

Restoring Camp and Social Recreation Services

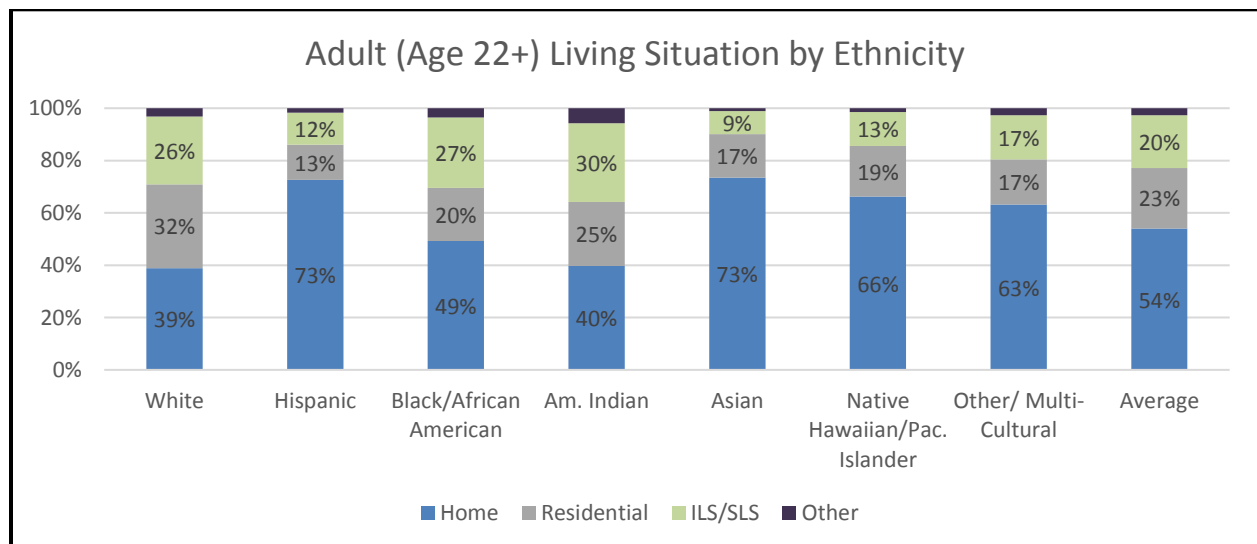
California’s regional center system supports people with developmental disabilities from diverse communities. Regional centers work with individuals and families to match them with needed services, and service providers who can meet those needs. One of the ways this was done was through **camp** and **social recreation**. These services increased integration in the community and improved socialization skills. In addition, these services had the added benefit of offering families a form of respite while respecting cultural preferences for home-based family care.

Trailer Bill Language of 2009 Reduced Individualized Services

In 2009, people with developmental disabilities lost camp, social recreation services, and saw a reduction in respite services. The cuts were supposed to be reversed when the state implemented the “Individual Choice Budget.” That never happened, making the cuts permanent. Fortunately, the Legislature and Governor lifted the respite cap, but camp and social recreation remain unavailable – unless they act again.

People Most Affected by the Cuts

Most Californians with developmental disabilities choose to live with their families. People from ethnically diverse communities are even more likely to make this choice. Camp and social recreation services support personal choice, and are an important part of equitable spending. These services help families who choose to stay together.



Reinstatement of Services

Restoring camp and social recreation services will better support individuals who choose to live with their families, and increase community integration. It will also help to improve equitable spending.