



South Central Los Angeles Regional Center  
*for persons with developmental disabilities, inc.*

# UNDERSTANDING THE NEW AMENDED CALIFORNIA LAW ON SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES



This training has been provided to SCLARC Staff, including Service Coordinators, Team Leaders, Program Managers, Appeals Manager and Purchase of Service (POS) Funding Committee, which includes Chiefs and Directors who are responsible for development and implementation of POS policy. This training was provided to staff on February 19, 2025 and February 24, 2025.

# TRAINING GOALS

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- KEY CHANGES IN THE NEW LAW
- PROVIDE A BRIEF UNDERSTANDING OF PARTICIPANT DIRECTED SERVICES
- SCLARC'S SOCIAL RECREATION POLICY
- RESTRICTION NO LONGER ALLOWED ( NEW ACCESSIBILITY FOR SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES)
- LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND GOALS
- HOW TO IDENTIFY NEEDS AND ITS BENEFITS OF SOCIAL RECREATION
- PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE APPEALS AND RESOLUTION PROCESS

# Welfare & Institutions Code 4688.22



**State of California**

**WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE**

**Section 4688.22**

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4688.22. (a) The Legislature finds and declares both of the following:

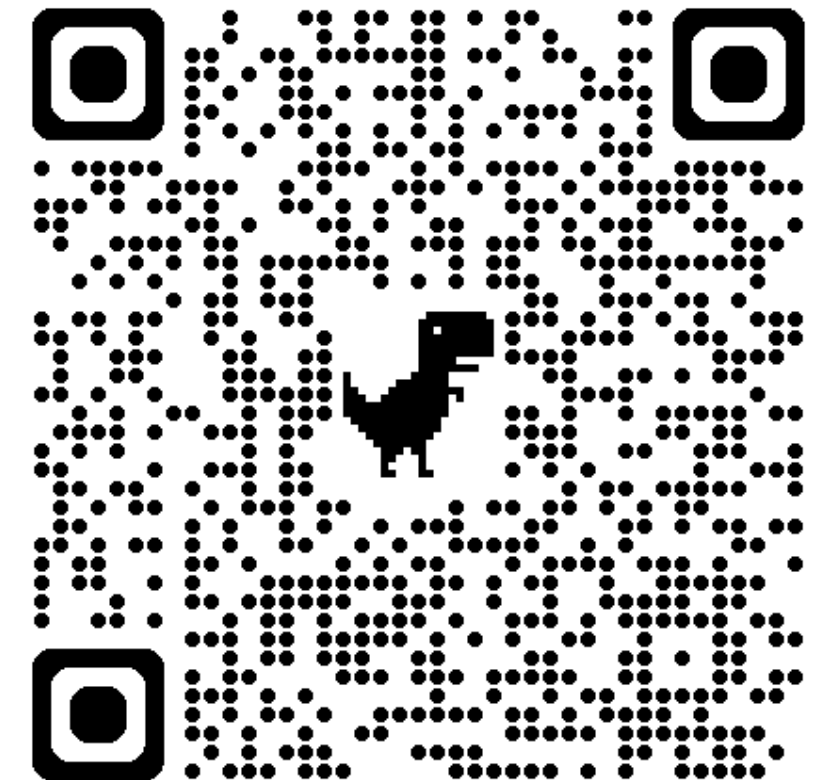
(1) The Legislature places a high priority on promoting the full inclusion and independence of individuals with developmental disabilities, including through opportunities for recreation, consistent with Section 4501 and paragraphs (6) and (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 4502.

(2) As such, it is the intent of the Legislature for social recreation services, camping services, and nonmedical therapies, including, but not limited to, specialized recreation, art, dance, and music, to be among the services and supports within the meaning of subdivision (b) of Section 4512 and be made widely available to consumers, not only for socialization, but to lead the lives that they want in the community. It is further the intent of the Legislature that regional centers, when developing purchase-of-service policies and related procedures, and that the department, when reviewing regional center purchase-of-service policies and related procedures, reduce administrative barriers to the utilization of these services by consumers to the fullest possible extent.

