

## Self- Determination Local Advisory Group

June 21, 2016

### Approval of Minutes

Lucia Arrequin made a motion to approve the minutes for the May 17, 2016 meeting. Carolyn Tellalian seconded the motion and the minutes were approved. Ron Allen suggested that agenda items for meetings be brought up by members prior to the next meeting.

### Self-Determination Update

Sidney Jackson reported there are 185 interested participants to date. Some individuals still need to attend informational meetings. Sidney and Yolanda Cruz from the State Council, have agreed to go out to some of these clients' homes to provide information due to problems with attendance at outreach meetings.

Sidney also informed the Group that the State is getting ready to start Self- Determination training of Regional Center staff. A third party will probably be brought in to do the training. The Home and Community Based Waiver could be approved by early November and the State will have the go ahead to implement Self- Determination.

Sidney also shared that the State has "informally" submitted answers to the questions received from the Center for Medicaid and Medical Services. The formal response is due to go out in August.

Local Advisory members were invited to listen in on a teleconference of the Statewide Self- Determination Committee on this date. Carolyn asked if there was a recording of the meeting available. Gloria informed the group that the committee stated during the meeting that they will be posting minutes of the meeting on the State Council website. They are apparently behind but will try to have all minutes of their meetings posted. Sidney informed the Group that the State is awaiting approval of the Transition Plan on the settings rule. In house CVRC is still doing training on person centered focus for staff. The State plans to complete its training by the end of July.

Ron Allan requested a copy of the Waiver application submitted by the State. Sidney directed Ron to the DDS website for a copy. Gloria asked about the possibility of a brief training or update on the "settings rule" and where the State is on that for the committee members.

Michelle Smith shared what she learned from the Statewide Advisory Committee teleconference. Michelle expressed interest in the revision to the Budget Trailer Bill which was mentioned during the teleconference. As I recall it had something to do with the relationship of the Regional Centers to their Local Advisory Groups. Michelle emphasized how the "CMS ruling" is so important. The Federal Gov't wants to make sure self-determination meets the Home and Community Based requirements for services to be provided in community settings. Michelle expressed an interest in having more vendor

involvement on our Local Advisory Group. There was a question of whether the State Advisory would be involved in approving additional members for this group. Rachel Hagans explained that the Local Group makes those decisions meeting some criteria from the State. The State Advisory did look at the demographics of the participants. The LA Autism Society is reportedly in process of translating the Self-Determination Manual.

Rachel suggested for Ron Allan to come to the CVRC office for the teleconference so more members could have the opportunity to listen in and participate.

#### Service Coordinator/Caseload Ratios

Rachel Hagans gave the Advisory Group an overview and historical perspective on caseload ratios at CVRC. The State designates caseload ratios. CVRC has met their State and Federal mandated caseload ratios for all years prior to 2009. Ratios have not been met for the last two years. Due to this, CVRC is required to host input meetings on how to meet these ratios. Rachel hosted a meeting and 7 people were present. Regional Center must submit a plan on how they are going to meet caseload ratios by 7/1/2016. Rachel gave out a handout to the Advisory Group summarizing caseload ratios by category, caseload growth, CVRC service coordinator growth and the ideal caseload ratio to meet the State and federal mandate of 1 to 64 overall. CVRC has done well in several categories as follows: Medicaid Waiver (clients receiving services that are medical reimbursed), Early Start (Age 36 months and under), Movers (clients moved from the Developmental Center for over 1 year) and Movers (clients moved from the Developmental Center for less than 1 year). The "All Others" category has been the most challenging. The ratio should be 1 to 66. As of 3/1/2016 CVRC's ratio in this category was 1 to 81. The total caseload 6-county wide as of 5/31/2016 is 17,476. CVRC is growing one caseload per month. Service Coordinators have been hired and retention is excellent. Last year there were 249 service coordinators. As of 5/31/2016 there are a total of 267. CVRC will continue to hire staff and will begin another hiring cycle in September. CVRC generally gets about 300 to 400 applicants.

#### Skit Casting/Skit Input

Ron and Bebe from Resources for Independence, reviewed the Self-Determination Skit with the Advisory Group. There were several suggestions and input made by the Group. Ron and Bebe were very open to the input. Ron shared that he hoped to have the cast perform the skit for this group in September. The Advisory Group expressed gratitude to Bebe and Resources for Independence for applying for the State Council grant.

#### Information Sharing

Rachel informed the Group of the upcoming celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lanterman Act on July 9<sup>th</sup> at Inspiration Park in Fresno. Everyone is welcome. Sidney shared that there will be a new Self-Determination trifold display board at the park event.

#### Public Comment – None

The meeting was adjourned. Next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2016.