

The background of the slide is a top-down view of a collaborative workspace. It features a large, hand-drawn yellow circle in the center containing a lightbulb with three lightning bolts above it. Surrounding this central circle are various other hand-drawn elements: a magnifying glass, a puzzle piece, a gear, a lightbulb, a coffee cup, a notepad, a star, a red rectangle, a green circle with a computer monitor, and a blue circle with a lightbulb. Dashed lines and arrows connect these elements, suggesting a flow of ideas and collaboration. The overall style is creative and informal, with a focus on teamwork and innovation.

MASTER PLAN *for* Developmental Services

Workgroup 5 Meeting

February 21, 2025

Housekeeping



- Interpretación en español: haga clic en el globo blanco en la parte inferior de la pantalla con la etiqueta “Interpretación”. Luego haga clic en “Español” y seleccione “Silenciar audio original”.



- ASL interpreters have been “Spotlighted” and Zoom, automatic closed captioning is active.



- This meeting is being recorded.

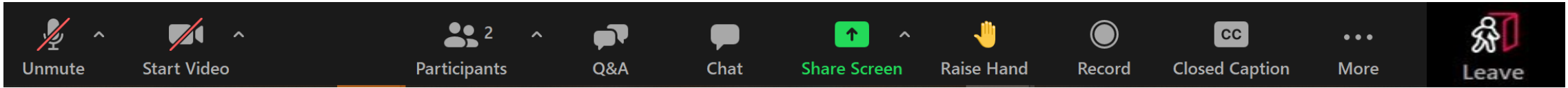


- [Materials are available online here](https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services)
 [\(https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services\)](https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services)



- Questions? Comments? [Email DSMasterPlan@chhs.ca.gov](mailto:DSMasterPlan@chhs.ca.gov)

Zoom Instructions



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Committee members can turn their webcams on/off

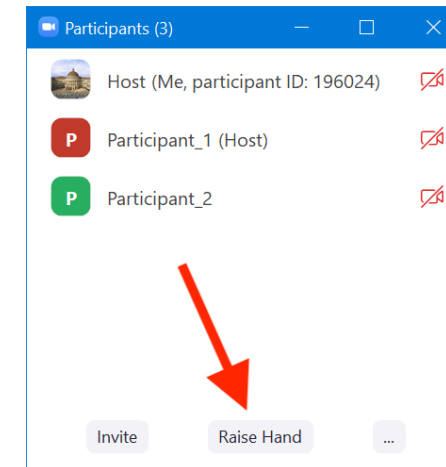
All attendees can type questions/comments in the Q&A for all participants to see. Chat is available for everyone unless it's an accessibility barrier to a member of the committee.

Raise your hand when you want to speak
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Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Timeline for Creating Ideas and Recommendations
3. Priority 3 Recommendations (Part 1)
4. BREAK
5. Priority 3 Recommendations (Part 2)
6. Upcoming Meetings
7. Public Comment

Community Agreements

1. Show respect toward others
2. Listen for understanding
3. Create a safe space for difficult conversations
4. Share time and space for everyone to contribute
5. Support an inclusive environment
6. Embrace collective wisdom
7. Build Community
8. Teamwork

Workgroup 5 will meet every month for six months. We will develop recommendations for workgroup 5 priority areas for the Master Plan

Feb 2025 	Update and Finalize Workgroup Recommendations
Mar 2025	Final Updates → Master Plan to Legislature Spring 2025

Developing Our Recommendations

1. **Discuss recommendation ideas:** Talk about ideas and get consensus for recommendations.
2. **Draft recommendations:** Co-Chairs, workgroup and staff will use the ideas to develop draft recommendations.
3. **Review recommendations with Workgroup:** Members will review, discuss and revise draft recommendations.
4. **Review Recommendations with Master Plan Committee:** Recommendations will be presented to the Master Plan Committee for feedback and approval.

