



Far Northern Regional Center

## Self Determination Advisory Committee

*All Interested Persons Are Welcome to Attend Our Meeting*

[www.farnorthernrc.org](http://www.farnorthernrc.org)

When: Friday, October 14, 2016

Time: 10:00 am to noon

Where: Chico Far Northern Regional Center Office  
1377 East Lassen Avenue, Chico, CA

Phone: 895.8633

Refreshments will be served upon your arrival.

### Minutes:

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Committee members in attendance were: Theresa Riviera, Ronda Dever, Jennifer Bowman, Al Skaggs, Stephen Concklin, Glen Pollock, Charles Nutt, and Kimberlee Candela.

2. **Public Input/Open Forum** (*This section is for members of the public only; and is to provide the public an opportunity to comment and/or present information to the Board on any matter. **Each member of the public will be afforded up to five minutes to speak. If you have additional information you are encouraged to submit it in writing.***):

Members of the public attending were: Joseph Hernandez of Premier, Sarah May, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, North State Office Regional Manager, Laura Larson, Executive Director FNRC, and FNRC staff, Cynthia Presidio, Melissa Gruhler, and Marlene McCollum

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion made and seconded to approve October 14, 2016 agenda by Charles Nutt and Marlene McCollum. No discussion, motion passed.

4. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion made and seconded to approve August 12, 2016 minutes by Kimberlee Candela and Charles Nutt. No discussion, motion passed.

## 5. Update on Statewide Activities

- a. The Department of Developmental Services Workgroup on Self-Determination met on September 26, 2016 and shared documents which are included in this meeting packet.

Many issues have been resolved regarding the 180 initial questions posed by the federal government. Approximately 30 unresolved questions remain; by and large these are regarding service issues. No service can be purchased that is not an integrated community service to stay in compliance with the Home and Community Based Services. The federal government doesn't want to approve the Self-Determination plan until the State's transition plan is complete. One issue in questions is the Financial Management System (FMS) expenses coming out of the client's budget, as the federal government consider this a drop in services.
- b. Release of responses from the Centers for Medicaid Services to the State of California regarding California's submission of A Self-Determination Waiver Amendment to California's Home and Community Based Waiver.
  - i. Review selected highlights from the Informal Response from CMS.

Laura Larson reviewed some of the many CMS informal responses California has given to the federal government including, but not limited to (1) no duplicate services will be allowed; (2) issues regarding the reporting of Special Incidents; and (3) the payment of FMS.
- c. Release of seven (7) PowerPoint training modules for discussion and feedback to DDS. These PowerPoints are for training regional center staff about the Self-Determination program.

These presentations are for regional center staff training and must be shown to staff as presented.
- d. Draft of a Pre-enrollment Process for review and discussion. DDS hopes to finalize materials for community sessions by the end of October.

DDS will provide training on how to conduct the training process. These are the meetings that must be attended in order to apply for acceptance into the Self-Determination process. Materials to be used will be provided by DDS and the stakeholders. Clients/families will apply and DDS will acknowledge the application. However, those chosen (60 from FNRC) will be computer selected based on a combination of age/race/disability.
- e. Independent Facilitator Training: What will be required?

The requirements for this will be determined by DDS. There is not much information at this time.

- f. Budget Categories, all services will be consolidated into three budget categories to allow maximum flexibility.  
This information will be provided at the next meeting.
- g. Draft of a Suspected Abuse/Neglect document for review and discussion.  
“Individuals with developmental disabilities are more likely to be abused than people without disabilities. Because of this, it is very important for consumers, their family, and the people who provide their services and supports to learn what abuse is, how to tell if someone is being abused, and what to do if there is reason to believe someone is being abused.”<sup>1</sup> This information and training will become especially vital the launch of the Self-Determination Program.
- h. Updated timelines for Self-Determination Program rollout.  
At this time, it seems the commencement of the program will be possible by the summer of 2017.

6. Developing a Mission Statement for the local Self-Determination Committee.  
Forwarded to next meeting as Rachael Newkirk is out of the area.  
Will be placed on the January 2017 agenda

7. Self-Determination and information on FNRC new website.  
There have been a few problems with the new website that should be resolved shortly. Laura asked the committee for suggestions about additions to the website, and they are as follows:

- The committee agendas and minutes;
- A link to the DDS Self-Determination video;
- A link to the Los Angeles Autism Society;
- The committee meeting times and places;
- A link to the State Council’s website;
- Information regarding this project
- The fact that the pilot is for 60 people, only
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It was also suggested that the Self-Determination information be placed on the FNRC website.

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<sup>1</sup> SDP Orientation: Suspected Abuse and Neglect, Suggested content. DRAFT 9/22/2016

8. Supporting a Self-Directed and Inclusive life:

- a. As we wait for the rollout of Self-Determination, significant systemic change is occurring now. We are working to successfully transition our providers, clients, families and our staff to a new service expectation. We are rolling out an 18-month California Learning Institute on Organizational Shifts to Person-Centered Practice. Our employees and our service provider partners are receiving training on how to enrich the IPP/IFSP experience through quality person centered thinking and planning.

Our service providers are transitioning away from sub-minimum wage to a new model of employment services; this change is occurring very rapidly. Other providers will be addressing the changes needed in their services to meet the new settings expectations in all day services.

In addition to the above, Self-Determination waits in the background for approval and pilot implementation. The earliest date for rollout of the pilots will be summer of 2017, based upon timelines shared by DDS.

Education is needed for families and others on why all of these changes are taking place, as well as what Self-Determination is and how it could be useful to a family or individual.

There are significant systemic changes coming that will occur before the rollout of the Self-Determination program. Some of these changes are work, including the changes to wages and social security. As committee members, please encourage clients and families to read the DDS Consumer Corner on the DDS website. We also need to keep in mind that Self-Determination is part of the bigger picture in terms of the approaching changes.

9. For discussion: Upcoming outreach and training needs. What is needed and what should it look like? For example: Timelines.

The Regional Center has been asked to begin presenting to the public and the changing system along with Self-Determination. These trainings/informational meetings will not include the Pre-enrollment meetings, as these must wait until after the final federal approval. Town hall meetings have been suggested, with evening, weekend and weekday meetings to accommodate working families. It has, also, been suggested that an emphasis be placed on the abuse of clients by family and friends as well as strangers.

The date chosen for the next meeting is January 6, 2017 in Chico from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The next statewide meeting will be October 27<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded by Charles Nutt and Jennifer Bowman.  
No discussion; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cynthia R. Presidio".

Cynthia R. Presidio  
FNRC Executive Assistant