

APPENDIX F



SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES

WRITTEN INPUT

Harbor Regional Center Service Review

Supported Living

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Mary's

Harbor Policy--items missing:

- Consider using language from second paragraph of HRC "Expectations for Supported Living Services" that talks about expectations being driven by the principles of self-determination and person-centered planning. That entire paragraph could be basically inserted in the policy.
- There should be a sentence stating that these services are available regardless of the severity of the disability
- Consider adding a statement about the limitations of paying for housing to help clarify that supported living is about services and not physical real estate. Also, it is probably worth stating that SLS is not available to someone living in the place of residence of their parents or conservator.

South Central LA--overall, I thought this was the best of the seven policies. Some statements in particular that I liked are:

- ✘ Their statement of the role of SLS vs other supports was softer than the language in many of the policies. "In supported living arrangements, the regional center funded services complement generic and natural supports such as In Home Support Services, subsidized housing and the involvement of family and friends."
- "SLS is a shift in thinking for program and funding agencies from valuing time limited, measurable, instructional and behavioral goals to valuing choices, needs and satisfaction of people with disabilities."
- Therefore, the program will address the identified consumer need and preference, obtained through the Person Centered IPP process and individualize and customize services and supports, rather than trying to "fit" the consumer into a previously established program."
- "...needs should relate to success in living in a minimally restrictive environment."

Westside--Of the three Westside policies I reviewed, this is my least favorite. While it is well written, it fails to passionately address Westside's philosophy the way the other two policies did. That said, there are several things I liked:

- Westside, NLA and San Gabriel all include a paragraph on the range of SLS supports available. HRC may want to consider adding something similar.
- "It is believed that individuals benefit from community participation, at whatever level they are capable."

- "SLS works best when an individual is part of an adequate circle of support that includes strong natural bonds of commitment that come from developed relationships."
- "WRC has a sincere commitment to the concept of supported living. Through experience with this service model, we have validated that given the proper supports to live in one's own home, any individual, despite the intensity of challenges, does benefit from the more individualized services that SLS offers."

ELA--I'm not a big fan of the ELA tendency to just recite the law. But, I did like the following:

- I prefer the ELA statement of criteria for services over the HRC policy. I particularly liked the statement that SLS is available when "Risks of endangerment to health, safety and well being are minimized." It is a slightly softer approach than item no 2 in the HRC policy. In this vein, I would consider also softening item 4 of the HRC policy.
- This policy also lays out the various alternative funding sources that must be explored before SLS is available (see P. 3). I thought this would be a helpful guide for consumers and parents.

San Gabriel--nothing special or useful

Lanterm--not much useful here

NLA--nothing special here

HRC Supported Living Services
Policy – Suggestions and other Comments

Policy

Policy sent from
17/11/17

- Include **Philosophy**

HRC places a high priority on providing opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities, regardless of the degree of disability, to live in homes of their choice in the community, ~~when that is the preferred objective in the individual program plan.~~ Supported living services support individuals' efforts to live in homes that they own or lease, participate in community activities to the extent appropriate to each consumer's interests and capacity, and realize their individualized potential to live lives that are integrated, productive, and normal.

place at end of policy

- Revise **Definition** (as per WIC, 4689 (c)) skip + call services - end of policy
The range of supported living services and supports available include, but are not limited to, assessment of consumer needs; assistance in finding, modifying and maintaining a home; facilitating circles of support to encourage the development of unpaid and natural supports in the community; advocacy and self-advocacy facilitation; development of employment goals/opportunities; social, behavioral, and daily living skills training and support; development and provision of 24-hour emergency response systems; securing and maintaining adaptive equipment and supplies; recruiting, training, and hiring individuals to provide personal care and other assistance, including in-home supportive services workers, paid neighbors, and paid roommates; providing respite and emergency relief for personal care attendants; and facilitating community participation.