Priority #3 Summary of Recommendations

1. In-Home and Community Services - **NEW**
2. Supported Living Services
3. Enhanced Supported Living Services
4. Innovative Service Models Where People Share Resources and Services
5. Day Programs
6. Technology
7. Grants and Other Funding Sources
8. Specialized Remote/Virtual Supports
9. School System
10. Transition Out of Institutional Settings
11. Contingency Planning for Potential Federal Budget Cuts - **UPDATED**
12. Housing and Homelessness Supports - **NEW**

We are proposing to replace
#2 and #3 with #1

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #1: In-Home and Community Services (1/6)



What we recommend

- **Redesign services for individuals who live in their own or family homes using a flexible unified approach. This in-home and community service should reflect these recommendations:**
 - In-home and community services should be based on person's needs and preferences, rather than on how old they are, where or with whom they live, or other criteria. This includes people who live independently, with family, or with other people of their choosing, and children in foster homes.
 - In-home and community services should include and expand on the scope of services and supports currently available through SLS, ILS, and other services available to individuals who

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #1: In-Home and Community Services (2/6)



What we recommend

- **Redesign services for individuals who live in their own or family homes using a flexible unified approach. This in-home and community service should reflect these recommendations:**
 - In-home and community services should be person-centered and culturally responsive.
 - The services should evolve as person goes through their life and life transitions without disruption, or as their needs change.
 - Services should follow the individual where they go: home and community.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #1: In-Home and Community Services (3/6)



What we recommend

- **Redesign services for individuals who live in their own or family homes using a flexible unified approach. This in-home and community service should reflect these recommendations:**
 - In-home and community services should bring in additional supports, if individual needs them, to meet their accessibility, medical or behavioral needs. This way everyone can have the supports they need to live in the community. Individuals with complex behavioral or medical needs should be able to receive the right supports through this service in their own homes and communities.
 - This service should have enough providers of in-home and community services so that people do not have to wait to receive it.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #1: In-Home and Community Services (4/6)



What we recommend

- **Redesign services for individuals who live in their own or family homes using a flexible unified approach. This in-home and community service should reflect these recommendations:**
 - This service should have a reimbursement structure that pays providers adequately and reflect cost of services and prevents adverse selection. Rates should reflect various levels of staff qualifications and training that is needed to meet the needs of individuals with various levels of need and support requirements. Rates need to be tiered based on the person-centered support needs of the individual being served. Additional funding needs to be made available to provide progressive trainings on a regular basis for staff serving those with higher support needs (Behavioral, Medical etc.)

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #1: In-Home and Community Services (5/6)



What we recommend

- **Redesign services for individuals who live in their own or family homes using a flexible unified approach. This in-home and community service should reflect these recommendations:**
 - Service needs to have ways to make sure services are high quality, person-centered, and culturally and trauma informed.
 - There should be ways to make sure that in-home and community services are following Home and Community Based Settings rule requirements (HCBS rule), even though in home settings are the person's own or family homes and presumed to be HCBS compliant. DDS should consider using a client Advisory Council or another method to identify, review, and resolve issues related to complying with rule requirements.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #1: In-Home and Community Services (6/6)



What we recommend

- **Redesign services for individuals who live in their own or family homes using a flexible unified approach. This in-home and community service should reflect these recommendations:**
 - DDS should develop standard definitions for this unified in home and community service approach so that the service is provided consistently across the state.
 - Individuals should have transparency into what in-home and community providers are billing for, to ensure those services have actually been provided.
 - Individuals and families should be given information about this option.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #2: Supported Living Services (1/2)



- Develop enough providers of SLS services so that people do not have to wait to receive it.
- Create ways to make sure services are high quality, person-centered, and culturally informed.
- Develop a way to make sure that SLS is following Home and Community Based Settings rule requirements (HCBS rule), even though SLS settings are person's own homes and presumed to be HCBS compliant. DDS should consider using a client Advisory Council or another method to identify, review, and resolve problems.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #2: Supported Living Services (2/2)



- Make SLS service available to people living with family.
- Develop standard definition of SLS so that the service is provided consistently across the state.
- Individuals should have transparency into what SLS providers are billing for, to ensure those services have actually been provided.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #3: Enhanced Supported Living Services



- Continue to develop and expand Enhanced Supported Living Services model to provide individualized, trauma informed, culturally responsive services to individuals who choose this option in their own or family home.
- Proactively develop Enhanced Supported Living Services providers.
- Provide information and educate individuals and families about this option.
- Explore how Enhanced SLS supports could be adjusted to be used in long term single foster home settings for those children with complex needs that cannot stay at home but want to remain near their families and communities.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #4: Innovative Service Models Where People Share Resources and Services



