**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**December 9, 2015**

*"Each regional center shall establish a local volunteer advisory committee to provide oversight of the Self-Determination Program.  The regional center and the area board shall each appoint one--half of the membership of the committee.  The committee shall consist of the regional center clients' rights advocate, consumers, family members, and other advocates and community leaders.  A majority of the committee shall be consumers and their family members.  The committee shall reflect the multicultural diversity and geographic profile of the catchment area.  The committee shall review the development and ongoing progress of the Self-Determination Program, including wither the program advances the principles of self-determination and is operating consistent with the requirements of this section, and may make ongoing recommendations for improvement to the regional center and the department."*

**Agenda**

* Introductions
* Expectations of the Local Advisory Committee
* Brief Overview of the Law
* Timeline
* Organizing for the Future
* Next Steps

**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**January 13, 2015**

**Notes from December Meeting:**

At the first meeting, the advisory committee, staff, and guests spent time getting to know each other and discussed an overview of the Self-Determination Law.  We decided on the following:

* We would meet monthly - the second Tuesday of each month.
* At the first several meetings, we would take a section of the law and discuss it in-depth so that we become "experts" on the program.
* When appropriate, we would bring in outside folks to lead those discussions.
* The meetings will be open to all who are interested in attending and we want to encourage all those interested in helping to shape the SD program at Westside to attend -- including consumers, staff, providers, advocates, and others.  However, these meetings are for planning purposes for the committee and staff and will **not** be in place of the formal trainings and orientations that will be conducted for consumers and families in the future.

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Update on Waiver Application
3. Development of Tasks and Timeline for Advisory Committee
4. In-Depth Discussion: Person-Centered Planning and Independent Facilitators

**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**February 10, 2015**

**Notes from January Meeting:**

At the January meeting, an initial timeline was created for the committee, knowing that it is unclear when the federal waiver will get approved:

*February*

* Begin to develop culturally and educationally competent materials
* Initial meeting with staff
* Put information on website

*March*

1. Finalize initial outreach materials and start to do outreach in the community
2. Begin to look at phase-in selection process based on DDS guidance
3. Training for Vendor Advisory Committee

*April*

* Continue with outreach in community
* Have meetings at WRC for all interested individuals
* Training for staff

**Agenda**

1. Update on Waiver Application and Statewide DDS Workgroup
2. WRC Staff Training - Set date
3. Discussion on Outreach to All Consumers and Families

* Attendance at local meetings and support groups
* Development of outreach materials
* Possible focus groups to review materials
* Translation of materials into different languages

1. In-Depth Explanation of Law: Development of the Individual Budget

**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**March 10, 2015**

**Notes from February Meeting:**

* Different groups for outreach - Latino training and support groups, FRC Network, School districts/SELPAs, Ethiopian and Japanese-Speaking support groups, service coordinators, providers/vendors, WRC Collaborative, day programs, job sites, Westside Newsletter, website
* Need to have a contact person at WRC who can answer questions about the SDP.

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Update on Waiver Application and Statewide DDS Workgroup
3. WRC Initial Staff Training – March 26
4. Dates for outreach meetings in the community

* Community Advisory Committee
* Vendor Advisory Committee
* Other local organizations

1. Development of Outreach Video and Materials – Betsi Howard, Community Program Specialist, Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
2. In-Depth Explanation of Law: Special Presentation by Catherine Blakemore, Executive Director, Disability Rights California

Negotiating the Individual Budget, Due Process Rights Under Self-Determination, Ensuring Consumer Safety through Background Checks of Providers

1. Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 14

**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**April 14, 2015**

**Notes from March Meeting:**

* It is still unclear when the waiver application will be approved by the federal government in order to fund and start the Self-Determination Program.  The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services is reviewing the application and have asked some questions, which is quite normal.  We are hoping that the application will be approved at some point this summer.
* Outreach efforts to various constituencies, such as Latino parents, African-American parents, consumer advisory committee, staff, and others.  Judy sent out dates of outreach meetings in which committee members could participate.
* All consumers and/or family members must attend an informational meeting in order to sign up to be part of the lottery for three-year phase-in period.  Phase-in participant numbers are based on each regional center's percentage of consumers statewide.  Because Westside is one of the smallest regional centers, Westside has 67 spots for the first three years.  These participants will be randomly selected by DDS based on diversity criteria.  After 3 years, the program will be available to all consumers in the state with no limits.  Westside hasn't set any dates for our informational meetings yet but we discussed have a number of them at different times of day, different locations, and different languages.
* A presentation from Betsi Howard from the Department of Developmental Services.  Betsi spoke with us about their planned outreach efforts to inform consumers and families about the Self-Determination Program. DDS is developing a short Youtube video explaining the Self-Determination Program and featuring individuals from the pilot project.  The video will be available in English and Spanish and will be subtitled in other languages as well.  The video will be on the DDS website as well as can be shared on regional center websites and community organization websites.
* A presentation on individual budgets and due process rights by Catherine Blakemore, Executive Director of Disability Rights California featured an explanation of how individual budgets are determined and can be adjusted based on a change in circumstances or resources or unmet need.  Handouts distributed at the meeting are attached to this email.

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Updates on the program from DDS Stakeholder Workgroup: Waiver application, other local advisory committees, outreach video
3. Outreach presentations - Reports and future plans

* Service Coordinators – March 26
* Japanese Speaking Parents Association – April 18 at 10 am
* Siempre Amigas – April 20 at 11:30 am
* African-American Parent Support Group – April 22 at 6 pm
* Vendor and Consumer Advisory Committees - ???
* Other groups - ???

1. Other Upcoming Events

* Next DDS Advisory Committee – April 21
* Talk on Person-Centered Planning – April 25 at 10 am (Torrance Memorial Hospital)
* Independent Facilitator Trainings – May 15 and 17

1. In-Depth Explanation of Law: Special Presentation on Financial Management Services for Self-Determination Program Participants by Ben Davidson, Premier Healthcare

1. Next meeting - May 12

**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**May 11, 2015**

**Notes from April Meeting:**

* It is still unclear when the waiver application will be approved by the federal government in order to fund and start the Self-Determination Program.  The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services is reviewing the application and have asked some questions, which is quite normal.  We are hoping that the application will be approved at some point this summer.
* DDS will be coming to Westside to film consumers for their informational video on April 30.  We brainstormed on different consumers that we could recruit to be part of the filming.
* We learned that DDS, ARCA and the State Council have agreed that all regional center local advisory committees would be appointed by June 1 and must meet no later than June 30.
* Local advisory committee members volunteered to help present to a variety of audiences including Siempre Amigas and the African-American support group.
* A presentation from Ben Davidson of Premier Services about Financial Management Services.  Ben is sending out his powerpoint separately to all of you.

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Updates on the program from DDS Stakeholder Workgroup: Waiver application, other local advisory committees, outreach video
3. Outreach presentations - Reports and future plans
4. Special Presentation on Independent Facilitators by Chris Arroyo, State Council on Developmental Disabilities Los Angeles Office
5. Next meeting - June 9 (Discussion on ways to find services and resources in the community)

**Westside Regional Center**

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting**

**June 9, 2015**

**Notes from May meeting:**

* DDS came to Westside to film consumers for their informational video on April 30.  They interviewed Fernando and Elizabeth Gomez in Spanish and about 8 consumers in Spanish, Farsi, Hebrew, Japanese, Mandarin, Sign language, and typing.
* Reports were given on the range of outreach presentations the committee has done with: Japanese-Speaking Parents Association, Siempre Amigas, African-American Support Group, and the Family Resource Centers of LA County.
* We heard from Cheryl Wenderoth of Tri-Counties Regional Center who talked about what they have learned by being part of the Self-Determination Pilot Project.
* Chris Arroyo of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Los Angeles Office, did a special presentation on the role of the Independent Facilitator.  A great discussion followed.
* It was suggested that we keep a master calendar and a database of the individuals that have come to one of our outreach presentations.  Tammy Pauly volunteered to help with that.

**Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Updates on the program from DDS Stakeholder Workgroup: Waiver application, other local advisory committees, outreach video, trainings
3. Outreach presentations - Set dates for Collaborative, CAC, Ethiopian Support Group, SPAC, Persian, LA FEAT
4. Discussion of Formal Informational Sessions - Days of week, times, locations, languages, how many?
5. Special Focus on ways to find unique resources/services/supports in the community
6. Next meeting - **JULY 21 - PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!**