

2021-22 Annual Report



S | D | R | C

San Diego Regional Center

Our Mission

To serve and empower persons with developmental disabilities and their families to achieve their goals with community partners.



Message to the Community



Dear Friends, Community Partners, and Colleagues,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we are pleased to share the 2021-2022 Annual Report for the San Diego Regional Center (SDRC).

Reflecting on the past year, we are struck by the contrast between our extraordinary accomplishments and the extraordinary difficulties still lingering from the pandemic. The dedication, character, and collaboration among the staff, our board of directors, service providers, and community partners are what continue to move us forward through these challenging times.

SDRC has experienced significant growth in the number of individuals we support this past year, from serving close to 33,000 clients at the beginning of the year to over 37,000 today in San Diego and Imperial counties.

We have several new initiatives we implemented this year in partnership with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). They include:

- The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Part C Project is a pilot project to increase Early Start enrollment for children from communities with low participation rates.
- The Language Access & Cultural Competency (LACC) initiative will facilitate consistent access to information and services for multi-lingual, monolingual, and diverse cultural groups.
- Enhanced Service Coordination is a reduced caseload service (1-40) intended to improve service access and delivery for clients in underserved communities with low or no service purchase, including non-English speaking and the hearing impaired.
- Early Start outreach for Tribal Communities is an initiative where we are taking the lead to raise awareness and knowledge of Early Start services.
- Social Recreation programs have been restored and expanded. Funding will also support non-medical therapies, specialized recreation, art, dance, and music.

We are continually inspired by the people we serve, our community, and the commitment behind the SDRC team. We have much work ahead of us in 2023, exciting opportunities, and, no doubt, obstacles we will face with ingenuity and the forward-thinking we have relied on this past year.

With the greatest appreciation for your trust and support,

Norma Ramos
Board President

Mark Klaus
Executive Director

Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

November 1st marked my first anniversary as Executive Director at the San Diego Regional Center. As we emerge from the aftermath of the pandemic and transition from crisis management to addressing more specific needs of our community and the people we serve, SDRC is making great strides. We are returning to our strategic priorities and can more carefully identify the areas of greatest need and greatest opportunity.

SDRC is excited to partner with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on several new initiatives to strengthen our landscape of services to our community. To generate successful outcomes from these initiatives, we will build on our existing partnerships and continue to establish new ones that can bring additional tools to those we support.

We are expanding our outreach efforts to historically underserved populations like the Tribal and Chaldean communities and homeless families. We are also opening doors to undocumented families whose children would benefit from California Early Start services.

Some of our existing programs, including day programs, look-a-like day programs, and our independent living program, have also expanded to include remote services for those clients and families who prefer remote options. Social recreation and camp services have returned and now cover additional non-medical therapies like music, art, and horseback riding.

I continue to work with the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) and our legislators to advocate for our community partners and staff. Provider rates and caseload ratio reductions are a priority.

These are just a few of the critical areas we are addressing to support the individuals that have long looked to the regional center for help.

With the unwavering support from the Board of Directors, SDRC staff, our forward-thinking service providers, and clients and their families, the possibilities are endless.

I am excited to continue on this journey in 2023, working with an incredible team to provide the exceptional services we have been providing to our community for the past 53 years.

With much gratitude,



Mark Klaus
Executive Director



Our Board of Directors

Top Row

Johny Espinoza
Tessie Bradshaw
Julie Randolph
Chris Hodge
Matthew Storey
Wendy Forkas
Terri Colachis
Laura Oakes
Yasuko Mason

