

NBRC SDAC Advisor Report-June 2020

NBRC currently serves about 9500 individuals in Napa, Solano and Sonoma counties.

As of 1/31/20, a total of 72 people have been selected to participate in Self-Determination. These individuals were selected as part of the initial roll-out in October 2018 and a second selection held in November 2019. The additional names selected filled openings vacated by those that chose to withdraw from the SDP program. Their withdrawal was due to a variety of factors including not being the right time and happy with current service delivery. Of those selected in 2019, 15 need to attend an orientation. Unfortunately, orientations have temporarily stopped due to the Covid 19 outbreak. NBRC is seeking alternative forms of delivering the orientation to those who need it. New sessions will be scheduled after July 1. Informational sessions were also scheduled to begin in April but have also been cancelled until further notice. These sessions will be critical for those interested learning more about the program as preparation for the upcoming system wide rollout, which will happen in July 2021.

The NBRC website continues to post updates on the project. NBRC and the SDAC committee continue to evaluate ways to inform our community about SDP. The Department of Developmental Services awarded all SDAC groups money to promote information about SDP and the committee is making final decisions about how to spend those funds this month. The primary goal is to increase outreach to underserved communities and to provide more information about the details of the program including what is a Person Centered Plan, an Independent Facilitator, and a Financial Management Service (FMS) and how do I select the right one. SDP has many components and they all require a thorough over view and training in order to understand and implement through the Self Determination Program. DDS also gave regional centers money to hire an SDP Specialist; unfortunately, with the recent budget crisis, NBRC is unable to hire this position.

SDP case managers continue working with their families to transition over to SDP. Most are working through their budgets, confirming current needs and

determining any unmet needs. Spending plans are being developed within the IPP process in coordination with the Financial Management services and Independent Facilitators. Unfortunately, many individuals and families have slowed their progress into SDP because of the public health crisis. Many have indicated that with all of the uncertainty, they are reluctant to move forward at this time. NBRC staff will continue to check in with individuals and families to encourage them to make small steps towards SDP realization.

SDP case managers meet with the SDP Director to discuss issues, problem solve situations and continue information and training on SDP. Specifically, FMS providers are meeting with our staff to provide an overview of the service and to answer any questions. We hope to expand this to the broader community so that they can also learn and ask questions about the FMS service. This could also be expanded to other topics of interest from the community and will be discussed by the SDAC in the near future.

Submitted by:

Beth DeWitt

Director of Client Services

NBRC