



A coalition of statewide associations and organizations representing people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

July 1, 2022

RE: Official Response to the 2022-23 California State Budget

Dear Advocates,

YOUR ACTIONS MADE A DIFFERENCE!

Governor Gavin Newsom and the Legislature have reached an agreement on the 2022-23 State Budget. We are excited to announce that **the Lanterman Coalition's proposal to accelerate funding to the disability system to address the staffing crisis is included in this year's budget!** The \$159 million general fund (GF) for accelerated funding will begin January 2023 and the final funding increases of \$534 million GF will begin July 2024, a full year sooner than originally expected thanks to all your efforts. Overall, including federal matching funds, your advocacy efforts resulted in an **additional \$1.24 billion in funding for the developmental disability system** over the next three years.

This success is a result of relentless advocacy from organization members of the Lanterman Coalition and from you and other members of the grassroots community across the state. *During this effort more than 3,800 advocates took 11,800 actions of emails, calls, tweets and video messages to members of the Legislature and Governor.*

While these investments will undoubtedly help to restore services and supports that were lost as a result of the pandemic and staffing shortages, the final budget package falls short of the Lanterman Coalition's full proposals. The accelerated funding is six months later than our proposal of July 2022 and does not include technical fixes to the rate models nor regular updates to funding the disability system to adjust for economic fluctuations. Additionally, the budget package does not include an update to the Regional Center service coordinator rates to lower caseload ratios and attract staff, even when this week a [statement by the California State Auditor](#) says it "found that regional centers have neither sufficient staff nor funding." **This means that our work, and your work, is not done.** In our ongoing efforts to advocate on behalf of Californians with developmental disabilities and the workforce, we will be requesting the Governor's administration make an effort to address the rate issues and we will start planning our advocacy strategy now to address the important service coordinator shortage issue that inhibits access to services and supports.

We thank every single person who contacted the Governor and your elected officials asking for their support! This year, many of you submitted powerful video messages that demonstrated the personal impact of the staffing crisis we are facing across the state. **Your involvement made a difference!**

Other items the final budget package includes are:

- \$157 million for stipends to recruit and retain direct support professionals (DSPs) and tuition reimbursement for regional center service coordinators. This funding is one-time and not ongoing.
- \$4.7 million to suspend the Regional Center Family Fees for one additional year.
- \$8.4 million over three years to establish a service model pilot program focused on expanding employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who are currently served through Work Activity Programs (WAPs) or are recent high school graduates.
- \$15 million to support communication assessments that will be used in developing individual program plans to improve services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are deaf (Deaf+).
- Elimination of half-day billing, enhancements of tailored day services, and an extension of alternative services through December 31, 2022.

As always, we will continue to advocate on behalf of the 380,000 Californians with disabilities, their families and staff and the incredible service providers and regional centers who are working tirelessly to meet the needs of the community. There's more work to be done, and we are counting on you to continue to join us on this journey, but we hope you take a moment to feel proud of this accomplishment. We couldn't do it without you!

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



The Lanterman Coalition consists of the 24 major stakeholders in California's community based developmental services system. Membership in the coalition requires a commitment to (1) the Preservation of the Lanterman Act and the entitlement [A], (2) no categorical elimination of services, (3) no enrollment caps or waiting lists, (4) no reductions to services and supports important to people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their families and (5) full support of the community imperative [B] and the Olmstead decision.

[A] It is through the IPP procedure that the right the Act grants to each developmentally disabled person and the obligation it imposes on the state are implemented; through it, the developmentally disabled person on an individual basis receives, as an entitlement, services that enable him to live a more independent and productive life in the community. (ARC v DDS). [B] In fulfillment of fundamental human rights and in securing optimum developmental opportunities, all people, regardless of the severity of their disabilities, are entitled to community living.