

## **SDRC Vendor Roundtable May Meetings**

### **I. HCBS Updates (Melissa Crawford)**

#### **a. HCBS Extension to 2022**

- i.** Center for Medicaid Services gave all states an additional three (3) years for all services to transition to meet HCBS requirements
- ii.** Statewide Transition Plan will be due by March 2019, providers' deadline for transition activities is March 2022
- iii.** Opportunity to make transition smooth for all; incremental changes
- iv.** Individualized strategic planning for each individual supported in program

#### **b. HCBS Grant Funding**

- i.** Additional \$15 million for FY 2017/2018 proposed in governor's budget
- ii.** Start assessing program to see where creative activities could be made to apply additional funding for transition activities for HCBS, can start working on writing proposal if funding is approved
- iii.** Open for any program that is offering services under DDS
- iv.** Providers can e-mail Melissa for a copy of the instructions and electronic copies of the grant process from last year

#### **c. HCBS Training**

- i.** Friday June 30<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am - 12:30 pm at Suite 118 in the 4355 Ruffin Road SDRC location, for vendors
- ii.** Registration forms will be in the next edition of the Communicator

### **II. HAB & Day Program Discussion (John Filley)**

#### **a. SMW Referrals (DOR & SDRC processes)**

- i.** February DOR guidance circular for referrals under age 25 that are seeking sub minimum wage jobs
- ii.** If that's the individual's choice, SDRC and DOR are partnering to make this process as smooth as possible to transition a person into a program as efficiently as possible
- iii.** Provides exhibits of some of the paperwork that would be required for individuals that choose subminimum wage work
- iv.** 3 different scenarios: 1) determined eligible but interested in CIE, DOR opens case to explore opportunities, 2) individual insists on subminimum wage position after being provided information and training, (follow flow chart in yellow), 3) student in school refuses transition services, the individual would not be able to enter subminimum wage work until they're 25 – or agree to pre-employment training services (can be provided by DOR or school if they are still in school)
- v.** Smooth transitions when individuals are exiting school in June

- vi. Maria Shepard is the CC & IR training specialist and willing to go into schools to provide the training to youth that may be exiting school prior to that exit
  - vii. Regional Center funded day program modified DS1968 referral forms for DOR that flags that the individual will go through the expedited process with them (modified process rather than full blow intake process)
  - viii. Process: SDRC generates the form, send to the provider who then contacts DOR to share the DS1968 form
    1. John to offer training on the process
    2. If form is missing DOR counselors are not sure what process the individual will need
    3. This only takes place after the 30 assessment occurs and ISP is developed and identified opportunity to have a subminimum wage position
- b. CA Blueprint: Local Partnership Agreements**
- i. Agreement generated by DOR, DDS and Dept of Ed, requires the three entities to come up with local partnership agreements
  - ii. Requires RC's to develop LPA's and the process to be in our performance contracts and goals related to numbers of individuals transition into CIE positions
  - iii. John to reach out to partners to start discussing the development of the LPA's in Imperial Valley
  - iv. DDS will send out a template form to use for the agreement process, the blue print trio will provide some guidance on what those will look like
  - v. Looking to partner with the local one stop career systems, local chamber of commerce and other local community partners that can help to create more employment opportunities (developed in April and will be in effect on July 1)
- c. Wage Reporting for clients**
- i. Wages that individuals are earning with program support are not getting reported even though there are forms that ask the client to be responsible to report wages to SSI
  - ii. Putting individuals at risk of losing their homes due to major paybacks due to SSI (problematic to residential settings – much of their payments to the home are with SSI as well as P&I funds, or living independently with SLS or ILS when payback affects the individual's ability to pay their rent on time)
  - iii. Guidance advisory in the beginning of July: if you help find employment for individuals, ensure the wages are reported (1 - communicate to the entire team of what is required to report wages to SSI ie: plan, what is

needed and who will help be responsible for reporting, 2 – recommend that agency put wage reporting as an ISP goal as best practice, monthly or bimonthly activity that includes making copies of the individuals paystub then provide envelopes that can be mailed to Social Security office)

