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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

August 15, 2023

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: GRANTS FOR ENHANCED COMMUNITY INTEGRATION FOR
CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS (SOCIAL RECREATION GRANTS)
OUTREACH PLAN

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 provided the Department of Developmental Services (Department) \$12.5 million for social recreation grants. The Department has informed regional centers of approved grant projects and grant projects have launched. The Department required social recreation grant contracts to include language about development and implementation of outreach plans.

The purpose of this memorandum is to recap the importance of developing and implementing outreach plans in collaboration with grantees, regional center staff and the community. To enrich outreach for the social recreation grant projects, the Department recommends regional centers do the following:

- Notify regional center service coordinators, particularly those supporting children and adolescents, about the availability of social recreation grant projects, the services offered by the grant projects, demographic information of those who would benefit from the grant projects, and geographic areas to be served by the grant projects.
- Establish points of contact between the grant designee and the regional center's family resource center to assist with presenting and disseminating information about social recreation grant projects to families.
- Invite grant designees to present their social recreation programs during regional center public meetings and community events.
- Post approved social recreation grant projects on the regional center's website and publicize these grant projects on regional center media platforms.

Outreach and information sharing should extend to individuals and families who may not typically use these types of services or other regional center purchased services, but who may benefit from receiving these services. In developing outreach activities, regional centers must consider actions that will increase awareness and facilitate the sharing of information with non-English speaking individuals and communities of color.

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The Department acknowledges regional center efforts to build successful social recreational programs. It is expected these outreach plans will support further growth of social recreational programs across the state. Please send any questions regarding this memorandum to socialrecgrants@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



AARON CHRISTIAN

Assistant Deputy Director

Office of Community Operations

cc: Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
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