

# SUMMARY OF 2009-10 BUDGET REDUCTIONS IMPORTANT TO PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SEPTEMBER 2009

The State of California has a big budget hole because of the bad national economy. Every state agency is taking take actions to provide services during this budget problem. Following is a summary of those actions that are important to people with developmental disabilities.



## DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES



- More services will be added to the MediCal waiver program to bring in more federal money.



- Regional centers will not approve new licensed community care homes that have 16 or more beds, and not buy services from any home with 16 or more beds unless the home can be homelike and bring in federal money for services.



- DDS will close Sierra Vista Community Facility in Yuba City and residents will move to other places based upon their IPP.



- Some building projects at developmental centers will be delayed to save money.



- Some residents of Porterville Developmental Center will move into a new program that can be funded with federal money.

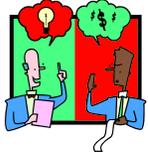


- Regional centers cannot buy treatments or services that are not known to work or be safe for consumers.

- Regional centers must first try to use generic services, like IHSS, MediCal, public school, etc. before buying the same kind of service.



- Consumers and families first try to use their own insurance for services and get turned down before regional centers can buy the same service.



- Regional centers must use the service providers that cost the least and can meet consumers' needs.



- Regional centers will tell consumers and families about the services and cost of those services provided to them each year.

- Regional centers will help consumers use public transportation rather than buy special transportation.



- The cheapest transportation must be used.
- Regional centers must buy services that are closest to the consumers' homes to save money on transportation costs.
- If possible, families need to provide transportation for kids.



- Programs will take the same 14 holidays off each year. This is 4 more days off than before.



- Day programs must develop a new service for consumers over 50 years old. Consumers can choose this new service.



- Day programs must develop a new option to help consumers get jobs, work experience or start their own business.

- Supported living providers must help consumers to get In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS). The amount a SLS provider can be paid to provide these same services is the amount paid to an IHSS provider.



- Rates paid for supported living services (SLS) can be no more than what was paid on July 1, 2008.



- Regional centers are not allowed to pay a consumer's rent unless there is an exception to this rule.

- Consumers living together will use the same SLS provider if possible.



- Little kids will attend local preschools with supports purchased by regional centers if needed.



- Parents will attend group training for parents on behavior interventions instead of the regional center buying some or all of in-home parent training.

- Regional centers can buy Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) or Behavior Intervention (BI) services if they are shown to make positive changes in consumer's behaviors.



- Parents of children receiving ABA or BI must help with the service plan.

- ABA or BI cannot be used as respite, day care, school or for emergency services.



- When a consumer's goals are met, regional center will stop buying ABA or BI services.

- Regional centers must evaluate ABA or BI services every six months.



- Kids two or more years old who are “at risk” of have a developmental delay are no longer provided early start services. Kids two or more years old with a “developmental delay” must have more delays in their development than before to get early start services.

- Regional centers cannot buy services that are not covered under the federal Early Start program for kids served by the program.

- A new Prevention Program will be started by regional centers to provide supports to families with kids that cannot be served by the Early Start program.



- Parents of children under three years old must use their private insurance to pay for medical services for their children.



- Respite care workers can help consumers with more medical type needs.



- Parents of children under 18 years old living out-of-home will pay a higher monthly fee for the care.



- A new service model will be developed called “Individual Choice Budget”. This new service model will give consumers and families the ability to direct and control the services needed to meet their needs much like a self-determination.

- The amount of respite care regional centers can buy is limited and day care cannot be used in place of respite care.



- Regional centers cannot buy social/recreation activities unless they are community-based day programs; camps and travel to them; education services for children; and art, dance, music and other special therapy services.



- A new quality assurance system will be developed by January 1, 2010 and the “Movers Study” of people moving out of state developmental centers and Life Quality Assessments (LQA) will stop.



- Money used for wellness projects and to train doctors about developmental disabilities is not available this year.



- Regional centers will not be evaluating community care facilities once every three years. They will still visit consumers in their homes once every three months.



- Less money is available to help regional centers to get more office space.



- Regional centers got less money to run the centers.

Department of  
**SOCIAL SERVICES**



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

▶ In-Home supportive services (IHSS)



- Only the neediest persons, with functional ranks of 4 or 5, will get housekeeping, meal cooking, shopping and errand services from IHSS. Others, with a functional index rank of 1, 2 or 3, will continue to get some IHSS services.



- All people who get IHSS and those who provide care services will have to be fingerprinted and have a background check.
- All new people who want to provide IHSS will have to apply in person at their county social services office.



- Counties have more money to investigate fraud in the IHSS program.



- The State will not pay the “share of cost” for a small number of people who get IHSS, meaning the people will have to pay their own share of cost.

► Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP)



- There will be no cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in 2009-10 for SSI/SSP.
- SSI/SSP monthly checks for individuals will go down from \$850 to \$845 on November 1, 2009. Checks for couples will go down from \$1,489 to \$1,407.



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

► MediCal Services



- MediCal no longer pays for optional services like dentists, acupuncture, chiropractors, optometrists, speech therapy, etc. **For regional center consumers, if these services are listed in your IPP, regional centers can buy them for you.**



- Adult day health care services were cut to three days per week. **For regional center consumers, if these services are listed in your IPP, regional centers can buy them for you.**



## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

- Less funding for Caregiver Resource Centers that give referrals and respite care to families and caregivers to take care of people with certain disabilities.