

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1215 O Street, MS 8-30
Sacramento, CA 95814
TTY: 711
(916) 654-1958



September 12, 2022

Mary Le, Board President
San Andreas Regional Center, Inc.
6203 San Ignacio Avenue, Suite 200
San Jose, CA 95119

Dear Ms. Le:

The Department of Developmental Services' (DDS) Audit Section has completed the audit of the San Andreas Regional Center (SARC). The period of review was from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2021, with follow-up as needed into prior and subsequent periods. The enclosed report discusses the areas reviewed along with the findings and recommendations. The audit report includes the response submitted by SARC as Appendix A and DDS' reply on page 20.

If there is a disagreement with the audit findings, a written "Statement of Disputed Issues" may be filed with DDS' Audit Appeals Unit, pursuant to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17, Section 50730, Request for Administrative Review (excerpt enclosed). The "Statement of Disputed Issues" must be filed and submitted within 30 days of receipt of this audit report to the address below:

Office of Legal Affairs
Department of Developmental Services
P.O. Box 944202
Sacramento, CA 94299-9974

The cooperation of SARC's staff in completing the audit is appreciated.

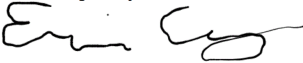
Your invoice for the total amount of \$2,433.65 from the current audit findings is enclosed. When making payments to DDS, please refer to the invoice number to ensure that proper credit is given. If you have any questions regarding the payment process, please contact Diane Nanik, Manager, Accounting Section, at (916) 654-2932.

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"

Mary Le, Board President
September 12, 2022
Page two

If you have any questions regarding the audit report, please contact Edward Yan,
Manager, Audit Section, at (916) 651-8207.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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ERNIE CRUZ
Deputy Director
Community Services Division

Enclosure(s)

cc: Javier Zaldivar, SARC
John Hunt, SARC
Karla Cruz, SARC
Bob Sands, DHCS
Carla Castañeda, DDS
Pete Cervinka, DDS
Brian Winfield, DDS
Hiren Patel, DDS
Jim Knight, DDS
Ann Nakamura, DDS
Aaron Christian, DDS
Diane Nanik, DDS
Dean Shellenberger, DDS
Greg Nabong, DDS
Jonathan Hill, DDS
Nury Enciso, DDS
Edward Yan, DDS
Luciah Ellen Nzima, DDS
Daren Le, DDS

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
 1215 O Street, MS 10-20
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Mary Le, Board President
 San Andreas Regional Center, Inc.
 6203 San Ignacio Avenue, Suite 200
 San Jose, CA 95119

INVOICE No. 14292

Date September 12, 2022

Headquarters

Please return copy of Invoice with your remittance and make payable to:

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES
 1215 O Street, MS 10-20
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 Attn: Diane J. Nanik, Chief of Accounting

Vendor no.

<p>For: Per final audit report dated September 12, 2022, please reimburse the Department of Developmental Services for the unresolved overpayment of \$2,433.65 for the Fiscal Years 2019-20 & 2020-21.</p>	
<p>Amount Due</p>	<p>\$2,433.65</p>

DDS ACCOUNTING OFFICE ONLY:

FY	INV DATE	Curr. Doc	Rptg Structure	Svc Loc	Program	Amount	Approp. Ref.	Fund
FY19/20	09/12/2022	INV14292	43009517	96000	9910	\$2,433.65	101	0001

California Code of Regulations
Title 17, Division 2
Chapter 1 - General Provisions
Subchapter 7 - Fiscal Audit Appeals
Article 2 - Administrative Review

§50730. Request for Administrative Review.

a) An individual, entity, or organization which disagrees with any portion or aspect of an audit report issued by the Department or regional center may request an administrative review. The appellant's written request shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days after the receipt of the audit report. The request may be amended at any time during the 30-day period.

(b) If the appellant does not submit the written request within the 30-day period, the appeals review officer shall deny such request, and all audit exceptions or findings in the report shall be deemed final unless the appellant establishes good cause for late filing.

(c) The request shall be known as a "Statement of Disputed Issues." It shall be in writing, signed by the appellant or his/her authorized agent, and shall state the address of the appellant and of the agent, if any agent has been designated. An appellant shall specify the name and address of the individual authorized on behalf of the appellant to receive any and all documents, including the final decision of the Director, relating to proceedings conducted pursuant to this subchapter. The Statement of Disputed Issues need not be formal, but it shall be both complete and specific as to each audit exception or finding being protested. In addition, it shall set forth all of the appellant's contentions as to those exceptions or findings, and the estimated dollar amount of each exception or finding being appealed.

(d) If the appeals review officer determines that a Statement of Disputed Issues fails to state the grounds upon which objections to the audit report are based, with sufficient completeness and specificity for full resolution of the issues presented, he/she shall notify the appellant, in writing, that it does not comply with the requirements of this subchapter.

(e) The appellant has 15 days after the date of mailing of such notice within which to file an amended Statement of Disputed Issues. If the appellant does not amend his/her appeal to correct the stated deficiencies within the time permitted, all audit exceptions or findings affected shall be dismissed from the appeal, unless good cause is shown for the noncompliance.

(f) The appellant shall attach to the Statement of Disputed Issues all documents which he/she intends to introduce into evidence in support of stated contentions. An appellant that is unable to locate, prepare, or compile such documents within the appeal period specified in Subsection (a) above, shall include a statement to this effect in the Statement of Disputed Issues. The appellant shall have an additional 30 days after the expiration of the initial 30-day period in which to submit the documents. Documents that are not submitted within this period shall not be accepted into evidence at any stage of the appeal process unless good cause is shown for the failure to present the documents within the prescribed period.



