



Golden Gate Regional Center

Supporting Lives of Liberty and Opportunity

RECORD of May 19th, 2026, 5:30 PM

PRESIDING: Jacy Cohen

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Brindicy Alcaraz	Lynn Pulliam
	David DeLira	Marianna Abballo
	Gita Gupta	Marta Guzman
	Kate O'Connor	Michael Bernick

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jane Diaz
Sharon Jones

STAFF:	Eric Zigman	Melissa Wu
	Brenda Gonzales	Jessica Jorquera
	Jayashree Nathaniel	Jennila Worrell
	Lisa Rosene	
	Sean Galvin	

GUESTS:	Chris Aguire	Oscar Arteta (Spanish Interpreter)
	Karen Pace	Calene Carrano (ASL Interpreter)
	Jennifer Carper	Corinna Cozart (ASL Interpreter)
	Alan Fox	Christina Magiary (ASL Student Interpreter)
	Greg Gonzales	
	Vlad Mysla	
	Maria Banderas	
	Edith Arias	

CALL TO ORDER

Jacy Cohen called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Spanish interpreter zoom room was set up. Instructions regarding Spanish Language and American Sign Language interpretations were provided. Welcoming remarks and introductions followed.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

ACTION A. Agenda

The agenda for today's meeting was approved, and a typographical error regarding the date was corrected

M/S/C (Brindicy Alcaraz motioned / Lynn Pulliam seconded)

ACTION B. Record of April 21st, 2026, Meeting

*The Record of the April 21st, 2026, meeting was approved.
M/S/C (Kate O'Connor motioned/ Lynn Pulliam seconded)*

PUBLIC COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Retreat

Lynn Pulliam shared positive feedback regarding the Board Retreat that took place on April 25th. She commended Amanda Pyle for her presentation on Generational Leadership and reminded everyone that the next Board Retreat will be scheduled for August.

New GGRC Website Launch

Amanda Pyle announced that the new [GGRC website](#) was officially launched on May 4, 2026. Minor issues have been identified and are currently being addressed. If you encounter any glitches that may have been overlooked, you can notify the team via the contact page on the website.

The website is available in up to ten languages. A new feature allows users to search for resources and topics in different languages. If a resource has not yet been translated, it can still be viewed in the user's preferred language.

Upcoming steps include gathering feedback from the community advisory board, individuals and families served, and the community partners advisory board through ongoing meetings. End-user testing will continue, and they are recruiting GGRC individuals served who are interested in contracting with the World Institute on Disability to participate in this testing. There is also an opportunity for GGRC individuals who are interested in photography to join a paid internship program, which aims to gather more photographs of the community for use on the website.

60th Anniversary of CA's first Regional Centers

Eric Zigman highlighted and shared the following:

- Senate Concurring Resolution 174 (SCR 174) would recognize 2026 as the 60th anniversary of the two pilot regional centers (GGRC and Lanterman RC) that were the foundation for the Lanterman Act. The Senat passed the resolution, and it will be voted by the Assembly in June.
- Included in the CalMatters article is a recording of Senator Scott Wiener speaking on the Senate Floor regarding SCR 17: [SCR 174: The 60th anniversary of pilot regional centers](#)
- Eric also mentioned this article: [California Regional Centers at 60 Years, Call for Increased State Investment](#)
- The DisCo at the Capital event was held on 5/18/26 & 5/19/26.
 - Eric Zigman shared that he and the Executive Director at Lanterman Regional Center spoke at the 5/18 event regarding the 60th anniversary.
 - During the event, our housing partner, The Kelsey, was honored with the California Disability Innovation in Advocacy Award.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Finance Committee (Michael Bernick)

A. Monthly Financial Statement: [Financial Status as of March 31, 2026]

Michael Bernick shared the following financial report:

Operations:

After nine months of operations, year-to-date expenditures are under budget by 11.8%. All operations funds are expected to be fully expensed for the fiscal year over the normal course of operations.

Purchase of Services (POS) Excluding CRDP:

After nine months of operations, year-to-date expenditures are under budget by 6.5%. The estimated surplus is projected to be approximately \$23 million for this fiscal year.

Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) Funding:

Placement funds and Start-Up funds have been approved but have yet to be allocated. These are expected to be allocated in subsequent budget allocations and fully expensed.

New Audit Firm Update

Eric explained that under the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 4639 Regional Centers must change independent audit firms at least every five years. GGRC's CFO and Finance Committee reviewed proposals from CPA firms who had experience auditing Regional Centers and have selected local CBIZ firm to conduct the GGRC Independent Fiscal Year Audit. The motion comes as a recommendation from the Finance Committee.

ACTION CBIZ CPA Firm

The use of CBIZ CPA Firm for the GGRC Independent Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Audit was approved.

