

STAKEHOLDER STRUCTURE FOR HCBS REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTATION

February 17, 2015

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is actively engaging its stakeholders in the implementation of the federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) regulations. Drawing upon its extensive experience with stakeholders, it is using a tiered approach for this system-wide effort.

Throughout this focused planning process, DDS is coordinating with the Department of Health Care Services, the state agency responsible for official communications with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. DDS is also involving the California Department of Social Services on issues involving residential care facility licensure.

Steering Committee: The Steering Committee provides high-level direction and guidance on how to organize and move issues forward. It also assists DDS in oversight and accountability for each phase of implementation of the HCBS requirements. The Steering Committee currently comprises representatives from DDS, regional centers, the Association of Regional Center Agencies, and Disability Rights California, and meets frequently by conference call during the early stages of plan development.

Statewide Advisory Group (Advisory Group): The Advisory Group provides greater depth and breadth of analysis of the issues and processes impacted by, or necessary for, developing and implementing DDS's Strategic Plan for complying with the federal HCBS requirements. Its role is to closely coordinate with DDS on high-level process and policy decisions, and make recommendations to DDS for action. The Advisory Group has 21 members with broad experience, representing consumers, parents/family members, providers, regional centers, advocacy groups, and other interested stakeholders.

Workgroups on Specific Topics (Workgroups): Workgroups will research information, analyze data, and formulate recommendations on specifically identified areas, materials, tasks or phases involved in the implementation of the HCBS regulations. Each Workgroup will present its findings and recommendations to the Advisory Group for consideration and action. Workgroup members will be identified for their expertise and/or interest in the specific topics needing in-depth exploration.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Developing and disseminating information and presentations for public awareness and education about the regulations, as well as ongoing methods of communication;
- Identifying changes needed to the person-centered planning process;
- Assessing existing statutes, regulations, policies and other requirements against the federal regulations, with recommendations for remedial actions;
- Participating in various aspects of the program compliance determination process through developing and testing the provider assessment tools and conducting onsite evaluations;
- Identifying appropriate means for addressing complaints and appeals;
- Crafting ongoing methods for monitoring compliance.