



## **Harbor Regional Center Service Policy**

### **SOCIALIZATION, LEISURE/RECREATIONAL SERVICES, CAMPING SERVICES, EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND NON-MEDICAL THERAPIES**

#### **DEFINITION:**

Socialization/Leisure/Recreational/Camping/Educational and Non-Medical Therapy Services refers to a program or activity, which promotes community integration and self-advocacy training as they relate to recreation and leisure pursuits.

Socialization/Leisure/Recreational/Camping/Educational and Non-Medical Therapy Services may include, but are not limited to: swimming, gymnastics, sports, clubs, dance lessons, tutoring services, martial arts, creative arts, music therapy, art therapy, equestrian therapy, day and overnight camp or community integration activities.

Educational Services refers to those services typically provided by school districts for school-aged individuals. Service providers in preschool settings, typically provide tailored programs for individuals at least 3 years of age who are not yet eligible for a public school program.

#### **PHILOSOPHY:**

Harbor Regional Center recognizes that socialization, leisure, recreational, camping, educational and non-medical therapy opportunities through typical social recreational community programs may not otherwise be available to individuals with a disability. For children, the need for social recreational experience are seen as a typical parental responsibility and only after typical community socialization, leisure, recreational, camping, educational or non-medical therapy programs are determined to not met the minor individual's needs, would regional center funding be considered. Services funded through the regional center should not replace or interfere with the time that families spend together in social activities. Funding for educational services should not be used as childcare.

#### **POLICY:**

Harbor Regional Center may provide funding for socialization, leisure, recreational, camping, educational services and non-medical therapy opportunities for an individual only if the following criteria are met:

1. The individual is served by the regional center; and
2. When the individual is under the age of three (3), the child must be eligible under the Lanterman Act; and
3. When socialization, leisure, recreational, camping, educational and non-medical therapy opportunities are otherwise not available to the individual through typical social recreational community programs; and

4. When the individual/family has first made reasonable efforts to identify and use typical community socialization, leisure or recreational programs, but said programs cannot meet the individual's needs; and
5. The identified socialization, leisure or recreational, camping, educational and non-medical therapy opportunity is in an environment where typically developing individuals are also present; and
6. When frequency/duration/cost of service is reasonable in comparison to typically developing individuals; and
7. When the camping services and related travel expenses are delivered within the boundaries of the State of California; and
8. For educational services there is clear documentation presented by the family that a publicly funded developmental/educational program for a child is unavailable.

When the above criteria are met, the purchase of socialization, leisure and recreational services may be authorized in accordance with the following:

1. When the Individual Person-Centered Plan (IPP) team identifies a need to achieve an improvement in the individual's social, recreational and leisure life in a setting in their local community.
2. When the IPP team authorizes services to provide additional support for socialization, leisure and recreational activities already available through traditional/generic means, such as family, community and other day activities, services are intermittent/periodic and not continuous.
3. When services are not intended to meet an individual's need for childcare due to working parents.
4. When the service has been identified as part of the family support plan to meet a respite need.
5. When multiple social recreational opportunities are identified by the IPP team, the programs that best meet the above criteria should be chosen and services authorized at a rate of no more than one program per quarter during the IPP year.
6. When the IPP team determines that socialization, leisure, recreational, camping, educational services and non-medical therapy are needed at a higher frequency and or rate than described above, an exception may be granted through the Individual Person-Centered Plan (IPP) planning process as outlined in Welfare and Institution Codes 4646.4646.5.

*Approved by the HDDF Board of Trustees, May 17, 2022.*

*Approved by the Department of Developmental Services, May 26, 2022.*