

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 240, MS 2-13
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TDD (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
Telephone (916) 654-1897



October 1, 2015

TO: MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE and OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

Enclosed is the "Plan for the Closure of Sonoma Developmental Center" (Plan), submitted by the Department of Developmental Services (Department) for consideration and approval by the Legislature pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code sections 4474.1 and 4474.11. Under the statute, the Department is required to submit to the Legislature a plan or plans to close one or more developmental centers no later than October 1, 2015, and meet various other stated requirements.

The Plan presents essential information concerning the Sonoma Developmental Center, including the residents, the employees and the property. It describes the process for developing the Plan, the stakeholder involvement and input, and the impact closure will have on residents and their families, employees, the surrounding community and regional center services. The Plan also identifies the key strategies and activities the Department will undertake, and important considerations for achieving a safe and successful closure and determining the future use of the property.

The decision to recommend closure was not made lightly, as it will impact the many residents served, their families, and all of the employees who have worked hard to make Sonoma Developmental Center a caring and positive place to live. The Department is committed to the well-being of the residents and staff, and will work toward positive changes as described in the Plan. If this Plan is approved by the Legislature, it is just the first step in a collaborative and open process. Closure will occur only after appropriate services and supports are secured for each resident as identified through the individualized planning process.

If you have any questions, please contact me or John Doyle, Chief Deputy Director, at (916) 654-1897.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Santi J. Rogers".

SANTI J. ROGERS
Director

Enclosures (3)

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"