M/S/C (David DeLira motioned/ Gita Gupta seconded)

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
UPDATE ON SCDD ACTIVITIES

Greg Gonzalez, SCDD Bay Area Regional Office Manager, provided updates and information regarding upcoming events, training sessions, and available opportunities, including the following:

California Legislative & Budget Update

Thursday, May 21, 12:00p – 1:00p

<https://www.undivided.io/event-may-budget-revise-with-aaron-carruthers/>

Mental Health Awareness Month Events

https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2026/04/MH-Awareness-Month_scrgroup.pdf

GOLDEN GATE REGIONAL CENTER

RECORD OF MEETING –

May 19th, 2026

SCDD Bay Area Office Open House

In-Person

When: Thursday, May 28, 2025, 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Location: Elihu M. Harris State Office Building, 1515 Clay Street, Room 7, Second Floor, Oakland

Virtual/Zoom

When: Friday, May 29, 2026, 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

[Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 817 7280 8127

6th Annual There Should Be a Law Contest

Submit your idea online at: <https://bit.ly/BillIdeas2026>

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

B. Legislative Committee (Kate O’connor)

Kate O’Connor provided a summary of the two very successful GGRC Legislative Breakfast events. The first event took place on May 8, 2026, at the Pomeroy Center in San Francisco, and the second event was held on May 15, 2026, at The Key Room in Novato. Both events had about 100-130 attendees.

Senator Scott Wiener as well as staff members representing US Representative Mullin, US Representative Huffman, State Senator McGuire, and State Assembly Member Connolly attended. Additionally, several board of supervisors and city council members were present.

The overall experience was meaningful, providing an opportunity to learn about the pioneers who helped establish the Lanterman Act disability justice movement. Additionally, a Certificate of Honor was awarded by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to GGRC in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the creation of the first two regional centers.

C. ARCA Update (Marta Guzman)

Marta Guzman shared the following ARCA updates:

- The ARCA Executive Committee convened on May 15, 2026, to discuss and approve ARCA’s positions concerning the May Revision Budget proposals.
- The Assembly and Senate budget subcommittees on Human Services will now take up the Governor’s May Revision Budget and Trailer Bill Proposals in committee meetings occurring over the next couple of weeks.
- DisCo at the Capital will be held on 5/18/26 & 5/19/26 in Sacramento. Including a rally at the Capitol Steps on 5/19/26.
- The upcoming ARCA meetings will include its Annual Dinner on June 25, 2026, with the ARCA Board of Directors meeting itself scheduled for June 26, 2026, in Sacramento.

D. Services Committee (David DeLira)

Services Committee Meeting update

David gave brief updates from the May Services Committee, including the committee's interest in hearing about changes to the Special Incident Reporting process.

Board Education: Role of the GGRC Dental Coordinator in Supporting Access to Dental Care (Jessica Jorquera)

Eric Zigman informed everyone that almost all regional centers have a dedicated Dental Coordinator and that they are valuable resources that possess a wealth of knowledge. He introduced Jessica Jorquera as the GGRC Dental Coordinator, acknowledging the great work she has done alongside Director of Intake, Early Start and Clinical Services Brenda Gonzales and Clinical Manager Melissa Wu.

Jessica and Melissa provided an overview of the Person-Centered Oral Health program they are developing at GGRC. Their presentation highlighted and discussed six key elements: coordination, education, advocacy, operations, clinical consultation, and resource development.

GGRC dental consultations increased from Q2 2025 to Q1 2026, driven in part by the launch of the Dental Page on the GGRC OIC website, which includes workflows, process maps, and a consultation form. They also introduced a quarterly oral health newsletter and provided trainings for staff, new hires, and various units.

Jessica collaborates with Regional Center Dental Coordinators, vendors, and community partners, while providing clinical consultations, treatment plan reviews, care coordination, resources, and follow-up support for individuals served. She is also active in advocacy efforts, including supporting the extension of supplemental dental funding and rejection of Medi-Cal dental cuts, participation in ARCA Grassroots Day, and involvement in several advocacy groups.

Lynn inquired about the reason behind the four-year waitlist for some individuals served to see a dentist. Jessica explained that UOP is the primary dental provider for all three GGRC counties. However, GGRC has brought on new dental vendors, and several more are in the process of being vendored.

Eric also mentioned that a primary reason for the waitlist is that GGRC individuals require full sedation, which needs an operating room. To proactively address patient needs before sedation is required, we have partnered with vendors and hygienists specializing in preventive care. Jessica informed the group that they have vendored an RDHP who will be visiting the residential facilities and ICFs. They also hope to incorporate telehealth appointments in the future.

Brenda indicated that by monitoring the number of consultations and the levels of complexity for each case, we can gain better insight into how to effectively utilize Jessica's role and identify the specific needs of the community.

Jacy shared that if anyone had any questions regarding the presentation they can contact Brenda (bgonzales@ggrc.org) and reminded Jessica that the board is here to support her.

E. Board Operations (Lynn Pulliam)

Recommended Slate of Officers & ARCA Representative

Lynn informed the group that the sample ballot for the upcoming election of officers for the 2026/2027 fiscal year is included in the board meeting packet. The ballot contains the following candidates:

Chairperson – Jacy Cohen

Vice-Chairperson – David DeLira

Secretary – Gita Gupta & Brindicy Alcaraz

Treasurer – Michael Bernick

ARCA Delegate – Marta Guzman

As per GGRC Bylaws, the re-election for Board Member and the election of Board Officers and the ARCA Delegate will occur at the June Meeting. The Operations Committee will recommend Officers and the ARCA Delegate as specified in the bylaws.

