



610 Airpark Rd, Napa, CA 94558
Phone: (707) 256-1100 • TTY (707) 252-0213

520 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Phone: (707) 569-2000 • TTY (707) 525-1239

www.nbrc.net

Our Mission:

(what we do and for whom)

Our mission is to empower, respect and serve each child and adult with or with the potential for a developmental disability, while promoting the health and well-being of each individual, their families, and our community.

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is a Regular Business Meeting scheduled as follows:

DATE: September 3, 2025

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: Hybrid – NBRC Vacaville Office or Zoom
445 Merchant Street, Vacaville, CA 95688

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89709687840?pwd=QjllcTc0dzBBNXA2OEplLanVjOFItUT09>

Join by Phone:

Phone Number: 1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 897 0968 7840

Passcode: 912329

Se Habla Español

American Sign Language Interpretation Available

Agenda Enclosed

The NBRC Board of Directors is actively recruiting for board members. Please email your completed application or send any questions to Janelle Santana at janelles@nbrc.net.

- [NBRC Board Application - English](#)
- [NBRC Solicitud de Junta - Español](#)
- [Ang Aplikasyon para Maging Miyembro ng Lupon ng mga Direktor ng - Tagalog](#)

REMINDER: Notices are posted at www.nbrc.net. All meetings are made accessible to persons with disabilities and all members of the public are welcome to attend. Please contact Janelle Santana at (707) 256-1224 for further information or to request any disability-related modifications or accommodations.

North Bay Developmental Disabilities Services, Inc.
Board of Directors' Board Meeting – Hybrid
September 3, 2025 6:00 p.m.
445 Merchant Street
Vacaville, CA 95688

AND

Join by Zoom Webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89709687840?pwd=QjllcTc0dzBBNXA2OEplLanVjOFItUT09>

Join by Phone:

Phone Number: 1-669-900-6833 **Webinar ID:** 897 0968 7840 **Passcode:** 912329

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Martha Valdez, President
- II. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS – Ronald Gers, Secretary (3 min)
- III. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES – Regular Business Meeting Minutes from July 2, 2025, be approved as submitted. (2 min) (pgs. 1-6) ACTION
- IV. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA – Additions or modifications to this agenda by Board Members. ACTION
- V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – Please use the sign-up sheet if attending in-person or chat in the Zoom meeting to sign up. If attending by phone, please text (707) 256-1224 to sign up. (2 minutes per person unless otherwise allowed by Board Chairperson). (10 min)
- VI. INTRODUCTION TO NBRC'S DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY AND EQUITY – Claudia Ritchie (20 mins)
- VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Andrea Bednarova, Treasurer
 - A. Treasurer's Report be approved as submitted (5 min) ACTION
- VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS – *A list of committees and upcoming meetings can be found on pages 7-8.*
 - A. Executive Committee Update – Martha Valdez, President (5 min) INFO
 - i. Future Changes to Committee Reports
 - B. Nominating Committee Update – Joanne Giardello, Nominating Committee Chair (5 mins) ACTION
 - i. Vote for Andrea Bednarova's Third Board Term from November 2025 to October 2026(pg.9)
 - C. Vendor Advisory Committee Update – Breeanne Kolster, VAC Co-Chair (5 mins) (pgs. 10-28) INFO
 - D. Cultural/Linguistic Competency Committee Update – Joanne Giardello, CLCC Co-Chair (5 mins) INFO
 - E. Public Policy Advisory Committee Update – Breeanne Kolster, VAC Representative (5 mins) INFO
 - i. Federal & Legislative Update
 - 1. Christopher Bennett, Board Member (5 mins)
 - F. Client Advisory Committee Update – Christopher Bennett, CAC Chair (5 mins)(pg. 29) INFO
 - G. Risk Reduction Advisory Committee Update – Joanne Giardello, RRAC Chair (5 mins) INFO
 - H. Board Development Committee (BDC) Update – Cheryl Snaveley, BDC Chair (5 mins) INFO
- IX. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director (10 mins) INFO
- X. GOOD OF THE ORDER – Any other Board business may be brought up at this time.
- XI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – Please use the sign-up sheet if attending in-person or chat in the Zoom meeting to sign up. If attending by phone, please text (707) 256-1224 to sign up. (2 minutes per person unless otherwise allowed by Board Chairperson). (10 min)
- XII. CLOSED SESSION (20 mins)
 - a. The appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, or dismissal of a regional center employee

XIII. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

- b. Report on any action taken during the closed session (1 min)

INFO

XIV. ADJOURNMENT – Martha Valdez, President

CLOSED SESSION – a) The governing board of a regional center may hold a closed meeting to discuss or consider one or more of the following: (1) real estate negotiations, (2) the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, or dismissal of a regional center employee, (3) employee salaries and benefits, (4) labor contract negotiations, (5) pending litigation. b) Any matter specifically dealing with a particular regional center client must be conducted in a closed session. -- W&I Code 4663.

NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT – The next Board Meeting is on October 1, 2025 at NBRC's Santa Rosa Office – 520 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401.
--

North Bay Developmental Disabilities Services, Inc.
Board of Directors Regular Business Meeting
July 2, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Via In Person & Zoom Webinar
610 Airpark Road, Napa, CA 95688

NBRC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Martha Valdez, President, Sonoma County
Ronald Gers, Secretary, Sonoma County
Cheryl Snavelly, Sonoma County
Christopher Bennett, Napa County
Alan Kerzin, Sonoma County

Sahira Arroyos, Vice President, Solano County
Breeanne Kolster, VAC Representative
Joanne Giardello, Solano County
Andrea Bednarova, Treasurer

NBRC BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

NBRC STAFF PRESENT:

Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director
Beth DeWitt, Director of Client Services
Deanna Mobley, Director of Intake and Clinical Services
Jennifer Crick, Director of Administrative Services

Janelle Santana, Executive Assistant
Courtney Singleton, Director of Community Services
Isabel Calder, Chief Financial Officer
Mariam Guirguis, Executive Assistant – Compliance

GUESTS (names listed as seen on Zoom):

Amber Lopez, Spanish Interpreter
Stacey Martinez, The Arc – Solano
Galynn Green
Debby Davis, Specialized Care Services
Yolanda Sanchez

Chris Aguire, DDS
ASL Interpreter, DeBlois
ASL Interpreter, Nicole
Adriana Diaz, 24 Hour Homecare
Danny T.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – Martha Valdez, President, called the regular business meeting to order at approximately 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS – Ronald Gers, Secretary, conducted roll call and a quorum was present.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES – Regular Business Meeting Minutes from June 4, 2025, be approved as submitted.

M/S/C (Gers/Arroyos) Moved to approve the June 4, 2025 minutes as submitted.

**APPROVED
UNANIMOUS**

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA – No modifications

M/S/C (Gers/Kolster) Moved to approve the agenda as submitted.

**APPROVED
UNANIMOUS**

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None

CONTRACT FOR APPROVAL OVER \$250,000

Isabel Calder, CFO, provided a summary of the following contract that can be found on page 9 of the July board meeting packet.

A. E-4 Contract

TREASURER'S REPORT –

Treasurer's Report be approved as submitted.

Andrea Bednarova, Treasurer, reviewed the Treasurer's Report. A summary of the Board Opportunity Fund and the CFO board report can be found in the July 2025 board packet.

- Doug Cleveland Board Opportunity Fund
 - o The Opportunity Fund had no activity in the month of May 2025.
 - o The account balance remains at \$36,039.30 as of May 31, 2025.
- Operations
 - o The report reflects 11 months of expenditure for the fiscal year.
 - o The operations expenditure represents 85% of our total operations budget to date. As of May 2025, 92% of the fiscal year has elapsed.
 - o NBRC's operations budget remains balanced as the agency prepares for the end of the fiscal year.
 - o NBRC continues to assess the agency's needs and the remaining year-end funds to ensure preparation for the new fiscal year. NBRC has begun purchasing laptops, monitors, and office supplies to replenish inventory for the new year. NBRC continues to have significant growth, with a total of 358 employees as of June with several new hires starting in July.
- Purchase of Service (POS)
 - o The POS expenditure represents 86% of the total POS budget. As of May 2025, 92% of the fiscal year has elapsed.
 - o NBRC is monitoring the POS allocation as they continue to work on Rate Reform and rate adjustments. NBRC has sent their projected POS expenditure to DDS to keep them informed of the impact from the rate adjustments.
- Cashflow
 - o NBRC has sufficient cash on hand to cover the July POS check-run. NBRC will receive the first cash advancement for FY25/26 by mid-July.

