



Self-Determination Advisory Committee, Harbor Regional Center

Minutes, October 12, 2016

6:15 Call to Order

Roll call:

Ray Ceragioli, Miriam Kang, Linda Chan Rapp, Rosalinda Garcia, David Gauthier, Carola Maranon, Deaka McClain, Mariano Sanz, Chris Arroyo, Marsha Johnson, Mary Hernandez

1. *Welcome:* introductions of committee members and guests; quorum established. A special welcome was extended to Marsha Johnson of Disability Rights California who will be filling Eva Casas-Sarmiento's position on this committee since she has been promoted to another job.
2. *Minutes* from June 8, 2016 were corrected for the spelling of the names of Deaka McClain and Miriam Kang, and then were approved unanimously.
3. *Report on the June 21, 2016 Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC)*
Sacramento teleconference meeting – with Miriam Kang actively representing Harbor Regional Center.

Some issues with local SDACs and their regional center (RC) persist, and differences in activities between SDACs were noted: some committees are mobilizing for outreach presentations, and some RCs like HRC have been having trainings (Eva Casas-Sarmiento has collaborated with Mary Hernandez in introductory self-determination program training for special support groups at HRC, and HRC staff have received introductory training as well.) According to the SSDAC 6/21/16 minutes, "The main role of the local Self-Determination committee is outreach and training."

California informally submitted responses to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in June and has been dialoguing with CMS to clarify its questions on the California waiver. According to Jim Knight of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) this approach was decided so that the (90 day response) clock would not be on. Meanwhile modules have been developed to train RC staff and will be held in five locations throughout California; webinars will also be available. Training modules were to be posted on the DDS site in July 2016, but that didn't happen. "Regional Center Staff and member[s] of the local SDAC will be doing the training for their communities."

Discussion:

How do we envision this training and outreach happening? Where should it be happening? What languages need to be used for the trainings?" Start thinking and planning now...

Outreach to school districts is needed. Mary Hernandez is meeting with LAUSD officials and will explain about self-determination when she presents at an upcoming probate court training

Ray Ceragioli reported on a well-publicized, well-attended meeting on Self-Determination at Fairview Developmental Center with Jim Knight of Department of Developmental Services and other knowledgeable presenters. A helpful overview of the history of S-D was given, with lessons from the pilot program, and recommendations on preparing for the coming changes.

“Outreach should be a brief and general overview of the SD program, what the program has to offer and the status of the application process.” (Minutes, SSDAC 6-21-16) At this point we are in the “hurry up and wait” stage (Mary H.). Some people are ready to reach out to the community and do training, but some have been/are uncertain as to what to say.

What is certain:

- what the law is
- the success of the pilot program
- how to apply for S-D program
- slots available during the 3-year soft roll-out; Harbor RC which 98 slots for SD program during this period. *There is talk that the first year selection number will be limited to 33 for the SD program, to be followed with an additional 33 the next year (total 66), and then 32 the third year (to total 98). However that incremental roll out is not official, according to Chris A.*
- necessity of fiscal manager (e.g., 24 Hour Homecare that is already serving Harbor RC clients)
- need for facilitators

Chris Arroyo remarked that in training the 4,000 people who have participated in the presentations by State Council of Developmental Disabilities over the past year, the greater the level of detail in the presentation, the greater the level of the details in the questions.

Mary Hernandez and Miriam K. suggested that we try to get copies of power points from other SDACs and other RCs to collaborate with what others are doing and sharing.

The question was raised as to whether anyone could go to anyone’s presentation. How will this affect the pre-enrollment procedure? If all the trainings are designed by the Department of Developmental Services so that they are consistent, would it matter?

