



**EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER**  
1000 S. Fremont Ave. • P.O. Box 7916 • Alhambra, CA 91802-7916  
(626) 299-4700 • FAX (626) 281-0730

**ELARC Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2025  
Approved as Recorded on March 11, 2025**

**Board Members Present:**

Terry Munoz, President  
Dalia Mendoza, Secretary  
Marisol Guerrero, CAC Chair  
Dr. Terry Baruch  
Joshua Tjahjadi  
Theresa Chen  
Fely Navera  
Alex Wu

**Staff Present:**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director  
Edith Hernandez-Daniels, Chief of  
Consumer Services  
Elizabeth Harrell, Community Services  
Manager  
Johnny Trombley, IT Supervisor  
Brendali Maldonado, Community  
Communications Officer  
Angie Salas, Executive Secretary

**Absent:**

Dr. Linda Lopez, Vice-President  
Pat Gomez  
Joel Moreno, Vendor Representative

**Guests:** Refer to Sign-In Sheet

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**I. Welcome & Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Mrs. Terry Munoz, ELARC's Board President. The meeting arrangement consisted of a Zoom Conference/Teleconference line and material was displayed on agency website and available to all visitor participants with a link from the agency website.

Mrs. Munoz welcomed all to the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center Zoom Board of Directors Meeting.

Roll call was conducted. A quorum was established in order to conduct necessary business.

Brendali Maldonado, Community Communications Officer, provided information on how to access interpreter services to community guests/visitors.

## **II. Community Introductions/Opening Round:**

The Board members and guests were asked to introduce themselves, the latter are noted in the “Sign-In” sheet.

## **III. Community Input:**

No Comments from the community.

## **IV.**

**Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Motion Required - ATT #1 and Executive Session Minutes**

***M/S/C (Joshua Tjahjahdi/Dalia Mendoza) To approve the general session of BOD Meeting Minutes and the Executive Session meeting minutes of January 14, 2025 as recorded. Unanimous.***

## **V. Executive Director’s Report - Gloria Wong**

**1. Budget Update  
A. Fiscal year 2025 – ‘26  
ATT #2, #3 and HANDOUT #1**

### **HANDOUT #1**

Ms. Wong, reviewed a prepared presentation (HANDOUT #1) on the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Governor’s Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-’26. Elements of the presentation included:

### **I. Budget Assumptions**

#### **1) Population Growth**

8.5% Grown from Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-’25 to 2025-’26

2) Budget Growth

2025-'26 \$19 billion 20.2%

3) Funding Source

64% State General Fund

36% Federal Funds

**II. Budget Key Elements**

- \$151.2 Million caseload growth allocation
  - ✓ Purchase of Services (POS)
    - Additional = \$2.6 billion
    - Total = \$14.7 billion
- Public Records Act (PRA) Requirements \$11.5 million
  - ✓ \$1.8 Million DDS
  - ✓ \$9.7 Million Regional Centers
  - ✓ PRA in effect January 2026
- Consumer Electronic Records Management System (CERMS) & Uniform Fiscal System Modernization (UFSM)
  - ✓ \$2.7 Million to support transition
- Sample of On-going Projects = \$42 Million
  - ✓ Best Buddies International = \$2 Million
  - ✓ Home & Community Bases Services (HCBS) = \$15 Million
  - ✓ Direct Service Professionals (DSP's) Bilingual Support Pay = \$7.2 Million
  - ✓ DSP University = \$17.9 Million

**III. Federal Funding: Potential Impact to Developmental Services Services Sample**

- Regional Center Services = \$2 billion
- Other Services
  - ✓ Special Education Schools & Disabled Student Services (Colleges)
  - ✓ Job Training through Department of Education and Department of Rehabilitation
  - ✓ Social Security's SSI Programs
  - ✓ Medi-Cal
  - ✓ Dental Services
  - ✓ In-Home Support Services

#### **IV. Federal Budget Potential Reductions and Consequences**

- Shifting funding to: "Block Grants" or "Per-Capita Limits"
- Reduce Federal funding so States become responsible for larger share of funding
- Negative Impact: will affect the ability of individuals to live more independently in their communities
- Federal funding is critically important to providing individualized services and supports that allow over 300,000 Californians with developmental disabilities to live in the community. Any changes to federal funding should neither reduce actual funding levels nor increase funding burdens on the State.

Ms. Wong shared that there are many factors that will have an effect on the budget for FY 2025-'26:

- Catastrophic wildfires affecting California
- Uncertainty of ongoing Federal Funding to Medicaid services
- \$2.5 billion dollars for wildfire relief fund
- State Tax Filing deadline extended to October 2025 due to wildfires thereby delaying tax revenues for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-'26

Due to the uncertainty of California's fiscal situation for FY '25-26 the Assembly and Senate are conducting drills to prepare for the looming budget cuts.

There are three (3) exercises being conducted projecting the following financial cuts to the California budget:

- 1) \$1 billion dollars
- 2) \$250 billion dollars
- 3) \$500 billion dollars

In conclusion Ms. Wong emphasized the importance of remaining vigilant by becoming active in the Budget process, in order to minimize the potential cuts to the Regional Center system.

Ms. Wong further reviewed the “California State Budget Process” which was launched on January 2025 with the release of the Preliminary Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-’26 which concludes with the Governor signing the Budget by June 30<sup>th</sup>. From February to early May the Legislature will conduct Budget hearings and introduce changes to the Governor’s Budget as needed.

### **2025 Grassroots Day Event**

In promoting the needs of the Regional Center system, there is a “Grassroots Day” event scheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. All 21 Regional Centers will be sending a local delegation to the State Capitol to promote and advance the funding needs of our system. Ms. Wong noted that the ELARC delegation includes consumers, parents, and service providers. A flier was shared regarding the upcoming event.

Comments from the community:

- ❖ Yvette Baptiste, Eastern Los Angeles Resource Center Executive Director (FRC), inquired as to the loss of tax revenues for California and its impact on the final budget for FY 2025-’26.
- Ms. Wong replied by stating the tax filing extension for those impacted by the wildfires will likely result in reduced revenues, for the short and long-term. The passage of the Budget in June 30, 2025 will be based on an ultra-conservative assumption of future revenues, which will likely result in reducing current budget obligations. Our best defense is to remain unified as a community in the budget process to advocate for minimal to no-cuts to the Regional Center system.

**B. Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 – ‘25**

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 – ‘25  
Budget Performance Report : Operations (OPS)  
HANDOUT #5**

Ms. Wong reported on the Budget Performance Report – Fiscal Year 2024 – ‘25 indicating a surplus of \$381,519.

Ms. Wong reported these funds will be exhausted by end of year as we hire additional service coordinators to adhere to caseload ratio requirements. We are currently creating another unit with a focus on service for the 3-6 age group.

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 – ‘25  
Purchase of Services Expenditure Projection (PEP) Report**

Due to the unforeseen wildfires the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has postponed the submittal of numerous reports, including the PEP, due to the wildfires and other pressing work demands, (i.e) rate reform. DDS will advise when reporting requirements are reinstated.

Comments from the community:

- ❖ Yvette Baptiste, Eastern Los Angeles Resource Center Executive Director (FRC), asked if ELARC has noted any changes to use of POS and funded services, in light of the federal immigration policy change and its related impact to our local community. Ms. Baptiste shared that the Family Resource Center (FRC) has experienced a reduction in service requests.
  - Ms. Wong stated that it's too early to forecast how this will impact ELARC families/consumers. We know there is fear and a resistance to utilizing services by some members of our community. Families are assessing the risks and consequences, in real time, on the changes to the immigration federal policy. Edith Hernandez-Daniels, Chief of Consumer Services, agreed with Ms. Wong's response.
- ❖ Lizette Duarte, parent, asked if ELARC has resources available for families such as Immigration Attorney or Community Based Organization (CBO) to provide a presentation on basic rights to clients and families?

- Ms. Wong shared ELARC has posted various resources on our website and service coordinators have made this information available to families. Conducting a presentation is difficult as families are fearful of participating in a public forum. Ms. Wong shared holding “Zoom” meetings is possible and reported that the State Council is conducting presentations on this topic. Mrs. Hernandez-Daniels, reiterated all resources are shared and posted on ELARC’s website and social media accounts.
- ❖ Joshua Tjahjahdi, Board Member/Parent, inquired as to possible federal fund cuts by May, when the Budget Process is concluding for California.
- Ms. Wong responded by stating that the effective date for potential federal funding cuts is unpredictable. Regardless of federal action, the California Governor and Legislature have budgeting required timelines and without concrete information from the Federal Government, California will need to make assumptions on potential loss of revenues as they build and pass the budget by June 30, 2025.
  - Brendali Maldonado, Community Communications Officer, shared how to navigate ELARC’s website to view the available resources referenced above by Ms. Wong and Mrs. Hernandez-Daniels.

## **2. Master Plan for Developmental Services Update**

### **ATT #4, #5 and #6**

Ms. Wong provided detailed background information on the “Master Plan for Developmental Services” which was launched on March of 2024.

#### **ATT #4**

Ms. Wong shared that the Master Plan Developmental Services was introduced in the Governor’s Preliminary Budget for FY 2024 - ’25. The plan is meant to be a long-term process to reassess the value and effectiveness of the Lanterman Act and to determine if changes are warranted under the “Equity” lense.

There are five (5) points guiding the “Master Plan” for the developmentally disabled system:

## MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES A VISION for SUCCESS

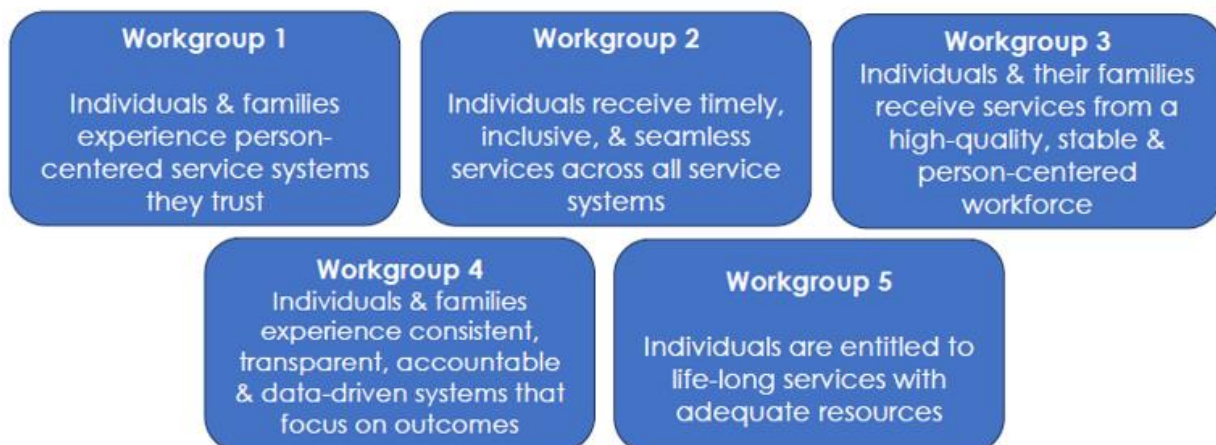
1. **All Individuals and their families receive high-quality person-centered disability-related services they need and choose.**
2. **Individuals’ and their families’ basic needs are met so they can live in the community of their choice.**
3. **Service systems have “One Door”. They provide the right services at the right time. Services are equitably provided no matter where the individual lives, or who provides or pays for the service.**
4. **Service systems are transparent, accountable and data driven.**
5. **The service system has a well-trained, stable workforce with opportunities for career advancement and growth.**

Ms. Wong shared that ELARC’s current Vision and Core Values reflect the Master Plan Developmental Services Vision for Success.

### ATT #5

Ms. Wong shared the Master Plan has a lead committee which is made up of thirty-two (32) members, which includes family members, consumers and Regional Center representatives. The group members are assigned to work with one (1) of five (5) workgroups with specific focus.

## Workgroup Topics





Equity is the main focus of the Master Plan which addresses the following areas:

**Commitment to Equity:**

- Committed to centering the Master Plan and Equity and the lived experiences of individuals and their families
- Developing tools and strategies to support equity across all priorities and recommendations
- Actively seeking out conversation and input from under represented marginalized communities
- The public may be part of these meetings via “Zoom” or the in-person events. There is a dedicated time at the beginning and the end of every meeting which is exclusively dedicated for families and consumers to offer comments. Meetings start at 10am and families provide their input at 9am meeting ends at 3pm continues from 3pm – 4pm with open comment period
- The five (5) Workgroup meetings are open to the community
- There are two (2) remaining meetings before the group concludes its work
  - February 2025
  - March 2025
- March of 2025 a full report will be made public to the community on the outcomes and recommendations resulting from this year long effort.

In closing the formal Master Plan Vision was emphasized.