M/S/C (Gers/Arroyos) Motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

**APPROVED
UNANIMOUS**

INDIVIDUALIZED PROGRAM PLAN (IPP) TEMPLATE OVERVIEW –

Beth DeWitt, Director of Client Services, shared an overview of the IPP template that can be found on pages 12-21 of the July Board Meeting packet on NBRC's website.

- The board discusses the challenges and benefits of the new IPP, including the need for more training and support for staff.
- NBRC to draft a one-page document notifying the community of the new IPP Template.
- The following resources were suggested to help understand the IPP process.
 - o <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/ipp/>
 - o Feedback and questions regarding the standardized IPP template can go to: IPPSupport@dds.ca.gov

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

A. Executive Committee Update –

- a. Martha Valdez, President, reviewed the following items that were discussed at the Executive Committee on June 16th.
 - i. Preparation for the July Board Meeting and August Board Retreat
 - ii. Thanked Sara for her board membership. Congratulated Sahira for the start of her term as Vice President.

B. Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) Update –

- a. Breeanne Kolster, VAC Co-Chair, provided an overview of topics discussed at the last VAC Meeting.

- i. Working on the structure of VAC meetings
- ii. NBRC Clinical Services presentation by Deanna Mobley, Director of Intake and Clinical Services.
- iii. Drop-In Sessions with NBRC Associate Directors for vendors to ask questions
- iv. Impact of gas prices on vendors
- v. Dates that will impact the vendor community

C. Cultural/Linguistic Competency Committee (CLCC) Update – None

- i. Outreach Events
 - 1. The flyer can be found on page 22 of the July board meeting packet

D. Public Policy Advisory Committee Update –

- a. Breeanne Kolster, VAC Representative, shared the group discussed the following topics.
 - i. Legislative updates
 - ii. Public Records Act impact on vendors
 - iii. The next meeting is on July 22nd at 10am.
- b. Federal Update - Christopher Bennett, Board Member, shared the following.
 - i. California State Council on Developmental Disabilities news release on June 24th
 - 1. The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities collected many Medi-caid stories.
 - 2. The community can share their comments with the House Committee.

E. Client Advisory Committee Update –

- a. Christopher Bennett, CAC Member, noted the committee met on June 6th from 1:00pm – 2:30pm in Napa and Zoom.
 - i. Presentation on Generic Resources
 - ii. Discussion on the draft Person-Centered Board Policy

F. Reduction Advisory Committee Update –

- a. Joanne Giardello, RRAC Chair, shared the following.
 - i. Natalie Oleas, Regional Director of Administration at Solano Family Justice Center presented at the RRAC meeting.
 - 1. www.solanofamilyjustice.org
 - ii. The next meeting will be on July 30th 12:30pm – 1:30pm via Zoom.

G. Nominating Committee Update –

- a. Joanne Giardello, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the following.
 - i. **Approval of Revision to Board Bylaws – Section 2.3**

M/S/C (Gers/Kolster) Motioned to approve the revision of Section 2.3 in the Board Bylaws as submitted.

**APPROVED
UNANIMOUS**

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director, discussed the following items.

- State Budget Update
 - o Provider compliance for the Quality Incentive Program
 - o Adjustments to Hold Harmless Policy
 - o Trailer Bill language approved: Self-Determination process, DDS to define cost effectiveness in the future.
 - o The Governor's proposed budget includes significant decreases to In Home Support Services (IHSS).
 - o NBRC is monitoring what is happening at the federal level regarding the Big Beautiful Bill.
- Immigration Enforcement
 - o Regional centers are sharing stories about how immigration enforcement is affecting their communities.
 - o North Bay Regional Center is available to support the community and is open to further discussion on this matter.

- Rollover Process
 - o Compliments to Fiscal and Accounting teams for an efficient rollover.
- Rate Reform
 - o Service acknowledgment forms due from providers
 - o Provider Directory under development
 - o Reach out to Resource Development with any rate reform questions
- Napa Office Renovations are underway
- There was a fundraiser golf tournament hosted by ATCO Pest Control services that raised \$6,000 for the Doug Cleveland Board Opportunity Fund.

GOOD OF THE ORDER – None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –

Stacey Martinez, The ARC Solano, shared about a Quality Incentive Program requirement regarding audits.

ADJOURNMENT – Martha Valdez, President, adjourned the regular business board meeting at 8:16 pm.

**Board Members attended a training afterwards.*

Date submitted to NBRC Board for review

07/02/2025

Date approved by NBRC Board Executive Committee (if applicable)

N/A

Date approved by NBRC Board

07/02/2025

Operations ☒

Purchase of Service ☒

The following contracts have been reviewed by Isabel Calder, Chief Financial Officer, and Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director. Both of whom recommend approval by the NBRC Board of Directors.

Purpose of Contract	Contractor Name and Vendor#	Term of Contract	Total Contract Amount	APPROVED	Notes
E-4 Contract for Fiscal Year 23/24	Department of Developmental Services	July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2026	\$573,934,072	M/S/C (Gers/Arroyos)	<p>The E-4 contract for FY 23-24 includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ops: (\$112,107) • POS: \$910,771

Operations allocation was a net amount totaling a de-allocation in the amount of (\$112,107) which included the following:

- De-allocation for Tuition Reimbursement (\$369,821)
- Performance incentives \$250,000 and Service Access and Equity \$7,714

POS allocation included \$910,771 in Start Up funds

Approved Change to Board Bylaws

July 2, 2025 Board Meeting

M/S/C (Gers/Kolster)

Motioned to approve the revision of Section 2.3 in the Board Bylaws as submitted.

Section 2.3 Place of Meetings

Any meeting of Directors or Committees held pursuant to any provision of these Bylaws shall be held at any place within the State of California designated by the Board of Directors. In the absence of any such designation, all meetings shall be held at the principal executive office of the Corporation. No meeting, conference or other Board function shall be conducted in any facility that prohibits the admittance of any person, or persons, on the basis of race, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, color, gender identification, disability or any other legally protected classification. Further, all board meetings shall be held in facilities which are accessible to persons with physical disabilities.

Directors shall, to the best of their ability, attend at least three (3) board meetings per year in-person, including, but not limited to, the Annual Board Meeting and Board Retreat, absent an exception as specified by applicable law.

When attending board and committee meetings virtually, it is the expectation that Directors will remain on camera for most of each meeting, absent unforeseen circumstances.



Board Committee Information

For board committee agendas and location information, please visit

<https://nbrc.net/about-us/board-of-directors/board-meetings/board-committee-meetings/>

Board Committees	Members	Description	Next Meeting
Executive Committee	Board President – Martha Valdez Board Vice President – Sahira Arroyos Board Secretary – Ronald Gers Board Treasurer – Andrea Bednarova	The Executive Committee consists of officers elected by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee oversees the direction of NBRC and provides leadership to the board. The committee meets monthly to discuss matters involving the agency and to plan the agenda for the upcoming board meeting.	September 15th 6:30pm – 7:30pm Occurs the 3 rd Monday of every month
Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC)	Board VAC Representative – Breeanne Kolster	The Vendor Advisory Committee is comprised of service providers from Napa, Solano, and Sonoma counties. The members provide guidance, advice, and recommendations as they meet about issues and concerns that affect their services.	September 9th 10am – 11:30am Occurs the 2 nd Tuesday of every month
Public Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC)	Board VAC Representative – Breeanne Kolster	The Public Policy Advisory Committee is an advisory committee to the board. The committee reviews public policy impacting regional center services including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Congressional bills, California state legislation and budget trailer bills - Federal and state executive orders 	September 23rd 10am – 11:30am Occurs the 4 th Tuesday of every month

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in regulation and other law relating to disability programs and services - Department of Developmental Services directives <p>The purpose of the committee is to keep the Board informed of important policy developments and recommend potential actions for the Board to take.</p>	
Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee (CLCC)	CLCC Chair – Joanne Giardello Board President – Martha Valdez	The CLCC promotes diversity, equity and belonging within our agency and community by gathering input, analyzing data, reviewing policies, and making recommendations to the Board.	September 18th 12pm – 1pm Occurs the 3 rd Thursday of every month
Client Advisory Committee (CAC)	Board Member & CAC Chair – Christopher Bennett CAC Co-Chairs – Sara Speck & Franklin Phillips	The CAC represents the perspectives of people served by NBRC. The members share information, provide feedback on NBRC policies and practices, and make recommendations to the Board.	September 19th 1:00pm – 2:30pm Occurs quarterly, 4 th Friday of the month
Risk Reduction Advisory Committee (RRAC)	RRAC Chair – Joanne Giardello	The Committee develops agendas that focus on policies, discussions, practices, and tasks related to prevention and response to neglect, physical and sexual abuse.	September 24th 12:30pm – 1:30pm Occurs the last Wednesday of every month



Board Member Term Election: Andrea Bednarova

Andrea Bednarova is an in-house attorney at a healthcare organization, advising primarily on labor and employment matters.

