FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 30, 2014

Developmental Services Task Force Reconvenes October 8th
New Members Announced

SACRAMENTO - The Developmental Services Task Force (Task Force) will convene on October 8, 2014, California Health and Human Services Secretary Diana S. Dooley announced today. In addition, five new members of the Task Force have been added, bringing the number of members to 26. The Task Force includes consumers, consumer advocates, regional centers, community service providers, organized labor, families of developmental center residents, members of the Legislature and Department of Developmental Services staff.

The next Task Force meeting will be held on October 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Department of Health Care Services’ Annex Building, 1700 K Street, First Floor Conference Room, in Sacramento.

“I look forward to the contributions these new members will add to the diverse group of stakeholders we have assembled,” said Secretary Dooley, in welcoming the new members. “The five individuals that are joining us represent additional expertise that will help the Task Force chart a path for services for people with developmental disabilities.”

Consistent with a recommendation in the DC Task Force Final Report - Plan For The Future of Developmental Centers In California and in response to Governor Brown’s message in the recently signed Budget Act, the Task Force will be charged with examining services for the developmentally disabled in the community. The Task Force will develop recommendations to strengthen the community system in the context of a growing and aging population, resource constraints, and availability of community resources to meet the specialized needs of clients and past reductions to the community system. Issues to be examined will include community rates, the impact of new state and federal laws and regulations and staffing levels at regional centers.

New Task Force Members

Fernando Pena lives in his own apartment and receives services through Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC). He is currently serving his third term as a member of the RCOC Board of Directors and has recently begun serving on the Human Rights Committee at Fairview Developmental Center. Fernando has worked at Walmart and a local college, assisting with the children's program. He enjoys working with people and helping out whenever and wherever he can and enjoys spending time with family and adding to his collection of model cars.
Cecilia Fabulich is the mother of Joey (age 32) who has autism and receives supported living and supported employment services in Santa Barbara. Bilingual in Spanish, Cecilia is a lifelong resident of East Los Angeles. She is retired from the Elliott Institute, a private school and agency for children and adults with behavior and communication disorders, where she served as director of operations from 1997 to 2009. Cecilia has been an active board member of the Westside Regional Center since 1985 and served for several tenures as board president. She also served as a representative to the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) and on the ARCA Executive Board where she held the offices of secretary and treasurer. She is a graduate of East Los Angeles College and has earned continuing credits at U.C.L.A. Cecilia has a strong belief in inclusion of individuals with disabilities and has enjoyed working towards organizing conferences on this subject. It is deeply important to her to leave a legacy for her son and his peers that allow them to enjoy their lives as active and contributing community members.

Catherine McCoy, MSW, ASW, has been privileged to serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities for over 23 years. She is a service coordinator in the Community Placement Plan Unit at San Andreas Regional Center and assisted in the closure of Agnew Developmental Center. Catherine also serves as president of the San Andreas Chapter of Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 521, as well as co-chair of the SEIU Developmental Disabilities Council and a member of the Lanterman Coalition. She has worked at regional centers, such as Alta California Regional Center since 1994, serving in various positions. Catherine holds a Master’s Degree in Social Work and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from California State University, Sacramento.

Carol McKinney, MBA, is passionate about her lifework advocating for individuals with developmental disabilities. She is the co-founder of Harmony Home, Associated, a non-profit organization that provides independent living and supported living services to approximately 275 people in Contra Costa County. Carol’s past and present professional affiliations include the Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council, Regional Center of the East Bay Provider/Vendor Advisory Council, California Disability Services Association, co-chair of the California Supported Living Network (CSLN) and co-chair for Governmental Affairs, Lanterman Coalition, Coalition for People with Complex Needs, and California Chamber of Commerce. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Liberal Studies, with an emphasis on Special Education, from San Francisco State University and a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from St. Mary’s College.

Boyd Bradshaw is the president and founding member of ResCoalition, a 501.c.6 business league for residential care providers. His experience in operating residential care began in 1990. In 1996, upon graduating from California State University, San Bernardino, he became the executive director of the Sutton Foundation, a large non-profit residential care program. Over these past 13 years, Boyd has owned and operated HCDD, Inc., a program in Orange County with a primary focus on severe behavioral issues and SenseAbilities, a Speech Sensory Clinic. Boyd has served on numerous committees for various Regional Centers, and was chair of the Community Care Licensing Adult Advisory Group. He has consulted with legislative staff on community issues, written legislation, and has been a member of several DDS stakeholder groups.