has a continual onboarding process for this pilot program.
 - If providers serve any clients who are interested in participating, please have them reach out to their SC or Ms. Johnson, who will then connect them with Dr. Beadle-Brown.
- Last month, Ms. Eller shared that ACRC was releasing the Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) Stakeholder Survey 26/27, which has since closed. ACRC staff will share the 2026-27 fiscal year (FY) plan at "Coffee with Community Services" on July 17th. Ms. Eller will share the data at the September PAC meeting, as well.
- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is releasing data on the Provider Directory Standardized Vendorization Process by posting "Open Vendorization Request by Stage and RC" on their website every two weeks.
 - Since March, ACRC has completed 133 vendorizations.
- Regarding DDS' Quality Incentive Program (QIP), service providers can access the QIP tracker on the department's website. Providers can search by their vendor number(s) and verify their "Survey Completion Status," "Compliance Status" and "QIP Rate."
 - Robin LeMay, ACRC's POS Manager, has confirmed that the updated rates will be effective July 1st and will reflect on service provider's August invoices.
- Ms. Duchene shared a PowerPoint entitled "Day Program Rate Reform Updates." This same presentation will be shared during the July 23rd Day Services Vendor Forum.

- DDS released a Directive entitled “Day Program: Updates for Length of Day and Corresponding Billing” on June 16th. The purpose of this Directive is to:
 - Provide updated billing guidance for Day Programs.
 - Align billing with scheduled service hours.
 - Transition Day Programs to daily billing, with some exceptions.
- Effective January 1, 2027, daily billing is required for 4–8 hour programs. Hourly billing is only allowed for day programs less than four hours or split-day services.
- Ms. Duchene reviewed the “rounding rules” and additional considerations for varying ratios.
- ACRC staff will be reviewing 170+ programs and will send program addendums out to service providers by August 15th through signNow. The due date is September 15th, which will provide ACRC’s Accounting Department with ample time to process these prior to January 1st.
 - Ms. Duchene encouraged service providers to contact DDS with any questions or concerns.

2. Resource Sharing/Vendor Collaboration

- Today’s topic is “What services have others successfully used to hire high-level leaders?”
 - Mr. Kolvoord shared some service providers are struggling with hiring these individuals.
 - Suggestions include:
 - On My Own and InAlliance have both worked with Preet, with Pacific Staffing. She focuses on providers’ specific needs.
 - Creative Living Options has worked with Growth Wise Search Partners.
 - Progressive Employment posts in CaITASH’s and CaAPSE’s newsletters and on their “Job Boards” at conferences.

3. ACRC Vendor Forum Representative Updates

- The Day Services vendor forum is scheduled for July 23rd, from 11 a.m. to noon.

4. System Reform and Legislative Updates (Capital Coalition, CCLN, CDSA, CRA, PAVE, & CaAPSE)

- Capital Coalition
 - The group is meeting today.
 - Mr. Ciampa encouraged providers who are not part of an advocacy provider group to consider joining one.

- CCLN
 - Mr. Kolvoord shared that Mr. Ciampa is now seated on the California Community Living Network's (CCLN's) Board.
 - Over the last several months, their focus was on the budget season and the proposed initiatives in the Trailer Bill Language (TBL) that are still being working on.
 - All the advocacy groups are setting priorities for the 2027-28 season: reviewing data and developing strategies.
 - They plan to form a workgroup to discuss transportation issues (Service Codes 895 and 880).
- CDSA
 - The California Disabilities Services Association (CDSA) will be working on their legislative priorities at their August meeting.
 - Their Annual Conference will be held in South Lake Tahoe in October.
 - The group is following how DDS is developing the definition of "cost-effective."
 - They continue to watch TBL:
 - DDS to offer ongoing QIP technical assistance.
 - With remote services ending on December 31, 2028, the department is requiring that data be shared with the legislature.
 - Making the CARF accreditation optional.
 - The 40-hour workweek for Supported Living Services (SLS).
 - The new Service Code for the Family Teaching Model and the requirement of Center-Based Early Intervention Services.
- CaAPSE
 - The California branch of the National Association of People Supporting Employment First (CaAPSE) is following the "cost effective" definition and the TBL making CARF accreditation optional.
 - They are working with DDS on the employment access alignment TBL, which will streamline the process for individuals to access employment services.
 - Although ACRC is doing a good job, many regional centers are not following DDS' guidance for vendorizing Supported Employment, Job Development (Service Code 952, Subcode 1D0).

5. **PAC Committee Reports**

- Vendor Relations
 - Mr. Broadbent stated that Mr. Kolvoord will be Chair of this committee moving forward.
 - The group met yesterday and reviewed the role of this committee. They shared previous success stories on working with ACRC staff.
 - They plan to survey the broader service provider community to gather topics that this committee can address.

- The group also discussed insurance coverage.
- Resource Development Policy Workgroup
 - PAC members met with Ms. Banales, Mr. Ahmad and Mr. Decker earlier this week and had a productive discussion. They have plans for additional follow-up/next steps.

6. ***Announcements/Comments***

- STEP will be hosting Kirk Hinkleman, with Life Works, who will speak about Person-Centered Planning.
 - If you are interested in attending this event, please let Mr. Kolvoord know which days' work best for you – either September 21st-24th or November 2nd-5th.
- Mr. Ciampa shared that a grand jury recently made recommendations to SacRT regarding their access issues.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 10, 2026**. The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales