



San Diego  
Regional Center

**REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES REGARDING  
THE SAN DIEGO REGIONAL CENTER'S  
PURCHASE OF SERVICE UTILIZATION DATA**

*~ December 31, 2021 ~*

## **I. Introduction:**

In June 2012, Section 4519.5 was added to the Welfare and Institutions Code (Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act) through trailer bill language (AB 1472) in the budget act for fiscal year (FY) 2012-2013. This section requires that regional centers compile data related to the purchase of service with respect to clients' ages, race, ethnicity, and primary language.

Regional centers are required to post the data on their websites by December 31. Within three months after compiling the data, regional centers are required to meet with stakeholders in a public meeting regarding the data. In addition, the contract with the State of California requires the Board of Directors of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Developmental Services, Inc., to provide a report to the State, that includes issues identified by the data; the results of the public stakeholder meeting; and, proposed strategies. This report is then submitted to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) in compliance with that contractual obligation.

Amended in 2014 and effective January 1, 2015 (Welfare & Institutions Code 4519.5) the following regional center reporting requirements were added:

(A) Actions the regional center took to improve public attendance and participation at stakeholder meetings, including, but not limited to, attendance and participation by underserved communities.

(B) Copies of minutes from the meeting and attendee comments.

(C) Whether the data described in this section indicates a need to reduce disparities in the purchase of services among consumers in the regional center's catchment area. If the data does indicate that need, the regional center's recommendations and plan to promote equity, and reduce disparities, in the purchase of services.

There are reporting requirements for regional centers who have received ABX2 1 allocated funds from the Department of Developmental Services to assist in the implementation of strategies to reduce purchase of service (POS) disparities. This annual report outlines the specific approved activities with qualitative and quantitative outcomes.

Each regional center and the Department of Developmental Services shall annually post the reports required on its respective websites.

## **II. Purchase of Service Utilization Data:**

### Data Limitations of Purchase of Service Expenditure Data

#### **1. Purchase of Service Costs**

The Purchase of Service (POS) data displayed represents the cost of services that clients received that are paid for by the regional center. These POS expenditure data do not include the cost of services clients receive that are paid for by Supplemental Security Income, Medi-Cal, the school system, and other generic agencies. These POS expenditure data represent expenditures the regional center made for services that clients received during FY 2020 - 2021. The data are based on regional center POS state claim data that were provided to DDS as of December 31, 2019.

#### **2. Client Count**

The total number of clients who received services during the fiscal year will be greater than the regional center's actual caseload. A client is included in the data if the client received a regional center funded service at any time during the fiscal year. A client who received a single service once during the year is counted the same as a client who received ongoing monthly services. Clients are also counted regardless of their current status with the regional center. The data may include clients whose status is closed, transferred-out, in-active, etc., if the client received regional center funded services during FY 2020-2021.

#### **3. Contract Purchase of Service Expenditures**

Due to the limitations of the regional center uniform fiscal system (UFS), POS expenditure data do not include payments made by the regional center that are paid to a service provider under a contract. Typical services paid to a service provider under a contract may include, but are not limited to, transportation services and supported employment program group services. Therefore, the total amount of POS expenditures reported will not reconcile with the regional center's actual POS expenditures for FY 2020-2021.

#### **4. Authorized Services**

Services that are authorized “encumber” the funds needed to pay for those services. The regional center’s computer system (UFS) gives the regional center options regarding the “maintenance” of its encumbrances. When encumbrances are routinely adjusted for non-utilization, there will be a higher utilization percentage. When encumbrances are not routinely adjusted for non-utilizations, there will be a lower utilization rate.

#### **5. Clients with Multiple Diagnoses**

There are many clients who have more than one diagnosis. In the summary reports for Purchase of Service Expenditures by Diagnosis the report does not show clients with two or more diagnoses in all the categories in which they have a diagnosis, but rather the diagnoses are ranked and a client with multiple diagnoses shows up only once. The ranking of the diagnosis is the following:

- a. Autism
- b. Intellectual Disability
- c. Cerebral Palsy
- d. Epilepsy
- e. Category 5

An example could help illustrate this process. If a client has both diagnoses of Intellectual Disability and Epilepsy, the client will be included in the Intellectual Disability group (the more highly ranked diagnosis). If a client has three diagnoses Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, and Category 5, he/she would be included in Cerebral Palsy.

#### **6. Category 5 Clients**

Clients listed in Category 5, according to Welfare and Institutions Code section 4512, are individuals who have “disabling conditions found to be closely related to Intellectual Disability or to require treatment similar to that required for individuals with Intellectual Disability, but shall not include other handicapping conditions that are solely physical in nature.”

## 7. Ethnicity/Race Categories

Ethnicity or race categories in this report are those used by the United States Census Bureau as follows:

**American Indian or Alaska Native:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

**Asian:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**Black or African American:** A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

**Hispanic or Latino:** A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

**Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

**White:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

**Other** – Includes all other responses not included in the "White", "Black or African American", "American Indian and Alaska Native", "Asian" and "Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander" race categories described above and includes those who fall in multiple categories.

## 8. Special Considerations

Changes in service delivery and billing in response to the COVID-19 pandemic may have affected individuals and communities differently. Care should be taken in comparing FY 20/21 data to data for previous years. In response to the pandemic and varied individual needs and circumstances, billing for some services changed to a monthly rate instead of hourly or daily rates. As a result, this may have reduced differences among individuals in service authorizations, expenditures, and utilization.