Prior to going in-house, she had extensive experience litigating on behalf of and providing compliance advice to organizations who serve individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities.

Andrea holds a law degree from University of California, Hastings College of the Law and a B.A. Degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

The Nominating Committee recommends Andrea Bednarova for a third term as a Board of Director from November 2025 to October 2026.

VAC MEETING MINUTES



Vendor Advisory Committee

North Bay Regional Center

July 8, 2025 at 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Via Zoom & In Person
610 Airpark Road, Napa, CA 94558

VAC VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeremy Hogan, VAC Co-Chair, UCP of the North Bay
Kelley Hanson, Pace Solano
Marissa Elder, Enriching Lives Family Home Agency
Jessica Sadowsky, Bayberry Inc.
Adria Carson, On My Own
Mary Eble, North Bay Housing Coalition

Breeanne Kolster, VAC Co-Chair, 24 Hour Home Care
Carin Hewitt, alift llc
Kaela Talafili, Becoming Independent
Sara Trail, Connected Living

VAC VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Samantha Wilhite, Connections for Life

NBRC STAFF PRESENT at 10:30am:

Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director
Beth Dewitt, Director of Client Services
Isabel Calder, Chief Financial Officer
Courtney Singleton, Director of Community Services
Deanna Heibel, Associate Director of Client Services
Kelly Weber, Associate Director of Client Services
Janelle Santana, Executive Assistant
Ellen Sweigert, Consumer Advocate

GUESTS (Names as listed in Chat):

Brandi Auble, CA Mentor
Jessica Graham - Family Works
Dawn Strong, Flourish ILS
Graciela Menor, Enriching Lives
Jessie Bealer - Supportive Steps Services
Stacey Martinez, The Arc-Solano
Holly Grant, CBEM
Melissa Cardenas-Dungarvin
Jenni Linteo - Lynn & Darla Supported Living
Denise Hunley, Connections for Life
Ronda Reyes, Solano Diversified Services
Jess Perez- Milestones of Development
Jesse Carbone-North Bay Industries
Adriana Diaz, 24 Hour Home Care
Taylor Vandergrind- North Bay Industries
LeeAnn Kellerman - Lynn and Darla SLS
Jerry Corradi UCPNB
Barbara Montaldo, Moving Forward Towards Independence

Dalia Flores, North Bay Industries
Jose Hernandez Inclusion Services
Holly Pagel- Empowered Living SLS
Marilyn Buono LEAP of California
Rhonda Mottern-Bayberry
Julia Prentice, Solano Diversified Services
Robert Hutt, NBI
Tokasa Buinimasi Bulafiji SLS
Eric Vanderville, Allied Integration Services
Shayne Aloe, Kreative Community Services
Elizabeth Clary, Alchemia
Linda Plourde- Bayberry
Debbi Davis - Special Care Services
Landon Vandergrind - North Bay Industries
Emma Koell - North Bay Industries
Natalie Terrell New Leaf Solutions
Emmy Bennett- Napa Valley Support Services

VENDOR ONLY TIME

A. CALL TO ORDER at 10:02am

- a. Roll Call of Voting Members
- b. Establish Quorum-quorum established

B. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA:

- a. Jeremy asked for any additions or modifications to the agenda. None noted.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Jeremy asked for any corrections to the June 10, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. None noted. Jessica Sadowsky moved, and Marissa Elder seconded to approve the June minutes as presented.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Recruiting new VAC Voting Members** – Jeremy shared that the VAC is officially accepting new applications for seats on the committee. The VAC role is to support the vendor community representing all three counties. They advise the regional center and bring issues to their attention. One of the members is elected to be a representative on the NBRC board (currently Breeanne). All members participate in the making of the agenda, identify special presentations, and plan events including the vendor fair. It is a great place to learn from others and get engaged with a great group of people.

If you are interested in applying for the VAC, please click on the below link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc1gTRb6k_zs8Ok9Wz0DsuY1gzQcYae6Y5REsLrvsdnKAONJw/viewform?usp=sf_link

- b. **Vendor Fair Subcommittee-** Breeanne shared that they had a brief meeting this morning. They are working to secure sites (with sufficient room for all vendors) in Napa and Sonoma counties. They are also working with NBRC to make sure Service Coordinators are mandated to attend. The dates are being finalized but will be in October. This committee is open to non VAC members and is an opportunity to help plan the vendor fair. Meetings are being held prior to the VAC (9:00-9:45am) through November. Please email NBRCvac@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.

E. VENDOR COMMUNITY OPEN FORUM:

- a. **NBRC POS Meetings-** The VAC will reconvene a meeting with NBRC on August 26th (in the Napa board room) to discuss how the POS meetings are working and to determine next steps. Jeremy asked for feedback to bring to the meeting and invited vendors to join the meeting as well. Those present said the meetings were appreciated and vendors were glad to know an option for resolving issues was available. The July POS meetings are set for July 17th. The VAC will ask NBRC to host an August drop in meeting in the short term as well. Jeremy reminded vendors that this is only a forum for POS issues and not the place to bring unrelated questions.

END OF VENDOR ONLY TIME

F. GROUP REPORTS

- a. **Napa-Solano Vendor Group** Kelley Hanson said that the group did not meet in June. Contact Kelley if you want to join the Sonoma Vendor Group kelley@pacesolano.org

Sonoma Vendor Group- Elizabeth Clary shared that the groups met twice in June. The main topics included how to keep Service Coordinator contacts updated regularly. Isabel said they are working on the website which will have a full organizational chart with contacts for SCs and supervisors. Also, in the SANDIS portal, vendors should be able to access information about assigned SCs. The question was whether Sandis includes emails for SCs. Isabel will check into adding emails as it was noted that phone numbers are included in SANDIS. Breeanne asked if they could get a one pager on how to access SC info in SANDIS. Those present also requested an updated contact list. NBRC said they would provide these items.

Isabel shared that if vendors have a problem with SANDIS they should email: ebilling@nbrc.net

The other theme was with regard to events in our community. NBRC hosts events that are specific to people with disabilities but there are also events happening in the community and we should work to include people with disabilities in those as well. NBRC leadership expressed that they would like to include social media handles for vendors and share their events. Isabel said that this should be easier to do when the new website is in place. In the meantime, NBRC will let the vendors know who they should send social and event information to.

Elizabeth thanked R&D for joining their meeting(s) and answering questions.

Contact Elizabeth if you want to join the Sonoma Vendor Group elizabeth.clary@alchemia.org and/or complete this poll if you want to attend an July meeting: <https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/bkXpKmEd>

- b. **Affordable Housing Review-** Mary Eble shared there was not a housing committee meeting this month. She and Courtney went to a Housing Development event in Healdsburg that has set asides that will be available in late 2026. She will keep us updated as they become available. This is phase one so there will be more. Serena Village in Vallejo has a one bedroom available. They have to make two times the rent (\$1380) to be eligible, and the rent is \$690. Email Mary if you have anyone who is interested. There are also two bedrooms in a 3 bedroom home in Napa, but the rent is \$900. Mary shared a flyer for advocacy around federal funding for HUD. Email Mary at mary@northbayhousing.org if interested.
- c. **Transportation-** Leticia Leon from R&D reported that she is covering for Myra today. June numbers included 57 providers contracted under 880 and commercial, 248 routes, 1360 people, and 6473 trips delivered. Ashton Tyler Daulo is the new scheduler who will be assigned to support NBRC. R&D will share his contact info shortly. A question was asked about when vendors would start billing under the new billing (per rate reform). Courtney said she will look to schedule a meeting with R&D to move this forward.
- d. **NBRC Board Report-** Breeanne reported the board met last week. There was discussion around the deallocation funding. Staff were provided an educational stipend that wasn't used due to COVID etc. This is not money that would have gone to programs. Beth reviewed the new IPP template. It was super helpful and there were a lot of questions from the board. DDS was also there to hear the feedback. The Executive Committee reviewed contracts and conflicts of interest. The Cultural and Linguistic Competency Committee will meet on July 17th, and the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) met in June. The focus was on having a person centered philosophy. The next CAC is on September 19th at 1:00pm. The Risk Reduction committee continues to meet and lots of vendors attend. At the last meeting, the Director of the Family Justice Center presented. Lastly, the board talked about the fiscal rollover and acknowledged the team for their work.