- iv. Will use this information to help educate families and younger clients to understand and be more involved in their finances - get individuals with disabilities out of poverty
  - 1. Paul Mansell – involved in the CalABLE program, see clients with earned income to start utilizing CalABLE accounts that will allow them to save money without affecting their SSI benefits

**d. Annual Evaluation Reports**

- i. Title 17 requirement for Annual Evaluation reports to pull data together and send to SDRC by September 30; requirement restored after moratorium ended in FY 2012
- ii. Different reporting/assessment requirements for different types of programs
  - 1. Contact John Filley, or other Community Service Liaison, for section of Title 17 that describes metrics required in the report
- iii. Reminder will be sent in August to providers
- iv. Will be reviewed by the Quality Assurance evaluators as part of the QA process
- v. Prefer electronic submission due to SDRC move towards paperless

**e. Habilitation: Integrated Settings**

- i. Rehab Services Administration (RSA under Dept of Ed) – CA Department of Rehabilitation: provided information about what integrated settings look like
- ii. 2 major criteria: (1) setting has to typically occur within the community (ie: thrift stores), and (2) an individual with a disability must have typical interactions throughout their work shift with colleagues who have a majority of the workforce to not be identified with a disability
  - 1. If a setting offers group jobs, it would no longer be considered an integrated setting (ie: MCRD or Goodwill thrift stores)
- iii. DOR will come out with another guidance circular regarding integration that follows the standards from RSA
- iv. Group settings that might place an individual into would no longer be eligible for CIE incentive payments as it is no longer considered integrated
- v. SDRC must apply the new definitions of integration when looking at CIE incentive payments – may require more data from the program and employment

**f. AB1607**

- i. Copy of bill shared.
- ii. **Update:** AB 1607 passed by Assembly Appropriations Committee (15-  
yay, 2 abstaining), ordered to Senate on 5/31/17.
- iii. NonResidential Provider Self Survey: modifying services and programs to  
meet and individual's changing needs or interests
- iv. First part: effects WAP's and Group Placement, allow individuals to  
explore CIE opportunities or post secondary education in the community  
under TDSO in addition to current services up to 75 hours per quarter,  
deducted from the hours spent in the Work Activity Program
  - 1. Allow individuals to gradually get comfortable in community  
based options and transition out of congregate work settings
  - 2. Allow dual programming in place and explore different options
  - 3. Group Placement in Supportive Employment: gets 5 hours per  
month or 15 hours per quarter to explore options in the community  
with TDSO services
- v. Second part: pilot program from 2014-2015 with four different regional  
centers, employment program (\$40 per hour), remove pilot status and  
make it a permanent program with all regional centers – no end date rather  
than 2025 – will allow programs to do employment and pre-employment  
activities
- vi. Will be reviewed in the appropriations committee Friday, May 26 –  
contact your legislator to encourage this bill to move forward
- g. CIE & PIP Programs: Data Collection Processes
  - i. CIE: acknowledgement of the work a program does to help place a person  
into setting
  - ii. PIP: help an individual move towards employment
  - iii. DDS will be asking for increased set of data regarding these programs
    - 1. Monitor and track some addition information on individuals  
supported in these programs
    - 2. October will be when the data will be collected
  - iv. John to send out the required data in the near future
- h. Rate Increase Provider Surveys
  - i. DDS is required to report back on data of the effectiveness of the rate  
analysis and increase for providers as part of ABX2-1 legislation
  - ii. Draft survey that was sent out by DDS if providers received increases on  
rates from ABX2-1 legislation in 2016
    - 1. Intent of rate increases for administrative costs and direct support  
costs
  - iii. Draft survey period was in the first part of May, will receive input last  
week of May