- Include **SLS Principles** (as per WIC 4689 (a))

1. Consumers shall be supported in living arrangements which are typical of those in which persons without disabilities reside.
2. The services and supports that a consumer receives shall change as his or her needs change without the consumer having to move elsewhere.
3. The consumer's preference shall guide decisions concerning where and with whom he or she lives.
4. Consumers shall have control over the environment within their own home.
5. The purpose of furnishing services and supports to a consumer shall be to assist that individual to exercise choice in his or her life while building critical and durable relationships with other individuals.
6. The services or supports shall be flexible and tailored to a consumer's needs and preferences.
7. Services and supports are most effective when furnished where a person lives and within the context of his or her day-to-day activities.
8. Consumers shall not be excluded from supported living arrangements based solely on the nature and severity of their disabilities.

- Include **Eligibility**

A client shall be eligible for SLS upon determination made through the IPP process that: (see WRC and SCLARC)

1. The client is at least 18 years of age (*planning may begin prior to age 18*)
2. The client has indicated a desire and motivation to increase his/her independence in living, and has expressed directly or through his/her conservator a preference for SLS among the options proposed during the IPP process.
3. The client and where appropriate, his/her conservator, have chosen supported living services with full knowledge and understanding of any risks.
4. The client has, or is eligible to receive, financial resources necessary to pay for rent/mortgage, utilities, food, clothing and all other typical living expenses.

5. The likelihood exists, given the client's life circumstances and identified potential resources, that sufficient supports can be developed to build a full complement of natural, community, and generic support resources and avoid total reliance on paid supports.
6. Appropriate services and supports can be identified and are available as needed to protect the health and safety of the client and of others if he/she has: a) life-threatening medical conditions; b) the need for continuous nursing care; c) the need for constant supervision because of uncontrollable seizures; and/or d) physical limitations that require 24 hour personal assistance, or behaviors that could result in a threat to the health or safety of self or others, could result in extensive property destruction or the need for law enforcement intervention, or would likely result in repeated evictions.

Expectations for Supported Living Services (document)

- Under Client Training and Support, add "Vendor SLS training for Clients"
- Add a section for "Regional Center Responsibilities" (in addition to "Client Rights and Responsibilities" and "SLS Agency Responsibilities")

Other suggestions

1. Develop a General Overview/Training session with materials about Supported Living Services for Clients/ Clients' Families. Materials should include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - HRC's Supported Living Services Policy
 - HRC's Expectations for Supported Living Services
 - HRC's Supported Living Client/Staff/Agency Roles
 - WIC 4689
 - CCR, Title 17, Div 2, Chapter 3, Subchapter 19. Supported Living Service
 - Other topics as covered in HRC pamphlets (content to be updated)
 - *"Did You Ever Think About"* (Who is Eligible? How does it work? How much does it cost? Etc.)
 - *"It's All About Options, Living Alternatives for Adults with DD"*
 - Copies of forms: HRC SLS Assessment, HRC ILS Assessment, DDS's SLS Standardized Assessment Questionnaire

2. For those clients who will be transitioning into a supported living arrangement – Hold a structured orientation session with (or led by) SLS service provider and HRC service coordinator for client and client's family. Topics should include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - All material that is in the General Overview/Training session as mentioned/ outlined above.
 - Step-by-step before/after move-in, role and responsibilities of support staff/agency
 - Vendor SLS Training for client/ client's family as per CCR, Title 17, section 58653
 - Using a formal (printed) checklist discuss with client/client's family preparations for transition:
 - Housing issues – housing agreement, rent, utilities, cable/internet, etc.; prop mgmt
 - Supported Living Services/staff - number of monthly hours of support for client, etc. ; weekday vs. weekend staffing
 - Medical – Dr. appointments, etc., Rx – administration and ordering
 - Health – diet and exercise
 - Daily Living – self-care, meal planning, grocery shopping, laundry, housekeeping
 - IHSS
 - Employment and/or day services
 - Social/recreational activities
 - Transportation
 - Money management – SSI and/or paycheck, checking acct, credit card, etc.
 - Other?