



**Summary of Public Comments Received During Meeting #3- Wednesday, May 15, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

This summary reflects the themes and ideas received from approximately 300 public comments provided in writing and verbally, during the meeting's public comment opportunities. The three public comment opportunities took place during pre-meeting, lunch, and end-of-meeting sessions. Themes from public comments included:

- Acknowledgement that short/medium-term goals and concrete milestones will be important to ensure that needs are met in the interim as a long-term master plans is realized.
- Concerns over ensuring that diverse experiences and voices (specifically, those of self-advocates of color, those of individuals who have barriers to participation as a result of complex needs, and those of Latino and Hispanic communities) are reflected in the discussions which will ultimately inform the master plan.
- Emphasis on the positive impacts the Self Determination Program has had on many stakeholders' lived experiences, as well as concerns about the shortage of Financial Management Service (FMS) providers as a barrier to access to the program, and concerns that the master plan might disrupt the program.
- The sense that there is a need for increased transparency in, and oversight of, Regional Center operations and service determinations.
- Challenges with accessing services through the Regional Center system (specifically, frustrations with phone and email systems) and the desire to ensure equity in engagement with Regional Centers.
- Questions about how data is currently reported and will be reported following work that is currently underway (specifically in terms of demographic data and planned future use of more detailed demographic categories).
- Emphasis on the importance of privacy considerations for use of data by systems implicated by the master plan.
- The reality of the "cliffs" that individuals and families experience upon transition from school-age into adulthood and from working-age into older-adulthood, and the need for "gentle slopes" instead of "cliffs".

- The importance of coordination and collaboration with other systems and departments, with many stakeholders emphasizing the need to coordinate with the education and mental health systems.
- The need for the master plan to be a living document which can be adaptable to new possibilities and new technologies.
- A call for upholding equity in all work done towards the master plan and in all systems which the master plan will be a part of.