- iv. Final Survey will be distributed by June 1 – October 1, 2017
- i. Assembly 279 – Authorization for DDS to make more efficient process for rate increases due to municipality minimum wage increased
  - i. Suspended within the Appropriations Committee

### **III. General Program Updates/Open Discussion**

- a. SDRC emerging needs in SD County
  - i. Referrals emerging out of the school systems that have restrictive health issues (only a few programs that are capable of serving them) – more providers who can provide unique programming for individuals who have complex health conditions
  - ii. Aging population that are showing symptoms of dementia or Alzheimer’s
  - iii. Individuals that are starting to move out of Fairview & Porterville DC
  - iv. Behavior modifications programs that offer some community integration components with a leased office space in the community to offer space for de-escalation (would require CCL licensing even for the facility area)
  - v. Regulatory changes may happen at a later time with the conflicts in the federal guidelines with HCBS
  - vi. Contact Therese or John if interested or have questions about starting these programs
- b. People First – June 2&3, final stretch, about 350 people attending the conference
  - i. Paul is the representative for People First, looking to start a SDPF TAY group in South Bay
  - ii. Next Quarterly meeting is in August (often in old town at the Ballard Center)
- c. TDSO service code question
  - i. Previously required a program to open a day program (510 or 515), then offered TDSO services
  - ii. DDS guidelines to do an addendum
  - iii. New provider without day program, agree to use the median (temporary) rate 63.06 per day per client – then determine hourly rate based on that
  - iv. Maximum is 8 hours per week or 10 hours per week if take a rate lower
  - v. Traditionally want a provider to indicate that they are able to operate under the current day program requirements
- d. Vendor or resource fairs
  - i. School districts have resource fairs for those that graduate in the fall then in the spring
  - ii. Parents and consumers can meet resources they may be working with after they leave the school programs
  - iii. Contact Therese Davis to discuss developing vendor/resource fair for SDRC

- e. Question about Integrated Work settings
  - i. Will have to look at the meaningful interactions that are happening within the setting during the shift
  - ii. Not just the lunch period
  - iii. How would it work for an individual who has a severe disability and requires some job carving?
    - 1. Employment outcome may look different but they might not fit into the integrated employment component
    - 2. Will have to take this question on an individualized basis
- f. Community Interface Services: SSA payee program is now up and running, contact the program if you have questions
  - i. SDRC will be scheduling a training with Trust and CIS in the near future
- g. Charlie Noakes is retiring on June 30 and Sharon Meier will be transitioning into his position on July 3
- h. Arc of San Diego has done some restructuring in management and case management and repurposing how delivery of service looks like
- i. Lori Sorenson will be transitioning into the Director of Community Services on May 30
- j. Issue with the amount of time it takes to become licensed was discussed and acknowledged
- k. ISP documentation requirements
  - i. Did find that ISP's needed more information when QA's were done on TDSO programs, what are the instructional strategies (methodologies to support individual in achieving the objectives – be able to share those details in the ISP so that a new staff could look at the ISP and could implement those teaching methodologies in their daily work)
  - ii. Acknowledge that large agencies that are using case management systems – should be discussed at corporate level, and has to be possible to implement on a system wide basis
- l. AB 279 – suspended in appropriations committee, proposed to help DDS have authorizations to increase rates when municipal codes increase minimum wage
- m. Question about an individual with possible paid internship program: how do they move forward with that
  - i. Job wants paperwork of processing
  - ii. Contact the service coordinator, has some unanswered questions about the paid internship program – have service coordinator contact John Filley
  - iii. John Filley may have to develop informational sheets for the employers
- n. SDRC partnering with a number of providers to work on employment opportunities in the community in the Ramona area

- o.** Imperial Valley DOR unable to find a service provider who can complete assessments on employment capacity
  - i.** Think outside of the box beyond the two resources that provide supported employment group placement
- p.** ESA's are required and the tools are needed to assess consumers – need to revisit to see if DOR can support the ESA vendors
  - i.** Internship program may be an opportunity to help with this process