

Regional Center of Orange County
Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

May 7, 2018

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Present

Rhys Burchill, Parent

Jyusse Corey, RCOC Peer Advocate

Cathy Furukawa, RCOC Training and Organizational Specialist

Tim Jin, Person Served

Andrea Kumetz-Coleman, Parent

Larry Landauer, RCOC Executive Director

April Lopez, Parent

Jacqueline Miller, Clients' Rights Advocate

Michael Rillera, Parent

Scarlett Von Thenen, Orange County Office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

I. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Rhys Burchill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. She welcomed all attendees of the Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee (SDPLAC) Meeting. Each committee member introduced him/herself. Community members in attendance also introduced themselves.

Ms. Burchill noted that meeting participants with issues outside of the scope of the SDPLAC can complete a comment card and have an RCOC employee contact them at a later date.

II. Approval of Minutes from March 5, 2018 Meeting

The committee reviewed the minutes from the March 5, 2018. Ms. Jacqueline Miller gave a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Michael Rillera seconded the motion. All committee members voted in favor of approving the minutes.

III. Updates on Informational Meetings

Ms. Cathy Furukawa provided a report on RCOC hosted informational meetings. RCOC has hosted 19 informational meetings to date. The feedback from attendees has generally been positive and people are excited for the Self-Determination Program. Some of the common questions that are asked during the informational meetings include “What type of service will be allowed under the waiver,” “Is there a limit to the individual budget,” “How does one identify an independent facilitator,” and “Why are only 155 people selected in the initial roll-out?” Mr. Jyusse Corey added that people have asked questions about the budget and how customized can services be. Ms. Scarlett Von Thenen stated that 20 people attended the meeting State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) hosted on May 5, 2018. She shared that people understand Self-Determination will soon be available but people are frustrated due to a lack of details. Ms. Furukawa shared that nearly everyone who attends an informational meeting signs up to have their name or the name of a family member to be submitted to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). There are 532 RCOC names she is aware of that has been submitted to DDS. A table of the ethnic backgrounds of the names submitted was shared with the committee and the public. So far, ethnicities of the names submitted closely reflect the ethnicities of those served by RCOC.

Mr. Tim Jin asked if the information on the age and developmental disability of the names submitted from RCOC is available and Ms. Furukawa stated that this information has not yet been compiled. Ms. April Lopez stated that she is attending the State Meeting on May 8, 2018 and she will ask DDS if they have this information.

IV. Report on State Self-Determination Meeting

Mr. Jin provided a report from the State Self-Determination Meeting. He reported that informational meetings should continue to be offered after the roll-out of the Self-Determination Program since some people will drop out of the program and these people will need to be replaced. While Mr. Jin was at the state meeting, there was news that the waiver was submitted to CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) and the 90 day timeline had started. DDS should have a response by mid-June on the status of the waiver.

Even though there was excitement regarding the submittal of the waiver, there were concerns over how the program will be rolled out. DDS was asked to break down the

demographic information of the names submitted for consideration for the Self-Determination Program by regional centers. Ms. Jin stated that individuals served aged 42 and up are underrepresented. He stated that there needs to be informational meetings for people receiving services from RCOC since the content of the informational meetings and the language used so far has been catered towards caregivers and families. Mr. Jin noted that even though 2,500 people for the initial roll-out of the Self-Determination Program sounds like a lot, it is in fact less than one percent of the people in the regional center system.

Ms. Burchill asked if CMS had additional questions regarding the waiver and if any waivers in the state of California have passed during this current administration. Ms. Lopez does not have this information but she can ask DDS when she attends the state meeting on May 10, 2018.

Ms. Burchill asked Mr. Corey to share about the Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference he attended last week. Mr. Corey shared that the conference was presented by the Supported Life Institute. There was excitement and curiosity from participants in regards to the changes coming up. They talked about how the Person Centered Plan works well for individuals served who usually do not speak much during their meetings. The Person Centered Plan provides an opportunity for people to speak up during their meetings and it gives people more confidence to think about the future and to ask questions.