- DDS should work with individuals with I/DD and families to think about and develop innovative service models where people can share resources and services with others.
- This can include sharing staff or hours of support, for example “time banks”. Such models can be called co-op models.
- These models could be more resource effective and may be easier for people to get assistance from providers who are not their parents or relatives.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #5: Day Programs

- Develop and create programming that is individualized, person-centered, is culturally responsive and provides opportunities for person to authentically participate in and contribute to their community.
- Ensure that community inclusion and participation opportunities and supports are available to all individuals, regardless of the setting they live in.
- Access to meaningful day activities must be supported with access to transportation.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (1/8)

- Support individuals in getting needed technology, including internet or cell services, to better access services and opportunities such as telemedicine, distance learning, jobs, or to access and be included in virtual communities and social media.
- Explore non-Medicaid funding sources, state and federal funds to get rural communities stable connectivity (such as USDA broadband connectivity).
- Consider tax incentives for internet providers to expand their ranges or satellite providers to provide low-income options.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (2/8)

- Increase access to effective communication, including communication supports. This can include:
 - Easy access to augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) evaluations and devices, including mainstream technologies such as tablets and smartphones.
 - Easy access to ongoing services and supports to use AAC devices and expand person's ways to communicate

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (3/8)

- Increase access to effective communication, including communication supports. This can include:
 - Proactively work to increase the number of organizations that provide translation and interpretation services to people with IDD whenever needed (e.g., ASL, cognitive interpretation, etc.)
 - Proactively increase the number of trainings for direct support staff and other professionals (including healthcare and behavioral health professionals) to support people with IDD's communication, learn people's communication methods and systems, and improve their own skills as communication partners

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (4/8)

- Offer more choices of virtual and remote supports to those who want them. Consider virtual and/or hybrid models for people whose work takes them out of town.
- Virtual and remote services should be made available based on person's preferences and not for provider/vendor convenience.
- In-person options and options to receive services without using technology should always be made available for those who prefer them.
- Remove geographic constraints, such as limits that come from the current vendorization process and increase the ability to get remote services. Traditional services are location -dependent, limiting access to individuals in rural areas.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (5/8)

- Make technology that helps people be more independent more easily accessible to those who need it.
- Make it easy and fast for people to get assistive technology they need. This includes clarifying roles and responsibilities of different entities and funding sources to provide assistive technology.
- Provide supports to make sure there are enough vendors with necessary skills to provide assistive technology, equipment (like wheelchairs), and environmental accessibility modifications (like ramps, or wider doors) timely.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (6/8)

- Expand access to innovative technology, such as “smart homes”, to help people be more independent in their own homes and make them be less dependent on help of staff. Research, explore, and pilot independent living with use of technology.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (7/8)

- Provide supports and learning opportunities to help individuals, their families, and their support staff to improve their skills in using technology.
- This can include learning about technology like “Zoom” virtual meeting technology that can help people in their daily lives. Sometimes this education is called “digital literacy”.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #6: Technology (8/8)

- Develop a Life Tracker System that supports individuals from birth through end of life.
 - In the Life Tracker all systems of support are tied together, and there is technological innovation that helps alert to lags in response time and access to services.
 - Life Tracker has client portal access so people can see important information themselves. This portal can be similar to “MyChart”, which is a patient portal tool that the electronic health record company Epic created, where the individual can communicate with their RC and providers by sending chat messages.
 - It also supports communication with the different system community partners and provides each system of support (Behavioral Health, Regional Centers, School, Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), etc.) their unique areas of access to track, deliver and monitor services.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #7: Grants and Other Funding Sources

- Explore and prioritize use of grant funding for innovative projects and service delivery models.
- Provide advance notices to community partners interested in applying about federal or other funding opportunities or grants.
- Partner with researchers, universities—specifically UCEDDs—to explore innovative models and opportunities.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #8: Specialized Remote/Virtual Supports (1/2)

- Partner with managed care organizations and community-based organizations to provide I/DD-specialized telehealth services to individuals with I/DD.
- This could allow individuals to connect quickly with a doctor at any hour of the day, 365 days a year, for any medical concern or for disability-specific advice.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #8: Specialized Remote/Virtual Supports (2/2)

