

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

**April 4, 2016**

**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Present**

Rhys Burchill, Parent

Jyusse Corey, RCOE Consumer Advocate

Sam Durbin, Consumer

Daniel Harrington, Consumer

Tim Jin, Consumer

Larry Landauer, RCOE Executive Director

Cristina Mercado, RCOE Training and Organizational Specialist

Jacqueline Miller, Clients' Rights Advocate

Missi Patton, Mr. Harrington's Facilitator

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

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Ms. Rhys Burchill called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. She welcomed all attendees of the Self-Determination Program (SDP) Task Force Meeting. Each task force member introduced him/herself as did audience members attending the meeting.

**II. Approval of Minutes from January 25, 2016 Meeting**

The committee reviewed the minutes from the January 25, 2016 meeting, and no changes were suggested. Mr. Jyusse Corey gave a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Larry Landauer seconded the motion.

***M/S/C to approve the minutes as presented.***

### **III. Introduction of Cristina Mercado, New RCOC Self-Determination Committee Liaison**

Ms. Cristina Mercado introduced herself as the new RCOC Training and Organizational Specialist.

### **IV. Outreach to Community Organizations**

#### **a. Updates on prioritizing outreach to non-English speaking communities:**

Mr. Landauer reported that RCOC representatives were present at the OC Tet Festival in February offering information on SDP to the local Vietnamese community. Ms. Scarlett vonThenen stated that she attended the Chinese Parent Association for the Disabled (CPAD) meeting in March and provided them information on SDP. Ms. Burchill stated that she has been in contact with Down Syndrome and Prader Willi organizations to provide them with information on SDP. Mr. Corey has been incorporating SDP information into all of his relevant discussions regarding the ABLE Act, money management, and budgeting within the framework of SDP.

#### **b. Create a list of community organizations updates:**

Mr. Landauer stated his goal to reach another 30 to 40 community groups throughout Orange County in the upcoming months including Fiesta Educativa. Mr. Landauer reiterated the importance of reaching out to non-Caucasian households, as the National Core Indicators found disparities in how non-Caucasian communities are accessing services as compared to their Caucasian counterparts.

### **V. Public Forum – presentation by Tim Jin**

Mr. Jin introduced himself and discussed the role that self-advocacy has played in his own life. He reiterated the importance of SDP in allowing consumers and families to make choices for themselves, choose vendors that best suit their needs, and determine what unique services will allow them to meet their personal IPP goals. He included a photograph of himself skydiving, and entertained audience and task force members with a retelling of this experience.

### **VI. Update on Self-Determination Consumer Presentation**

Mr. Landauer explained that SDP will be rolled out initially statewide with 2500 Regional Center consumers, which will equate to 154 participating consumers within Orange County. These participants will be chosen via lottery. In order to be entered into the lottery families must attend a mandatory curriculum training whose date is yet to be determined. The Committee will decide at a future meeting on the following topics: best means of informing families of the mandatory training (email or physical mail); offering training sessions on multiple dates; the need for translators at these mandatory trainings.

### **VII. Comments about Autism Society of Los Angeles Conference on Self-Determination**

Ms. Burchill, Mr. Landauer, and Mr. Corey all updated the committee on the Autism Society of Los Angeles's Conference on self-determination. They described a workshop where a Person Centered Plan (PCP) was modeled for a consumer receiving SDP funding. All stated that this model helped to capture the brainstorming, thoughts, and processes involved in facilitating a PCP for a consumer working within the SDP framework. They proposed that showing a sample PCP at a future committee meeting may be a good way to help families understand how the PCP may evolve and grow with the introduction of self-determination.

**VIII. Overview of Statewide Self-Determination Local Chairpersons' Meeting**

**a. Updates on the role out of SDP at other Regional Centers:**

Ms. Burchill updated the group on outcomes of the statewide SDP local chairperson's meeting. She stated that a common complaint among members was that their Regional Centers were not supportive of scheduling self-determination informational meetings, and their Regional Center staff was not being educated on SDP. She and other task force members reiterated that this has not been the case at RCOC. Ms. Burchill stated that at the SDP local chairperson's meeting it was suggested that local SDP task force meetings include informative and educational presentations to further explain SDP and the development of the PCP.

**b. Statewide outreach to non-English Speakers interested in SDP**

Ms. Burchill stated that DDS had translated some of the SDP information but more information needs to be added. This information will be made available as it is released by DDS.

**c. Vendor outreach:**

Ms. Burchill presented a motion to create an informative presentation about self-determination for the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC). This motion was seconded by Mr. Landauer and Mr. Corey. Ms. vonThenen stated that she and Mr. Durbin can provide the framework for this presentation based on a similar talk they gave at Integrity House earlier in the year. Ms. April Stewart of 24Hr HomeCare also volunteered to present on Financial/Fiscal Management Services (FMS) at the next meeting.

***M/S/C to create self-determination presentation for VAC.***

**d. Self-Determination training for service coordinator:**

Mr. Landauer stated that he provides Service Coordinators with up to date information as he receives it, but he is awaiting more information from DDS to provide all SCs with formal training.

**IX. Status on contacting and reaching out to community members**

Ms. Burchill requested an update on community members being able to interact with and ask question of the SD task force. Mr. Landauer stated that, at present, community members can visit the self-determination portion of RCOC's website and click on the "send us a message!" text which will allow them to submit questions or comments to the SD email address.

A parent from the audience expressed deep concern regarding status of day programs in the future. The parent asked if SDP funding will be available to those consumers who choose day program settings which may not be considered "inclusive" according to the yet to be determined SDP guidelines. Mr. Landauer stated that all person centered plans need to be compliant with the community integration portion of the federal regulations. It is up to the state to specify how they choose to implement those regulations. Ms. Burchill urged that when DDS regulations are introduced for public comment, RCOC should provide notice to the community and allow the opportunity for them to comment.

**X. Agenda Items for Next Local SD Advisory Committee Meeting**

**a. Financial/Fiscal Management Services (FMS) presentation**

Ms. April Stewart of 24Hr HomeCare will present at the next meeting. One hour should be reserved for this training (30 to 45 minutes for presentation, 15 minutes for Q&A).

**b. Increasing understanding of the PCP meeting**

Ms. vonThenen will reach out to Joe D'Nofrio from Choices in Los Angeles County to provide training on Person Centered Planning. Mr. Landauer to also reach out to Judy Marks for suggestions on PCP training, as Ms. Marks facilitated the training at the Autism Society of Los Angeles Conference. All members agreed that having a sample PCP modeled by a facilitator and consumer would be the most effective way to show the difference between a PCP and typical IPP.

**XI. Public Comments**

A parent asked for clarification on when the mandatory SDP training would be held, as she wanted to ensure that her son would be considered for the SDP lottery. Committee is awaiting information from DDS to determine the content of this mandatory training and will follow up with families. Notice will be provided.

A parent requested that the following SDP meeting be held in the evening. Committee members agreed that next meeting would be held at 6:30 pm. Ms. Mercado to provide committee members with 2 to 3 possible dates and members to select their preference based on their availability.

A parent also requested if meetings could include small breakout groups for audience members to interact with one another. Ms. Burchill stated that all Self-Determination Task Force meetings are public to allow all attendees the opportunity to hear and respond to everything that is discussed. Breakout groups would result in small private discussion and would prevent all information from being available to the public.

## **XII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.