**AUDIT OF THE
SAN ANDREAS REGIONAL CENTER
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2019-20 AND 2020-21**

Department of Developmental Services

September 12, 2022

This audit report was prepared by the
California Department of Developmental Services
1215 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Pete Cervinka, Chief, Data Analytics and Strategy
Ann Nakamura, Chief, Research, Audit, and Evaluation Branch
Edward Yan, Manager, Audit Section
Luciah Ellen Nzima, Chief, Regional Center Audit Unit
Dong Le, Supervisor, Regional Center Audit Unit

Audit Staff: Shoua Vue, Rajiv Raman, and Abel Chappell

For more information, please call: (916) 654-3695

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) conducted a fiscal compliance audit of San Andreas Regional Center (SARC) to ensure SARC is compliant with the requirements set forth in the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act and Related Laws/Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code; the Home and Community-based Services (HCBS) Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled; California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 17; Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars A-122 and A-133; and the contract with DDS. Overall, the audit indicated that SARC maintains accounting records and supporting documentation for transactions in an organized manner.

The audit period was July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2021, with follow-up, as needed, into prior and subsequent periods. This report identifies some areas where SARC's administrative and operational controls could be strengthened, but none of the findings were of a nature that would indicate systemic issues or constitute major concerns regarding SARC's operations. A follow-up review was performed to ensure SARC has taken corrective action to resolve the findings identified in the prior DDS audit report.

Findings that need to be addressed.

Finding 1: Over-Stated Claims

The review of the Operational Indicator reports revealed 59 instances where SARC over-stated claims to the State totaling \$171,666.63. SARC has recovered \$171,371.68 with \$294.95 still outstanding. The over-stated claims were due to duplicate payments or overlapping authorizations. This is not in compliance with CCR, Title 17, Section 57300(c)(2).

Finding 2: Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP) – Payments Above the Share of Cost (Repeat)

The review of 20 sampled FCPP consumer files revealed 13 instances where SARC paid above the share of cost for three consumers participating in the program that were assessed prior to DDS' March 12, 2020, FCPP COVID Directive to the regional centers. This resulted in over-stated claims totaling \$1,838.70 from September 2019 through February 2020. This is not in compliance with CCR, Title 17, Sections 50255(a) and 50257(c).

Finding 3: Annual Family Program Fee (AFPF)

The review of 20 sampled AFPF assessments revealed six instances where SARC was not able to provide documentation to support \$300 in

reduced assessment fees to the State for assessments conducted prior to DDS' March 12, 2020, COVID Directive to the regional centers. This is not in compliance with the State Contract, Article IV, Section 3(b), and the DDS Annual Family Program Fee Procedures.

BACKGROUND

DDS is responsible, under the W&I Code, for ensuring that persons with developmental disabilities (DD) receive the services and supports they need to lead more independent, productive, and integrated lives. To ensure that these services and supports are available, DDS contracts with 21 private, nonprofit community agencies/corporations that provide fixed points of contact in the community for serving eligible individuals with DD and their families in California. These fixed points of contact are referred to as regional centers (RCs). The RCs are responsible under State law to help ensure that such persons receive access to the programs and services that are best suited to them throughout their lifetime.

DDS is also responsible for providing assurance to the Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), that services billed under California's HCBS Waiver program are provided and that criteria set forth for receiving funds have been met. As part of DDS' program for providing this assurance, the Audit Section conducts fiscal compliance audits of each RC no less than every two years and completes follow-up reviews in alternate years. Also, DDS requires RCs to contract with independent Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) to conduct an annual financial statement audit. The DDS audit is designed to wrap around the independent CPA's audit to ensure comprehensive financial accountability.

In addition to the fiscal compliance audit, each RC will also be monitored by the DDS Federal Programs Operations Section to assess overall programmatic compliance with HCBS Waiver requirements. The HCBS Waiver compliance monitoring review has its own criteria and processes. These audits and program reviews are an essential part of an overall DDS monitoring system that provides information on RCs' fiscal, administrative, and program operations.

DDS and San Andreas Regional Center Inc. entered into State Contract HD140016, effective July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2026. This contract specifies that San Andreas Regional Center Inc. will operate an agency known as SARC to provide services to individuals with DD and their families in Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Counties. The contract is funded by state and federal funds that are dependent upon SARC performing certain tasks, providing services to eligible consumers, and submitting billings to DDS.

This audit was conducted remotely from January 13, 2022, through March 3, 2022, by the Audit Section of DDS.

AUTHORITY

The audit was conducted under the authority of the W&I Code, Section 4780.5 and Article IV, Section 3 of the State Contract between DDS and SARC.

CRITERIA

The following criteria were used for this audit:

- W&I Code,
- “Approved Application for the HCBS Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled,”
- CCR, Title 17,
- OMB Circulars A-122 and A-133, and
- The State Contract between DDS and SARC, effective July 1, 2019.

AUDIT PERIOD

The audit period was July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2021, with follow-up, as needed, into prior and subsequent periods.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

This audit was conducted as part of the overall DDS monitoring system that provides information on RCs' fiscal, administrative, and program operations. The objectives of this audit were:

- To determine compliance with the W&I Code,
- To determine compliance with the provisions of the HCBS Waiver Program for the Developmentally Disabled,
- To determine compliance with CCR, Title 17 regulations,
- To determine compliance with OMB Circulars A-122 and A-133, and
- To determine that costs claimed were in compliance with the provisions of the State Contract between DDS and SARC.