- e. **ARCA Report** – Gabriel highlighted a few items. In the state budget, they moved the hold harmless date up to the end of February (instead of June 2026). Also, in the state budget there will be more enforcement of HCBS and EVV. They are linking these to QIP incentives. This means that starting next fiscal year, noncompliance could be tied to rates. Completing annual audits was used as an example of a possible issue. There are several vendors who need to complete annual audits.

Gabriel also shared that the Public Records Act impacts providers more than he originally anticipated. If requested, NBRC will default to requests by releasing documents. This includes SIRs, Corrective Action Plans, Program Designs and provider business operations. Not client info as it is protected. He suggested that vendors get informed and get legal advice. Vendors would have to get a court order to stop NBRC sharing of info.

It was suggested that the VAC hold a vendor only separate meeting to discuss the Public Records Act. Maybe CDSA or ANCHOR could do a webinar. Jeremy agreed to look into this. The president's bill was signed last week, and Gabriel is getting a lot of individuals and families reaching out who are rightfully nervous about cuts to services. He reiterated, and asked the vendor community to share as well, NBRC is in a strong state at this time. Gabriel will keep us informed about what may happen and as we always do, we will figure out a path forward.

f. **Committees/Subcommittees**

- i. **Public Policy Advisory Committee-** Linda shared that much of the impact of the president's bill will happen post the mid-terms. 10.9 million Americans will become uninsured. The bill includes cuts to health care, Medicare and the Affordable Care Act. Midterm election results may impact how deep the cuts are. There is time to make changes if the legislature can come to different agreements.
Contact Linda lsplourde@bayberryinc.org if you are interested in joining the Public Policy Committee.

- ii. **Vendor Fair Subcommittee-** Breeanne updated the NBRC team about the vendor fair. They are finalizing information and will get a Save the Date out soon.

G. **NBRC UPDATES**

- a. **Fiscal** - Isabel reported that the fiscal rollover is complete. 22k POSs were generated as part of the process. If you have a service that continued past the end of the year, they won't mail out a new POS as only the first two digits change. Those that start 7/1 or later are in the process of being entered (there are 4k) along with processing invoices for the check run for June services. Volume has increased due to rate reform.

With respect to rate reform, they have updated service codes (905, 910, 915, 920). All converted to new sub codes with the appropriate rate. Vendors should have received their adjusted 10% if eligible for QIP. SLS was also converted. A memo was shared internally at NBRC and sent to Jeremy. Isabel asked that he share it with the vendor community. SLS will have 3 standard subcodes (100 for 1:1, 200 for 1:2, 300 1:3) the second and third characters are for in home, and the 4th character is; e=evaluation and assessment, a=additional hours, d=in lieu of day program (for SLS). Some vendors have living assistance to help someone find a home. This is I. i=in lieu of IHSS, n=night hours. ILS and SLS codes 109 and 110 are done.

They team is now beginning to start on day programs and 055 programs. The challenge is timing as right now they can't adjust rates during check runs. They work offline and then will

upload post the check run. They will then update the rate, pay retro and send updated authorizations. Isabel gave accolades to Dee Skrzypczak for all of her hard work.

There are some vendors who were locked out of ebilling due to not signing up for the Provider Directory or signing rate reform acknowledgements. If one vendor number gets locked, it locks the vendor out of ebilling in total. It has been a huge challenge to navigate the rate reform process, and she thanked everyone for their patience. Reach out if you haven't received a rate increase and are providing one of the services identified in this meeting.

It was noted that new vendors will be locked out of ebilling if they don't get into the Provider Directory within 90 days. DDS has 45 days to send new vendors an invite and vendors then have 45 days to sign up and get through the approval process.

b. **Vendor Relations** – Courtney shared in response to a question that the 904 has not been converted. They will deal with this over the next 30 days. She said audit reminder letters went out. It is cumulative so it considers all vendor codes. Incentive payments for one list of vendors went out for the Provider Directory. A second list is forthcoming. ACRE incentive payments are also in the works.

c. **Consumer Advocacy** - Ellen shared a PowerPoint on ways individuals can advocate for themselves in programs including giving ideas for classes and activities, creating a mentorship program, creating a suggestion box, and helping set up events. They can also get involved with NBRC by getting on a committee, sharing concerns, attending NBRC events, reading *The Advocate*, and making suggestions for new advocacy projects. Lastly, she encouraged people to get involved in their community. Contact Ellens@nbrc.net for more information or other suggestions for ways to get involved. Vendors can also contact her to present at programs.

H. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (from vendors, NBRC, & public)

- a. Next VAC will be August 12, 2025
- b. Mary shared an opportunity for those in Solano County: <https://www.livesolanogivesolano.org/>
- c. YOU BELONG FAIR is Friday, July 25, 2025. Sign up here:
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=mC8kr9Z4EU-UiVahxESRHNNUZO1un8dLiF5WB8l9lthUQjVUTUgzRkpHU00xRzdNMDYzS0dFU0pJQy4u&route=shorturl>

I. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND/OR ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP

- a. VAC leadership will send out an updated application to join the VAC as the one shared in chat is not working.
- b. NBRC will send vendors a contact to share the events they are hosting (follow up to Sonoma Vendor group).
- c. NBRC will share a one pager with how to access SC contact info in SANDIS as well as update and send out a new contact list.
- d. VAC leadership will look into hosting a separate meeting to discuss the Public Records Act.
- e. Jeremy will share the NBRC internal email related to the conversion of SLS rates.

J. ADJOURNMENT at 11:33am

VAC MEETING MINUTES



Vendor Advisory Committee

North Bay Regional Center

June 10, 2025 at 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Via Zoom & In Person
520 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa CA 95401

VAC VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeremy Hogan, VAC Co-Chair, UCP of the North Bay
Kelley Hanson, Pace Solano
Marissa Elder, Enriching Lives Family Home Agency
Jessica Sadowsky, Bayberry Inc.
Adria Carson, On My Own

Breeanne Kolster, VAC Co-Chair, 24 Hour Home Care
Carin Hewitt, alift llc
Kaela Talafili, Becoming Independent
Samantha Wilhite, Connections for Life
Sara Trail, Connected Living

VAC VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mary Eble, North Bay Housing Coalition

NBRC STAFF PRESENT at 10:30am:

Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director
Beth Dewitt
Isabel Calder
Courtney Singleton, Director of Community Services
Deanna Mobley, Director of Intake and Clinical Services
Kelly Weber, Associate Director of Client Services
Janelle Santana, Executive Assistant
Ellen Sweigert, Consumer Advocate

GUESTS (Names as listed in Chat):

Stacey Martinez, The Arc-Solano
Robert Hutt NBI
Dawn Strong, Flourish ILS
Tokasa Buinimasi, Bulafiji SLS
Jenni Linteo, Lynn & Darla Supported Living
Ronda Reyes, Solano Diversified Services
Leah Gulley, alift
Denise Hunley, Connections for Life
Eric Martin, Oaks of Hebron
Dannell Merritt: PRIDE Industries
Hannah Abend: Bloom ILS
Andrea Mendoza, Advanced Supportive Living
Julia Prentice, Solano Diversified Services
Holly Grant, CBEM
Roslyn T. - Beverly 811
Shayne Aloe, Kreative Community Services
Holly Pagel - Empowered Living SLS
Mary Reynolds, Connections for Life
Lea Munoz, Integrated Resources Institute
Jesse Hansen – Dunganvin

Elizabeth Clary, Alchemia
Linda Plourde, Bayberry
Dalia Flores-North Bay Industries
Jess Perez- Milestones of Development
Anna Metters, AA Living Opportunities
Emma Koell - North Bay Industries
Landon Vandergriend - North Bay Industries
Jamie Thompson Napa Valley Support Services
Lea Ronald, Napa Valley PSI
Michelle Condit, Milestones of Development
Rhonda Mottern, Bayberry Inc
Taylor Vandergriend- North Bay Industries
Cathy Forsyth, Liberty ILS
Marilyn Buono – LEAP of CA
Emmy Bennett, Napa Valley Support Services
Natalie Terrell New Leaf Solutions

VENDOR ONLY TIME

A. CALL TO ORDER at 10:02am

- a. Roll Call of Voting Members
- b. Establish Quorum-quorum established

B. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA:

- a. Jeremy asked for any additions or modifications to the agenda. None noted.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Jeremy asked for any corrections to the May 13, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. None noted. Marissa Elder moved, and Jessica Sadowsky seconded to approve the May minutes as presented.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **NBRC POS Meeting**- The POS meetings began in May and Jeremy asked for any input on the outcomes. Those present said it was helpful and they were able to resolve issues. The June meetings will be on the 18th due to the Juneteenth holiday.
- b. **Recruiting new VAC Voting Members** – the VAC is officially accepting new applications for seats on the committee. Jeremy shared they did get one possible candidate but are still looking for additional applicants.