(b) The regional centers shall use the following principles when purchasing social recreation services, camping services, and nonmedical therapies:

(1) Consumers shall receive services and supports in settings that are typical of those in which persons without disabilities engage in social recreation, camping, or nonmedical therapies.

**[Link WIC 4688.22](#)**



# KEY CHANGES IN THE LAW

- Regional Centers to place a high priority on promoting full inclusion and independence through access of social recreation services.
- Regional Centers will make social recreation services widely available to individuals served.
- Regional Centers will increase access for individuals served to participate in an array of social recreation services, so that they may lead the lives that they want in the community.

# KEY CHANGES IN THE LAW (CONTINUED)

- Regional Centers to develop a Purchase of Service Policy and Procedures to decrease barriers in accessing social recreation services.
- Regional Centers to reduce administrative barriers to the utilization of social recreational services.
- Regional Centers will create an easier payment method for social recreation services through Participant-Directed Services.



# PRINCIPLES FOR PURCHASING SOCIAL RECREATION, CAMPING & NON-MEDICAL THERAPY SERVICES

- Individuals shall receive services and supports in settings that are typical of those in which persons without disabilities engage.
- Services that promote community inclusion.
- Services that provide opportunities to build ongoing relationships through or around shared interests or activities.
- Activities that directly support an individual's ability to participate in typical social recreation or other community activities without paid support present.
- Activities that help identify interests, build skills, foster connections, reduce isolation, strengthen community ties, support well-being and personal goals.



# PARTICIPANT-DIRECTED SERVICES

- Payment flexibility through Participant-Directed Services.
- Allows more providers to accept payment via Financial Management Services (FMS).
- Easier for regional centers to pay upfront, reducing out-of-pocket costs for individuals and families.

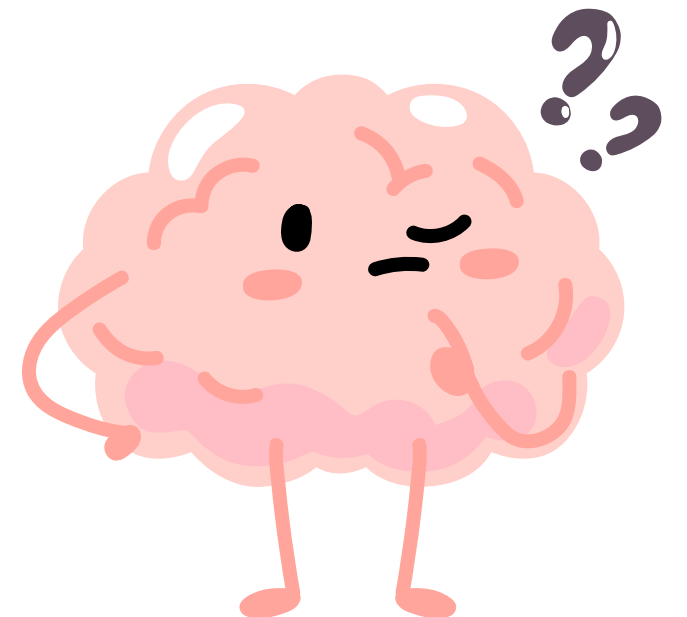


# CHOOSE THE CORRECT STATEMENT?

A. REGIONAL CENTER CAN LIMIT ACCESS TO SOCIAL RECREATION.

B. REGIONAL CENTERS CAN REQUEST FAMILIES TO RELY ON GENERIC RESOURCES.

C. REGIONAL CENTERS WILL MAKE SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES WIDELY AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS SERVED.



# ANSWER

**C. REGIONAL CENTERS WILL MAKE SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES WIDELY AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS SERVED.**

# Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

## Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical Therapy

### Directives

- **10/7/2021** - Restoration Of Camping, Social Recreation And Other Services Per Welfare And Institutions Code Section 4648.5
- **2/8/2022** - Sub-Code for Social Recreation Activities (SRA)
- **8/15/2023** - Grants for Enhanced Community Integration for Children and Adolescents (Social Recreation Grants) Outreach Plan
- **2/6/2024** - Social Recreation, Camping and Nonmedical Therapies - Legislative Intent and Provider Access
- **8/28/2024** - Updates to Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4688.22: Social Recreation Services, Camping Services and Nonmedical Therapies
- **9/10/2024** - Clarification Regarding Reimbursement and Participant- Directed Services for Social Recreation Services, Camping Services and Nonmedical Therapy.



