

## What happens after the intake application is completed?

After we receive your completed packet, an intake representative will review it and may contact you for additional information, or an intake or Early Start service coordinator may contact you to schedule a meeting to begin the evaluation process. Program eligibility is determined by clinical evaluation and/or review of records from qualified professionals. Medical, psychological, developmental, and school records are requested and reviewed as part of the intake process. Additionally, medical, developmental and psychological testing may be performed to assist in determining eligibility for Early Start, Prevention and Lanterman services.

Eligibility for the Early Start program is determined in 45 days from receipt of the completed referral packet. Prevention eligibility is determined in 60 days. Lanterman eligibility is determined in 120 days. Applicants who are not found eligible will be sent a written Notice of Action.

## Is there a fee?

Diagnostic evaluations for eligibility determination and service coordination are free of charge. Parents of children under age 18 may be required to pay a portion of the cost of care for certain services.

## NLACRC Libraries

NLACRC has a multimedia library with resources on developmental disabilities in various formats. The San Fernando Valley library also has a computer lab with special software programs and assistive devices. We welcome visitors to the library and computer lab by appointment.

## NLACRC Publications

If you need assistance in locating information or resources, please call the NLACRC publications department at (818) 778-1900.

## Web sites

Here are a few recommended web sites:

California Department of Developmental Services  
[www.dds.ca.gov](http://www.dds.ca.gov)

Area Board 10  
[www.areaboard10.org](http://www.areaboard10.org)

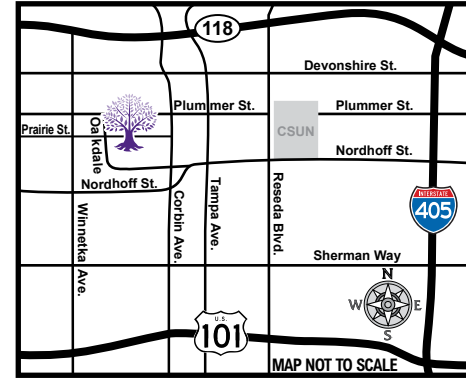
Association of Regional Center Agencies  
[www.arcnet.org](http://www.arcnet.org)

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
[www.nlacrc.org](http://www.nlacrc.org)

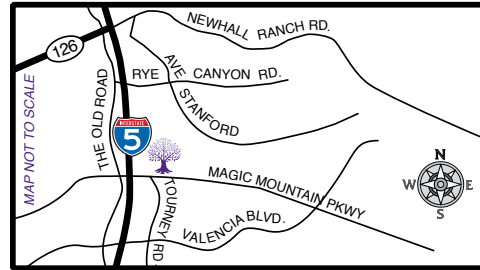
Family Focus Resource Center  
[www.csun.edu/family-focus-resource-center](http://www.csun.edu/family-focus-resource-center)

**NLACRC Offices** [www.nlacrc.org](http://www.nlacrc.org)  
Business hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Closed on Sat. & Sun. and major holidays

**San Fernando Valley (main office)**  
9200 Oakdale Ave., Suite 100  
Chatsworth, CA 91311  
Telephone: (818) 778-1900  
Fax: (818) 756-6140



**Santa Clarita Valley Office**  
25360 Magic Mountain Parkway, Suite 150  
Santa Clarita, CA 91355  
Telephone: (661) 775-8450  
Fax: (661) 775-8454



**Antelope Valley Office**  
43850 10th Street West  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
Telephone: (661) 945-6761 Fax: (661) 942-4050



24-hour / after-hours phone line (818) 778-1900  
Urgent issues only. Medical emergencies dial 9-1-1



General Information  
**WELCOME**



**nlacrc**  
North Los Angeles County Regional Center

## Welcome to the North Los Angeles County Regional Center

At North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) our mission is to provide lifelong partnerships and planning to persons with developmental disabilities by promoting their civil and personal rights, providing comprehensive information, advocating in cooperation with consumers, promoting and providing quality services, and supporting full participation of consumers and families in all aspects of community life.