If you are interested in applying for the VAC, please click on the below link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16BnBZhO-V-AkEb8XpLLXa615C889D57Uagin2gGC84U/edit>

- c. **VAC Voting Member Dues**- Jeremy shared that the VAC is looking to reinstate annual dues at \$150 per organization per year. Questions were raised about the intent. Jeremy shared the funds would help cover costs associated with the work of the VAC (i.e., Zoom account, Mailchimp, etc.). Kelley shared that historically these funds supported trainings, and monies have been held in an account at Pace Solano for many years. Concerns were raised that asking for funds would create an unfair stress on smaller organizations and may cause a conflict of interest for the VAC Board Representative. It was suggested that all vendors could participate which might reduce the conflict. VAC members shared that the dues were intended to be voluntary. Jeremy said they would take this conversation back to the VAC Members for further consideration.
- d. **Vendor Fair Subcommittee**- This committee is open to non VAC members and is an opportunity to help plan the vendor fair in the fall. Meetings will be held prior to the VAC (9:00-9:45am) starting in June and ending in November. Please email NBRCvac@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Napa / Solano Vendor Group**- Kelley Hanson shared that the group met and spent the bulk of the meeting talking about requirements for behavioral day programs for RBT training. It was noted that the available trainings are geared towards children. Dr. Shayne Aloe from Kreative Community Services is creating a training module focused on adults that they plan to make available to other vendors. Email her if you are interested shayne@kcsidd.com. The group has reached out to CDSA to get more guidance as well. The group also talked about LOIS a new DDS systems account and the group wondered if it would replace SANDIS. They also

touched on a new fundraising campaign by the Community Foundation called “Live Solano Give Solano”.

Contact Kelley if you want to join the Sonoma Vendor Group kelley@pacesolano.org

- b. **Sonoma Vendor Group-** Elizabeth Clary shared that groups met on May 28 and 30, 2025 and discussed the following:

Federal funding: The group discussed recent developments in state and federal funding, noting that reconciliation has passed the House of Representatives, proposing \$700 billion in Medicaid cuts. The Senate is currently debating this proposal. Since the Department of Developmental Services receives 37% of its funding from Medicaid, these cuts could have significant implications. Rallies across the state, including one in Sacramento on May 22, were mentioned as part of advocacy efforts.

Fuel costs and potential surcharge: The group reviewed issues surrounding rising fuel costs, projecting prices could reach \$8 per gallon by the end of 2026. A pilot program (CalTrans) introducing a new road charge of 2.8 cents per mile, along with a surcharge, is being considered at the state level. This initiative is in response to declining state revenue and could potentially replace the current fuel tax. There are concerns that this could be regressive, disproportionately affecting lower-income individuals.

<https://www.cbs8.com/article/news/local/california-exploring-per-mile-road-charge-as-gas-tax-revenue-declines/509-950b16d3-a880-440b-85c4-227035e3ddfd>

IPP process and statewide form: Concerns were raised about the new Individual Program Plan (IPP) process, including the exclusion of program representatives from IPP meetings, lack of response from Service Coordinators when invited to Individual Service Plans (ISPs), and newer Service Coordinators conducting IPPs without team input. Some Service Coordinators rely on programs to schedule IPPs and contact participants. Issues with the new IPP form were also discussed, particularly difficulties in identifying support needs, behavior support, and understanding codes such as T/A and Case Level. Questions were raised about how T/A is determined and whether providers will receive training on these changes.

Transportation: The group discussed challenges reporting dangerous situations and incidents concerning transportation. There is confusion among providers and potentially NBRC regarding the process when reporting health and safety-related transportation issues. Providers shared ongoing issues regarding transportation referrals, specifically whether it is NBRC's or the provider's responsibility to make the transportation referral to R&D.

Contact Elizabeth if you want to join the Sonoma Vendor Group elizabeth.clary@alchemia.org and/or complete this poll if you want to attend a May meeting <https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/e7VrL8Qd/vote>

END OF VENDOR ONLY TIME

F. NBRC SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Deanna Mobley, Director of Intake & Clinical Services

Deanne shared an overview of medical resources for individuals served by NBRC. They have a team of nurses, Psychologists, BCBAs, and others. W&I Code 4655 allows the Director of a regional center or their designee to give consent for medical, dental and surgical treatment. NBRC gives consent when a parent or guardian is unavailable or nonexistent, or if the individual doesn't seem to understand the procedure or side effects. The consent line is covered 24/7. The ERS phone line is the place to call. 800-884-1594.

The group also does medical and clinical consultations. This is typically due to multiple complex medical issues, frequent ER visits or when individuals are experiencing urgent health issues. The

team will call the primary care physician to consult, and nurses help with hospitalizations. They support case management, advocacy and coordinate hospital discharge.

The team also focuses on Restricted Health plans. Once the plan is written, the Community Care Facility or Day Program submits to the NBRC RN. The plans are required to be updated annually. NBRC does not track so this is the responsibility of the vendor. CCL requires these so vendors need to update.

The medical team at NBRC also focuses on specialized homes. They work closely with DDS to monitor. Deanna shared that NBRC has more specialized homes than most regional centers of our size. There is currently an RFP out for an ARFPSHN.

The medical team also focuses on dental coordination. There is a dental coordinator who is vendored. They have dental hygienists as well. NBRC received money to start a dental desensitization clinic. It will open in 2026. Dr. Holloway got a grant for a dental van to provide mobile and remote dental services.

The question was asked, if a vendor observes something urgent or non-urgent in an individual how they can access these services. Deanna shared that requests go to SC which goes to Deanna who will sign off. If they need assistance, it will be assigned to a BCBA or nurse. They typically reach out within 24 hours. A follow up question was asked, what if they are in ER or in the criminal justice system? In this case, the medical team is available to triage. The nurses will coordinate with the vendors and typically respond quickly. They don't typically handle forensic issues.

It was noted that sometimes providers have a medical concern and don't get a response. In this case, they should elevate their concerns to a supervisor or cc Deanna for a quicker response. They can also email Deanna directly at deannam@nbc.net. Everyone thanked Deanna for her work to build out these services.

G. Follow up with NBRC regarding topics raised in the Sonoma and Napa Solano Vendor Groups:

Gabriel confirmed that LOIS is going to replace SANDIS although it will take several years to roll out. It should be a much more user friendly option. He will keep the vendors informed on the process.

There was discussion about the new IPP not providing enough information to help vendors make decisions about who to accept for services. DDS is moving towards a standardized IPP and does not want regional centers making modifications. There was discussion about the importance of having updated CDERS as this is the place where vendors can find critical information. Beth indicated that CDER updates were needed and SCs will need to update and share CDER information more quickly. There could be other supplemental documents that also might be helpful, and her team will keep that in mind.

It was noted that SCs are not always inviting organizations supporting people to IPP meetings. Vendors also said they were getting many unanswered ISP meeting invites. NBRC said that SCs not inviting members or responding to invites, is a training issue that they can address.

Gabriel asked to be included in discussions regarding the RBT requirements and behavior programs. He suggested we should invite DDS to our meetings on a regular basis to get their insights and provide feedback. Breanne and Jeremy will look into that.

Myra Montejano from R&D said she is willing to come to vendor meetings to talk about specific transportation barriers.