# SCLARC'S SOCIAL RECREATION, CAMPING, AND NON-MEDICAL THERAPY POLICY



# POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

## SERVICE REQUESTS & REFERRALS

- **Service Coordinators will discuss opportunities** for social recreation, camping, and non-medical therapy services with the IPP Planning Team during the IPP meeting, and at any time a request for services is received.
- **The IPP Planning Team will identify services** and supports to meet the individual's needs based on goals outlined in the IPP.
- **The Service Coordinator will provide referrals** to social recreation, camping, and non-medical therapy programs of interest to the individual and family, including related supports to help access services.
- **Program settings must be integrated** and in compliance with the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule.
- **Programs shall encourage inclusion** and mirror the experience of individuals without a disability.
- **The Individual/Family shall submit an Individual Weekly Schedule** template form to reflect the day and time of the social recreational service(s).

# POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

## REVIEW OF SERVICE REQUESTS

- **Individuals do not have to exhaust other services** such as, In-Home Supportive Services, exchange respite hours, or pay copayments to access social recreation services, camping services, or nonmedical therapy service.
- **Individuals with medical conditions and/ or requiring a nursing level of care may be referred to SCLARC's Clinical Team** for the appropriateness of the activity.
- **Up to 60 days per fiscal year of day camps** (Spring, Summer, Winter, Sports, Science, etc.) can be funded.
- **Up to 10 hours per week of social recreation** programming can be funded.
- **Up to \$2000 per fiscal year for overnight camps**.
- **The activity will be provided in the individual's community**, show a **cost-effective** use of public resources, and will be **delivered by the least costly vendor**.
- **On an annual basis, the IPP Planning Team will review the services** for continued need, progress, and utilization as well as to ensure it remains age appropriate.

# POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

# FUNDING OPTIONS

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- **Purchase of Service (POS)** by authorizing services directly through a regional center vendored provider.
- **Purchase Reimbursement** to the family who pays for the service upfront.
- **Participant Directed Services (PDS)** funded by the **Financial Management Service (FMS)** who will pay non-vendored programs directly on behalf of the individual.
- Individuals receiving services under the Self-Determination Program shall adhere to this policy.
- Some individuals' needs are unique to their individual or family situation. Therefore, SCLARC has a Purchase of Service Funding Standards Exception Policy.



# POLICY DOCUMENTS

- SCLARC Social Recreation/Camping/Non-Medical Therapy Services Board and DDS Approved
- Spanish SCLARC Social Recreation/Camping/Non-Medical Therapy Services Board and DDS Approved
- Individual Weekly Schedule Template
- SPA Individual Weekly Schedule Template
- Social Rec Program List (1-25-24)

# **SCLARC Point of Contacts for Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical Therapy Services**

- **Jenice Turner**, Director of Children Services (Case Management Contact),  
213-744-8465
- **Evelyn Galindo**, Program Manager (Resource Development/ Vendorization),  
213-744-8443
- **Cedric Smoots**, Resource Developer (Resource Development/ Vendorization),  
213-744-8838

**SocialRecHelp@sclarc.org**

# Effective July 1, 2023, a Regional Center shall not require an individual or family member to do any of the following:



Cannot require In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) use first.



No service exchange required (e.g., respite hours for recreation hours).



No out-of-pocket costs or copayments.





# Significant Dates

- By **October 1, 2024**, Regional Centers will have at least one point of Contact regarding access to social recreation services.
- By **January 1, 2025**, Regional Centers shall adopt procedures aimed at increasing the availability of providers and expediting vendorizations for social recreation accordingly.
- By **March 1, 2025**, regional center staff, including supervisors, program managers, appeals hearing specialists, and employees who are involved in developing and implementing purchase-of-service policies, shall complete training.
- By **March 1, 2025**, regional centers shall make any training curriculum or materials, or other information utilized as part of the training described in subparagraph (A), along with the dates that training was provided to regional center staff, available on the corresponding regional center's internet website.