- Specialized virtual doctor or psychiatric appointments can help reduce costs associated with first responder calls, emergency department visits, urgent care usage and hospitalizations.
- This further addresses issues for rural families and individuals that cannot access the same resources as those who live in more urban areas, by giving them access to experts in their own home and communities.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #9: School System (1/6)

- Educational system and educator workforce development must be based on the principles of Universal Design for Learning to ensure that schools and educational organizations are competent to serve everyone, including individuals with I/DD, in an equitable and inclusive way.
- “Universal design for learning” framework for teaching and learning treats students’ varied physical, intellectual and learning needs as the norm, not an exception.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #9: School System (2/6)

- Schools and teachers should receive adequate supports, training, and resources to make inclusion a reality. This includes making mental health supports in schools fully accessible to students with I/DD.
- There should be accountability measures for public education system which can include metrics on graduation rates, transitioning into post-school education or jobs, and more.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #9: School System (3/6)

- We recommend a gap analysis of the ways people with developmental disabilities are served by the school system in California.
- A gap analysis is a way to make sure that we know the ways the school system is and isn't working, so that it is easier to fix or change it.
- This study will help us see where schools are doing well and where schools are not providing fully inclusive, person-centered learning experience for students with I/DD.
- This study should be done with input from individuals with I/DD and their families.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #9: School System (4/6)

- California Department of Education and local partners should work with individuals with I/DD, their families, and other community partners to develop and implement ways to fix gaps and issues and to transition public education system to the Universal Design for Learning.
- Develop formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or another formal agreement that will:
 - Clarify roles and responsibilities between school system and I/DD DDS system.
 - Identify which system is responsible for what services and which funding source/budget should pay for it.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #9: School System (5/6)

- Develop formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or another formal agreement that will:
 - Require and describe a process for collaboration and coordination at state and local level.
 - Require and describe a process on how schools and RCs/service coordinators should coordinate/collaborate on services and supports for school aged children to ensure continuity, consistency, and seamless services and supports.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #9: School System (6/6)

- Ensure all school programming, including that which is funded through grants such as Expanded Learning Opportunities Grants, are fully accessible to students with I/DD with necessary accommodations and supports.
- Partner with school systems and after-school programs to develop more inclusive before and after school support options for learning and skill development.
- Maximize use of Federal funding for Early Start and Special Education Grants. Partner with the school system to develop better relationships and inclusive programs that provide supports to individuals and families.

BREAK

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #10: Transition Out of Institutional Settings

Using the experience and lessons learned from closing state operated institutions, DDS will develop and implement a plan to support individuals to move from institutional settings into community settings with appropriate supports.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (1/8)

What we recommend

If California is faced with cuts to Medicaid program and funding, when considering budget and spending reductions, DDS should follow these principles and approaches:

For prioritization in the case of funding support reductions:

- Keep eligibility standards where they are. Everyone should continue to have access to supports, even if they are reduced, including case management. Providing people with case management increases their ability to access generic services effectively, lowering overall costs.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (2/8)

What we recommend

- Prioritize services that support skills building and increase independence:
 - Preserve skill-building services and services that promote health and community contribution (for example self advocacy training, college programs, job support). This should include meal planning and prep services, and cooking classes, especially if there are cuts to the SNAP program.
 - Leverage "technology-first" to lessen one-on-one supports where appropriate (e.g., through remote monitoring and remote mental health supports).

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (3/8)

What we recommend

- Prioritize early start services and services supporting life transitions (from school to work, from day programs to work, with aging caregivers, family grief, to senior services)
- Prioritize creative approaches that allow individuals to share services and supports, and help use natural and community resources:
 - Prioritize creative use of funds, limiting the need for licensed settings that are costly and more restrictive. This can include shared time banks, expansion of family home agency services, direct care in the family home.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (4/8)

What we recommend

- Prioritize creative approaches that allow individuals to share services and supports, and help use natural and community resources:
 - Prioritize housing as a disability related need (e.g. Housing First) to lower overall costs.
 - Prioritize participant-directed and self-directed services for creativity within budgets that may be fixed.
 - Consider expanding in-home services with roommates that person chooses. Ensure compliance with HCBS rules.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (5/8)