Vendors asked how to sign up for the NBRC Vendor Connection and the following link was shared in chat: <https://nbc.net/service-providers/>

H. NBRC UPDATES

- a. **Fiscal** - Isabel Calder reported that NBRC's new fiscal year begins July 1, 2025. Part of the DDS year-end process requires NBRC to generate *replacement authorizations* reflecting the new fiscal year. Replacement authorizations will be created **but not mailed or emailed**. All new services starting on or after July 1, 2025 will receive authorization via email.

Authorizations for services starting on or after July 1st will be completed and sent out no later than July 20, 2025. Please do not delay services due to pending authorization. If you need confirmation that a service has been approved and you cannot view it in the Portal, please email ebilling@nbrc.net. We will reply within 2 business days.

If your authorization to provide service has expired, you will need to contact the assigned Service Coordinator (SC) immediately. In the event an urgent or emergent service is necessary, please contact the SC or request to speak to the Officer of the Day. If the emergency occurs after business hours, contact our emergency line at 1-800-884-1594.

Important dates for Fiscal Year End:

- **June 30, 2025 – July 1, 2025** - There will be no system access, including ebilling or Vendor Portal
- **July 7, 2025**- Billing due date for June Invoices.
- **July 14, 2025**- Check run for June services.
- **July 20, 2025**- July invoices will be posted on ebilling.

- b. **Vendor Relations** – Courtney shared the majority of Rate Reform Service Provider Acknowledgments have been signed. There are 15 left, and they have been directed by DDS that vendors who have not signed this form, will be unable to bill on 7/1. This is also a consequence for vendors who have not signed up with the DDS Provider Directory. She noted that her team will continue to follow up with those vendors who have not completed these steps. She shared that her team is focused on updating ILS rates with subcodes and additional rates should be updated in September. They are also working on the QIP roll out. They will cancel current authorizations and create new ones once the QIP is finalized. They will also be sending out retro payment for the 10%. She suggested vendors email rates@nbrc.net if they have questions. Lastly, they will begin training staff and supervisors as well as train vendors on early start and behavioral services which are complicated. They will also do training for day program providers related to RBT requirements etc.
- c. **Consumer Advocacy** - Ellen shared the latest copy of the *Advocator* (see attached). She shared that she would like to do a PowerPoint presentation in the future about the many ways clients can get advocacy experience at NBRC and in the community. She asked for input and ideas for the *Advocator*. She is happy to share information. Contact Ellens@nbrc.net with suggestions.

I. GROUP REPORTS

- a. **NBRC Board Report**- Breeanne reported the board met last week. Sara Speck is finishing her 7 year board term. Sahira Arroyos was voted into the role. The board also approved the NBRC Conflict of Interest Policy and reviewed and approved contracts. They had a board training following the meeting as well.
- b. **ARCA Report** - Gabriel deferred to Linda on the May revise.
- c. **Committees/Subcommittees** –
1. Public Policy Advisory Committee- Linda shared information about the 2025-2026 May Revision including the following links for more information:
 - [DDS Highlights – May 2025 – 19 Pages](#)
 - [Regional Centers and State Operated Services Estimate – 180 Pages](#)
 - [Governors May Revised Budget Summary for Health and Human Services](#)

She Highlighted the following related to the May Revise:

In Home Supportive Services:

- Provider Overtime and Travel Hours—A reduction of \$707.5 million
- General Fund and ongoing to cap IHSS provider overtime and travel hours at 50 hours per week beginning in 2025-26.

Department of Developmental Services:

- Health and Safety Waiver Assistance—A reduction of \$3 million ongoing
- General Fund to eliminate health and safety waiver application assistance. Implicit Bias Training—A reduction of \$5.6 million ongoing General Fund to eliminate dedicated resources for refreshing regional center implicit bias training.
- Direct Service Professional Workforce Training and Development—A reduction of \$17.6 million General Fund in 2025-26 and 2026-27, and \$36.8 million General Fund in 2027-28 and ongoing to eliminate the Direct Services Professional Workforce Training and Development program, which has not yet been implemented.
- Self-Determination Program—A reduction of \$22.5 million General Fund in 2025-26, and \$45.5 million General Fund annually thereafter, to reflect new guardrails that protect the sustainability of the program. Rate Reform Hold Harmless—A reduction of \$75 million General Fund in 2025-26 to reflect ending the rate reform hold harmless policy in February 2026 instead of June 30, 2026.
- Porterville Developmental Center—A reduction of \$10 million General Fund starting in 2026-27 and ongoing, reflecting historical savings. Increased Reimbursements and Cost Recovery—Assumed out-year savings associated with improved processes to increase reimbursements and evaluation of options to recoup costs for certain services.
- Require Provider Mandates for Quality Incentive Program Eligibility—A reduction of \$221.7 million General Fund in 2026-27 and ongoing associated with requiring compliance with Electronic Visit Verification, annual audits, and Home and Community-Based Services rules as a pre-condition of eligibility for the quality incentive component of the rate models.

CA Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittee Highlights Regarding the May Revise

- Rejected Governor's proposal to reduce IHSS overtime hours.
- Rejected Governor's proposal to eliminate IHSS and long-term care services for individuals classified as having "unsatisfactory immigration status" under federal law, otherwise known as UIS.
- Freezes new Medi-Cal enrollment of UIS adults, age 19 and over, effective in January 2026, with a six-month period to re-enroll for those who lose eligibility for the program.
- Institutes Medi-Cal premiums for UIS adults, age 19 to 59, at \$30 per month (not \$100 per month as the Governor proposed), effective two years from now **on July 1, 2027**.
- Reinstates an asset test for Medi-Cal eligibility at \$130,000 for individuals and \$195,000 for couples, a more realistic level of assets than in the Governor's proposal (\$2,000 per individual and \$3,000 per couple).
- Delays implementation of Governor's proposals to reduce Proposition 56 supplemental payments to dental providers and to eliminate dental coverage for UIS adults, age 19 and over, on Medi-Cal to July 2027.

Capitol Rally was held on Thursday, May 22, 2025. It was Organized by ARCA, Lanterman Coalition, The Arc of CA, CDSA, CCLN https://youtu.be/og4kvkzR8HM?si=_d4N4Vm7teKC7zGy

She also shared details on H.R. 1 Big Beautiful Bill Act- Status

- Approved by the House of Representatives
- Currently being reviewed and amended by the Senate
- Unknown when it will be brought to the Senate Floor for a vote.

She noted that if approved as is without any amendments at all, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) reports the following impact to the American people:

- The letter from CBO can be found [here](#).
- CBO's score of H.R. 1 can be found [here](#).

The topline are below:

- 10.9 million Americans will become uninsured because of the bill. Of those, 1.4 million would lose state coverage because they cannot verify their immigration status, 7.8 million would lose Medicaid coverage, and more than 1 million would lose coverage from changes to the ACA.
- The bill includes over \$1T in health care cuts.
- This includes over \$800B in Medicaid cuts and almost \$300B in ACA cuts.
- The bill would trigger more than \$500 billion in Medicare cuts.
- Since CBO has revised its initial estimates, coverage loss has increased by 2.3 million.

Linda thanked Sara Speck for her work on the Master Plan. https://www.chhs.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/MPDS_ACommunityDrivenVision.pdf

If anyone is interested in policy, legislation and advocacy. Reach out to Linda to join this committee. lsplourde@bayberryinc.org

J. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (from vendors, NBRC, & public)

- a. Ice Cream SOCIAL – Napa Friday June 20th from 6-8pm
- b. Pool Party – Napa July 18th from 1-3pm
- c. Next VAC will be July 8, 2025
- d. alift shared a free opportunity for HCBS Training (see attached)
- e. You belong fair <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=mC8kr9Z4EU-UiVahxESRHNNUZO1un8dLiF5WB8I9lthUQjVUTUqzRkpHU00xRzdNMDYzS0dFU0pJQy4u&route=shorturl>

K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. None noted

L. ADJOURNMENT at 11:42am



INVOICE & CHECK SCHEDULE

**Note, if check date lands on weekend, checks are issued on the Friday prior*

Fiscal Year 25/26	Invoice Due Date	POS Check Date 14 th of each month	EFT Deposits - 2 business days from check date
Jul-25	7/7/2025	7/14/2025	7/16/2025
Aug-25	8/5/2025	8/14/2025	8/18/2025
Sep-25	9/5/2025	9/12/2025	9/16/2025
Oct-25	10/6/2025	10/14/2025	10/16/2025
Nov-25	11/5/2025	11/14/2025	11/18/2025
Dec-25	12/5/2025	12/12/2025	12/16/2025
Jan-26	1/5/2026	1/14/2026	1/16/2026
Feb-26	2/5/2026	2/13/2026	2/18/2026
Mar-26	3/5/2026	3/13/2026	3/17/2026
Apr-26	4/6/2026	4/14/2026	4/16/2026
May-26	5/5/2026	5/14/2026	5/18/2026
Jun-26	6/5/2026	6/12/2026	6/16/2026

Ebilling inquiries/submission: ebilling@nbrc.net

VAC MEETING MINUTES



Vendor Advisory Committee

North Bay Regional Center

May 13, 2025 at 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Via Zoom & In Person
520 Mendocino Ave, Santa Rosa CA 95401

VAC VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeremy Hogan, VAC Co-Chair, UCP of the North Bay
Kelley Hanson, Pace Solano
Marissa Elder, Enriching Lives Family Home Agency
Jessica Sadowsky, Bayberry Inc.

