

**HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER
BOARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MAY, 2018**

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR FY 2017-18:

The Board Development Committee has developed a slate of officers for next fiscal year. A ballot will be provided at our annual meeting in May. The slate is as follows:

President	Mariano Sanz
Vice President	Joe Czarske
Secretary	Jim Flores
Treasurer	Fu-Tien Chiou

RE-ELECTION OF CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

As we have previously announced, the Board Development Committee recommends the following Board members who are eligible to be elected to serve another term on the Board. A ballot will be provided at our annual Board meeting in May.

Fu-Tien Chiou
James Flores
Jeffrey Herrera
Patricia Jordan
Bobbie Rendon
Mariano Sanz
Monica Sifuentes
Kim Vuong

FILLING VACANCIES:

There are no current Board members whose terms will expire but who are not eligible to be reelected. Therefore, the Board has no vacant seats to fill for the coming fiscal year.

JUNE RETREAT:

Finally, the Committee has finalized arrangements for the June 16 Board Retreat which will take place at the Torrance Office starting at 9:00 a.m. The Board recognition dinner will take place that evening beginning at 6:30. We will provide more detailed information as it becomes available but want to ask all Board members to be sure to **reserve June 16 between 9:00 and 2:30 for our retreat.....and that evening for our Board recognition dinner.**

**Harbor Regional Center
Client Services Committee
HRC Long Beach Office- March 27, 2018- 6-8PM**

Attendees: Melanie Brossus, Kim Vuong, Patricia Jordan, Patricia Flores, Guadalupe Nolasco, LaWanna Blair, Pablo Ibanez, Ben Kim, David Gauthier, Deaka McClain

Ben Kim (special education attorney consultant) engaged the group in a discussion on Special Education Rights and Responsibilities. He gave some historical background including a summary of IDEA. He also provided the group with sample letters that would assist families in articulating their request of the school district, specifically related to placement and observations. Additional discussion were in the following areas:

1. Eligibility for Special Education Services
2. Definition of Special Education – what is special education, entitlement to “related services” and least restrictive environment.
3. Assessment/evaluation: the benefits of understanding what is being prescribed for the child
4. Designing an Individual Education Plan
5. Parents Rights in the IEP Process: developing measurable goals
6. Legal Standards

Pablo Ibanez, Client Services Manager, provided an overview of the role of the Service Coordinator at the IEP meeting. Some topics included: helping the parent understand the IEP process, prepping the parent before the IEP meeting, how the SC will communicate with the IEP team, etc. He also helped the group understand what an SC should not do at the IEP meeting, specifically providing interpretation for the family, advising the parent whether they should sign the IEP, attending the IEP in the parent’s absence or acting as the parent’s advocate.

Recommendations from CSC group - HRC should consider invite Ben Kim to speak to families in a group setting, increase availability and frequency of Ben’s services and create a training to educate parents on the IEP process including their rights.



Harbor Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee Minutes, April 11, 2018

Roll call: Miriam Kang, Linda Chan Rapp, Rosalinda Garcia, David Gauthier, Deaka McClain, Mariano Sanz, Christofer Arroyo, Mary Hernandez, Liz Cohen-Zeboulon, Judy Taimi, Diana Sandoval

6:07 pm - Quorum established, meeting called to order.

I. Harbor Regional Center (HRC) Update – Mary Hernandez

A. *Colleen Mock passed away Friday April 6. She was a kind and compassionate person who will be missed by so many people especially her family here at HRC. HRC will be closed April 19 in her honor and there will be a celebration of her life from 10-12.*

B. Sign ups for the Self-Determination Program (SDP) lottery:

1. HRC has 98 slots for participants in the initial roll out. Of the 112 individuals submitted directly through this office, the Spanish-speaking quota appears to have been met with about an even split between 0-22 years, and 22+ years, although there are more children than adults. Lots of phone calls with questions regarding self-determination continue to come in.

2. The question of whether the lottery will pick a smaller proportional cohort (1/3?) when names are first selected, or start at 100% is not clear. Nevertheless, ten service coordinators at HRC are set to serve SDP participants so that they will have smaller caseloads.

C. Informational meetings have been held on a monthly basis alternating between the Torrance and Long Beach Offices, and between English and Spanish language presentations. In April 60 attendees registered, and in May 45 (Spanish-speaking) attendees have registered. An informational for Palos Verdes Unified School District has also been held. So far a cut off date for signing up for the lottery has not yet been announced.

Other organizations and individuals have also been hosting some informational meetings, notably Autism Society of Los Angeles, which is submitting names to DDS independently. If someone calls Mary H. saying he or she attended another informational meeting somewhere and wants to sign up for the SD participant lottery, at this point she will go ahead and sign that person up.