4. Recap of SD Program Workgroup Meeting, September 26, 2016

Chris Arroyo's highlights:

- a. Topics covered: Waiver update, Training modules, pre-enrollment informational meetings, independent facilitator training, budget categories, and dealing with abuse and neglect under SD program.
- b. The 180 questions from CMS requiring clarification for California's Waiver application (which would secure Federal funding for the SD program) are now narrowed to 30. Examples: two residual areas needing clarification focus on how to avoid duplication of services, and how to distinguish tech support vs. communication support.
- c. The training modules were reviewed. In general they simply are slides of the law.
- d. New Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) requirements for Federal funding (= 50% of monies): Funds will be tied to delivery of services in integrated, community-based rather than segregated settings.
- e. Who will pay for the Financial Management service? Regional Center
- f. "Critical incidents" in which a client in SD program suffers neglect or abuse or unplanned hospitalization while under the care of an outside provider were discussed: what protocols should exist regarding reporting and monitoring (24 hour reports? 48 hour reports?). What safety requirements need to be in place to provide a safety net for SD program consumers? Chris A. will talk to Liz Harrell at East Los Angeles RC to find out how the pilot handled critical incidents.
- g. Budget categories have been narrowed to three:
Living Arrangement, Employment and Community Participation, Health and Safety
Mariano Sanchez pointed out that having three general "buckets" allows for flexibility in setting up distributing the consumer's budget money within the same category

Various Notes on the training modules:

- a. Background Check Guidelines – the Service Provider pays (one time clearance)
- b. History and principles of SD were briefly mentioned: Freedom, Authority Support, Responsibility, Confirmation
- c. Independent facilitator – "approved" training has not rolled out yet but the State Council on Developmental Disabilities trainings at this point seem to be covering the required content that will be in the DDS training.
- d. Note: individual budgets are based on Purchase of Service funds utilized rather than amount authorized.

e. Local SDACs will need to provide input to RCs regarding complaints as they arise. DDS will probably write regulations regarding Facilitators, as well as address best practices and address policy level fixes. Caps on facilitator rates might be drawn up. (RC service coordinators will still be available free of charge through RC.)

Discussion

(1) Ray C. asked whether budgets could be combined. Chris A. replied probably not; each must have his own budget although roommates may pool resources to share a staff person (and negotiate a more favorable rate), collaborating for common needs.

(2) Miriam K. asked about budget modification. Chris replied that when generic services become problematic or when there is a change in circumstances, simply call for a new Individualized Person Plan.

(3) Mary H. wished to affirm that the decision to take a summer hiatus in July and August had been discussed by this committee, and was voted on contingent on the *formal* filing of the CMS questions by DDS, which did not happen.

(4) Linda Chan Rapp asked who in our committee felt comfortable with helping with outreach and leading trainings:

- Mariano S. and Miriam K. – both are willing, but timing is a key factor as to their availability
- Mary H., Marsha Johnson, Ray C. and Linda C.R. are comfortable presenting
- Deaka M. – no problem training but wants to feel more knowledgeable

When the waiver details are ironed out, we can talk about trainings more in depth

Public Comment:

- a. Kathy Platnick commented that since only four states have been able to get their waivers approved by the Federal government, we should not be discouraged.
- b. Tracy Barro is interested in information about the HCBS waiver. She stated that a huge outreach needs to take place for the majority of families don't seem to know anything about the self-determination program.
 - (1) It was suggested that day program vendors or other service providers could serve as a conduit of information about trainings/
 - (2) It was also suggested to provide information about SD program through vendor meetings

Announcements:

1. At the beginning of the meeting, Deaka McClain announced that starting November 2016, she will be serving on the Department of Developmental Services Client Rights Advisory Committee and expressed her intention to represent our concerns from our local self-determination advisory committee (SDAC) to that board. She also explained she may miss one or two meetings of SDAC because of a 10-week course on domestic violence in 2017, and was told she could be excused.
2. SSDAC will have another teleconference on 10/26/16, and the call in number will be posted on the website State Council of Developmental Disabilities on Monday 10-17.

3. The next SDAC meeting will be 6-8 pm at 11/9 at Cambrian Homecare, 5199 E. Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 100, Long Beach

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.