What we recommend

- Prioritize creative approaches that allow individuals to share services and supports, and help use natural and community resources:
 - Prioritize HCBS compliance across all settings to maximize quality of life and independence of choice, regardless of federal and state climates that impact people's lives.
- Strengthen natural supports, including family resource centers and Circle of Friend systems

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (6/8)

What we recommend

- Prioritize creative approaches that allow individuals to share services and supports, and help use natural and community resources:
 - Strengthen generic services and the capacity for regional centers to provide technical assistance to generic services systems and providers on serving people with I/DD.
 - This can include strengthening ability of Regional Centers and Services Coordinators to work with and coordinate with schools to ensure children receive services they need.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (7/8)

What we recommend

- Work with state unions and consider public private partnerships to form avenues for increasing the number of DSPs who receive health insurance regardless of the size of the company they work for, to preserve the health of the workforce.
- Give people informed choice on sharing their demographic or legal status information to protect privacy.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #11: Contingency Planning for Potential Budget Cuts at the Federal Level (8/8)

What we recommend

- Prioritize Get Out the Vote, People First, and civic engagement efforts that create and increase platforms for self-advocates to be heard.
- Create and strengthen advisory committees that prioritize self-advocates, to make sure that systems are working as well as they can with expert (lived and living experience) feedback.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (1/33)



1. Housing First
2. Housing Access Services
3. Rent Subsidy
4. State Supplemental Payment Program
5. Accessibility and Environmental Adaptations
6. Transition Funding
7. Housing Development
8. Residential Settings
9. Data
10. System-Level Work
11. Plain Language Information
12. Office of Client Rights Advocacy
Housing Advocacy Resources
13. Succession Planning for Aging Caregivers
14. Funding

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (2/33)

Housing First:

- Update California law (Welfare and Institutions Code comprising the Lanterman Act) to adopt “Housing First” principals as a system-wide value and insert housing first language.
- “Housing First: Everyone is ready for housing regardless of the complexity or severity of their needs.”
- This principal will replace any “housing readiness” model language that requires a person to meet some standard to prove they are worthy, or they must be easy to serve, or they must first be successful in other settings before being allowed to obtain housing of their choice, in a community of their choice, on their own or with the people, services, and supports they choose.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (3/33)



Housing Access Services (1/2):

- All individuals with I/DD should be able to receive person-centered housing access services regardless of where they live, or which Regional Center serves them.
- There needs to be a choice of housing access service providers in all parts of California.
- There should be an expectation for Regional Centers to develop Housing Access Services providers in the areas they serve and accountability measures created to make sure this access is offered.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (4/33)



Housing Access Services (2/2):

- Regional Centers should receive resources to develop providers and their service areas with these services.
- Rates paid to housing access service providers need to be reviewed to make sure they are enough to cover the cost of services and attract high quality providers.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (4/33)

Rent Subsidy (1/3):

- Rent subsidies are provided by the government or organizations to help low-income individuals or families cover a portion of their rental costs, making housing more affordable.
- DDS should implement and fund a Rent Subsidy program that provides funding to close the gap that currently exists with other rent subsidy programs. This can include providing rent subsidies while people wait for HUD vouchers. This rent subsidy should not duplicate other resources (for example supports available through Medi-Cal or HUD). This should be designed so that there is one seamless process for people to get rent subsidies.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (5/33)

Rent Subsidy (2/3):

- Partner with HUD and local housing authorities to develop a voucher set aside that is specific for people with I/DD.
- Change state law (SB329 FEHA) to protect people who use vouchers from discrimination by landlords. This kind of discrimination is called source-of-income discrimination and is used against voucher holders and users of rent subsidies by landlords. Currently, even with FEHA, there are ways that some landlords discriminate against people who use vouchers. Law needs to be amended to eliminate those loopholes.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (6/33)

Rent Subsidy (3/3):

- Partner with federal, state, and local programs, including but not limited to Medi-Cal, Behavioral Health housing programs, to make sure that people with I/DD are served by those programs equally.
- Develop statewide guidance on what is "demonstrated risk of homelessness" for people of all ages who live in their own or family homes. The same definition should be used when people are asking the regional center to pay for rent, mortgage, or lease because they are at risk of losing their housing. This became possible in 2024 when changes were made to state law on when regional centers can pay for rent and similar expenses (WIC Section 4646.5(i)).

