

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

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October 14, 2022

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: GRANTS FOR ENHANCED COMMUNITY INTEGRATION  
FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS GUIDELINES

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide regional centers (RC) with guidelines developed by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for the implementation of Grants for Enhanced Community Integration for Children and Adolescents (Social Rec Grants). The Social Rec Grant guidelines provide detailed instructions and processes the RCs must adhere to during the Social Rec Grant cycle.

### Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) provided supplemental funding to increase the federal medical assistance percentage for the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) for qualifying states. Under ARPA, states can implement a variety of innovative activities that allow and increase capacity of HCBS to meet the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

ARPA provided DDS \$12.5 million for the Social Rec Grants. The grant will fund projects that enhance and develop integrated and inclusive social and recreational programs for families, children, and adolescents with I/DD in underserved communities. RCs will partner with community entities that provide social and recreational programs to implement approved grant projects.

### Guidelines and Instructions

The Social Rec Grant guidelines ([ATTACHMENT A](#)) provide a detailed description of the grant vision; goals; priorities; and the proposal and approval processes.

RCs will receive funding allocations through operations funds based on representation of the individuals the grant will serve. RC Funding Allocation ([ATTACHMENT B](#)) provides detailed information about allocation amounts for each RC.

**“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”**

Regional Center Executive Directors  
October 14, 2022  
Page two

RCs are encouraged to collaborate with their local Family Resource Centers, community-based organizations, and other community entities to identify local social and recreational programs that may benefit from this grant program. RCs will post a request for proposals on their websites and solicit Letters of Intent ([ATTACHMENT C](#)) from interested grant applicants.

DDS encourages RCs in close proximity to one another to collaborate on the development of inclusive social and recreational programs that will serve individuals across multiple catchment areas. For proposals that request to partner with more than one RC, a lead RC must be designated and will be responsible for submitting a RC Grant Proposal Request Form and administering the grant.

#### Upcoming Information

The following information regarding the grant program will be provided separately:

- DDS to host a webinar to review Social Rec Grant guidelines with RCs on October 19, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. American Sign Language interpretation will be provided.
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Progress reporting platform for grantees and RCs

Grant applicants should contact their local RC with questions regarding grant proposals. RCs should contact the Department with questions and submit Grant Proposal Request Form packets to [SocialRecGrants@dds.ca.gov](mailto:SocialRecGrants@dds.ca.gov). For additional technical assistance, please contact Uvence Martinez, Chief, Office of Community Operations at [uvence.martinez@dds.ca.gov](mailto:uvence.martinez@dds.ca.gov) or (951) 554-1047.

Sincerely,



AARON CHRISTIAN  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Office of Community Operations

Attachments

cc: See next page

Regional Center Executive Directors  
October 14, 2022  
Page three

cc: Regional Center Administrators  
Regional Center Community Services Directors  
Association of Regional Center Agencies  
Nancy Bargmann, Department of Developmental Services  
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services  
Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services  
Taryn Kerr-Smith, Department of Developmental Services  
Uvence Martinez, Department of Developmental Services