The audit was conducted in accordance with the Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. However, the procedures do not constitute an audit of SARC's financial statements. DDS limited the scope to planning and performing audit procedures necessary to obtain reasonable assurance that SARC was in compliance with the objectives identified above. Accordingly, DDS examined transactions on a test basis to determine whether SARC was in compliance with the W&I Code; the HCBS Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled; CCR, Title 17; OMB Circulars A-122 and A-133; and the State Contract between DDS and SARC.

DDS' review of SARC's internal control structure was conducted to gain an understanding of the transaction flow and the policies and procedures, as necessary, to develop appropriate auditing procedures.

DDS reviewed the annual audit reports that were conducted by an independent CPA firm for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2019-20 and 2020-21, issued on November 4, 2020, and November 15, 2021. This review was performed to determine the impact, if any, upon the DDS audit and, as necessary, develop appropriate audit procedures. It was noted that a management letter was issued for FY 2019-20, which indicated a vendor name that was not updated in the Uniform Fiscal System during the prior independent CPA audit has since been corrected by SARC.

The audit procedures performed included the following:

I. Purchase of Service

DDS selected a sample of Purchase of Service (POS) claims billed to DDS. The sample included consumer services and vendor rates. The sample also included consumers who were eligible for the HCBS Waiver Program. For POS claims, the following procedures were performed:

- DDS tested the sample items to determine if the payments made to service providers were properly claimed and could be supported by appropriate documentation.
- DDS selected a sample of invoices for service providers with daily and hourly rates, standard monthly rates, and mileage rates to determine if supporting attendance documentation was maintained by SARC. The rates charged for the services provided to individual consumers were reviewed to ensure compliance with the provision of the W&I Code; the HCBS Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled; CCR, Title 17, OMB Circulars A-122 and A-133; and the State Contract between DDS and SARC.
- DDS selected a sample of individual Consumer Trust Accounts to determine if there were any unusual activities and whether any account balances exceeded \$2,000, as prohibited by the Social Security Administration. In addition, DDS determined if any retroactive Social Security benefit payments received exceeded the \$2,000 resource limit for longer than nine months. DDS also reviewed these accounts to ensure that the interest earnings were distributed quarterly, personal and incidental funds were paid before the 10th of each month, and proper documentation for expenditures was maintained.
- DDS selected a sample of Uniform Fiscal Systems (UFS) reconciliations to determine if any accounts were out of balance or if there were any outstanding items that were not reconciled.
- DDS analyzed all of SARC's bank accounts to determine whether DDS had signatory authority, as required by the State Contract with DDS.
- DDS selected a sample of bank reconciliations for Operations (OPS) accounts and Consumer Trust bank accounts to determine if the reconciliations were properly completed on a monthly basis.

II. Regional Center Operations

DDS selected a sample of OPS claims billed to DDS to determine compliance with the State Contract. The sample included various expenditures claimed for administration that were reviewed to ensure SARC's accounting staff properly input data, transactions were recorded on a timely basis, and expenditures charged to various operating areas were valid and reasonable. The following procedures were performed:

- A sample of the personnel files, timesheets, payroll ledgers, and other support documents were selected to determine if there were any overpayments or errors in the payroll or the payroll deductions.

- A sample of OPS expenses, including, but not limited to, purchases of office supplies, consultant contracts, insurance expenses, and lease agreements were tested to determine compliance with CCR, Title 17, and the State Contract.
- A sample of equipment was selected and physically inspected to determine compliance with requirements of the State Contract.
- DDS reviewed SARC's policies and procedures for compliance with the DDS Conflict of Interest regulations, and DDS selected a sample of personnel files to determine if the policies and procedures were followed.

III. Targeted Case Management (TCM) and Regional Center Rate Study

The TCM Rate Study determines the DDS rate of reimbursement from the federal government. The following procedures were performed upon the study:

- Reviewed applicable TCM records and SARC's Rate Study. DDS examined the months of May 2020 and May 2021 and traced the reported information to source documents.
- The last Case Management Time Study, performed in May 2019, was reviewed in the prior DDS audit that included FY 2018-19. As a result, there was no Case Management Time Study to review for this audit period.

IV. Service Coordinator Caseload Survey

Under the W&I Code, Section 4640.6(e), RCs are required to provide service coordinator caseload data to DDS. The following average service coordinator-to-consumer ratios apply per W&I Code Section 4640.6(c)(1)(2)(3)(A)(B)(C):

- “(c) Contracts between the department and regional centers shall require regional centers to have service coordinator-to-consumer ratios, as follows:
- (1) An average service coordinator-to-consumer ratio of 1 to 62 for all consumers who have not moved from the developmental centers to the community since April 14, 1993. In no case shall a service coordinator for these consumers have an assigned caseload in excess of 79 consumers for more than 60 days.
 - (2) An average service coordinator-to-consumer ratio of 1 to 45 for all consumers who have moved from a developmental center to the community since April 14, 1993. In no case shall a service coordinator for these consumers have an assigned caseload in excess of 59 consumers for more than 60 days.