Breeanne Kolster, VAC Co-Chair, 24 Hour Home Care
Carin Hewitt, alift llc
Kaela Talafili, Becoming Independent
Mary Eble, North Bay Housing Coalition

VAC VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:

Adria Carson, On My Own
Samantha Wilhite, Connections for Life
Sara Trail, Connected Living

NBRC STAFF PRESENT at 10:30am:

Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director
Courtney Singleton, Director of Community Services
Kelly Weber, Associate Director of Client Services
Elissa Reiff, NBRC Self Determination Program Supervisor
Janelle Santana, Executive Assistant
Ellen Sweigert, Consumer Advocate

GUESTS (Names as listed in Chat):

Marica Koroitamana - Divine Fijians Home Care
Sydney Pekarek, Inclusion Services
Stacey Martinez, The Arc-Solano
Leah Gulley, alift
Julia Prentice, Solano Diversified Services
Kenya Martinez, State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Kelley Hanson, Pace Solano
Mary Reynolds, Connections for Life
Faith Cross, CBEM
Morgan Hobbs- Lynn and Darla Supported Living
Brent Mikulski UCP of the North Bay
Jen Whalen, UCP of the North Bay
Shanna Grogg, Starshine Therapeutic Services
Briana Terrell, UCPNB
Holly Pagel, Empowered Living SLS
Jamie Thompson Napa Valley Support Services
Dalia Flores-North Bay Industries
Danielle Schulze, UCPNB
Landon Vandergrind, North Bay Industries
Jenni Linteo - Lynn and Darla Supported Living
Jess Perez- Milestones of Development
Jeannie Smith, Napa Valley Support Services

Miles Noschese, SLS Director STEP
Natalie Terrell- New Leaf Solutions
Andrea Mendoza-Advanced Supportive Living
Sikeli Cakaubalavu - Divine Fijians Home Care
Louis Chiofalo, Solano diversified Services
Elizabeth Clary, Alchemia
Dawn Strong, Flourish ILS
Mardochee Anglade-United Supportive Living
Maria Ortega-Advanced Supportive Living
Amanda Norwood-Upfront ILS
Robert Hutt, NBI
Holly Grant, CBEM
Anny from Luvinhome, LLC.
Lea Ronald, Napa Valley PSI
Lea Munoz- Integrated Resources Institute
Joetta Griffin Griffin Family Care Home
Debbi Davis- Special Care Services

VENDOR ONLY TIME

A. CALL TO ORDER at 10:03am

- a. Roll Call of Voting Members
- b. Establish Quorum-quorum established

B. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA:

- a. Jeremy asked for any additions or modifications to the agenda. None noted.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. Jeremy asked for any corrections to the April 8, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. None noted. Marissa Elder moved, and Mary Eble seconded to approve the April minutes as presented.

D. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **2025 Holiday Schedule**- was reviewed at the last meeting. It will be sent out to the vendor community.
- b. **NBRC POS Meeting**- Vendors had a roundtable meeting in April with Beth Dewitt, Kelly Weber and Deanna Heibel regarding POS delays. The group identified themes and brainstormed short and long term solutions. In the short term, Kelly and Deanna will host open office hours once a month so vendors can come and share any concerns. They ask that vendors first work with the Service Coordinators and their Supervisors to attempt to resolve issues prior to coming to the open office hours. The long term solution included seeing if Sandis can cue supervisors when there are outstanding POSs. In the short term, Kelly and Deanna will host the open office hours once a month for 3 months and see if it will help. This will give NBRC time to look into any long term technological fixes. The POS group will reconvene in August to see what is working and determine next steps.

E. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **VAC Nominated Secretary** - As part of the changes to the VAC Articles of Operation, it was identified that the VAC could use a secretary to help with organization. The VAC opened the position and asked for nominations. Carin Hewitt was nominated but Jeremy asked those present today if there were any other nominations. None were noted. Carin was asked to leave the room for the vote. The VAC voted to approve Carin Hewitt as secretary.
- b. Jeremy shared that Eric Martin has stepped down from his role on the VAC. He thanked Eric for his time on the VAC (which spanned the pandemic and beyond) and others chimed in to express appreciation. Eric shared that Oaks of Hebron has many projects that are demanding his attention. He expressed appreciation for his time on the VAC and highlighted the importance of the group in our community.
- c. **Recruiting new VAC Voting Members** – the VAC is officially accepting new applications for seats on the committee. The VAC has additional positions (per the new Articles of Operation). Jeremy highlighted that there are responsibilities that come with being on the VAC including regular attendance at VAC meetings and other planning meetings as well as willingness to engage with the vendor community. He asked the vendors to please consider applying. It was noted that the VAC is working to create more structure and new roles including chairing subcommittees. The goal is to spread the work and find more opportunities for leadership within the membership.

If you are interested in applying for the VAC, please click on the below link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16BnBZhO-V-AkEb8XpLLXa615C889D57Uagin2gGC84U/edit>

- d. **VAC Voting Member Dues-** Jeremy shared that the VAC is voting to reinstate annual dues at \$150 per organization per year. This will cover tech services (zoom and MailChimp).
- e. The VAC is creating a **NBRC Vendor Fair Planning Committee**. This committee is open to non VAC members and is an opportunity to help plan the vendor fair in the fall. Meetings will be held prior to the VAC (9:00-9:45am) starting in June and ending in November. Please email NBRCvac@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.
- f. Jeremy and Linda shared some news about Margaret Farman who was the previous Executive Director for UCPNB and a previous VAC member. Margaret is currently experiencing some health issues. A card was disseminated on her behalf. It will be held at the Napa main office for anyone interested in signing. All agreed to send Margaret healing vibes.

END OF VENDOR ONLY TIME

F. POS MEETING CHECK IN

Kelly Weber expressed appreciation for the meeting with the vendors on 4/22. They had good representation from various types of services and got good feedback on what is working and not working. She reiterated that she and Deanna intend to host open office hours to help vendors resolve POS issues (after they have already attempted to resolve the issues with the Service Coordinator and their supervisor). The meetings will be via Teams on the third Thursday of every month from 12-1:30. The meetings are by county, so vendors were encouraged to join the one that is in their corresponding county. The third Thursday was intentional in the hope that this will allow them time to solve the challenges before the end of the month.

Napa and Solano – Join Kelly Weber

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 283 577 714 284 5

Passcode: PG6iL6BT

Sonoma County – Join Deanna Heibel

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 272 993 971 822 6

Passcode: wH944aJ7

G. NBRC SPECIAL PRESENTATION - Ellisa Reiff, NBRC Self Determination Program Supervisor

Ellisa provided an overview of the self-determination program (SDP) at North Bay Regional Center. The program allows clients more freedom in choosing services and providers, with budgets based on traditional service costs. Clients can work with both vendored and non-vendored providers, who are paid through a financial management service (FMS) rather than directly by the regional center. Ellisa encourages those interested to contact her for more information. She notes that the program has grown from about 40 to 93 participants, and while there are no specific enrollment targets, she aims to educate everyone about SDP as an option. Service coordinators across the agency can support SDP clients, with additional support from Ellisa and the SDP team.

There is an outreach event tomorrow in the Vacaville office. There was discussion about challenges getting paid consistently by FMSs, Ellisa has built relationships with the Directors of the FMSs. She asked that vendors try to resolve with the FMS first and then follow up with her. There was also a question about rates going up and whether there is a contract template that organizations can use. Ellisa responded that vendors contract directly with the client and the Independent Facilitator. The regional center is not involved with this negotiation. In terms of rates, they don't reopen budgets due to rate changes. The rate is negotiated for the year, so they don't change rates mid-year.

