



Notice of Public Meeting

Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC) is a private non-profit agency under contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to provide services and supports to people of all ages with developmental disabilities within Orange County.

Notice is being given that RCOC will discuss its intent to submit a waiver proposal as described in Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 4669.75, also referred to as the AB637 waiver proposal, to the DDS in order to increase access to newly restored services including camping, specialized recreation activities, art, dance and music. The discussion will take place in a public forum at 1:00pm on January 25, 2023 via Zoom.

Through the repeal of WIC section 4648.5, effective July 1st, 2021, regional center's authority to fund for social recreation services has been reinstated. RCOC is seeking an AB637 Waiver to waive the existing statutory regulations in order to allow these services to be included in Participant Directed Services (PDS) and funded via a Financial Management Service (FMS) as described under Title 17 California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 58886, in an effort to alleviate challenges associated to the lack of vendored programs and the need for individuals and families to cover the cost up front and seek reimbursement through the regional center for those services.

- The proposal will increase quality and quantity of direct services to individuals and will respond to the expressed need for immediate access to service providers. Individuals will continue to receive services through a process of determining individual needs based on the Individual Program Plan (IPP), pursuant of WIC section 4646 and 4646.5.
- The proposal is cost effective, as costs will not exceed the current projected costs of utilization of funds for social recreation activities. Increased flexibility and choice through participant directed services will address current lack of supply of traditional vendored services.
- The proposal will have a limited impact to the cost of the FMS monthly fee, Fiscal Agent, service code 490, per individual. Furthermore, the FMS services are billable under the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver.
- The proposal will waive statutory regulations that require vendorization, purchase of service authorization and for services to be provided prior to payment, pursuant of WIC 46489(a)(3), 56029(s), 50608(d), 50612(a)(b)(1)(a-c) and Title 17 CCR section 54326(a)(10).

The AB637 waiver proposal will streamline the process for obtaining services and allow individuals with the right to freedom of choice in securing services based on their needs without the delay of waiting to be vendored with RCOC.

The Notice of Public Meeting will be available on RCOC's website at www.rcocdd.com, ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Questions, comments and suggestions regarding the proposed development may be submitted by January 25, 2023 to:

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