- (3) Commencing January 1, 2004, the following coordinator-to-consumer ratios shall apply:
- (A) All consumers three years of age and younger and for consumers enrolled in the Home and Community-based Services Waiver program for persons with developmental disabilities, an average service coordinator-to-consumer ratio of 1 to 62.
 - (B) All consumers who have moved from a developmental center to the community since April 14, 1993, and have lived continuously in the community for at least 12 months, an average service coordinator-to-consumer ratio of 1 to 62.
 - (C) All consumers who have not moved from the developmental centers to the community since April 14, 1993, and who are not described in subparagraph (A), an average service coordinator-to-consumer ratio of 1 to 66.”

DDS also reviewed the Service Coordinator Caseload Survey methodology used in calculating the caseload ratios to determine reasonableness and that supporting documentation is maintained to support the survey and the ratios as required by W&I Code, Section 4640.6(e).

V. Early Intervention Program (EIP; Part C Funding)

For the EIP, there are several sections contained in the Early Start Plan. However, only the Part C section was applicable for this review.

VI. Family Cost Participation Program

The FCPP was created for the purpose of assessing consumer costs to parents based on income level and dependents. The family cost participation assessments are only applied to respite, day care, and camping services that are included in the child’s Individual Program Plan (IPP)/Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP). To determine whether SARC was in compliance with CCR, Title 17, and the W&I Code, Section 4783, DDS performed the following procedures during the audit review:

- Reviewed the list of consumers who received respite, day care, and camping services, for ages 0 through 17 years who live with their parents and are not Medi-Cal eligible, to determine their contribution for the FCPP.
- Reviewed the parents’ income documentation to verify their level of participation based on the FCPP Schedule.

- Reviewed copies of the notification letters to verify that the parents were notified of their assessed cost participation within 10 working days of receipt of the parents' income documentation.
- Reviewed vendor payments to verify that SARC was paying for only its assessed share of cost.

VII. Annual Family Program Fee

The AFPP was created for the purpose of assessing an annual fee of up to \$200 based on the income level of families with children between the ages of 0 through 17 years receiving qualifying services through the RC. The AFPP fee shall not be assessed or collected if the child receives only respite, day care, or camping services from the RC and a cost for participation was assessed to the parents under FCPP. To determine whether SARC was in compliance with the W&I Code, Section 4785, DDS requested a list of AFPP assessments and verified the following:

- The adjusted gross family income is at or above 400 percent of the federal poverty level based upon family size.
- The child has a DD or is eligible for services under the California Early Intervention Services Act.
- The child is less than 18 years of age and lives with his or her parent.
- The child or family receives services beyond eligibility determination, needs assessment, and service coordination.
- The child does not receive services through the Medi-Cal program.
- Documentation was maintained by the RC to support reduced assessments.

VIII. Parental Fee Program (PFP)

The PFP was created for the purpose of prescribing financial responsibility to parents of children under the age of 18 years who are receiving 24-hour, out-of-home care services through an RC or who are residents of a state hospital or on leave from a state hospital. Parents shall be required to pay a fee depending upon their ability to pay, but not to exceed (1) the cost of caring for a child without DD at home, as determined by the Director of DDS, or (2) the cost of services provided, whichever is less. To determine whether SARC is in compliance with the W&I Code, Section 4782, DDS requested a list of PFP assessments and verified the following:

- Identified all children with DD who are receiving the following services:

- (a) All 24-hour, out-of-home community care received through an RC for children under the age of 18 years.
 - (b) 24-hour care for such minor children in state hospitals. Provided, however, that no ability to pay determination shall be made for services required by state or federal law, or both, to be provided to children without charge to their parents.
- Provided DDS with a listing of new placements, terminated cases, and client deaths for those clients. Such listings shall be provided not later than the 20th day of the month following the month of such occurrence.
 - Informed parents of children who will be receiving services that DDS is required to determine parents' ability to pay and to assess, bill, and collect parental fees.
 - Provided parents a package containing an informational letter, a Family Financial Statement (FFS), and a return envelope within 10 working days after placement of a minor child.
 - Provided DDS a copy of each informational letter given or sent to parents, indicating the addressee and the date given or mailed.

IX. Procurement

The Request for Proposal (RFP) process was implemented to ensure RCs outline the vendor selection process when using the RFP process to address consumer service needs. As of January 1, 2011, DDS requires RCs to document their contracting practices, as well as how particular vendors are selected to provide consumer services. By implementing a procurement process, RCs will ensure that the most cost-effective service providers, amongst comparable service providers, are selected, as required by the Lanterman Act and the State Contract. To determine whether SARC implemented the required RFP process, DDS performed the following procedures during the audit review:

- Reviewed SARC's contracting process to ensure the existence of a Board-approved procurement policy and to verify that the RFP process ensures competitive bidding, as required by Article II of the State Contract, as amended.
- Reviewed the RFP contracting policy to determine whether the protocols in place included applicable dollar thresholds and comply with Article II of the State Contract, as amended.

- Reviewed the RFP notification process to verify that it is open to the public and clearly communicated to all vendors. All submitted proposals are evaluated by a team of individuals to determine whether proposals are properly documented, recorded, and authorized by appropriate officials at SARC. The process was reviewed to ensure that the vendor selection process is transparent and impartial and avoids the appearance of favoritism. Additionally, DDS verified that supporting documentation is retained for the selection process and, in instances where a vendor with a higher bid is selected, written documentation is retained as justification for such a selection.

DDS performed the following procedures to determine compliance with Article II of the State Contract for contracts in place as of January 1, 2011:

- Selected a sample of Operations, Community Placement Plan (CPP), and negotiated POS contracts subject to competitive bidding to ensure SARC notified the vendor community and the public of contracting opportunities available.
- Reviewed the contracts to ensure that SARC has adequate and detailed documentation for the selection and evaluation process of vendor proposals and written justification for final vendor selection decisions and that those contracts were properly signed and executed by both parties to the contract.