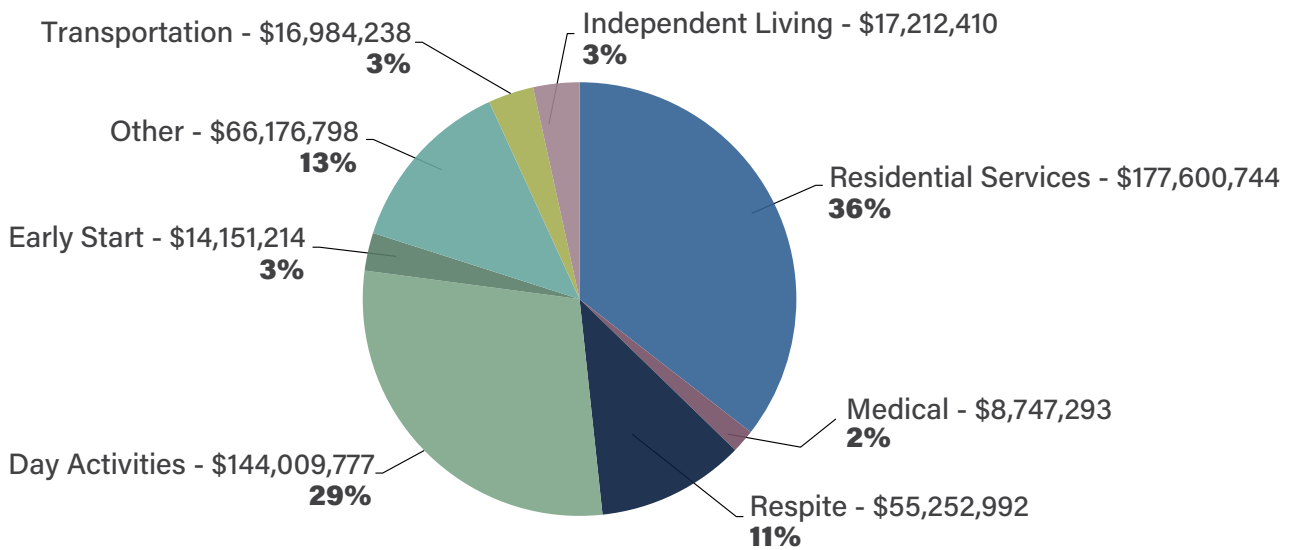
Bottom Row

Martha Soto-Aceves
Pam Ehlers
Virginia Bayer
Norma Ramos
Beth Blair
Timothy Riemann

