

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL CENTER INC.

Main Office: 4615 N. Marty • Fresno, California 93722-7818
Phone: (559)276-4300 - Fax (559)276-4360 – TDD (559)276-4441



A message from CVRC's Executive Director, Robert Riddick

Dear Regional Center Community,

The Governor and Legislature completed revisions to the state budget passed February, 2009. The Trailer Bill Language (TBL) was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger July 28, 2009. The final agreement has a direct impact on clients and parents served by all 21 regional centers. This action was necessary as California faces an ongoing budget crisis with a deficit upwards of \$60 billion. California could not meet all of its obligations without budget reductions across all state services. Our share of the reductions total \$334 million in addition to the budget reductions in the February 2009 State Budget.

A summary of budget reductions can be found at the Department of Developmental Services' website, www.dds.ca.gov and Central Valley Regional Center's website, www.cvrc.org. Regional centers will not be allowed to purchase services in many categories and some services will be "suspended" until a new budget model is adopted by July 1, 2010. The Governor and Legislature, along with members of our community, have remained vigilant in their commitment to uphold the Lanterman Act and to continuance of the defined entitlement. The regional center system must save \$334 million between July 28, 2009 and June 30, 2010. If we fail to reach the targeted savings, the entitlement is at risk.

Central Valley Regional Center has begun implementing the changes mandated in the TBL. Service coordinators will contact clients and families to change the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) and Individual Program Plan (IPP) where one or more services may be "suspended" or modified as directed by the TBL. The changes allow for "exceptions based on extraordinary circumstances". If an agreement cannot be reached, clients and families will be informed of their appeal rights and the regional center will file a Notice of Action.

These past months have been difficult for all members of our community: clients, families, vendors, and regional center staff. Through the TBL we now have a path to follow. I am hopeful we can all rise to face the challenge of saving the dollars. We greatly appreciate your assistance in achieving this goal together.

Robert Riddick