In addition, DDS performed the following procedures:

- To determine compliance with the W&I Code, Section 4625.5 for contracts in place as of March 24, 2011: Reviewed to ensure SARC has a written policy requiring the Board to review and approve any of its contracts of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) or more before entering into a contract with the vendor.
- Reviewed SARC Board-approved Operations, Start-Up, and POS vendor contracts of \$250,000 or more, to ensure the inclusion of a provision for fair and equitable recoupment of funds for vendors that cease to provide services to consumers; verified that the funds provided were specifically used to establish new or additional services to consumers, the usage of funds is of direct benefit to consumers, and the contracts are supported with sufficiently detailed and measurable performance expectations and results.

The process above was conducted in order to assess SARC's current RFP process and Board approval for contracts of \$250,000 or more, as well as to determine whether the process in place satisfies the W&I Code and SARC's State Contract requirements, as amended.

X. Statewide/Regional Center Median Rates

The Statewide and RC Median Rates were implemented on July 1, 2008, and amended on December 15, 2011, and July 1, 2016, to ensure that RCs are not negotiating rates higher than the set median rates for services. Despite the median rate requirement, rate increases could be obtained from DDS under health and safety exemptions where RCs demonstrate the exemption is necessary for the health and safety of the consumers.

To determine whether SARC was in compliance with the Lanterman Act, DDS performed the following procedures during the audit review:

- Reviewed sample vendor files to determine whether SARC is using appropriately vendorized service providers and correct service codes, and that SARC is paying authorized contract rates and complying with the median rate requirements of W&I Code, Section 4691.9.
- Reviewed vendor contracts to ensure that SARC is reimbursing vendors using authorized contract median rates and verified that rates paid represented the lower of the statewide or RC median rate set after June 30, 2008. Additionally, DDS verified that providers vendorized before June 30, 2008, did not receive any unauthorized rate increases, except in situations where required by regulation, or health and safety exemptions were granted by DDS.
- Reviewed vendor contracts to ensure that SARC did not negotiate rates with new service providers for services which are higher than the RC's median rate for the same service code and unit of service, or the statewide median rate for the same service code and unit of service, whichever is lower. DDS also ensured that units of service designations conformed with existing RC designations or, if none exists, ensured that units of service conformed to a designation used to calculate the statewide median rate for the same service code.

XI. Other Sources of Funding from DDS

RCs may receive other sources of funding from DDS. DDS performed sample tests on identified sources of funds from DDS to ensure SARC's accounting staff were inputting data properly, and that transactions were properly recorded and claimed. In addition, tests were performed to determine if the expenditures were reasonable and supported by documentation. The sources of funding from DDS identified in this audit are:

- CPP;
- Part C – Early Start Program;

- Foster Grandparent (FGP);
- Senior Companion (SC); and
- Self Determination.

XII. Follow-up Review on Prior DDS Audit Findings

As an essential part of the overall DDS monitoring system, a follow-up review of the prior DDS audit findings was conducted. DDS identified prior audit findings that were reported to SARC and reviewed supporting documentation to determine the degree of completeness of SARC's implementation of corrective actions.

CONCLUSIONS

Based upon the audit procedures performed, DDS has determined that except for the items identified in the Findings and Recommendations section, SARC was in compliance with applicable sections of the W&I Code; the HCBS Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled; CCR, Title 17; OMB Circulars A-122 and A-133; and the State Contract between DDS and SARC for the audit period, July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2021.

The costs claimed during the audit period were for program purposes and adequately supported.

From the review of the five prior audit findings, it has been determined that SARC has taken appropriate corrective action to resolve four findings.

VIEWS OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS

DDS issued the draft audit report on July 15, 2022. The findings in the draft audit report were discussed at a formal exit conference with SARC on July 20, 2022. The views of SARC's responsible officials are included in this final audit report.

RESTRICTED USE

This audit report is solely for the information and use of DDS, CMS, Department of Health Care Services, and SARC. This restriction does not limit distribution of this audit report, which is a matter of public record.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Findings that need to be addressed.

Finding 1: Over-Stated Claims

The review of the Operational Indicator reports revealed 59 instances where SARC over-stated claims to the State totaling \$171,666.63. The over-stated claims were due to duplicate payments or overlapping authorizations. SARC stated it was not able to review the Operational Indicator reports due to staff shortages and additional workload related to COVID-19. SARC has recovered \$171,371.68 with \$294.95 still outstanding. (See Attachment A)

CCR, Title 17, Section 57300(c)(2) states:

“(c) Regional Centers shall not reimburse vendors:

(2) For services in an amount greater than the rate established pursuant to these regulations.”

Recommendation:

SARC must reimburse to DDS the over-stated claims totaling \$294.95 that are still outstanding. In addition, SARC should ensure its staff review the Operational Indicator reports regularly to ensure it only reimburses vendors for services provided.

Finding 2: Family Cost Participation Program – Payments Above the Share of Cost (Repeat)

The review of 20 sampled FCPP consumer files revealed thirteen instances where SARC paid above the share of cost for three consumers participating in the program. The share of cost should have been the responsibility of the consumers' families. These consumers were assessed a share of cost prior to DDS' March 12, 2020, COVID Directive which waived the fees associated with FCPP. This resulted in payments made to two vendors totaling \$1,838.70 from September 2019 through February 2020. (See Attachment B)

CCR, Title 17, Section 50255(a) states in part:

“(a) The parents of a child who meet the definition under Section 4783(a)(1) of the Welfare and Institutions Code shall be jointly

and severally responsible for the assessed amount of family cost participation.”