# Select three actions that Regional Centers are no longer allowed to do?



CANNOT REQUIRE IN-HOME  
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS)  
USE FIRST.



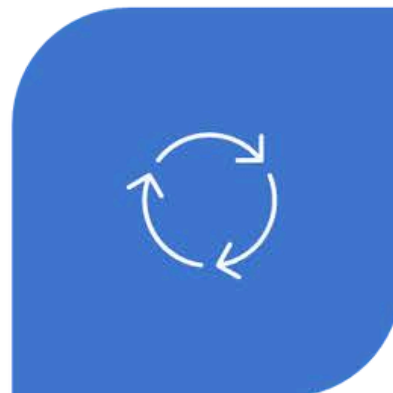
NO OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS OR  
COPAYMENTS.



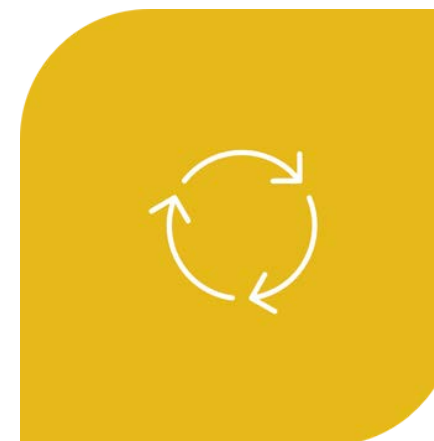
DME



POS



NO SERVICE EXCHANGE  
REQUIRED (E.G., RESPITE HOURS  
FOR RECREATION HOURS).



Use the same training  
twice

# ANSWERS

- Cannot require In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) use first.
- No service exchange required (e.g., respite hours for recreation hours).
- No out-of-pocket costs or copayments.



# Legislature Reporting



# Legislature Reporting Requirements for Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical Therapy Services

- Reports will be provided at quarterly briefings to the Legislature by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Reports will include the following:
  - The number, subject matter, and status or outcome of complaints, received by the Office of Community Operations or by the ombudsperson.
  - The numbers and summaries of community concerns and issues obtained by the department pertaining to regional center purchase-of-service policies and procedures.
  - Trends in mediations, appeals, and hearing requests, including, but not limited to, the number of mediations and appeals by regional center, mediation outcomes, and nature of issues heard and decided on appeal.
  - A summary of any technical assistance provided to regional centers or other department actions taken for the purpose of ensuring and improving timely and equitable consumer access to services.
  - The total and per capita expenditure and authorization amounts by age, as applicable, according to race or ethnicity and preferred language, for all combined residence types and for consumers living in the family home.



# Legislative Intent and Goals

- Prioritize inclusion through recreation.
- Make services widely available.
- Increase access for children, underserved communities, and those who cannot afford services upfront.
- Reduce administrative barriers to the utilization of these services by consumers to the fullest possible extent.

Who will be providing the legislature information on the status of implementation?

