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DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FUNDING INCREASES

As a result of legislation, ABX2-1, recently passed in the extraordinary session of the legislature, the developmental services system will be receiving an additional amount of new funding of \$500 Million beginning July 1 2016. Among the many things in this legislation, most service providers will be receiving rate increases. There are two types of increases that will be allocated to service providers.

Service providers who have a DDS set rate or a rate set by negotiations with the regional center will receive an increase to provide funds to increase the wages/benefits of staff that provide direct services to regional center clients. There will also be funds for the administrative component of services.

One of the most significant changes to funding will dramatically change the reimbursement rates for the adult residential model Facilities. Funding for four bed homes will now be significantly higher than higher capacity homes which are greater than 5 beds. For example, the reimbursement rate for a Level 4i facility increased from \$5,878 per consumer per month to \$6,334 per consumer for a facility of 5 vendored beds or greater but for a home that is vendored for 4 beds or lower the rate of reimbursement is \$7,395 per consumer which is significantly higher.

To view all vendor rate increase please click on the links below:

http://www.dds.ca.gov/Rates/docs/CCF_rate_July2016.pdf

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/ratechangesJuly2016/docs/ReimbRatesEff072016.pdf>

FORMER CARE HOME OWNER SENTENCED

Gina Chamberlain, convicted in March of stealing from residents in her Eureka care home, is now in the midst of serving a 286-day jail sentence, after which she will spend three years on probation.

Featured Facilities



San Bernardino

5 Bed ARF Level 4i For Lease
ARG124554454 - \$2,500
\$14,140 Monthly Income
1,520 Sf Living Space, 10,019 Sf Lot



Orange County Beach City

RCFE For Lease
ARG97622269 - \$4,000
\$20,350 Monthly Income
2,100 Sf Living Space, 7,000 Sf Lot



San Dimas

6 Bed RCFE For Lease
ARG117334164 - \$4,200
4 Bed, 2 Bath, \$19,850 monthly income
1,635 Sf Living Space, 7,590 Sf Lot



Corona

15 Bed RCFE For Lease
ARG124556768 -- \$8,000
9 Bed, 6 Baths, 4009 Sf Living Space
16,998 Sf Lot



San Bernardino County

High Desert Area
6 Bed ARF Level II For Sale
ARG124557323 - \$500,000
7 Bed, 4 Baths, \$14,140 Monthly Income
4,486 Sf Living Space, 32,670 Sf Lot

San Gabriel

ARF Level 4C For Lease
ARG124556874 - \$3,500
5 Bed, 2 Baths, \$16,200 Monthly Income
1,497 Sf Living Space, 6,822 Sf Lot

Hemet

Vacant Facility For Lease
ARG167954411 - \$2,500
3 Bed+2 Baths
1,887 Sf Living Space, 6,970 Sf Lot

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Chamberlain, who was initially investigated by California Community Care Licensing over the course of five months, had her license suspended in May of 2014 after that agency substantiated accusations that she had stolen money, medication, a watch and car from her residents. According to a press release from the District Attorney's office, multiple agencies were involved in the subsequent investigation, including the Department of Justice, Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing and the Humboldt County District Attorney's Office.

The investigation revealed that Chamberlain cashed 14 unauthorized checks from one resident's account, totaling \$52,400, overcharged another resident by \$13,100 and did not have worker's compensation for her employees for the entire 18 years she was in business.

The original investigation of the case by Community Care Licensing garnered criticism from Suzi Fregeau, longterm care ombudsman at the Area I Agency on Aging. Fregeau alleged that licensing was aware of issues with Chamberlain as early as August of 2013 but allowed her to continue admitting residents. A spokesperson for the California Department of Health and Human Services rebutted that they had devoted substantial resources to investigating Chamberlain's Care Home in 2014. The closure of the care home was [initially covered by the Journal](#) in 2014; it took over two years to convict and sentence Chamberlain.

Analysis of data from state DHHS's website for the *Journal's* [Aug. 4 cover story](#), "The Death of Jeannie Newstrom," reveals that although Humboldt County has one of the highest rates of allegations per care home facility, and an equally high rate of substantiated allegations, the amount of citations issued to care homes from the California Department of Health and Human Services is one of the lowest in the state. Michael Weston, deputy director of public affairs and outreach programs for DHHS, responded that the disparity between complaints and citations might be due to a particularly vocal advocacy base in Humboldt County.

Chamberlain was sentenced Aug. 1 to serve 106 days in jail for a case prosecuted by the Humboldt County District Attorney's office for theft and worker's compensation charges, and 180 days in a case brought by the Attorney General's Office for fraudulently obtaining a controlled substance. She will not be allowed to run an elder care facility in the future.

<http://www.northcoastjournal.com/NewsBlog/archives/2016/08/13/former-care-home-owner-sentenced>

CHOOSE WELL RATING SYSTEM FOR ASSISTED LIVING

Following successful completion of a six month pilot program ([read the Phase I Report here](#)) to develop a uniform rating system using public documents data for California assisted living facilities, CARR received a one-year follow-on contract to launch the program. The San Diego County sponsored program is called "Choose Well", and will offer consumers direct contact with providers volunteering to participate. Facilities who join the program will have their facility rated, using the Choose Well Scoring tool; they will receive a Facility Profile Page where the facility can promote the amenities, care, services, price range, and philosophy of care that make them a distinguished provider in the county.

The program's website, populated with Facility Profiles of the early volunteers to the program (dubbed Founding Members) aims to be launched in the Fall of 2016. New volunteers can be added at any time following launch.

This program is the brainchild of San Diego Supervisors Dianne Jacob (District 2), and Greg Cox (District 1). This in an innovative program, the first of its kind in the state, and in the United States. To be sure, other states do have rating schemes for assisted living facilities, but they are state-initiated; Choose Well is both a voluntary program, and is sponsored by the County of San Diego.

<http://rcfereform.org/Data-Research/Choose-Well-Rating-System-Assisted-Living>



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