CCR, Title 17, Section 50257(c) states in part:

“(c) Regional centers are responsible for funding their authorized share of services without regard to the family’s cost participation assessment.”

Recommendation:

SARC must reimburse DDS for the payments made above its share of cost totaling \$1,838.70. In addition, SARC should only enter its share of cost into the POS authorizations to ensure it only pays for its portion.

Finding 3: Annual Family Program Fee

The review of 20 sampled AFPP assessments revealed SARC was not able to provide documentation to support the reduced assessment fees for six consumers. These consumers were assessed prior to DDS’ March 12, 2020, COVID Directive which waived the fees associated with AFPP. The consumers’ families paid a share of cost of \$150 per consumer when the share of cost should have been \$200 per consumer. This resulted in reduced AFPP fees to DDS totaling \$300. (See Attachment C)

DDS Annual Family Fee Program Procedures, Section II(C), states in part:

“Families shall provide the regional center with records to show their total adjusted gross family income as defined in WIC Section 4785 (j)(1)...If parents’ income is determined to be below 800 percent of the current year FPL, the regional center shall adjust the annual family fee to \$150.00. If parents’ income is determined to be below 400 percent of current year FPL, the family shall not be assessed the AFPP.”

State Contract, Article IV, Section 3(b) states:

“The Contractor shall make available at the office of the Contractor at any time during the term of this agreement during normal working hours, and for a period of three years after final payment under this annual contract, any of its records (personnel records excepted) for the inspection, audit, examination or reproduction by an authorized representative of the State, federal auditor, the State Auditor of the State of California, or any other appropriate State agency, which shall be conducted with the minimum amount of disruption to Contractor’s program. The examination and audit

shall be confined to those matters connected with the performance of this contract, including but not limited to, the cost of administering the contract.”

Recommendation:

SARC must remit \$300 to DDS for the reduced AFPF fees that were unsupported. In addition, SARC should retain the income documentation provided by consumers’ families to justify all reduced assessment fees.

EVALUATION OF RESPONSE

As part of the audit report process, SARC was provided with a draft audit report and requested to provide a response to the findings. SARC's response dated August 17, 2022, is provided as Appendix A.

DDS' Audit Section has evaluated SARC's response and will confirm the appropriate corrective actions have been taken during the next scheduled audit.

Finding 1: Over-Stated Claims

SARC stated it agrees to reimburse \$294.95 to DDS for the overstated claims. In addition, SARC stated it has added new procedures to ensure the Operational Indicator reports are reviewed on a regular basis. DDS will conduct a follow-up review during the next scheduled audit to ensure SARC is enforcing its newly implemented procedures.

Finding 2: Family Cost Participation Program – Payments Above the Share of Cost (Repeat)

SARC stated it agrees to reimburse \$1,838.70 to DDS which occurred due to incorrectly paying for the families' share of cost. In addition, SARC stated it will revise its procedures to ensure its POS authorizations are entered correctly. DDS will conduct a follow-up review during the next scheduled audit to ensure SARC is only paying for its share of cost.

Finding 3: Annual Family Program Fee

SARC stated it agrees to reimburse \$300 to DDS for the unsupported assessment fees. In addition, SARC stated it will revise its policies and procedures to ensure assessments are completed with accuracy and will retain the documentation used to support the reduced assessments. DDS will conduct a follow-up review during the next scheduled audit to ensure SARC is enforcing its newly implemented policies and procedures.

