

Hello San Andreas Service Providers,

As many of you know, we may be on the verge of additional funding for the service system for people with Developmental/Intellectual Disabilities in California. Finally!

The funding is in excess of \$400 million dollars year in additional monies to the system. Please read carefully through the message below from ARCA (Association of Regional Center Agencies) to get an idea of what that funding will mean for the people we serve, your agency and staff and for those of us working at the regional centers. **Most of all, PLEASE contact your local state senator and assembly person to ask for their support on the “the Managed Care Organization and developmental services funding package”**. See further instructions below on how to make those contacts. And PLEASE spread the word to every voter you know asking them to do the same.

Also, there have recently been some changes made to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, as well to California labor law. As a result, the Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC) to the San Andreas Board of Directors is sponsoring a forum on these changes. The forum is scheduled for March 11th. Representatives will be there from the federal Department of Labor and from the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (aka “the Labor Commissioner” and part of the CA Department of Industrial Relations) to answer questions you may have regarding labor law issues. For details on this forum, please see the attached flyer. You can send questions you would like addressed in the forum to the SPAC president, Debbie Ellis, in advance of the forum. Email questions to Debbie at: debbie.ellis@cprmedbilling.com. You must register here for the forum: <http://bit.ly/1KnZS86> .

Thanks for your prompt attention to these important matters. And **thank you** for being there every day to provide services to the people you serve. Everyone’s lives are better for the noble work you do daily.

Jeff

Jeffery Darling
Manager, Resource Department
San Andreas Regional Center

Our system's funding fight is nearly over! Help us
NOW!

[View this email in your
browser](#)



We support the funding agreement!

Will you?

In the past weeks, ARCA and the other members of the Lanterman Coalition have been working hard with Governor Brown's Administration to restore our system. We're thrilled to announce an agreement add over \$400 million a year to serving people with developmental disabilities! But first, the Legislature has to vote on it.

We need you to call your legislators NOW and ask them to "support the Managed Care Organization and developmental services funding package."

This proposal stabilizes our system with a funding increase, and sets the stage for reform with a study of the rates that have hurt our service providers and regional centers for years.

We fully support this agreement, which does the following:

- A 7.5% increase for salaries and benefits, for both service providers (POS) & regional centers (OPS)
- A 2.5% increase for administrative and other costs, for both POS & OPS
- A restoration of the supported employment rates to 2006 levels
- A 5% increase for supported and independent living services
- A 5% increase for in-home and out-of-home respite services
- A 5% increase for transportation services
- An effective 5% increase for Intermediate Care Facilities, via a 3.75% increase and elimination of prior cuts,
- The creation of competitive integrated employment programs, in the form of paid internships and incentive payments for helping individuals obtain and retain employment
- An increase in vendor audit thresholds
- A rate study plan
- Funding for bilingual staff at regional centers, cultural competency training,

and parent education efforts

The developmental disabilities services system has a long history. It is built on a promise to recognize the rights of people with developmental disabilities, and to serve them in the community. Years of underfunding have seriously hurt that promise. But now we have good reason to hope!

Call your representatives NOW, and ask them to support the Managed Care Organization and developmental services funding package. If they do, we can finally, after years of struggle, begin to #KeepThePromise.

ARCA [support letter](#)

Lanterman Coalition [support letter](#)

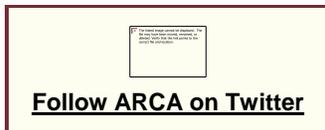
What you need to do

1. Find your legislators: findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov
2. Write down the district numbers, and convert it into [a phone number like this](#) or [like this](#).
3. When someone answers the phone, say:
 - *"My name is [FULL NAME], and I am a constituent of the member. Please ask them to support the Managed Care Organization and developmental services funding package. Thank you!"*
 - *Also share with them what your services and supports mean to you.*
4. Share this with everyone you know. Forward this email, or [click here!](#)

What you can say to your legislators

Talking points:

1. The developmental services system was created by Frank Lanterman, a Republican from Pasadena, and signed into law by Governor Ronald Reagan, nearly 50 years ago.
2. Without the legislator's support of this package, the harm will be personal, hurting [you, your family member, etc.].
3. The Lanterman Act has been critical in helping people live in the community, instead of state-run developmental centers.
4. This funding package will help save small businesses in our community that are on the brink of closing their doors because of chronic underfunding by the State.
5. Without this funding package, even more service providers will close, depriving more people with developmental disabilities of the services and supports they need to live independent lives in the community.



Our mailing address is:

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