

# Celebrating 50 Years of Supporting People with Developmental Disabilities in the Community



## 1960's



• In 1966, Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, signed AB 691 into law which established two pilot regional centers (RCs), the foundation for today's community services system<sup>1</sup>.

• After the success of the two pilot RCs, the Lanterman Mental Retardation Services Act was signed into law on September 4, 1969 by then Governor Ronald Reagan<sup>2</sup>.

## 1980's



• In 1980, DDS transfers all responsibility for placement, case management and monitoring of clients in residential placement to the RCs<sup>3</sup>.

• California was approved for participation in the federal Medicaid Waiver Program in 1983, allowing the State to receive federal funds for services to help people live in the community<sup>4</sup>.

## 2000's



• In 2003, the regional center population was growing faster than the population in California, in part due to the increased incidence of autism<sup>5</sup>.

• In 2013, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed AB 1041, which establishes in statute an Employment First Policy.



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## 1970's



• In 1973, the Lanterman Act expanded RC services to include other developmental disabilities, including cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism and other neurological disabling conditions. The name of the act was also amended to Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act<sup>1</sup>.

• In 1976, Regional Center of the East Bay was the last RC to be established, bringing the total number of RCs in California to 21 – whose employees still serve the I/DD population today<sup>1</sup>.

## 1990's



• Three regional centers – Redwood Coast, Tri-Counties and Eastern Los Angeles – develop self-determination pilot programs in 1998. Soon after, Kern and San Diego Regional Centers join the pilot program<sup>1</sup>.

• Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 was enacted.

• The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 was enacted.

## Today



• Today, DDS provides services and supports to 300,000 children and adults with developmental disabilities<sup>4</sup>.

• Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regulations (or rules) for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS), effective March 17, 2014, require homes and programs where HCBS are delivered to meet new criteria in order to qualify for federal funding. States have until March 17, 2019, to implement the requirements for home and community-based settings in accordance with CMS-approved plans.