D. In May/June service coordinators will go through Person-Centered Planning training with Sheila Jones.

II. Association of Regional Center Agencies and Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Self-Determination Program Workgroup 4/5/18 – Mary Hernandez

A. Summary of the Individual Budget Development Sub-Workgroup:

1. SD Program budget is **based** on 12 previous months of purchase of services expended, with the regional center needing to certify the amount that would have been spent on this individual anyway. This budget can be flexible, however.

2. **Unmet needs** – if it is a pre-2009 suspended service then SDP can probably cover it. The question of social recreation and camp also came up; it looks like SDP will reinstate them from the 2009 cuts.

3. **Contracts** –how to calculate contract costs, and generally how to make a contract. Do templates for contracts need to be standardized? Chris Arroyo noted that in the pilot there were standard templates for contracts provided: standard, flexible, easy to understand compensation templates.

4. **Payments** from FMS don't have to be standardized; for example, participants in SDP may opt to give higher salary and benefits to an Independent Living Services worker, as in the SD Pilot. FMS will know what the pay rates are because FMS will hold copies of the contracts from the family, and can compare the amount billed to the amount budgeted, like electronic In-Home Supportive Services payments (Diana Sandoval; Miriam K.; Chris A.).

5. What happens to budget already spent if an individual decides to **leave SDP**? One would call another individual person-centered plan (IPP) for a reassessment.

What if you blow your annual budget in 8 months—do you have to go back to traditional services? (Chris A: In the Pilot this simply did not occur.) This is not likely to happen because of the checks and balances in SDP, such as monitoring by the FMS (Liz Cohen-Zeboulon); but again one would call another IPP.

6. Note: **FMS fees** need to be paid monthly, even if a participant does not utilize FMS services in a given month. HRC has vendored 24 Hour, and Westside RC has vendored Premiere, but an SDP participant may work with **any** vendored FMS.

FMS fees are determined by the type/number of services, such as in the pilot (David Gauthier).

7. Billing – Are financial management services (FMS) supposed to **front the money**? Someone from DDS suggested, could 2 months of the budget be given as start up costs? This still needs to be worked out.

B. Starting up SDP

1. A suggestion was proposed for processing applications by birthday. However this approach may disadvantage some who might have to wait almost a year for their birthday to come up.

2. RC clients are categorized by status (2,1,0); with the roll out, there needs to be a new status, S (for self-determination).

III. State Council on Developmental Disabilities Update – Chris Arroyo

A. Chris has been promoted now as the manager of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities Los Angeles office. He is in the process of recruiting and training staff, and will likely bring someone to our SD Advisory Committee meeting next month who he is training to fill his former position.

B. Although our HRC SD Advisory Committee is still operating, Carola Maranon's slot on the HRC Self-Determination Advisory Committee still needs to be filled. Please refer prospective candidates to Chris Arroyo at the State Council on Developmental Disabilities Los Angeles office.

C. Diana S. asked about a National Core Indicators survey that took place at one of her clients' home. This survey is part of a three year cycle of assessments which DDS contracts through the State Council for data-collection.

D. Qualifications for Facilitators training coming – June (DDS still has not finalized the orientation curriculum).

IV. Statewide Self-Determination Chair March Meeting – Miriam Kang

A. Connie Lapin asked that chairs make sure that people in their areas understand that an IPP is >>Not<< the same thing as a Person-Centered Plan.

B. Judy Marks is working on a book, *Profiles of Self-Determination*, comparing and contrasting traditional RC services with services under self-determination. She is recruiting individuals from the pilot plus other contributors for this project.

C. Miriam K. inquired as to whether a client who is multiethnic or has multiple diagnoses could count for either race designation or for one diagnosis vs. another (e.g. autism vs. Down syndrome) for the purposes of helping fill demographic quotas for the random selection process. At this point there will not be such flexible treatment in the random selection of SDP participants.

D. To do list:

1. Translation checks are needed for materials.
2. Frame materials from a self-advocate's perspective rather than primarily wording materials for parents of children. The clients themselves also need to feel like they are being addressed. Categorize clients using the same age breakdowns as regional center: 0-21, 22-41, 42+
3. Should we have the lottery before FMS groups are ready? Judy Marks says "Yes" because we need tie for Person-Centered Plans and budgets to be completed. Focus on NEEDS before you start on the budget.

E. Questions:

1. If one RC does not meet its quota, are slots transferable to other RCs? DDS response: "We will help you."
2. Sign ups for the lottery have had some variation between RCs – from signing up clients automatically if they show any interest in SDP from hearing it mentioned briefly during an annual IPP, to actual meetings dedicated to informing clients about SDP.