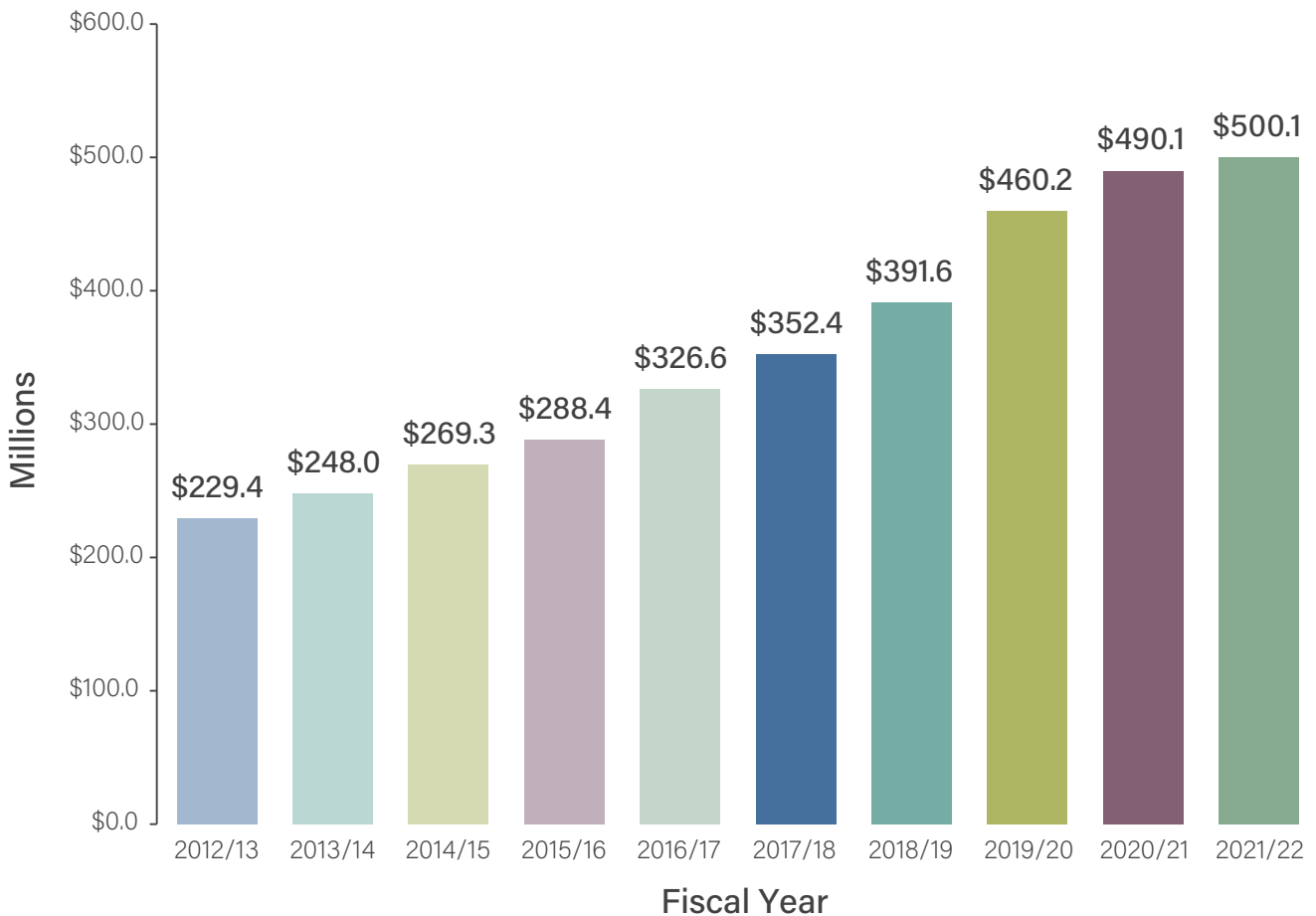
Not pictured: Shirley Nakawatase, Erik Rascon, and Kimberly Rucker

Purchase of Services Expenditures FY 2021-2022

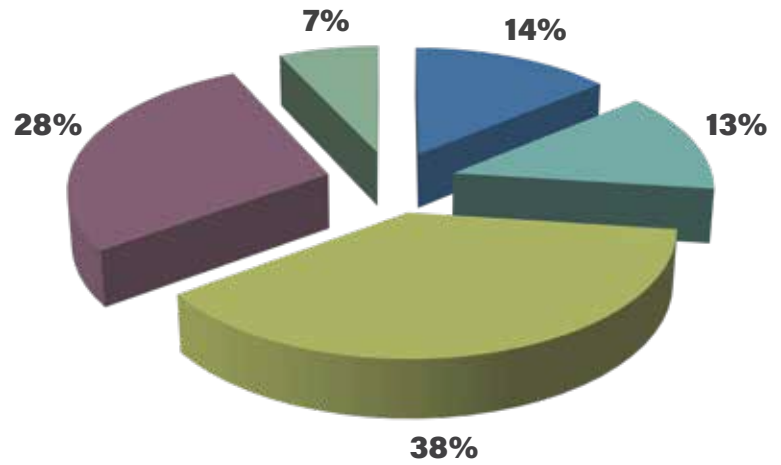
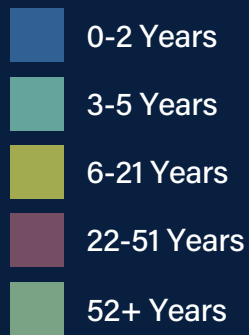
\$500,135,466 (Estimated)



