

COVID-19 Response from Regional Centers Supporting People with Developmental Disabilities

California's regional centers support over 350,000 people with developmental disabilities and their families in coordination with local community partners. Each person served by a regional center works with a service coordinator who helps them meet their needs.

The COVID-19 emergency has disrupted life for all Californians. This impacts people served by the regional centers and their families in very significant ways, as the schools, day programs, and daycares they rely on for care and supervision are no longer providing daily in-person support in the same way. This means thousands of people need help meeting new needs.

Particularly in this time of uncertainty, regional centers remain ready to help and are here to be creative in meeting the needs of the people who rely on them. Service coordinators can identify services that can help meet new or different needs at this time. For some, this means coordinating critical changes to round-the-clock care in residential or supported living settings. For others, they can approve increases in respite, personal assistance, or independent living services. Service coordinators have been proactively reaching out to people they serve and their families to ask what help they need and how the regional center can be part of the solution.

Working together, people served by regional centers, their families, and service coordinators can minimize the impact of these changes. Regional centers stand ready to help and are only phone call away.