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (7/33)

State Supplemental Payment program:

- Increase the State Supplemental Payment (SSP) program to provide housing assistance for people with I/DD who pay more than 40% of their income toward housing costs, so they can reduce the risk of homelessness and have a choice about where they live. The program should provide benefits up to a certain amount that can be used for things like:
 - Rent
 - Mortgage and interest payments and insurance for a person's home and property taxes
 - Manufactured home lot rental
 - Utilities like heat, air conditioning, electricity, water, sewer, garbage and phone

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (8/33)

Accessibility and Environmental Adaptations(1/2):

- Develop a consistent statewide way for people with I/DD and their families to request and receive accessibility and environmental adaptations services in the most efficient and simple manner possible. Accessibility and environmental adaptations are things like ramps, widening of doors, and making bathrooms wheelchair accessible.
- Individuals should be able to get accessibility and environmental adaptations in the home they own or rent. For rented homes, DDS should provide funding for adaptations removal, if that is necessary when person moves out.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (9/33)

Accessibility and Environmental Adaptations(2/2):

- Establish a way to collect data on individual requests to an RC for accessibility and environmental adaptations and/or removal, including requests made vs. requests funded; source of request (individual or regional center); source of funding; how long did it take to approve, fund and finish the project, if the project was in owned or rental home. This data and analysis will help improve the program over time.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (10/33)



Transition Funding (1/2):

- Transition funding, including transitional rent, helps people move into their own home which can include security deposit, deposits for utilities, first and last month's rent, basic home furnishings and supplies.
- DDS should review and improve how transitional services are provided and funded statewide.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (11/33)



Transition Funding (2/2):

- Develop a comprehensive approach to provide supports for all transitions including, but not limited to moving out of institutional settings, residential settings, family home into independent living.
- Transition services should include all necessary supports for an individual to successfully establish a household, including security deposits, credit check costs, application fees, utilities deposits, and other move-in assistance and costs.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (12/33)



Housing Development (1/6):

- Dedicated funding source or incentives for housing development for people with I/DD
 - California state legislature should create a dedicated funding source or a specific funding incentive in the state budget to ensure there are enough community-based affordable and accessible housing units for adults with developmental disabilities.
 - A dedicated funding source or development incentives exist for other populations and at-risk groups such as veterans, seniors and people with mental illness. Similar program needs to be established for people with I/DD.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (13/33)



Housing Development (2/6):

- Community Placement Plan (CPP) and Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) funds can be used by Regional Centers to develop safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable homes.
 - CPP and CRDP funds create permanent housing through the “Buy It Once” model where a housing developer organization (HDO) owns the property to be used only by individuals receiving regional center services.
 - To receive these funds, the regional centers must submit a housing proposal to DDS, requesting approval of CPP and CRDP funds to buy or develop of HDO-owned housing for individuals with I/DD.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (14/33)



Housing Development (3/6):

- Funding should be increased for both Community Placement Plan (CPP) and Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) programs.
- CPP and CRDP funds should be analyzed to better understand how they are used across the state to make sure all areas of the state have equitable access to these resources.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (15/33)



Housing Development (4/6):

- Simplify and streamline the application process while maintaining process integrity at DDS and RC level.
- Incentivize collaboration with community-based organizations, and other housing partners such as housing focused non-profit groups and businesses to encourage expanded integrated and inclusive housing for individuals served by Regional Centers.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (16/33)



Housing Development (5/6):

- Community Placement Plan – The Community Placement Plan (CPP) enables Regional Centers to submit annual proposals to DDS for the development of new resources, with a primary though not exclusive focus on housing resources.
- Recommendation:
 - Pilot use of CPP to develop innovative non-licensed housing models. This can include models that support housing stabilization, aging in place, support victims of domestic violence.
 - Pilot use of CPP funds to preserve existing licensed residential care homes developed outside the Buy It Once model.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (17/33)



Housing Development (6/6):

