

Regional Center of Orange County
Self-Determination Program Task Force Meeting

November 17, 2015

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Present

Rhys Burchill, Parent

Nicole Barrios, RCOC Training and Organizational Specialist

Jyusse Corey, RCOC Consumer Advocate

Sam Durbin, Consumer

Daniel Harrington, Consumer

Tim Jin, Consumer

Andrea Kumetz-Coleman, Parent

April Lopez, Parent

Jacqueline Miller, Clients' Rights Advocate

Michael Rillera, Parent

Scarlett Von Thenen, Orange County Office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

I. Operation of the Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee

Ms. Rhys Burchill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A. Introduction of the Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee

Ms. Burchill welcomed all attendees of the Self-Determination Program (SDP) Task Force Meeting. Each attendee then introduced him/herself.

B. Approval of Minutes for October 20, 2015 Local Advisory Committee Meeting

The committee discussed removing the last sentence in the section entitled Becoming Involved in Self-Determination! The sentence makes reference to Department of Developmental

Services' (DDS') selection process for the Self-Determination Program (SDP). Committee members agreed that DDS will take factors such as age, ethnicity and disability diagnosis into consideration; however, this component of the selection process was not mentioned during the October 20, 2015 Local Advisory Meeting.

M/S/C to approve the minutes with the removal of the last line.

C. Time Lines

Ms. April Lopez stated that DDS is in the process of developing training sessions on SDP for regional center management, staff, families and consumers. There is no word yet on when those training sessions will be launched.

D. Process for How This Committee Will Operate

Ms. Burchill suggested that the committee follow Robert's Rules of Order. Committee members agreed with Ms. Burchill's suggestion.

E. Future Agenda Items

The committee suggested that the following items be placed on future agendas: outreach to the public, particularly to underserved populations; training sessions for the public on various components of SDP; guest speakers; and Bagley-Keene requirements. Ms. Jacqueline Miller stated that the public needs to be informed of any updates to SDP. Ms. Nicole Barrios stated that the SDP page on the RCOC website now has a link that allows individuals to sign up to receive updates from RCOC on any new developments in SDP. Any SDP meetings are posted on the Calendar on RCOC's website. Committee members requested that RCOC send an e-mail blast to all RCOC consumers and families with an e-mail address on file at least 10 days before any SDP Local Advisory Meeting. The outgoing e-mail would contain information on the time, date and location of the SDP meeting.

The committee discussed the need for a concise definition of SDP. Ms. Miller stated that Disability Rights California's document on the Statewide Self-Determination Program has a clear definition. The wording is as follows:

“Self-determination provides consumers, and their families, with an individual budget, which they can use to purchase the services and supports they need to implement their Individual Program Plan (IPP).” Disability Rights California, December 2013, Publication #F077.01 SB 468 (Emerson/Beall/Mitchell/Chesbro) Statewide Self-Determination Program

Committee members recommended that this definition be included at the top of all future agendas. Ms. Andrea Kumetz-Coleman stated that people desiring to understand SDP better would benefit from hearing from a consumer who has participated in SDP. Ms. Barrios will reach out to Ms. Elizabeth Harrell at Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center to coordinate for a

participant in the original Self-Determination Pilot to speak at a future RCOC SDP Local Advisory Meeting.

F. Frequency of Local Advisory Committee Meetings

Committee members recommended that the next SDP Local Advisory Committee Meeting occur in January 2016. Ms. Barrios will find potential three dates in January for the committee's consideration.

G. Getting the Word Out

Ms. Burchill stated that she presented on SDP at the Third Annual Self-Determination Conference: *Living the Good Life* on October 24, 2015. Ms. Scarlett Von Thenen shared that the Orange County Regional Office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities holds training sessions on SDP for the general public. Committee members proposed the idea of presenting at Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee meetings. The committee discussed the importance of presenting to Spanish- and Vietnamese-speaking families. Ms. Barrios will maintain an Excel spreadsheet to track outreach efforts to various community organizations. Members will advise Ms. Barrios of when they present on SDP to community members in order that presentations may be coordinated.

H. Agenda Items for the Next Local Advisory Committee Meeting

Ms. Lopez recommended that Ms. Judy Mark, Disability Rights California Board Member, present at the next SDP Local Advisory Committee Meeting.

M/S/C to have Ms. Judy Mark present at the next RCOC Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee Meeting.

I. Public Comment

Ms. Karen Millender felt that the public should be allowed to comment at any time during a SDP Local Advisory meeting and not just at the end. Ms. Millender suggested that any definition of the Self-Determination Program should be comprehensive in nature. Ms. Millender also suggested that a RCOC SDP pamphlet be developed. Again, the Bagley-Keene Act was discussed and Ms. Miller stated that the Act grants people present at public meetings the ability to speak at any time during the meeting. Ms. Burchill asked that Ms. Miller provide the citation that stipulates this at the next SDP Local Advisory Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.