**Our Vision for the Plan**

- A Plan for the future of Developmental Services to provide equitable, consistent, and accessible services to all Californians with developmental disabilities.
- A Plan created with and by our diverse communities across the state, including family members, advocates, service providers, policy experts, and individuals with lived experience.
- The committee, state leadership, and community leaders across the state will work together to develop a bold plan for the future by Spring 2025.

### 3. Upcoming Meetings

**ATT #7, HANDOUT #2, HANDOUT #3 and HANDOUT #4**

Brendali Maldonado, Community Communications Officer, shared ELARC's website and provided a quick overview on how to access resources and notifications.

Ms. Wong provided background information on "Performance Report for East Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC)" and shared the flyer for the upcoming "Public Meeting" on the "2023-2024 Performance Contract Year End Report" scheduled on Tuesday, March 11, 2025. The presentation will be part of the March Board of Directors meeting.

**EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER**  
**ELARC U: A Learning Community**

**HANDOUT #2**

## COMMUNITY MEETING

### 2023-2024 Performance Contract Year End Report

The performance contract is comprised of goals and outcomes that are developed as a result of community input. Our goals and objectives are written to achieve compliance with our service system's laws and values.

**The Board of Directors invites you to join them as they host the annual 2023-2024 Performance Contract Year-End Report meeting.**

**We will cover the following:**

- 2025/2026 Budget and its impact on the regional center system
- 2023-2024 Performance Contract Year-End Report and how ELARC ranked on public policy and compliance measures

**March 11, 2025**  
**6:15 pm - 7:15 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting Invitation:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83326141930?pwd=nUDVulTT1bvRz3IzYeWYJW4iudDG6.1>  
Meeting ID: 833 2614 1930  
Passcode: 642834  
Dial by your location:  
(669) 444-9171 or (669) 900-9128

Presentation will be in English, with interpretation available in Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese and ASL. If you require interpretation in any other language, please contact Brendali Maldonado at [bmaldonado@elarc.org](mailto:bmaldonado@elarc.org) or (626)248-4963 by 2/28/2025 to ensure arrangements are made to meet your request.

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[www.elarc.org](https://www.elarc.org) \* [info@elarc.org](mailto:info@elarc.org)

Ms. Wong provided background information on the upcoming “Purchase of Service Public Meeting” scheduled for Monday, March 24, 2025. This hybrid meeting will be conducted in-person and also offered by “Zoom”, interpreter services will be available. Additionally, two (2) separate sessions will be presented in Spanish and Chinese to our community. Fliers to follow soon.

Ms. Wong shared the flier being circulated.

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REGIONAL CENTER**

**HANDOUT #3**  
MARCH COMMUNITY MEETING  
IN-PERSON EVENT

**MARCH  
24, 2025  
10AM – 12PM**

*JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL  
**PURCHASE OF SERVICE  
PUBLIC MEETING***  
*Learn about money spent on services and  
provide input to improve access to services!*



**1000 S. FREMONT AVE.  
ALHAMBRA, CA 91803**  
**ASSEMBLY  
ROOM (A8)**

As an ELARC community member, this is your opportunity to learn more about our efforts over the last year to promote equity and address differences in Purchase of Service (POS) for individuals and families we serve.

It remains critical to ELARC that we continue to work with our community to identify barriers to services and receive feedback and suggestions on how to improve your access to services.

This community meeting will be held in English, with translation provided in Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Korean, and American Sign Language (ASL).

**For assistance or other language accommodations, please contact:**

Guadalupe Hernández, Cultural Specialist  
Email: [ghernandez@elarc.org](mailto:ghernandez@elarc.org)  
Tel: (626) 248-4928

[www.elarc.org](http://www.elarc.org)  
[info@elarc.org](mailto:info@elarc.org)

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Ms. Wong provided background information on the development of the annual draft “Performance Contract”. The following flyer is being circulated.

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**HANDOUT #4**

**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

**2025/2026 Draft Performance Contract Public Meeting**

*The performance contract is comprised of goals and outcomes that are developed as a result of community input. Our goals and objectives are written to achieve compliance with our service system's laws and values.*

**Please join us to learn about!**

- 2025/26 Budget and its impact on the Regional Center system
- 2025/26 Draft Performance Contract and activities ELARC is planning

**April 2, 2025**  
10:00am – 12:00pm  
[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)  
Or join us by calling in:  
(669) 444-9171  
Meeting ID: 841 2760 1808  
Passcode: 409149

**or**

**April 8, 2025**  
6:30pm – 7:15pm  
The Board of Directors will Host an Overview of Draft Performance Contract  
Zoom invitation to be published soon.  
Please check our website.

