



## **ARCA Position Statement**

### **Governor's 2007-08 Proposed Budget**

The following positions represent ARCA's immediate concerns regarding the Governor's proposed budget for Fiscal-Year 2007-08. However, there are long-term infrastructure issues that must be addressed in the next three to five years to assure that quality services continue for Californians with developmental disabilities.

#### **Purchase of Services (POS)**

The following are ARCA's positions on some major components of the POS budget:

1. Support with concern the \$329.5 million increase in Base POS expenditures. Recent expenditure trends in Support Services and Miscellaneous Services will need further analysis to determine the sufficiency of the proposed increase.
2. Support \$71.4 million for minimum wage increases to residential, day program, SLS, and respite service providers.
3. Support with concern the one-time use of \$144 million of transportation funds to supplant General Funds in Fiscal-Year 2007-08. Concern that the \$144 million will not be reinstated in subsequent fiscal years resulting in a deficit.
4. Support in concept the increase in Federal Reimbursements for ICF-DD facilities to pay for day programs and transportation currently paid by regional centers (\$44 million). The implementation of this should be fashioned to minimize any disruption of services to regional center consumers.
5. Support the net increase of \$40.3 million for the planned closure of Agnews Developmental Center.
6. Oppose continuation of prohibition on use of POS funds for start-up of new programs and facilities.
7. Oppose the non-pass through of the SSI/SSP rate increase to community care facilities.
8. Oppose continuation of rate freezes for residential service, community-based day program, habilitation service program, and in-home respite service providers, and providers specified in WIC 4648.4:
  - a. Supported living services.
  - b. Transportation, including travel reimbursement.
  - c. Socialization training programs.
  - d. Behavior intervention training.
  - e. Community integration training programs.
  - f. Community activities support services.
  - g. Mobile day programs.
  - h. Creative art programs.
  - i. Supplemental day services program supports.
  - j. Adaptive skills trainers.
  - k. Independent living specialists.

## **Operations**

An overall increase of \$17.1 million in the Operations budget is proposed for the 2007-08 fiscal year. The following are ARCA's positions on some of the major components of the Operations budget:

1. Support Core Staffing increase of \$13.9 million for update in population.
2. Support in concept \$1.6 million increase for staffing for implementation of Self-Directed Services. Provides for 21 Self-Directed Services Directors and 21 Federal Compliance Coordinators to be phased in during the fiscal year. Concern regarding sufficient staff to implement Self-Directed Services program.
3. Support \$2.2 million for continued staffing for collection of FFP for contracted services.
4. Support \$3.5 million for continued staffing for implementation of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Initiative.
5. Update Core Staffing formula to reflect regional center staffing needs and salaries as well as related operational expenses.
6. Oppose the discontinuance of funding for Medicare Part D (loss of \$2.9 million). Regional centers continue to expend considerable effort to ensure consumers are enrolled in the proper drug program.
7. Oppose continuation of 1-to-66 service coordinator-to-consumer ratio for non-HCBS Waiver consumers. Return to 1-to-62 ratio with commensurate funding.
8. Oppose continuation of the 120-day timeline for completion of intake and assessments and return to 60-day timeline with commensurate funding.

## **Other Issues**

1. Support the augmentation for Community Care Licensing (CCL) to increase CCL's ability to monitor community care facilities.
2. Support the proposed increase to fully fund the 4.2% SSI/SSP COLA.
3. Oppose the proposed cap of State's participation in IHSS wages and benefits.