**San Andreas Regional Center
Duplicate Payments and Overlapping Authorizations
Fiscal Years 2019-20 & 2020-21**

No.	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Unique Client Identification Number	Service Code	Sub Code	Authorization Number	Payment Period	Overpayment	Corrected	Outstanding Balance
1	H10929	Greater Opportunities	6547368	520		20724796	11/1/2019	\$810.36	\$810.36	\$0.00
2	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	8119934	510	TDSJB	21703240	9/1/2020	\$1,352.32	\$1,352.32	\$0.00
3	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	6596037	510	TDDJO	21735191	9/1/2020	\$1,239.29	\$1,239.29	\$0.00
4	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	5236138	510	TDSBS	21615254	9/1/2020	\$1,659.75	\$1,659.75	\$0.00
5	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	6582782	510	TDROS	21663922	9/1/2020	\$1,217.16	\$1,217.16	\$0.00
6	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	6599318	510	TDRST	21663920	9/1/2020	\$1,040.12	\$1,040.12	\$0.00
7	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	6587037	510	TDSEW	21657841	9/1/2020	\$1,305.68	\$1,305.68	\$0.00
8	H75572	Hope Rehabilitation Srvc.	6590353	510	TDSOJ	21596150	9/1/2020	\$995.86	\$995.86	\$0.00
9	HS0246	A & T Care Home	6572725	109	03SOE	20739447	3/16/2020 - 6/30/2020	\$2,343.72	\$2,343.72	\$0.00
10	HS0322	Life Services Alternative	6147698	113		21211043	10/1/2020	\$1,069.37	\$1,069.37	\$0.00
11	HS0383	Mission Bay Works	6564843	882	A@3HR	21775851	1/1/2021 - 4/31/2021	\$2,833.08	\$2,833.08	\$0.00
12	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6573784	862	01MR	20711602	9/1/2019	\$58.00	\$58.00	\$0.00
13	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6598828	862		20716359	11/1/2019	\$530.60	\$530.60	\$0.00
14	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6587556	862		20600774	12/1/2019	\$460.72	\$460.72	\$0.00
15	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6592399	862		21707175	7/1/2020	\$702.72	\$702.72	\$0.00
16	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6584529	862		21643351	7/1/2020	\$2,419.18	\$2,419.18	\$0.00
17	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	8149982	862		21757950	10/1/2020	\$527.04	\$527.04	\$0.00
18	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	8198615	862		21755758	10/1/2020	\$2,928.00	\$2,928.00	\$0.00
19	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6596633	862		21400979	10/1/2020	\$702.72	\$702.72	\$0.00
20	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	6593370	862		21749736	11/1/2020	\$702.72	\$702.72	\$0.00
21	HS0441	Comforcare Senior Service	8143082	862		21770234	2/1/2021 - 6/30/2021	\$5,477.40	\$5,477.40	\$0.00
22	HS0470	Balance4Kids DbA: Kid Que	6571596	850	OHMR	20700909	8/1/2019	\$294.95	\$0.00	\$294.95
23	HS0510	California Community	4844080	109	DAY	21716648	8/1/2020	\$1,782.90	\$1,782.90	\$0.00
24	HS0550	Meridian Manor IV	6560601	113		20389586	11/1/2019	\$19,890.75	\$19,890.75	\$0.00
25	HS0550	Meridian Manor IV	6561161	113		20389589	11/1/2019	\$19,890.75	\$19,890.75	\$0.00
26	HS0550	Meridian Manor IV	6565329	113		20389646	11/1/2019	\$19,890.75	\$19,890.75	\$0.00
27	HS0550	Meridian Manor IV	6565329	113		20389646	11/1/2019	\$19,890.75	\$19,890.75	\$0.00
28	HS0551	Meridian Manor V	7184285	113		20389669	11/1/2019	\$19,868.96	\$19,868.96	\$0.00
29	HS0562	Great Endeavors-Bascom	5367925	702		20297966	9/1/2019	\$1,295.74	\$1,295.74	\$0.00
30	HS0562	Great Endeavors-Bascom	6147631	702		20687118	9/1/2019	\$1,295.74	\$1,295.74	\$0.00
31	HS0583	Edward Care Home	6809261	109	02SOE	20739780	3/16/2020 - 6/30/2020	\$3,221.97	\$3,221.97	\$0.00
32	HS0583	Edward Care Home	6809261	109	02SOE	21739780	7/1/2020 - 9/30/2020	\$3,221.97	\$3,221.97	\$0.00

**San Andreas Regional Center
Duplicate Payments and Overlapping Authorizations
Fiscal Years 2019-20 & 2020-21**

No.	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Unique Client Identification Number	Service Code	Sub Code	Authorization Number	Payment Period	Overpayment	Corrected	Outstanding Balance
33	HS0622	Maxim Healthcare Services	6585408	862	01	20471618	7/1/2019	\$621.84	\$621.84	\$0.00
34	HS0643	Quality Respite And Home	8167858	862	01MR	21752717	8/1/2020	\$86.25	\$86.25	\$0.00
35	HS0685	Mission Bay Rincon	6563985	882	A@3HR	21790621	1/1/2021 - 3/31/2021	\$2,092.77	\$2,092.77	\$0.00
36	HS0685	Mission Bay Rincon	6572336	880	1WAYX	20507651	7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020	\$2,273.22	\$2,273.22	\$0.00
37	HS0750	Access Community Resource	6538060	880	A@	21791280	4/1/2021 - 6/30/2021	\$591.60	\$591.60	\$0.00
38	HS0789	Premier Healthcare Svcs.	8029375	862	EORSJ	20660163	8/1/2019	\$197.16	\$197.16	\$0.00
39	HS0789	Premier Healthcare Svcs.	8164885	862	EORSJ	20716435	10/1/2019	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$0.00
40	HS0803	Premier Health Care Svcs.	8167814	491		21753009	9/1/2020	\$96.86	\$96.86	\$0.00
41	HS0822	Blue Sky Residential Care	6509947	109	01	20712840	11/1/2019	\$1,111.80	\$1,111.80	\$0.00
42	HS0825	Premier Healthcare Svcs.	8160514	490	203	20723974	10/1/2019	\$71.37	\$71.37	\$0.00
43	HS0825	Premier Healthcare Servic	6587001	490	01	20706297	10/1/2019	\$45.88	\$45.88	\$0.00
44	HS0825	Premier Healthcare Svcs.	8198769	490	01	20705867	12/1/2019	\$45.88	\$45.88	\$0.00
45	HS0825	Premier Healthcare Svcs.	5033116	490	01	21443381	11/1/2020	\$45.88	\$45.88	\$0.00
46	HS0832	Community Life Services	6596808	520	01	20724923	1/1/2020	\$266.08	\$266.08	\$0.00
47	HS0848	Green Oak Developmental	6504849	510	A@4	21771620	1/1/2021	\$1,223.67	\$1,223.67	\$0.00
48	HS0848	Green Oak Developmental	6597421	880		21782557	4/1/2021 - 6/30/2021	\$227.85	\$227.85	\$0.00
49	HS0902	Ebadat Residential Care-3	8143550	109	02SOE	20736041	3/16/2020 - 6/30/2020	\$3,221.97	\$3,221.97	\$0.00
50	HS0902	Ebadat Residential Care-3	8143550	109	02SOE	21736041	7/1/2020 - 3/31/2021	\$9,152.25	\$9,152.25	\$0.00
51	HS0928	Praising Hands,LLC.	8181346	862		21727811	8/1/2020	\$641.52	\$641.52	\$0.00
52	HS1050	Hope Services	6581432	880		21700275	1/1/2021 - 3/31/2021	\$444.90	\$444.90	\$0.00
53	HS1063	Community Transport Svcs	5809553	875	A@	21790983	4/1/2021 - 6/30/2021	\$1,120.41	\$1,120.41	\$0.00
54	HS1248	Evergreen Home Living	6583466	109	02SOE	21790976	7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021	\$2,101.27	\$2,101.27	\$0.00
55	ZS0464	Mission Bay Community	1953876	880	1WAYX	20534483	7/1/2019	\$33.35	\$33.35	\$0.00
56	ZS0606	Monterey Bay Horsemanship	8096169	880	HR	20745347	4/1/2020 - 6/30/2020	\$3,307.86	\$3,307.86	\$0.00
57	ZS0998	Hope Services	8164124	880	A@	21788428	6/30/2021	\$166.43	\$166.43	\$0.00
58	ZS1031	Hope Services	8224567	55	08	20636480	11/1/2019	\$649.66	\$649.66	\$0.00
59	ZS1031	Hope Services	8224567	880	A@	21788800	4/1/2021 - 6/30/2021	\$367.98	\$367.98	\$0.00
Total Overstated Claims Due to Duplicate Payments and Overlapping Authorizations:								\$171,666.63	\$171,371.68	\$294.95