F. Chairs from across the state shared what's working. (The Harbor SD Advisory Committee is to be commended in that we have maintained a cohesive commitment to our task, with the loss of only one member – and that was due to her moving out of the catchment area.)

Mary H.: This info is so general – nothing really new. With approval of the waiver pending, it seems like this convocation of statewide chairs could have been more focused?

V. Announcements and suggestions for future meetings:

A. Wrightslaw From Emotions to Advocacy Conference is coming to the Los Angeles area: September 7, 2018, 8am - 4pm. Flyers were passed out to those present.

To register go to fasdsoutherncalifornia.org/events (Early Bird rates are in effect until June 30).

B. Linda Chan Rapp suggested having another Person-Centered Planning since it is a key pre-requisite to identifying an individual's needs and goals, before budget talks can take place --and it benefits clients regardless whether they are selected in the initial roll out. *Chris A. agreed to do a presentation on Person-Centered Planning at our May meeting.*

Next meeting: May 9, 2018 6pm at HRC Torrance office 21231 Hawthorne Blvd.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:28 pm

Abbreviations

DDS	Department of Developmental Services
FMS	Financial (Fiscal) Management Service
HRC	Harbor Regional Center
IPP	Individual Person-centered Plan
RC	Regional Center
SDP	Self-determination Program

submitted by Linda Chan Rapp

Harbor Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
April 3, 2018, 10:15 am

Members Present:

Member Name	Organization
Paul Quiroz, Chairperson	Cambrian Homecare
Alex Saldana	Oxford Services
April Stover	Ability First
Ben Espitia	Goodwill
Clare Grey	South Bay Vocational
Dee Prescott	Easter Seal Southern CA
Juan Sanchez	Options for Birth and Family Services
Kalia Williams	South Bay Vocational
Pam Ryan	Canyon Verde
Patricia Flores	Life Steps Foundation
Rhiannon Acree	Cambrian Home Health
Robert Haupt	Autism Spectrum Therapies
Scott Elliott	ICAN LA
Stan James	Goodwill
Steve Goclowski	Mentor Network
Terri Nishimura	Pediatric Therapy Network

HRC Staff Present:

Staff Name	Title
Claudia Villegas-Avalos, Liaison	Director of Community Services
Kaye Quintero	Controller
Tes Castillo	Accounting Supervisor
Ashley Ayala	Fiscal Review Specialist
Gail Parker-Yamamoto	Department Assistant, Community Services
Barbara Del Monico	Manager, Family Resource Center
Erika Braxton-White	Manager, Diversity and Inclusion

Call to Order

Mr. Paul Quiroz called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Presentation on HRC Resource Center

Ms. Barbara Del Monico presented materials available at the HRC Family Resource Center on the topic of personal safety. Materials included books and DVDs on the subject of earthquake preparedness, fire safety, disaster training, internet safety, workplace safety, and safety at home and in the community.

Our Diverse Community

Ms. Erika Braxton White presented the demographic and expenditure data for the fiscal year 2016-17. Presentation included POS expenditure data by type of service, client and HRC staff data by ethnicity, language spoken, age, and client living arrangement. The presentation materials were distributed to those in attendance, and can also be found on the HRC website at www.harborrc.org.

DDS Updates

Ms. Dee Prescott reported the California initial HCBS plan was approved, which extends to the year 2022. There is \$15 million in funding available for providers to apply for funds to assist them with becoming HCBS compliant.

The provider rate survey is still taking place. It has been reported that the survey is complicated to complete. The survey is voluntary, but Ms. Prescott encouraged all in attendance to complete the survey. It is expected that a similar survey for parents and individuals will be coming out as well.

ARCA has asked the state to consider not implementing the 14-day holiday schedule.

State assemblyman Chu has introduced AB2522, which would restore social recreation and camp programs.

ARCA has requested the age limit to be considered for regional center services be increased from 18 to 22 years in order to address individuals with traumatic brain injury.

Budget Update

Ms. Claudia Villegas-Avalos provided an update on Self-Determination. HRC has 98 spots to fill for this program.

Ms. Villegas-Avalos reported the state is considering requiring providers to implement electronic visit verification (EVV) systems in order to verify service provider visits to clients in the community and to prevent against fraudulent claims for payment for services.

Ms. Villegas-Avalos reported there were a total of 6 CMS grant requests submitted, but

we have not heard any news yet regarding these requests.

Future Training Topics

Ms. Villegas-Avalos requested feedback from those in attendance on any speakers or presentations they may be interested in having for future meetings. Please email her with any interests.

Ms. Villegas-Avalos asked about any subcommittees those in attendance may be interested in creating and/or participating in. Please contact Mr. Paul Quiroz or Ms. Villegas-Avalos with any interests.

Service Provider Updates

Service provider members in attendance shared events and other information regarding their respective programs.

Next committee meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.