

**Department of Developmental Services (DDS)**  
**Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)**

Meeting Minutes  
**April 14, 2022**

<b><u>Members Attended</u></b>	<b><u>Others Attended</u></b>
Deaka McClain	Nicole Patterson
Ryan Nelson	Patricia Reed
Tracey Mensch	Julia Lowe
Kim Rucker	Leslie Morrison
Shawn Costello	John knight
Sylvia Delgado	Taylor Collison
Amy Lampe	Michael Shepard
Charles Nutt	Kaitlin Binnewies
Trina Castro	James Garcia
	Karina Cruz
<b><u>Members Absent</u></b>	
Tim Farrar	
James Wilson	
Caycee Ricketts	
Sam Yi	

**April 14, 2022**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson, Ryan Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:03 am

- A. Everyone introduced themselves
- B. Video Conference Zoom Ground Rules were read.
- C. The agenda was reviewed, and no changes were made. **It was moved** (Kim Rucker), **seconded** (Tracey Mensch), **and carried to approve the agenda.**
- D. The minutes for February 16, 2022, CAC meeting were reviewed. **It was moved** (Charles Nutt) **seconded**, (Deaka McClain), and **carried to approve the minutes.**

**2. DDS INITIATIVES**

Julia Lowe, DDS attended the CAC Meeting to share information about the initiatives approved in the Budget Act of 2021. There was additional federal funding this year from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), which will provide greater opportunities to help improve services and supports in the DD system. She shared that DDS really wants to get input from self-advocates about the Regional Center Performance Measures initiative and has already asked Nicole for help setting up a meeting with the CAC in May 2022 for this discussion. Julia described each of the initiatives listed below, answered questions, and asked the CAC members which items they are interested in hearing more about in future meetings.

- **Outreach and access to services, expanding services**

- ❖ Language Access and Cultural Competency Orientations and Translations
- ❖ Community Navigator Program
- ❖ Lanterman Act Provisional Eligibility Ages 3 and 4
- ❖ Early Start Outreach to Tribal Communities
- ❖ Social Recreation, Camp and Non-Medical Therapies
- ❖ Enhanced Community Integration for Children and Adolescents
- ❖ Group Homes for Children with Special Health Care Needs (GHCSHN)
- ❖ Coordinated Family Support Services
- ❖ Paid Internship Program and Competitive Integrated Employment Program
- ❖ Employment Grants
- **Regional Center expertise and resources**
  - ❖ Services for the Deaf Community
  - ❖ Enhanced Service Coordination for Consumers with Low or No POS
  - ❖ Implicit Bias Training for Regional Centers
- **Service quality and outcomes**
  - ❖ DSP Bilingual Differential
  - ❖ DSP Workforce Training and Development
  - ❖ Rate Reform
  - ❖ Quality Incentive Program
  - ❖ Regional Center Performance Measures
  - ❖ Modernize IT Systems
- **Self-Determination Program**
  - ❖ Office of the SDP Ombudsperson
  - ❖ Participant Choice Specialists
  - ❖ Enhanced Transition Support Services
  - ❖ Statewide Orientation
- **Community resources**
  - ❖ Systemic, Therapeutic, Assessment, Resources, and Treatment (START) Teams

- ❖ Forensic Diversion Program
- ❖ Emergency Preparedness and Resources

There were questions asked for clarification about some items. CAC members commented on the importance of Emergency Preparedness and Resources and Employment. Julia is going to work with Nicole to make plans for DDS staff to provide more information about these to the CAC in future meetings. Julia said additional questions or requests for information about these initiatives can also be sent later, if there are any.

### **3. TITLE 17 SPECIAL INCIDENT REPORTS (SIR) CHANGES**

Leslie Morrison came to the CAC to continue the conversation about SIR changes in Title 17. The CAC didn't have much more to add to the previous conversation about what more should be included when it comes to Special Incident Reporting. The CAC would like Leslie to come back and give them an update when everything is completed

### **4. HOME AND COMMUNITY BASE SERVICES UPDATE**

Kaitlin Binnewies, James Garcia, and Karina Cruz came to speak to the CAC to give an update on the Home and Community Base Services (HCBS). HCBS are long-term services & supports provided in home and community-based settings, as recognized under the federal Medicaid (Medi-Cal) Program. These services can be a combination of standard medical services and non-medical services. Standard services can include, but are not limited to, case management (i.e., supports and service coordination), homemaker, home health aide, personal care, adult day health services, habilitation (both day and residential), and respite care. States can also propose "other" types of

services that may assist in diverting and/or transitioning individuals from institutional settings into their homes and community.

The final rule will provide people with more the following.

- Full access to the greater community
- Various setting options, including non-disability specific settings
- Rights to privacy, dignity, respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint
- Individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices
- Individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them

The California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has been working with partner agencies, including the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the California Department of Aging (CDA), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), other entities, and public and stakeholder input to develop a multi-year Statewide Transition Plan (STP) to bring California into compliance with new rules. This plan has to receive final approval from CMS before March 2023, and was initially approved on February 23, 2018. The STP covers all existing California programs that are affected by the home and community-based settings requirements, including the HCBS Waiver for Californians with Developmental Disabilities and the DDS 1915(i) State Plan program. New HCBS programs are not covered by the Statewide Transition Plan. New programs, need to be compliant with HCBS right away.

The HCBS team would like CAC input on the following,

- What are some ways to ensure that individuals are actively involved in the way their provider makes changes to their service?
- Are there ways providers are doing that for you now?
- What are areas or decisions you wish you could be more involved in at your day program or work program or home?
- What are some things the Department can do to help more individuals become aware of their rights under the Final Rule?

Some input was given, the HCBS team told the CAC if they had any other comments that they wanted to make or if they had any questions, they could send an email to [hcbsregs@dds.ca.gov](mailto:hcbsregs@dds.ca.gov).

## 5. **END MEETING**

Ryan Nelson, Chairperson at adjourned the meeting at 12:02pm

**Next CAC meeting will be May 19, 2022, 10-12.**