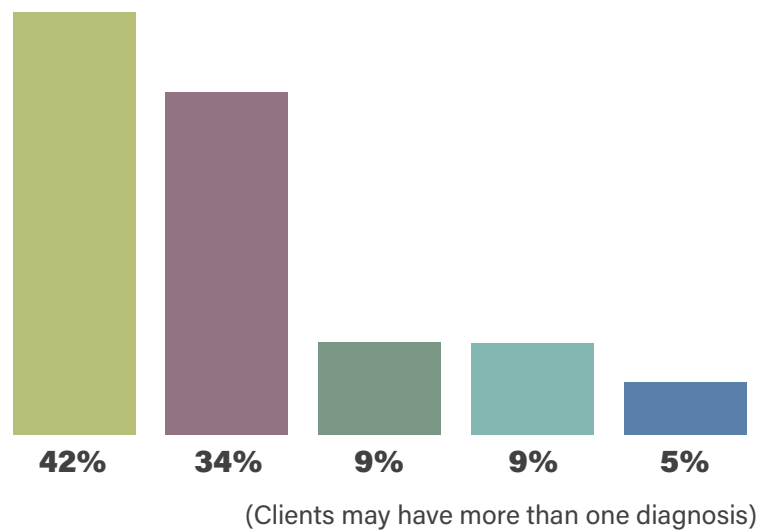
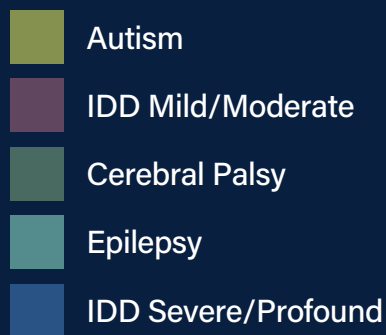
Growth



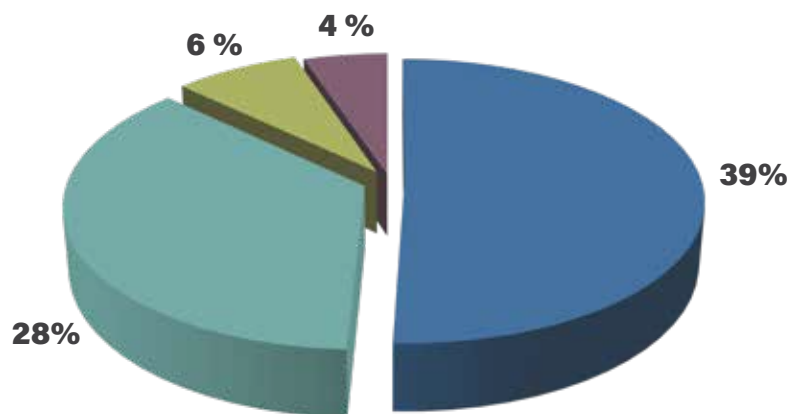
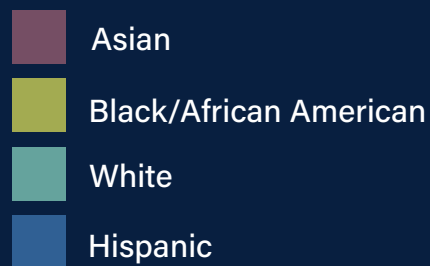
Age of Clients