- Community Resource Development Plan – The CRDP is a program where Regional Centers may submit proposals to DDS annually requesting investment in a multifamily affordable and accessible housing project. Investments typically provide \$100,000 to \$150,000 per unit in exchange for which the developer/owner agrees to reserve those units for persons referred by the Regional Center.
- Recommendation:
 - Explore structuring CRDP investments as rent/operating subsidies.
 - Coordinate annually between DDS, state housing agencies such as TCAC, CDLAC, HCD and CalHFA, and the affordable housing development community to ensure CRDP program and funds are designed to maximize leveraging of housing opportunities.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (18/33)



Residential Settings:

- Continue to develop capacity within a variety of residential settings, including group homes and foster homes, so that this option is available to those individuals who choose it.
- Review residential settings policies and expectations to make that these settings maximize person's autonomy, self-determination, and community inclusion.
- Make intentional investments to ensure that all residential settings fully comply with Home and Community Based Settings rule, provide regular compliance reviews and oversight, with individual's and family input.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (19/33)

Data (1/3):

- Improve data collection on individuals who are homeless, at-risk of becoming homeless, transient, and more. Better data can be used to improve supports, inclusion in existing affordable housing systems and programs, and to advocate for funding and resources

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (20/33)

Data (2/3):

- Update the Special Incident Reporting (SIR) process to allow reporting of homelessness, situations that can put an individual at-risk of homelessness, events that result in homelessness, housing crisis, or to make formal Welfare and Institutions Code 4418.7 Notice to Regional Center and DDS (that a person is at risk of losing housing).
- Ensure that reporting of the housing need or problem identified in the SIR is a mandatory Regional Center reporting event to DDS for review to spot geographic trends or threats. These SIRs should trigger service coordination supports to address the risk.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (21/33)

Data (3/3):

- Update the IPP (individual program planning) form to include key questions that look at an individual's housing situation, preferred living option, housing stability, at-risk status, accessibility needs, homelessness risk, or circumstances that can lead to homelessness (for example couch surfing, eviction, aging caregivers, emerging accessibility needs, etc.).
- These data points should be compiled by DDS to determine the scope and type of risks to housing, independence, and community living goals people are experiencing. The information will inform the IPP process in addressing an individual's housing needs, preferences, and risks.
- The process should ensure that housing needs/events reported through the SIR At-Risk process or information gathered through the IPP process results in a referral for Housing Access, housing stabilization, and/or enhanced case management services.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (22/33)

System-Level Work (1/5):

- Via legislation, the state should establish cross-sector partnerships by requiring formal agreements between DDS, RCs, and CA housing agencies to ensure equitable access to state-funded and locally allocated affordable, accessible, and supportive housing resources.
- Establish an ongoing Housing Advisory Committee that should include diverse and experienced individuals and agencies with subject-matter expertise.
 - The purpose will be to study, assess, and advise on elements of the housing-related policies, needs, data, tasks, integrations, and ideas presented and recommended by the Master Plan for Developmental Services.
 - The committee can also advise DDS on other state, federal, and local housing policy or housing development opportunities

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (23/33)

System-Level Work (2/5):

- Establish a permanent Housing Division within DDS to work on the community-based affordable and accessible housing needs of the individuals with I/DD and families it serves, including state and local housing policy, direct services, and housing development.
- Create a new executive-level position within DDS and a team that will lead the work to address housing related challenges for people with I/DD, coordinate housing policy development efforts with Regional Centers and other federal, state and local partners.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (24/33)



System-Level Work (3/5):

- The new DDS Housing Division will:
 - Participate with others on a newly established DDS Housing Advisory Committee;
 - Participate on California's Interagency Coordinating Council on Homelessness;
 - Participate or collaborate with California's consolidated housing and housing finance department (still to be formed);
 - Lead the work to ensure access to affordable and accessible housing statewide, housing development, funding and financing, vouchers, rental subsidies, housing authority relations;

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (25/33)

System-Level Work (4/5):

- The new DDS Housing Division will:
 - Coordinate with other partners, including local housing authorities, Continuums of Care organizations and others on housing-related data collection, data integrity, and data use and reporting around housing needs, homelessness, at-risk status & events, prevention, Downs Syndrome/dementia housing, and identification & reporting of precursors to homelessness;

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (26/33)

System-Level Work (5/5):