**Public input on the draft 2025/2026 Performance Contract can be submitted by email, mail or fax by 4/18/25 to:**

- Brendali Maldonado, Communications Officer at the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center
- PO Box 7916, Alhambra, CA 91802
- [Click here to email: bmaldonado@elarc.org](mailto:bmaldonado@elarc.org)

*This training will be held in English. We will provide interpretation in Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese, and American Sign Language (ASL). If you need interpretation in any other language, please email Brendali Maldonado at bmaldonado@elarc.org at least one week prior to the presentation to allow sufficient time for ELARC to make every attempt to meet your request.*

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[f](#) [t](#) [www.elarc.org](http://www.elarc.org) \* [info@elarc.org](mailto:info@elarc.org) [i](#) [v](#)

The final “2025/2026 Draft Performance Contract” is due to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) by June 2025.

Comments from the community were addressed.

Before ending the “Executive Directors” report Ms. Wong noted the start of the Chinese New Year on January 29, 2025, the “year of the snake” which symbolizes wisdom and strength. Ms. Wong concluded by wishing all a “Happy Chinese New Year” with hopes of wisdom and strength for all, to guide us all through these difficult and challenging times ahead.

VI.

**7. Consumer Services Report**  
**Edith Hernandez-Daniels, Chief of Consumer Services**

In the interest of time the Consumer Services report was deferred.

**VII. Committee Reports**

**A. Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) - (Marisol Guerrero)**

The CAC met January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 guest speaker, Alexander Scarlis, Office of Clients Rights Advocate (OCRA), discussed the rights of individuals served by ELARC. To help individuals understand their rights the committee played Clients’ Rights bingo.

In Collaboration with the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) Good Living Community Services, vendor, represented by Frank Godina, Supervisor. Topic of discussion was as follows:

- Clients living their best lives
- Types of services available
- The importance of working together to achieve goals

The next CAC meeting will be held March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Presenter will be Gloria Wong, ELARC Executive Director, will present a preview of the Governor’s Preliminary Budget.

**On the Consumer Advocates Desk:**

1. ARCA housing Symposium in Sacramento (Feb 5<sup>th</sup>)
2. Coffee with the Consumer Advocate (March 20<sup>th</sup>) held quarterly
3. Consumer Advocate on the Road in March visiting one (1) adult service provider provider. Contact person:

❖ Lizette Villa  
Phone (626)-299-4788  
Email: [lvilla@elarc.org](mailto:lvilla@elarc.org)

Or

❖ Patrick Schattilly  
Phone (626)-299-4854  
Email [pschattilly@elarc.org](mailto:pschattilly@elarc.org)

**B. Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) - (Joel Moreno)**

VAC report was deferred to the next Board of Directors meeting.

**C. Finance/Personnel Committee (Terry Munoz/Fely Navera)**

Mrs. Terry Munoz, Board President, reported there is an upcoming meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2025 regarding the financial audit results for FY 2023-'24.

Ms. Munoz shared the results of the two (2) ELARC employee pension plans. The audit was conducted by Miller Kaplan, accounting firm.

**ATT #8**

Mrs. Munoz spoke briefly to the Miller Kaplan cover letter dated January 23, 2025. Mrs. Munoz referred to ELARC audit review as having "a clean bill of health".

**ATT #9**

Principal Money Accumulation Pension Plan for Employees of ELARC. In summary the report is done fairly and in compliance with applicable laws.

**ATT #10**

Mutual of America Tax Deferred Annuity for Employees of ELARC. In summary the report is done fairly and in compliance with applicable laws.

No comments from the community.

**VIII. Miscellaneous Announcements**

Next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on March 11, 2025 at 6:00pm.  
No comments from the community.

**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss the motion was made to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 7:31pm.

***M/S/C (Dalia Mendoza/Alex Wu). Unanimous.***

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Board conducted an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

***M/S/C (Dalia Mendoza/Alex Wu) To approve the personnel matter. Unanimous.***

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dalia Mendoza".

Dalia Mendoza,

Secretary, ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Angie Salas,  
Executive Secretary