V. Discussion on Revolving Representation at State Meetings

Ms. Burchill opened the discussion on revolving representation at the state meetings and Ms. Andrea Kumetz-Coleman asked for more information on what the duties of being a representative entails. Ms. Lopez shared that the meeting takes place from 10:00 AM until 4:30 PM with a lunch break. During the last meeting, the meeting was about the waiver but other topics in the past have included: ideas on training, what's working/not working, and what is happening in the local communities. A representative from DDS is usually present and travel costs are reimbursed to the representative. Mr. Jin shared that the next statewide meeting may take place in Southern California. Ms. Lopez suggested that once the date of the next statewide meeting is scheduled, an email can be sent out to the Local Advisory Committee members to see if anyone is interested in attending.

VI. Updates on the Waiver

Updates to the waiver were discussed earlier during this meeting when Mr. Jin reported on the State Self-Determination Meeting.

VII. Discussion of Waiver Services

Mr. Jin had emailed the waiver application, which included a list of waiver services, to the Local Advisory Committee. Ms. Furukawa will post a link to the waiver application onto RCOC's website so the information is available for the public. Mr. Burchill asked if there was any way to condense this information so that people can easily understand what services will be included in the waiver. Mr. Landauer noted that it may be clearer to learn what services are not covered under the waiver. At the upcoming state meeting, Ms. Lopez will ask DDS what services were not included in the waiver in the pilot program.

VIII. Discussion on Presentations

There was a discussion on possible topics that can be presented during future committee meetings. Ms. Kumetz-Coleman said that she has new strategies to have her son be more involved with his Person Centered Plan and offered to share this information. A member of the public noted that there have already been two presentations on the Person Centered Plan. Ms. Cristina Mercado, RCOC Person Centered Thinking Coordinator, is interested in a presentation on outcomes development since a Person Centered Plan leads to the development of outcomes. Outcomes development is an integral part of the Self-Determination Program since outcomes leads to service development. Ms. Burchill suggested an interactive exercise and discussion where the committee members work on developing outcomes. Ms. Lopez stated she will ask the regional centers that were part of the pilot program how they develop outcomes for the Self-Determination Plan.

Ms. Von Thenen said that a presentation on the Independent Facilitator is important and a presentation about it will draw a crowd to the Local Advisory Committee. She asked Ms. Lopez if she can find out how they plan to roll out the Independent Facilitator. Ms. Lopez noted that Rick Wood from the Kern County Regional Center pilot program has said he is willing to come speak about the Independent Facilitator.

IX. Updates to the new Individual Program Plan (IPP)

Ms. Mercado provided an update on the new IPP which should be available in the summer. The new IPP will be modified to provide more person centered information about the individual. The person will be introduced in their IPP with a photo, information on what is most "important to" them, and information on how best to support them.

X. Self-Determination Program Event Flyers

Ms. Furukawa shared with the committee that information regarding the Self-Determination Program Informational Meetings has been shared through mass emails sent to those who elect to receive emails from RCOC. The information is also available on RCOC's website and RCOC's public calendar. Ms. Furukawa asked the committee for

input on how to further share this information. Ms. Lopez stated that some people do not use emails so for her committee meetings, she typically calls people to inform them of the meetings. She asked if there is a list of vendors or non-profits that have direct contact with people served and families since they can share information about the informational meetings. She also stated that childcare is provided at her committee meetings which make it more convenient for people to attend. Mr. Landauer noted that providing childcare is a liability issue for RCOC. The committee members also suggested promoting the Self-Determination Program Informational Meetings in the Dialogue and at the Vendor Advisory Committee meeting.

XI. Public Comments

A member of the public shared that there is uncertainty if the waiver application will be approved CMS.

Mr. Jin asked if RCOC has ideas on how the Self-Determination Program will be rolled out and if the agency has a plan. Mr. Landauer noted that DDS said they will provide instructions on implementation so that there is uniformity between all 21 regional centers.

XII. Agenda Items for the June19, 2018 meeting

It was requested that the next agenda include an update on the Statewide Meeting, the wavier, and informational meetings. Ms. Kumetz-Coleman will present on the Person Centered Plan.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.