ANSWER

DDS



# **How to identify needs and benefits of social recreation.**



# WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS SERVED PARTICIPATING IN SOCIAL RECREATION ACTIVITIES?

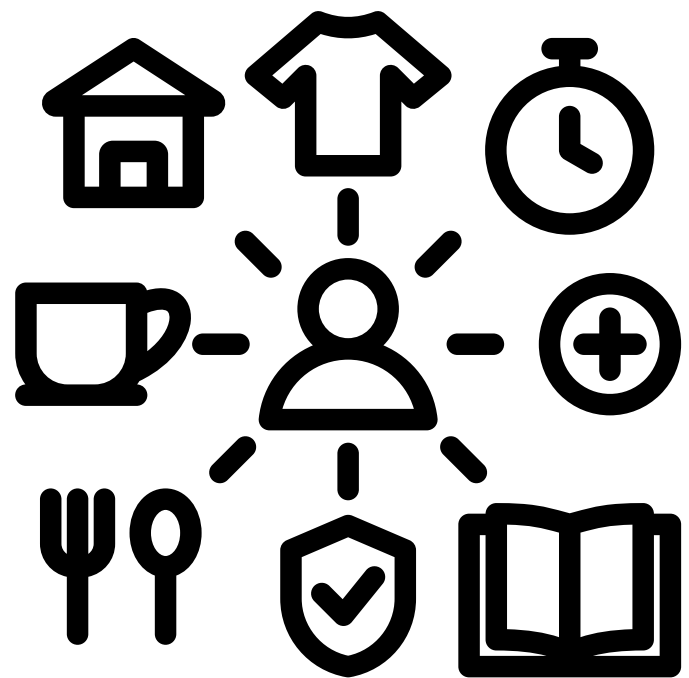


# The benefits of social recreation Services for individuals with developmental disabilities:

- **Social Skills Development**
- **Create diverse circles of Friendships**
- **Sense of Belonging**
- **Improve Physical and Mental Health**
- **Enhanced Self Esteem**
- **Physical Activity Benefits**
- **Cognitive Stimulation**
- **Expand on the circles of support**



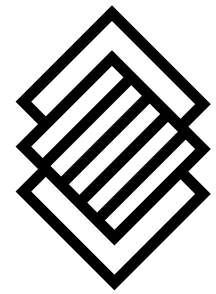
How do you identify needs and supports to help individuals served to access social recreation services?



# HOW TO IDENTIFY NEEDS AND SUPPORTS TO HELP INDIVIDUALS SERVED TO ACCESS SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES.

- Inquire about the area of interest, abilities, preferred social settings, desired level of interaction, communication methods, & accessibility needs. You can obtain this information from the individual served, family, caregiver, or support staff.
- Explore the individual's preference by asking what activities do they enjoy doing in their leisure time.
- Review if the individual prefers individual or group activities.
- What type of social interactions do they seek? casual, structured, or competitive

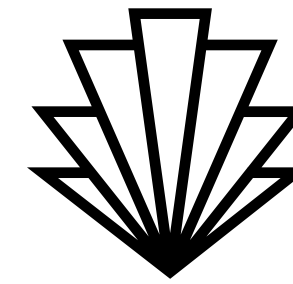
# HOW TO IDENTIFY NEEDS AND SUPPORTS TO HELP INDIVIDUALS SERVED TO ACCESS SOCIAL RECREATION SERVICES. CONTINUED



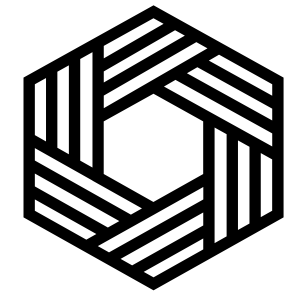
Any concerns about health or physical abilities and inquire if adaptive equipment is required for participation.



Explore about the individual's comfort level with interacting with others and if support is necessary in initiating a conversation or maintaining a relationship.



Does the individual want to participate in activities within their local community? Or have something else in mind?



Are there accessible community programs or organizations that could be a good fit?



# APPEALS PROCESS

If agreement cannot be reached in part or in its entirety in regard to social recreation services:

- The individual and/or family has a right to appeal the decision as specified in the Lanterman Appeal Process.
- For information on the Appeal Process:  
<https://www.dds.ca.gov/general/appeals-complaints-comments/>



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# Ways to Connect with SCLARC

- For Questions & Assistance Accessing Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical Therapy Services - [SocialRecHelp@sclarc.org](mailto:SocialRecHelp@sclarc.org)
- For assistance in connecting with your Service Coordinator - [CMHelp@sclarc.org](mailto:CMHelp@sclarc.org) or 833-725-2721
- For information and questions on the Self-Determination Program - [SelfDetermination@sclarc.org](mailto:SelfDetermination@sclarc.org)



For joining the training on understanding  
the new amended California law on social  
recreation services.