

Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC)

Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

December 16, 2019

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

Present

Rhys Burchill, Parent

Jyusse Corey, Person Served

Cathy Furukawa, RCOC Training and Organizational Specialist

Tim Jin, Person Served

Andrea Kumetz-Coleman, Parent

April Lopez, Parent

Keli Radford, RCOC Director of Services and Supports

Karen Millender, Parent

Jacqueline Miller, Clients' Rights Advocate

Michael Rillera, Parent

Tina Stang, 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 6:33 p.m. She welcomed all attendees of the Self-Determination Program Local Advisory Committee (SDPLAC) Meeting. Each committee member introduced him/herself. She also welcomed community members and asked them to introduce 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 November 18, 2019 Meeting

The committee reviewed the minutes from the September 9, 2019 meeting. Mr. Michael Rillera gave a motion to approve the minutes. All committee members voted in favor of approving the minutes.

III. RCOC Self-Determination Program (SDP) Updates

Ms. Cathy Furukawa provided updates in regards to the implementation of SDP and status of participants. As of November 2019, 114 people have completed the Orientation training and 31 people have chosen to opt out of the program. In early December, DDS selected an additional 49 participants for the program to replace the people who opted out. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) selected more participants than there are available spots to account for the possibility of more people choosing to opt out in the future. Ms. Furukawa shared the demographic breakdown of all participants. The second selection of participants includes siblings of those previously selected and Local Advisory Committee affiliates. RCOC has scheduled SDP Orientation trainings for these newly selected participants. These trainings are scheduled for 1/22/2020, 2/3/2020, and 2/25/2020.

IV. Review letter of recommendation from the Orange County SDPLAC to State Self-Determination Advisory Committee

Committee members reviewed a draft of the letter from the RCOC SDPLAC to the State Self-Determination Advisory Committee. Committee members reiterated that members of the statewide meeting do not have the opportunity to provide input towards agenda items and that if answers to questions must be provided by DDS and either DDS does not have answers or is unable to attend meetings, there may be no purpose in meeting. Ms. Scarlett Von Thenen stated that she spoke with the State Council headquarters and it was shared that the State Council does not set the agenda but the 21 committee chairs set it. Mr. Corey stated that the letter is good and important. Ms. Von Thenen suggested that DDS is also sent a copy of the letter since there is reference to DDS.

Mr. Michael Rillera gave a motion to approve the letter drafted by Ms. Burchill. All committee members voted in favor of approving the letter.

V. Review letter from RCOC to Self-Determination participants outlining steps to begin the program and participant's current status

Ms. Furukawa shared a draft copy of a letter for committee review. The purpose of this letter is to provide direction and clarity to SDP participants on where they are in the

process and what are the next steps. This letter would be sent to participants who have attended ~~an~~ Orientation training.

There was a discussion regarding the difference between paying for the Independent Facilitator out of the individual budget and the money available for participants to fund for an initial Person Centered Plan (PCP) to get started in Self-Determination. Ms. Furukawa and Ms. Keli Radford provided clarification in regards to what is needed in order to access funds for the initial PCP. The person providing person-centered planning services are expected to have training in the person-centered facilitation process and experience with leading PCPs. This can be provided through a resume. In addition, there needs to be a breakdown of services provided and the cost for each item. There was further discussion between committee members and members of the public regarding why an Independent Facilitator cannot be paid for person-centered planning services from these funds available for the initial PCP. Ms. Cristina Mercado, RCOC Person Centered Thinking Coordinator, clarified that individuals who provide person-centered planning services have received extensive training on PCP practices and have completed multiple person-centered plans.

A member of the public stated that a good PCP is important. She shared that she had someone hold a PCP for her son and that his person was able to help identify things she was not able to see on her own. Another member of the public stated that she believed she already held her PCP and she did not think her PCP was any different from a typical meeting.

Ms. Von Thenen expressed concern that individuals with low-income may be excluded from accessing this resource since they would not be able to pay for the services and wait for reimbursement from RCOC. Ms. Radford stated that RCOC is looking into a Financial Management Services (FMS) agency to pay PCP providers directly.

The committee continued to provide feedback and suggestions to make the letter less complicated and clearer to participants. It was suggested that plain language is used in the letter so that all audiences can understand it.

VI. Clarification on Independent Facilitator

There was no further discussion on this topic since this was discussed during agenda item five (5).

VII. Share your Self-Determination Program experience and ask questions

There was no further discussion on this topic since this was discussed during agenda item five (5).

VIII. Agenda Items for the next meeting

Local Advisory Committee members agreed to hold the next meeting on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. It was requested that a discussion regarding the attendance policy for Local Advisory members be included in the agenda. A second agenda item is the discussion of the possibility of holding small, informal workshops for parents who wish to learn more about Self Determination using Committee volunteers.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.