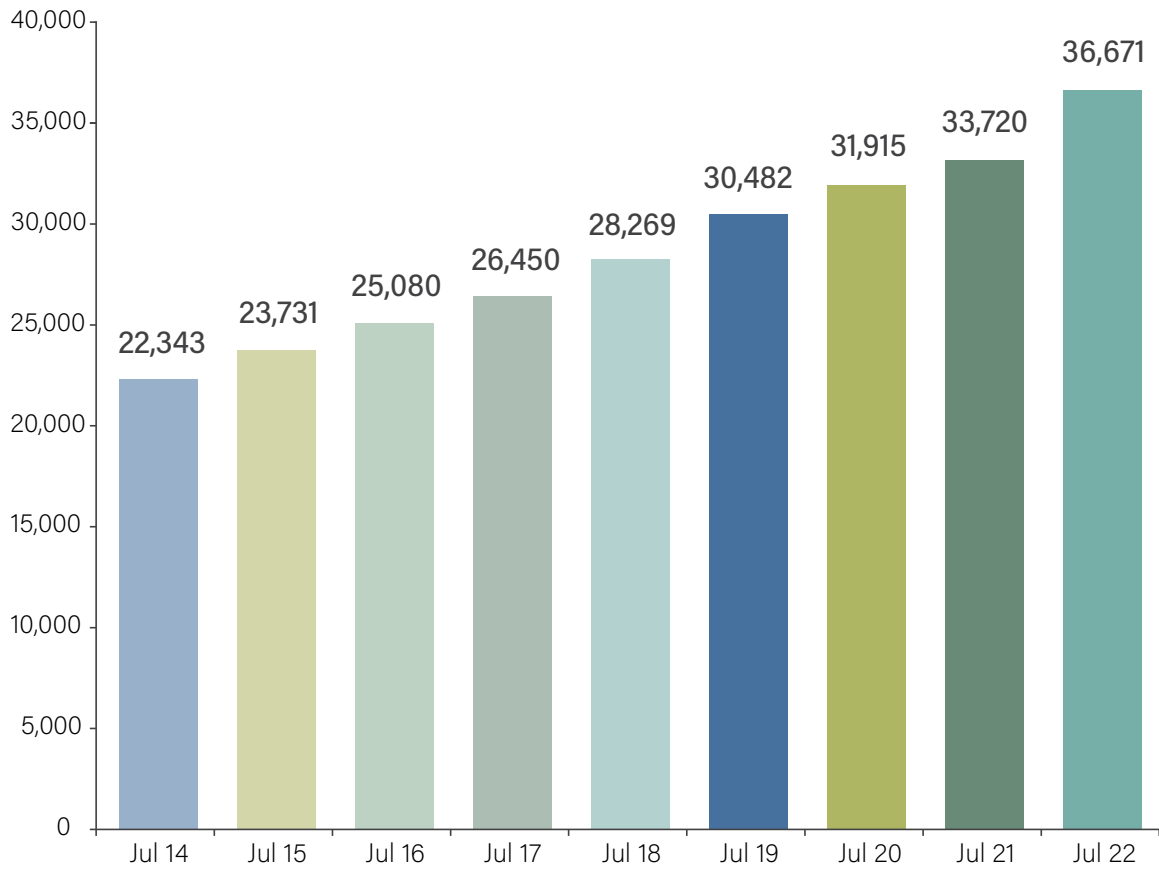
Diagnosis of Clients



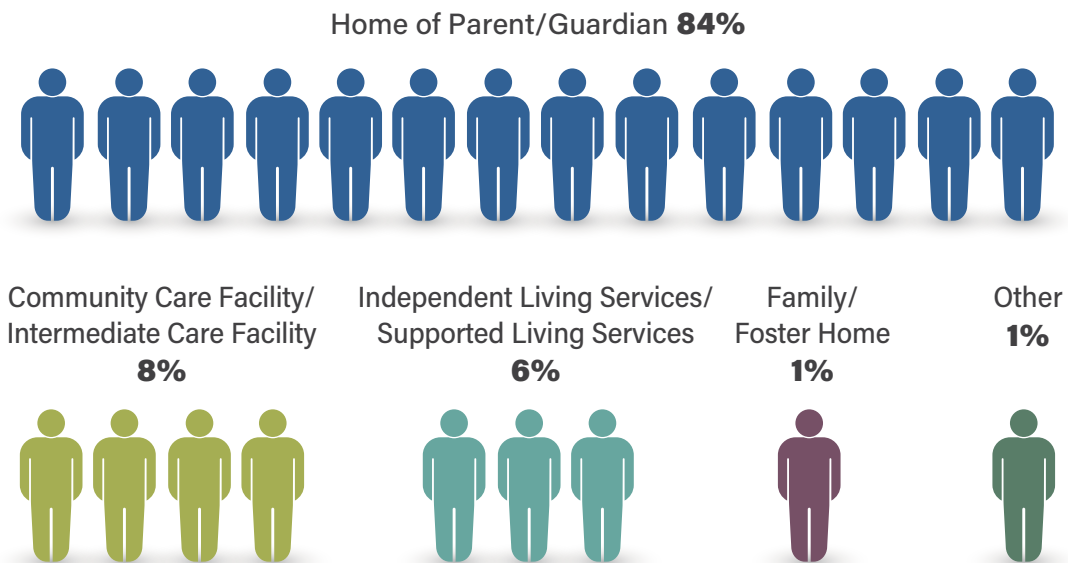
Ethnicity of Clients



Total SDRC Clients



Where Clients Live



Recognizing the long-term commitment of the staff celebrating milestone anniversaries. They are among our greatest assets.

Thank you for helping us achieve our mission.

35 Years

Sheila Minick

30 Years

Janet Freihofer
Angelina Garcia

25 Years

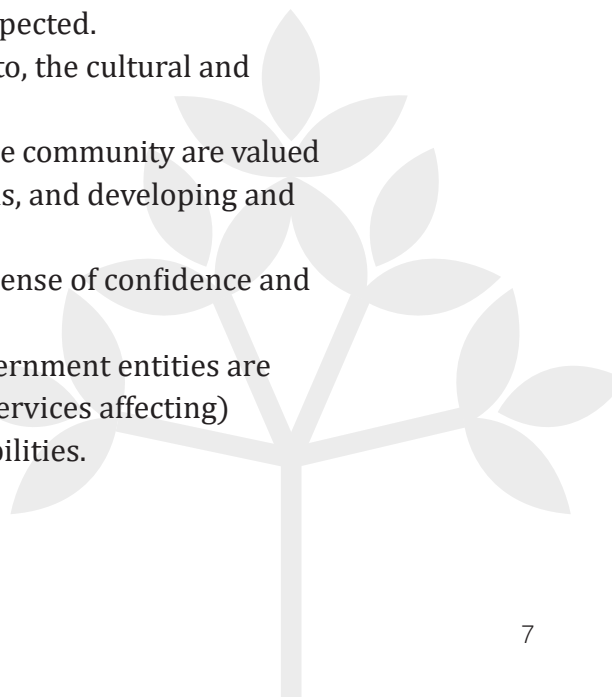
Lorena Arambula-Ahumada
Laura Backe
Debra Johnson
Katherine Karins
Kimberly Kyne
Karen Melowitz

20 Years

Michael Bell
Adriana Cazares
Deatriz Cook
Alexis Leyva
Nancy Marin
Nang Nakhonthap
Paula Payton
Natasha Rioja-Ward

Our Values

- The uniqueness of human life is valued.
- Consumer and family choice is respected.
- Services reflect, and are sensitive to, the cultural and ethnic diversity of the community.
- Outreach and collaboration with the community are valued in identifying and addressing needs, and developing and nurturing new ideas and services.
- High quality services engender a sense of confidence and support within the community.
- Individuals, communities and government entities are well informed about (issues and services affecting) persons with developmental disabilities.



Our Locations

www.sdrc.org

Main Office

4355 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
858-576-2996

Carmel Mountain

15015 Avenue of Science, Suite 250
San Diego, CA 92128
858-924-8700

Carlsbad

5931 Priestly Drive, Suite 100
Carlsbad, CA 92008
760-736-1200

Chula Vista

2300 Boswell Road, Suite 200
Chula Vista, CA 91914
619-489-3200

Imperial Valley

3095 N. Imperial Avenue
El Centro, CA 92243
760-355-8383

National City

2727 Hoover Avenue, Suite 100
National City, CA 91950
619-336-6600

Santee

8760 Cuyamaca Street, Suite 100
Santee, CA 92071
619-596-1000



Our Vision

Persons with developmental disabilities will live productive and satisfying lives as valued members of their communities.



S|D|R|C

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