Recruitment update

There are potential candidates for the board, and Lynn will put one forward next month. Currently, interviews and informal meetings are being conducted with prospective board members.

F. Service Provider Advisory Committee (Kate O'Connor)

Kate O'Connor shared the following SPAC updates:

- SPAC meetings are scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 11:00AM and are done via Zoom.
- During a previous SPAC meeting, GGRC's Quality Assurance Manager, Lindsey Read, delivered a presentation on changes regarding Special Incident Reports (SIRs) that was very helpful.
- Kate confirmed that presentations, meeting agendas and minutes are sent out to individuals and vendors who are on the distribution list, which includes over 200 providers and many GGRC staff. Eric and Sean provide GGRC updates at each SPAC Meeting.
- SPAC will be hosting a presentation about the Direct Support Professional (DSP) internship program developed by DDS. This is a paid internship opportunity. If you are interested in learning more or attending, Kate can provide you with the event flyer.

G. Executive Committee (Jacy Cohen)

An executive session regarding a personnel issue with board members will be held at the conclusion of tonight's public meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Governor Newsom's May Revision of the Budget

Eric let the group know that Governor Newsom released the [May Revisions](#) of the budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year and that there are no proposed cuts for developmental services. He reviewed the breakdown [cost and fund sources](#) below:

GOLDEN GATE REGIONAL CENTER
 RECORD OF MEETING –
 May 19th, 2026

FY 2026-27

Costs and Fund Sources

The FY 2026-27 regional center budget includes \$21.1 billion (\$13.1 billion General Fund), a net increase of \$460.5 million (a net decrease of \$60.4 million General Fund) compared to the Governor’s Budget. This reflects updated expenditure trends and increased federal financial participation for individuals eligible for Medi-Cal under the Affordable Care Act Expansion Population and an increased share of the overall caseload having Medi-Cal eligibility.

Costs and Fund Sources <i>(Dollars in Thousands)</i>			
	Governor’s Budget	May Revision	Difference
Operations	\$1,782,689	\$1,806,408	\$23,719
Purchase of Services	\$18,827,975	\$19,263,657	\$435,682
Early Start Part C/Other Agency Costs	\$19,336	\$20,424	\$1,088
Early Start Family Resource Services	\$2,003	\$2,003	\$0
Total Costs	\$20,632,003	\$21,092,492	\$460,489
General Fund (GF)	\$13,154,785	\$13,094,380	(\$60,405)
<i>GF Match</i>	\$6,756,704	\$7,196,963	\$440,259
<i>GF Other</i>	\$6,398,081	\$5,897,417	(\$500,664)
Reimbursements	\$7,420,929	\$7,941,865	\$520,936
Program Development Fund/Parental Fees	\$0	\$0	\$0
Developmental Disabilities Services Account	\$150	\$150	\$0
Behavioral Health Services Fund	\$740	\$740	\$0
Federal Funds	\$55,399	\$55,357	(\$42)
Fund Sources	\$20,632,003	\$21,092,492	\$460,489

Eric also stated that, although there were no cuts to our system, there are cuts and limitations proposed in the May Revision that will impact IHSS and Medi-Cal. Will look to see how this will impact the people we serve and our GGRC system (especially given we are by law “the payor of last resort.”

Proposed Trailer Bill Legislation

DDS came out with an additional eight trailer bill proposals which include two that have the potential to significantly change our system. They are:

Equitable and Consistent Needs Assessment

Proposes replacing the CDER with a person-centered and clinically validated tool. Support the standardized intake process by developing a clinical needs assessment tool for use by regional centers statewide, with a focus on promoting consistency and improving equity within the system regardless of where an individual lives. Eric let the group know that the tool is also being proposed to inform planning team decisions. He stated that ARCA has not taken a position yet on this proposal, and this topic will need much more conversation in the coming months.

State-Operated Transitional and Rehabilitative Services

Establish two-year time limits on the duration of placement at Canyon Springs Community Facility beginning July 1, 2027, and at Porterville Developmental Center for placements made under Welfare and Institutions Code 6500 civil commitments beginning July 1, 2031. The language also would clarify the admissions criteria for processes for both locations. Lisa Rosene informed the group that GGRC currently has 11 individuals who reside in Porterville and 4 individuals who are at Canyon Springs. Eric said he appreciated the concept and extended time for implementation of this proposal. In addition, he underscored that the state

GOLDEN GATE REGIONAL CENTER

RECORD OF MEETING –

May 19th, 2026

would have to commit much more resources toward the development of statewide and local “safety net” services for this proposal to be acceptable, in his opinion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jacy Cohen thanked all Board members and adjourned the public Board meeting to go into Executive Session regarding a personnel issue at 7:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennila Worrell
GGRC IEC Coordinator