



## Who We Are

**Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC)** is one of twenty-one non-profit regional centers in California providing life-long services and supports for people with developmental disabilities residing in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

## Eligibility for Services

Children and adults who are substantially disabled, due to conditions falling within the legal definitions of “developmental disability” are eligible. These conditions include intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and autism. The onset of these conditions must have been prior to age 18. A separate program, Early Start, is available for children under three years of age. Eligible children have at least a 33% delay in one or more areas of either cognitive, communication, social or emotional, adaptive, or physical and motor development. At age three, eligibility for regional center services is considered. Only some of the children in the Early Start program continue to receive services through the regional center.

## The Referral Procedure

Parents, guardians and conservators, or a person over age 18, can begin by contacting the local office. An “inquiry” can be started by speaking with an Intake Service Coordinator or the On Duty Service Coordinator in each office. Professionals and other interested parties may also refer, but only with permission from the individual or family. The Intake Service Coordinator collects basic information, and then arranges to meet in person to complete an assessment for eligibility.

## Understanding Assessment

The Intake Service Coordinator obtains information from a variety of sources, including the applicant, family members, advocates and service providers. The purpose of intake is to assist families in understanding the nature of their situation and to determine whether a person is eligible for services. If it is determined that

a person is eligible, future meetings will be established to develop a Person Centered Individual Program Plan.

## Person Centered Individual Program Plans

Building upon a foundation of hopes and dreams for the future as well as an assessment of the person’s needs, preferences and life choices, the Person Centered Individual Program Plan states specific objectives to develop competencies and achieve personal goals in the areas of community participation, housing, work, school and leisure time. The plan includes a special section describing those services and supports necessary to maintain the child at home. The plan is written with input from the person with a developmental disability, parents, Service Coordinators and a wide circle of friends and relatives.

## Service Coordination

Service coordination assures the successful implementation of the Individual Program Plan. It may be provided by regional center staff or by another trained person.

## Our Reach

We have around 300 staff members, most of whom are Service Coordinators, and we serve over 12,000 individuals with developmental disabilities through six regional offices.

## How We Work

We use person centered thinking principles in our work with persons served as well as in our relationships with colleagues and community partners. We live by our mission and vision, adhere to our Code of Ethics, exceed requirements of our performance contract with the state and implement our own Strategic Performance Plan.

## The Foundation of Our Work

The Lanterman Act is part of the Welfare and Institutions Code that regulates supports and services to the

developmentally disabled. It states that individuals with developmental disabilities have a right to services and supports to help them live independent and productive lives.

### **Our Take on Ethics**

The Ethics Committee proactively and successfully promotes ethical conduct and behavior amongst individuals and organizations working on behalf of people with developmental disabilities in the Tri-Counties area. TCRC pledges to set the standard for professional conduct by acting ethically and with integrity in all matters.

### **Organizations Affected by Lanterman**

The Lanterman Act contains provisions for how the State Department of Developmental Services (DDS), which is part of the Health and Human Services Agency, is organized and how it functions. It also includes provisions that govern Developmental Centers (state hospitals), Regional Centers and State Council.

### **How We Are Monitored**

TCRC is funded and monitored by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), with oversight by Tri-Counties Association for the Developmentally Disabled Inc. (TCADD). The regional center is guided by both a Performance Contract with DDS and a Strategic Performance Plan.

### **Cost of Services**

There is no charge for diagnosis and assessment of eligibility. Most other services and supports are free, regardless of age or income. If a child under the age of 18 lives at home with regional center funding, parents may be required to share the cost. The fees are established by DDS under the Annual Family Program Fee (AFPF) or the Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP) and depends upon the parents' ability to pay. For children (age 3 to 18) living at home, a co-payment may be required for Respite and Day Care costs. This is set through the Family Cost Participation Program which is mandated by California State legislature. Medi-Cal eligibility, family size and income are considered during FCPP assessment.

### **The Services Needed**

The types of services purchased include funds for living arrangements, day program services, transportation, respite, medical and non-medical services and supports. Additional services include speech/language, occupational and physical therapy, counseling services, clinical psychology, psychiatry, behavior management consultation, home health and homemaker services, nursing, special training for parents, adaptive equipment, medical equipment or supplies and pharmaceutical services. Generic resources and insurance coverage may be accessed first.

## *Mission*

**TCRC provides person  
and family centered  
planning, services and supports  
for individuals with  
developmental disabilities to maximize  
opportunities  
and choices  
for living, working, learning  
and recreating within  
their community**

## San Luis Obispo County

### Atascadero

7305 Morro Rd., Suite 101  
Atascadero, CA 93422

(805) 461-7402 *phone*

(805) 461-9479 *fax*

*Parents Helping Parents FRC*

(805) 461-7415 *phone*

### San Luis Obispo

1146 Farmhouse Lane  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

(800) 456-4153 *toll free*

(805) 543-2833 *phone*

(805) 543-8725 *fax*

*Parents Helping Parents FRC*

(805) 543-3277 *phone*

## Santa Barbara County

### Santa Barbara

520 East Montecito St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

(800) 322-6994 *toll free*

(805) 962-7881 *phone*

(805) 884-7229 *fax*

*Alpha Resource Center*

(805) 683-2145 *phone*

### Santa Maria

1234 Fairway Dr., Suite A  
Santa Maria, CA 93455

(800) 266-9071 *toll free*

(805) 922-4640 *phone*

(805) 922-4350 *fax*

*Alpha Resource Center*

(805) 347-2775 *phone*

## Ventura County

### Oxnard

2401 E. Gonzales Rd., Ste 100  
Oxnard, CA 93036

(800) 664-3177 *toll free*

(805) 485-3177 *phone*

(805) 988-9521 *fax*

*Rainbow Connection FRC*

(805) 485-9643 *phone*

### Simi Valley

2635 Park Center Dr., Ste A  
Simi Valley, CA 93065

(800) 517-2524 *toll free*

(805) 522-8030 *phone*

(805) 522-8142 *fax*

*Rainbow Connection FRC*

(805) 823-2325 *phone*



**Tri-Counties  
Regional Center**

**Person Centered in All We Do**

*Mission:* TCRC provides person and family centered planning, services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities to maximize opportunities and choices for living, working, learning and recreating in the community.