Welcome & Overview
DS Task Force Guiding Principles

Topics to consider when proposing changes to the community system

- Lanterman Act
- Person Centered Planning
- Consumer Choice/Self-Determination
- Health and Safety
- Community Integration
- Equity in Service Access
- System Stability
- Technology
Service Access & Equity Workgroup Focus

Continue efforts on creating a culturally and linguistically competent service system

- Recommend statewide strategies to improve access
- Make recommendations for Disparity Fund Program priorities
- Review Disparity Fund Program outcomes
Service Access & Equity Efforts

2012
AB 1472
- Requires purchase of service (POS) data reports and RC meetings with their communities

2013
SB 555
- Language accessibility requirements (Individual Program Plan/Individualized Family Service Plan)

2014
California added NCI questions on cultural competence and access to services starting with the Adult Consumer Survey

2015
SB 82
- RCs must meet with stakeholders to discuss POS data, identify barriers, and develop recommendations for reducing disparities
Service Access & Equity Efforts

2016

Four stakeholder meetings
Performance Contract Measures related to reducing disparities and improving equity in purchase of service expenditures
ABX2 1
• $11 million annually for regional centers’ efforts to address POS disparities (Disparity Funds Program)
• Cultural Specialists at RCs and DDS

Three stakeholder meetings
Disparity Funds Program awards funding to 98 RC projects
CBOs can apply for $11 million to address disparities
CPP/CRDP projects to be person-centered, culturally and linguistically appropriate
Removal of respite cap

2017
Service Access & Equity Efforts

2018
- Select project site visits
- SDP participant selection reflecting geography & ethnicity
- Disparity Funds Program awards funding to 66 projects (31 RC projects, 35 CBOs)
- Two stakeholder meetings
- Released RC Service Descriptions in five languages

2019
- Disparity Funds Program awards funding to 70 projects (35 RCs, 35 CBOs)
- Gathered guidance on measuring the impact of Promatora projects
- Creation of Service Access & Equity Workgroup

2020
- Disparity Funds Program in process of awarding 55 projects
Director’s Advisory Group

Participants

- DDS
- Parent advocates
- Researchers
- Community organizations

Goals

- Receive input and guidance on activities designed to reduce disparities
- Reach underserved communities
Goal: Identify leaders who will support changes in the developmental services system as diversity continues to grow

- 5-year project at Georgetown University
- California is one of 10 states participating
Vision

To improve access to services for consumers and families, DDS fosters leadership and policy development that is culturally and linguistically responsive to the beliefs, values and choices of the diverse people of California.

A service delivery system that:

- Reflects the diversity of California
- Is fully accessible to all
- Allows full participation for individuals within their communities
- Is responsive
Equity in Access to Services
What is a Service Disparity?

Any difference in the quality of services that is NOT due to differences in needs or preferences.
Cultural Competency

Seeing the world from a different perspective

– Not Just Your Own
Linguistic Competency

Presenting information so it is easily understood by diverse groups

Examples include people who:

Do not speak English  Have limited writing/reading skills  Are hard of hearing or deaf
Stakeholder Feedback

- Some groups not comfortable asking for help, following up when services are denied
- Some groups do not trust public systems
- Socioeconomic challenges
- Lack of clear information, descriptions of services
- Materials not available in all languages
Data Overview
Data Available

Demographic and diagnostic information for each individual (Client Development Evaluation Report and Client Master File)

Purchase of Service (POS)
- Services RCs have approved for each individual (POS authorizations)
- Services RCs have paid for and asked DDS to reimburse (POS expenditures)
- Services DDS has reimbursed to RCs (State Claims)

Surveys of individuals’ experiences (National Core Indicators)
Data Limitations

No data on community or “generic” resources individuals receive

- For example, services provided through schools or the In-Home Supportive Services program

Sometimes information is not updated right away

- For instance, when an individual moves from one home to another

RCs may provide similar services under different service codes

- Makes it difficult to see the whole picture of services
Statewide Population by Ethnicity

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<th>2019</th>
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<tr>
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</table>
Use of Services Differs Among Communities

Average Service Expenditure,
Individuals Ages 3-21 Living at Home
2018/2019
Average 2018/2019 POS Expenditures, Individuals Ages 3 and Older in All Residence Types

- **African American, Asian, Hispanic Combined**: $12,101
- **White**: $24,263
Average 2018/2019 POS Expenditures, Individuals Ages 3 and Older Living at Home

- African American, Asian, Hispanic Combined: $7,521
- White: $9,640
Average 2018/2019 POS Expenditures, Individuals Ages 3-21 Years Living at Home

- African American, Asian, Hispanic Combined: $4,569
- White: $5,421
Average 2018/2019 POS Expenditures, Individuals Ages 3 and Older in all Residence Types

Hispanic: $10,248  White: $24,263
Respite Services

$1,934
HISPANIC

$1,839
WHITE
Statewide Disparity Measures

1. High-Level Comparison of Purchase of Service (POS) Expenditures by Age, Ethnicity and Language
2. Timely Eligibility Determination: Birth Through Two Years
3. Access to Early Start Services: Birth Through Two Years
4. Early Start Utilization Rate
5. POS Equity: Youth
6. Equity in Adaptive Skills Training: Youth
7. Respite and Personal Assistance Equity: Youth
8. Personal Assistance Services Equity
9. Equity for Language Diversity
10. Equity in Supported Living Services and Independent Living Services: Adults
11. Equity in Supported Work Programs: Working-Age Adults

Links to Measures and Background
Data Discussion Group

Will make recommendations to the Service Access and Equity Workgroup on certain technical issues such as:

- Suggesting ways the regional centers can present data on disparities so it’s easier to understand and use
- Recommending changes or additions to the Statewide Disparity Measures, which help track change from year to year
- Advising on best approaches to evaluating projects that are supported by the Disparity Funds Program
Review of DDS Website

Equity Initiative

To improve access to services for consumers and families, DDS fosters leadership and policy development that is culturally and linguistically responsive to the beliefs, values and choices of the diverse people of California.
Disparity Funds Program Summary
Overview

1. 4519.5 Legislative History
2. 2016 and 2017 Statutory Changes
3. Disparity Funds Program’s Responsibilities and Functions
4. Highlights, Impacts, Work Plan, and Goals
Annual Pre-Award Activities

Solicitation
Publish guidelines & submission period

Proposal Review
Panel review & scoring

Determination
Development process & transparency commitments
Post-Award Activities

Program Oversight
- Progress evaluations, project amendments, technical assistance

Data Collection & Analysis
- Data collection methods, measures evaluation, technical assistance

Financial Oversight
- Expense reports, scheduled disbursements, financial reconciliation
Project Categories

Promotores
Outreach
Parent/family education
Workforce capacity
Translation
Services development
Family/consumer support services
Project by Ethnicity

Across four years of funding, 45.4% of projects serve the Hispanic population, 22% serve the Asian population, and 14% serve the African American population.
Insights Gained

- Ask stakeholders to review translations to be sure they are culturally and linguistically appropriate
- Families may benefit from materials in a video or audio format, in their primary language
- Cultural competency trainings should include service providers in addition to regional center staff
- Offer outreach activities throughout the year to build trust and hear from the community on how to address barriers
- Provide child care for parent education events and schedule when parents are available
- Promotora projects can assist to build knowledge and trust with the regional center and other systems
Morning Breakout
Guiding Principles & Vision:

What should be added or changed?
Lunch
Afternoon Breakout
Cultural & Linguistic Competence:

What is working?
What is needed?
Next Steps