- The new DDS Housing Division will:
 - Provide leadership, action, and oversight on developing and integrating services to address individuals with I/DD and their families housing needs, homelessness and homelessness prevention, accessibility, community outreach, capacity building, integration with existing state, federal, local housing structures, expanding services where needed, and protecting & enhancing housing rights.
 - Provide regular periodic reports on the results of the housing efforts and data collected; make the data readily available to the public for their information.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (27/33)

Plain Language Information:

- Develop plain language accessible information for individuals and families about housing supports, tenant rights, and more. Make this information available in other languages and modalities.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (28/33)



Office of Client Rights Advocacy Housing Advocacy Resources
(1/2):

- Give additional resources to the Office of Client Rights Advocacy to provide timely advocacy and legal assistance to individuals with I/DD and their families experiencing discrimination and barriers to housing. Fund additional positions at each regional center's Office of Client Rights Advocacy to:
 - Protect individual fair housing rights;
 - Address instances of suspected discrimination and adverse selection by landlords, property management companies, leasing representatives, or online and paper applications;
 - Help solve general housing-related problems;

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (29/33)



Office of Client Rights Advocacy Housing Advocacy Resources
(2/2):

- Fund additional positions at each regional center's Office of Client Rights Advocacy to:
 - Write supportive or explanatory legal communications which individuals/families may need;
 - Address incidents of suspected landlord law violations, exploitation, abuse, illegal or improper evictions, illegal or improper Notices, etc.
 - Collect and compile data related to the types of activities and numbers of individuals/families receiving OCRA's housing-related services; partner with regional centers and DDS on use of the data; and
 - Develop regular reports on the results of the data, which may then be used to inform new services, strategies, programs, or collaborations.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (30/33)

Succession Planning for Aging Caregivers (1/3):

- Make housing and services succession planning for individuals who live with aging caregivers part of planning process.
- When individual with I/DD lives with a parent or caregiver who is aging, it is important to think and talk about where the individual is going to live and what services they would need if their parents or caregivers are no longer able to support them.
- It is good to start planning early and have this conversation with the services coordinator when person turns 40, or at a life transition, or when person asks for Coordinated Family Supports or SLS in the family home.

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (31/33)

Succession Planning for Aging Caregivers (2/3):

- It may be important to talk about what will happen to the home where the individual currently lives, what services may be needed if things change, what can be done to help the person stay in their own home if their caregiver has to move from the home, or passes away.
- It also may be important to discuss who can continue provide support to the person, whether it could be other family members or a provider. Services coordinator, the individual and their family can put together a plan for the future (succession plan).

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (32/33)



Succession Planning for Aging Caregivers (3/3):

- Others who can help develop this plan can include Legacy Home Planning, Coordinated Future Planning, Estate Planning, Golden State Pooled Trust, CalABLE Accounts, Special Needs Trust review, Trust Management
- This planning can help avoid crisis, keep the individual in their preferred housing situation, and can prevent a person from moving to a more restrictive setting away from a person's home community, circle of support, and known providers

Priority 3 Draft Recommendation #12: Housing and Homelessness Supports (33/33)

Funding:

- Explore sources of funds for use on statewide housing-related needs such as security deposit loans or grants, rent subsidies, environmental accessibility modifications and removals. This can include funding such Harbor Village funds, CDBG, HOME, TBRA, CalAIM/MediCal, managed care, waivers, Prop 1, transitional rent or other new or existing programs.

Upcoming Workgroup Meetings



- Thursday, March 6, 2025

Public Comment



Public comment period will be limited to no more than 30 minutes.

If you want to make public comment regarding the topics of this meeting, please raise your hand and we will call on you in the order shown in Zoom.

At 2 minutes you will be asked to complete your thought to ensure everyone who wants to has a chance to speak.

Please let us know if you need additional time as a disability related accommodation to make your comment.

If you prefer to send comments in writing, [email them to DSMasterPlan@chhs.ca.gov](mailto:DSMasterPlan@chhs.ca.gov), or post them in the Zoom Q&A

We can't help you with your services (or your family member's services) during public comment. If you need help, please contact the independent Ombudsperson's Office at: Ombudsperson@dds.ca.gov or call: 877-658-9731.

Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you at the next **Master Plan Committee** meeting.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: CA Lottery

700 North 10th Street, Sacramento, CA 95811

For more information visit our website at:

www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services

Email us your input at: DSMasterPlan@chhs.ca.gov