H. GROUP REPORTS

- a. **Napa / Solano Vendor Group-** Kelley Hanson shared that the group did not meet this month but will meet prior to the June VAC. In response to a question about the value of these meetings, she shared that these are smaller meetings for discussions with peers, a safe place to ask questions, learn best practices, share wins, and discuss issues. It is a less formal environment to get support and information. The Solano group agenda is fluid and agenda items are requested in advance. The groups are separate from the VAC and give room for discussion that might not happen at the formal VAC meetings. Contact Kelley if you want to join the Sonoma Vendor Group kelley@pacesolano.org
- b. **Sonoma Vendor Group-** Elizabeth Clary shared the group(s) met twice in April. This was in the hope to get more people at the table. Discussion centered around the difference between licensed programs and non-licensed programs in terms of fingerprinting. The group also discussed cuts to Medicaid and what to expect. There were questions that came up from the previous meeting that Elizabeth will continue to follow up with NBRC about. Contact Elizabeth if you want to join the Sonoma Vendor Group elizabeth.clary@alchemia.org and/or complete this poll if you want to attend a May meeting <https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/bkXKIEvd/vote>
There was discussion about the VAC records being subject to the Public Records Act. Gabriel suggested that we might get some legal input on whether the local vendor groups would be subject as well. The general consensus was the vendor groups are not formally NBRC run groups, there are no minutes, and the goal is to support vendors. Gabriel suggested we should make sure we are all super clear and on the same page in regard to vendor meetings and whether they are subject to the Public Records Act. Gabriel asked if the VAC could put together some questions for to be given to a lawyer for clarification.
- c. **Housing Report-** Mary Eble, North Bay Housing Coalition (NBHC) reported two announcements. HUD is facing 43% cuts to Section 8 Housing. That is an incredible cut and housing experts are not sure how it would be applied. It could mean no new vouchers, or it could mean current voucher holders paying more. She suggested that the time is now to do some advocacy. She also shared that there is project based openings of a wait list for properties in Petaluma (3) and Cloverdale (1). These are housing specific vouchers, and they will open on June 1 and close on June 30. Mary said she is asking the Housing Authority to confirm if there are minimum or maximum income limits, and if a person with I/DD under 62 can apply. (see attached flyer for details)
Mary shared the following link from the National Low Income Housing Coalition https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zJlhoWIIzvKFiOckKhilykAE_uKCzn6ivnganNa2cnLI/edit?usp=sharing
- d. **NBRC Board Report-** Breeanne reported the board met last week. There was review of NBRC's Conflict of Interest policy related to family members on the board and in general the acceptance of gifts by regional center employees. This document will be reviewed and adopted at the next board meeting. Other agenda items included the review and acceptance of a \$250k contract, a presentation on NBRC's Performance Contract for FY 25-26 and a request for public input, and regular committee reports. Breeanne specifically called out the value of the Risk Reduction Advisory Committee as a good place to learn and get information. Lastly, she noted that the board is seeking nominations for a new board vice president. Sara Speck is currently vice president and will be terming in June.
Janelle Santana shared the following document:
<https://nbrc.net/wp-content/uploads/NBRC-Performance-Contract-Plan-2025-26-Draft.pdf>

- e. **ARCA Report** - Gabriel said his focus is on the May revise and Medicaid cuts. There is a meeting regarding the May Revise on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 10:30 am. He is anticipating funding reductions. There is an ARCA rally on 5/22 in Sacramento and he encouraged all to attend (see attached flyer).

He also asked vendors, in relation to the discussion related to the NBRC Conflict of Interest Policy, that they not give any regional center staff gifts.

- f. **COMMITTEES / SUBCOMMITTEES**

Public Policy Advisory Committee – Linda thanked Jeremy for his leadership on the luncheon. Jeremy also thanked Jessica and Stacey for their participation as well. There was a meeting with Mike Thompson that was well attended and publicly noted in the Napa Register. Linda noted that RFK's comments about people with autism has set us back in terms of how people look at people with disabilities and this has had a personal impact on individuals with this diagnosis. She noted that the focus right now is on possible cuts to Medicaid which have been reduced to \$715 billion and would put the onus for care back on the states. She noted that states won't be able to cover the costs so this would be disastrous to our systems. The hope is that these cuts won't pass. She highlighted the need for advocacy and asked that people attend the rally on May 22nd in Sacramento.

If anyone is interested in policy, legislation and advocacy. Reach out to Linda to join this committee. lsplourde@bayberryinc.org

- g. **VAC Articles of Operation Review** – no report

- I. **NBRC UPDATES**

- a. **Fiscal** - Isabel not in attendance
- b. **Vendor Relations** – Courtney shared that the focus is on rate reform. NBRC is following up with vendors who are missing information on the provider directory or who haven't completed rate reform vendor agreements. Vendors, missing any of this information, were called and asked to update. DDS is telling regional centers to lock vendors out of ebilling if they don't comply. Courtney said 75% of vendor agreements have been signed and sent back.

In August they will transition to the service and sub codes. This will mean vendors with changing codes will get new POSs. For early intervention, Courtney will share a plan for next steps as it is more complicated to get in place. Vendors asked how they can make changes to the Provider Directory if there are typos etc. Courtney said they can't fix anything on their end and encouraged vendors to reach out to DDS with issues. She noted that she is hearing that they are more responsive at this time.

- c. **Consumer Advocacy** - Ellen shared that she came up with a way for clients to give feedback to the regional center. She asked for input on a survey that Jeremy will send out to the vendor community. The goal is to improve the services provided by the regional center. Please share your input on the questions with Ellen. Her plan is to send out the survey with the next addition of the *Advocator*. She will use the data to share information with NBRC, potentially at all staff meetings.

- J. **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (from vendors, NBRC, & public)**

- a. Next VAC is Tuesday, June 10, 2025
- b. SCDD has a resource fair coming up in Vallejo on June 7th (see attached flyer)
- c. The Consumer Advisory Committee will meet on June 6th.

K. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Deanna Mobley to discuss medical services in June
- b. Roll over for the fiscal year
- c. Ellen to do a presentation on advocacy

L. ADJOURNMENT at 11:33am



NBRC CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 19, 2025

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

The meeting will be held in NBRC's Napa Office.

Cabernet Conference Room

600 Airpark Road, Napa, CA, 94558

or via Zoom (link below)

**Let's Talk: Self-Advocacy, Policy,
and Agency Updates**

What does respect mean to you?

*Join us for a conversation on the power of self-advocacy, plus
the latest updates from our agency and public policy news.*

Zoom meeting information below.

[Click Here](#)

Meeting ID: 817 4829 4894

Passcode: 062299

**Please email janelles@nbrc.net
if you have any questions.**

FAIR HEARING & MEDIATION UPDATE

JULY 1, 2025 – AUGUST 31, 2025

Eligibility (25-6)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing held. Decision made. Not eligible.
Eligibility (25-8)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn without resolution.
Eligibility (25-9)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn without resolution.
Service (25-17)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of service. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing held. Appeal dismissed.
Service (25-19)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of funding for service. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing rescheduled.
Eligibility (25-22)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Administratively closed due to late filing.
Eligibility (25-23)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn without resolution.
Eligibility (25-24)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn without resolution.
Eligibility (25-25)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Resolved at informal meeting. Eligible.
Service (25-26)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of funding for service. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing held. Appeal denied.
Eligibility (25-27)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Resolved at informal meeting. Eligible.
Eligibility (25-28)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn without resolution.
Eligibility (25-29)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing scheduled.

Eligibility (25-30)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Resolved at informal meeting. Eligible.
Eligibility (25-31)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn without resolution.
Eligibility (25-32)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing scheduled.
Eligibility (25-33)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing scheduled.
Eligibility (25-34)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Mediation scheduled.
Eligibility (25-35)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Informal meeting to be scheduled.
Eligibility (25-36)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Mediation and Hearing scheduled.
Eligibility (25-37)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility. <u>Ruling:</u> Mediation and Hearing scheduled.
Service (25-38)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of service. <u>Ruling:</u> Appeal withdrawn with resolution.
Service (25-39)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of service. <u>Ruling:</u> Hearing to be scheduled.