

**Guest Speaker Biography:
Jimmie Soto, Executive Director of the Independent Living
Center (ILC) of Kern County**

Jimmie has been the Executive Director of the Independent Living Center of Kern County since 2011. He earned a Master's Degree in Education Administration and Supervision and a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, both from California State University, Fresno.

Jimmie was appointed to the State Independent Living Council (SILC) in 2013, and termed out in 2019. He is a proud member of the Bakersfield East Rotary Club where he has held numerous positions on the Board. He is currently the club President for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Before moving to Bakersfield, Jimmie held the position of Director of Program Services at Fresno County's Independent Living Center.

Jimmie is passionate about the needs of people with disabilities. Disability has affected his own family with his own visual impairment and having a brother that is Deaf. In his spare time, Jimmie likes to spend time with his family, exercise, be outdoors, play poker, and watch NFL football.