NLACRC is one of 21 private, non-profit organizations under contract with the California Department of Developmental Services to coordinate and provide community-based services to persons with developmental disabilities (consumers).

The unique regional center system was created by the landmark entitlement legislation called “The Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act.” Each regional center is governed by a Board of Trustees of community members that includes consumers, their family members, and other interested individuals.

NLACRC has supported consumers and their families in the San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys for more than 35 years.

### Who is eligible?

NLACRC provides services to persons with developmental disabilities of all ages and income levels. This includes any person residing within the NLACRC boundaries who:

1. has a developmental disability;
2. may be at risk of becoming developmentally disabled, and is younger than 3 years of age; and
3. may be at risk of parenting a child with a developmental disability.

### What is a developmental disability?

The Lanterman Act defines developmental disability<sup>1</sup> as a condition attributable to:

- intellectual disability (mental retardation)
- epilepsy
- cerebral palsy
- autism spectrum disorder (autism)
- disabling conditions found to be closely related to intellectual disability (mental retardation), or
- conditions that require treatment similar to that required for individuals with intellectual disability (mental retardation),
- but shall not include other handicapping conditions that are solely physical in nature.

### The disability must meet three criteria:

1. originates before the age of 18;
2. continues or is expected to continue indefinitely, and;
3. constitutes a substantial disability for the person

A “substantial disability”<sup>2</sup> means the significant functional limitation in three or more of the following areas of major life activity, as determined by a regional center, and as appropriate to the age of the person.

- self care
- receptive and expressive language
- learning
- mobility
- self-direction
- capacity for independent living
- economic self-sufficiency

<sup>1</sup> Welfare & Institutions Code, Sec. 4512 (a)

<sup>2</sup> Welfare & Institutions Code, Sec. 4512 (l)

### How does regional center assist consumers and their families?

#### Service Coordination

When an individual is determined eligible to receive NLACRC services, a Consumer Service Coordinator (CSC) is assigned to the individual and family.

The CSC works closely with the consumer, family, and others to develop a person-centered Individual Program Plan (IPP), or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) (for families with children 36 months and younger), to help determine the specific needs of the individual and what he or she hopes to accomplish.

#### Services

NLACRC provides many different types of services depending on the individual’s needs\*:

- residential care
- Independent & Supported Living Services (ILS, SLS)
- day care & activity programs
- respite care & family support groups
- referral for behavior management services
- intake assessment
- infant development /Early Start programs
- mobility training & transportation services
- vocational training & work placement services
- legal and human rights advocacy services
- referral into or out of state developmental centers

\* NLACRC may not duplicate services provided by other public agencies.

Please refer to the NLACRC Service Standards for more detailed descriptions about the services that may be available. The Service Standards are available on our Web site or you can request a copy from your CSC.

### Early Intervention – Early Start

Medical and educational research has shown that early intervention during the first three years of a child’s life can make a profound difference in that child’s future. Infants or toddlers ages birth to 3 years with developmental delay or a diagnosed medical condition which has a high probability of resulting in developmental delay, may qualify for early intervention services through California Early Start. This program helps ensure that children who may be at risk for disabilities receive assistance to help support their development.

### How does a person apply to receive regional center services?

Any person can make a referral to explore the possibility of regional center services for a person who may have a developmental disability or an infant or toddler where there is a concern regarding the child’s development. NLACRC can only assess an applicant and provide services if the adult individual, family member, guardian, or conservator gives consent. To make a referral, first complete the intake application.

1. Visit [www.nlacrc.org](http://www.nlacrc.org) and download the intake application, complete it, print it out and send by fax to intake at (818) 756-6357, OR
2. Walk-in to any of our three offices and complete an application, OR
3. Call the Intake Department at (818) 778-1900 and leave your name and address and an application will be mailed to you.