



**Agenda 03-10
March 3, 2010**

Agenda Item 6

Subject	Department of Developmental Services (DDS) – Inland Regional Centers
Recommendations	Receive information to support discussion of Early Start developmental services to local children in San Bernardino County (Affected Districts: All) (Presenter: Karen Scott, Executive Director, 387-7502)
Background Information	<p>The Governor's Budget includes a reduction of \$200 million from the General Fund and a substitution with Proposition 10 funding to provide Early Start developmental services to children up to age five. Another \$105.6 million is assumed as a voluntary contribution. Implementation of this proposal will require passage of a voter initiative.</p> <p>Through the network of 21 regional centers statewide, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) supports the development and maintenance of services for approximately 243,000 eligible persons with developmental disabilities who reside in the community. The regional centers directly provide or coordinate the services and supports in accordance with Individual Program Plans including early intervention services for infants and their families, prevention program for at-risk infants and toddlers, as well as family support.</p> <p>DDS has 3 programs: Early Start for children 0 – 2 at risk of developmental delays (approximately 41,200 annually); Lanterman Act for individuals 3 and older who have lifelong developmental disabilities (currently 243,000, with only 20% of Early Start children qualifying for this program); and the new Prevention Program for children previously served by Early Start who no longer qualify because of stricter eligibility requirements implemented as a result of last year's budget.</p> <p>When the Governor blue-penciled \$50 million from Early Start in the current year budget, he instructed DDS to go to First 5 California for the funds. First 5 California invited the large county commissions to discuss how to meet this need. The following are highlights from that meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The growth in demand for services is primarily in the 0 – 2 population and is largely for children with autism diagnoses who require behavioral services.▪ In Fiscal Year 2008-2009, Regional Centers provided services and supports to over 77,500 infants and toddlers aged 0 through 5.▪ If the gap is not filled, Regional Centers are required to notify DDS and families that they can no longer provide services.▪ The question arose as to if these services are an entitlement and if the families can sue if they don't receive them. DDS said families have a right to a fair hearing, but the Regional Centers are limited to the appropriation they receive from the Legislature.▪ It is anticipated that this issue will come before the State First 5 Commission in April 2010. <p>Regional centers report experiencing unprecedented growth in the number of <i>new</i> infants and toddlers requesting services from the system. A large number of these</p>

children have a diagnosis of autism. The chart below summarizes the additional budget impact associated with the continued growth in consumers and related costs.
 *Note: Claims processing continues so this number will increase.

Fiscal Year	<u>Growth of New Cases 0 – 5</u>	<u>Expenditures for Growth of New Cases 0 - 5</u>
2005-06	33,700	\$59,000,000
2006-07	36,300	\$66,000,000
2007-08	42,400	\$87,000,000
2008-09	41,500	\$90,000,000*

The Administration is requesting that the First 5 California (Commission) provide \$50 million to fund health and early intervention services for the growth of new children 0 to 5 accessing their system. DDS Administration maintains that these services are consistent with the stated priorities of the First 5 State Commission: community health care; quality child care and education programs for young children and families; parent education and child care skills; and child development, health care, and social services (not provided by existing programs) and with prior investments of Proposition 10 funding in local Family Resource Centers for children with developmental disabilities.

Kris Perry, Executive Director of the State First 5 Commission has noted that there are funds available in reserve to consider a contribution to DDS for Inland Regional Center services.

See attachment which outlines DDS Funding for New Infants and Toddlers by County.

Financial Impact

Unknown

Review

Regina Coleman, Commission Counsel

Report on Action as taken	
Action:	
Moved: _____	Second: _____
In Favor:	
Opposed:	
Abstained:	
Comments: _____	
Witnessed:	