San Andreas Regional Center
Family Cost Participation Program - Payments Above the Share of Cost
Fiscal Years 2019-20 & 2020-21

No.	Unique Client Identification Number	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Service Code	Authorization	Payment Period	Overpayments
1	6576762	HS0825	Premier Healthcare Services	455	20730068	Feb-20	\$94.56
2	6586490	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20403111	Dec-19	\$392.41
3	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701017	Sep-19	\$451.01
4	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701017	Oct-19	\$159.18
5	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701017	Nov-19	\$60.34
6	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701017	Dec-19	\$113.40
7	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701017	Jan-20	\$138.96
8	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701017	Feb-20	\$224.94
9	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701025	Sep-19	\$58.00
10	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701025	Nov-19	\$36.73
11	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701025	Dec-19	\$36.73
12	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701025	Jan-20	\$36.23
13	8240257	HS0441	Comfocare Senior Service	862	20701025	Feb-20	\$36.23
Total Overstated Claims Due to Payments Above the Share of Cost:							\$1,838.70

**San Andreas Regional Center
Annual Family Program Fee
Fiscal Years 2019-20 & 2020-21**

No.	Unique Client Identification Number	Assessment Date	Assessed Amount	Maximum Assessment	Difference In Assessments	Assessment Amount Not Supported
1	8253102	08/08/19	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
2	8272668	07/05/19	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
3	8575017	07/01/19	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
4	8576563	11/25/19	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
5	8576689	11/27/19	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
6	8577248	01/27/20	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Total Amount of Reduced AFPF Assessments Not Supported:						\$300.00

APPENDIX A

**SAN ANDREAS REGIONAL CENTER'S
RESPONSE
TO THE AUDIT FINDINGS**



August 16, 2022

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

6203 San Ignacio Avenue
Suite 200
San Jose, CA.
95119

P.O. Box 50002
San Jose, CA
95150-0002
Tel: 1(408) 374-9960
Fax: 1(408) 281-6960

MONTEREY COUNTY

1370 S. Main Street
Salinas, CA 93901
Tel: 1(831) 900-3636
Fax: 1(831) 424-3007

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

1110 Main Street
Suite 8
Watsonville, CA
95076
Tel: 1(831) 900-3737
Fax: 1(831) 728-0675

www.sarc.org

Member of the
Association of
Regional Center
Agencies

Edward Yan
Audit Section
Department of Developmental Services
1215 O Street, MS 9-20
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Yan,

This letter shall serve as San Andreas Regional Center's (SARC) response to the draft audit report for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21, dated July 15, 2022

Finding 1: Over-Stated Claims

SARC agrees to reimburse DDS \$294.95 in vendor overpayments due to duplicate payments/overlapping authorizations noted in the finding and have built in new procedures to ensure that Operational Indicator reports are reviewed regularly.

Finding 2: Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP) – Payments Above the Share of Cost (Repeat)

SARC agrees to reimburse DDS \$1,838.70 in overpayments which resulted from incorrectly paying for the families' share of cost noted in the finding.

In response to finding 2, SARC is reviewing and will revise its policies and procedures related to the Family Cost participation program and train staff to ensure that all letters go out in a timely manner in compliance with the regulations and that authorizations are entered correctly.


Finding 3: Annual Family Program Fee (AFPF)

SARC agrees to reimburse DDS \$300.00 in overpayments which resulted from incorrect state assessment fees.

In response to finding 3, SARC is reviewing and will revise its policies and procedures related to the Annual Family program and train staff to ensure assessments are performed accurately and documentation used to support the assessments are retained.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any questions.

Sincerely,


[John Hunt \(Aug 16, 2022 15:36 PDT\)](mailto:jhunt@sarc.org)

John Hunt, CFO
San Andreas Regional Center
jhunt@sarc.org

"Consumers First Through Service, Advocacy, Respect and Choice"

Serving Persons with Developmental Disabilities