

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency

Department of Developmental Services

1215 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 www.dds.ca.gov



July 5, 2023

Patrick Ruppe, Executive Director Harbor Regional Center 21231 Hawthorne Boulevard Torrance, CA 90503

Dear Mr. Ruppe:

Thank you for submitting to the Department of Developmental Services (Department) the Boys & Girls Clubs (B&GC) California Alliance and affiliates social recreation grant proposals received by the Harbor Regional Center (HRC). This letter is to advise HRC that the following B&GC Social Recreation Projects have been approved under fiscal year 2022-2023 operations funding:

Local Regional Center	Affiliate Name	Approved Amount
Alta	B&GC of Greater Sacramento	\$57,119
Central Valley	B&GC of Tulare County DBA B&GC of the Sequoias	\$65,500
Central Valley	B&GC of Merced County	\$50,000
East Los Angeles	B&GC of Whittier	\$61,735
Frank D. Lanterman	B&GC of Burbank and Greater East Valley	\$39,715
Golden Gate	B&GC of the Coastside	\$29,491
Golden Gate	B&GC of San Francisco	\$141,875
Golden Gate	B&GC of the Peninsula	\$39,725
Harbor	B&GC California Alliance	\$52,000
Harbor	B&GC of Long Beach	\$137,500

Inland	B&GC of Menifee Valley	\$53,873
Inland	B&GC of Southwest County	\$44,060
Kern	B&GC of Kern County	\$628,260
North Los Angeles County	B&GC of Malibu	\$204,300
Orange County	B&GC of Garden Grove	\$283,750
Orange County	B&GC of Huntington Valley	\$68,100
Orange County	B&GC of Laguna Beach	\$34,500
San Diego	B&GC of North County	\$47,809
San Diego	B&GC of Oceanside	\$141,875
San Diego	B&GC of Vista	\$56,750
Tri-Counties	B&GC of Oxnard and Port Hueneme	\$153,180
Westside	B&GC of Santa Monica	\$99,000
Total		\$2,490,117

HCBS Final Rule Compliance

All grant projects must comply with the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule. The purpose of the Final Rule is to ensure that individuals receive services in settings that are integrated and support full access to the greater community. This includes opportunities to engage in community life and receive services to the same degree as individuals who do not receive regional center services. Grant projects must provide opportunities for social and recreational activities that integrate children with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities in their community. They should include members of the greater community, not just family members. According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, states cannot comply with the HCBS Final Rule simply by bringing individuals without disabilities from the community into a setting; compliance requires a plan to integrate beneficiaries into the broader community. Reverse integration, or a model of intentionally inviting individuals not receiving HCBS into a facility-based setting to participate in activities with HCBS beneficiaries in the facility-based setting, in and of itself is not a sufficient strategy for settings to meet the integration requirements outlined in the rule. Regional centers shall ensure alliance projects comply with HCBS Final Rule. More information regarding the HCBS Final Rule can be found here.

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Contract Requirements

Regional centers must contract directly with the alliance. Contracts must require reporting and allocation of funds contingent on the criteria described in the Social Recreation Grant Guidelines (<u>ATTACHMENT A</u>). Regional centers must ensure compliance with Welfare & Institution (W&I) Codes, California Code of Regulations Title 17, and all Social Recreation Grant Guidelines including, but not limited to the following:

- Grant funds must be expended on goods and services that will benefit children and adolescents who receive regional center services.
- No more than 15 percent of regional center funds may be spent on administrative costs (W&I Code section 4629.7).
- The setting must include opportunities to engage in community life and receive services in the community, to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS, as required in the Final Rule (W&I Code section 4501).
- Contracts must include a statement regarding how the alliance and its affiliates will manage and report special incidents occurring during grant activities.
- For affiliates that receive payments from one or more regional centers, the provider must be in good standing with its independent audit or independent review of its financial statements (W&I Code section 4652.5)
- Current vendors with awarded projects cannot use grant funds for project types similar to currently vendored regional center services.
- The affiliate must include specific goals for each outcome measure as defined in <u>ATTACHMENT G</u> of the grant guidelines. Every grant project, must identify and report on the standard outcome measures. Projects with budgets over \$100,000 must also establish and report progress on meeting goals for supplemental outcome measures.
- The contract must require the alliance to develop and implement outreach plans in collaboration with affiliates, and local regional centers. The outreach plans must include how the communities will be informed about grant projects. Plans must also include outreach to diverse communities, in languages that reflect regional centers' catchment areas.
- If vendorization is pursued by the affiliate following the current grant cycle, the affiliate must comply with vendorization regulations.

HRC must submit copies of alliance grant contracts to the Department by July 07, 2023. Please submit alliance contracts and any related questions to: SocialRecGrants@dds.ca.gov.

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A list of awarded projects is posted on the Department's website at https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/community-integration-social-rec-grants/. Information regarding progress reporting and invoicing the Department will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

AARON CHRISTIAN Assistant Deputy Director Community Services Division

Enclosures

cc: Judy Wada, Regional Center Alliance Grant Designee Amy Westling, Association of Regional Center Agencies Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services Yasir Ali, Department of Developmental Services Taryn Smith-Kerr, Department of Developmental Services Uvence Martinez, Department of Developmental Services