



February 26, 2009

Director Terri Delgadillo
 Department of Developmental Services
 1600 9th Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Terri:

This is to express our shared thinking on your task of submitting a plan to the legislature for cutting our system by an additional \$100 million on top of the severe cuts imposed in recent years and this year. First, let us be clear that further cuts to our fragile system will cause significant pain and sacrifice to the persons we serve. We believe there must be a health and safety exception to the further cuts, a crisis intervention mechanism to assure that consumers are not forced into more restrictive settings, and transparency and oversight throughout the process. Finally, we believe that the cuts should be temporary and, most importantly, as far as possible from the consumers.

After much discussion, our coalition has reached consensus on the following ideas as ways to save significant general fund dollars while causing the least damage to consumers and their families:

1. **Distribute the cuts because the additional cuts cannot come solely from the services component of our system (there are four components of the system, i.e., Regional Center Operations, Regional Center Purchase of Services, Department Headquarters, and Developmental Centers).**
2. **Maximize the federal Home and Community Based Waiver by adding all eligible recipients to increase federal matching funds.**
3. **Consider an arrangement for increased flexibility through individualized budgets.**
4. **Access federal stimulus funds to pay one-time housing infrastructure costs and use developmental center land to expand affordable and accessible housing.**
5. **Update the Parental Fee Schedule to remove the bias for out-of-home placement of children.**
6. **Increase integrated employment opportunities.**
7. **Expand access to Preventative Medical and Dental Services to save regional center general fund resources.**
8. **Maximize Generic Resources both locally and statewide.**
9. **Consolidate state licensing functions.**
10. **Establish an interagency process to resolve disputes concerning payer of last resort issues.**

Thank you for your consideration of our input.

Sincerely,

Tony Anderson
 The Lanterman Coalition

The Lanterman Coalition consists of the 12 major stakeholders in California's community based developmental services system: The Arc of California, the Association of Regional Center Agencies, Autism Society of California, California Alliance for Inclusive Communities, California Disability Services Association, California Supported Living Network, Disability Rights

California, Family Resource Center Network of California, People First of California, and Service Employees International Union, Cal-TASH, and Easter Seals.