

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency

Department of Developmental Services

1215 O Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 www.dds.ca.gov



September 26, 2024

D-2024-Equity-001

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: STATEWIDE IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING UPDATES

In April 2023, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) contracted with EquitiFy to implement statewide Implicit Bias training to all 21 regional centers to raise awareness of unconscious biases and increase access to services by decreasing barriers. The training is statutorily mandated as specified in Welfare and Institutions Code section 4511.1, which requires implicit bias training for all regional center staff and regional center contractors involved in intake and assessment and eligibility determinations.

In December 2023, EquitiFy launched a series of self-paced online training modules, and beginning in January 2024, provided in-person trainings (Course 4) at each of the 21 regional centers. Due to various circumstances, some regional center staff and consultants were unable to attend the first series of in-person trainings. To ensure all regional center staff and consultants have an opportunity to attend the in-person Implicit Bias training, EquitiFy will provide regional makeup sessions at the following locations:

Northern California Region Location and Dates

Location: Alta California Regional Center (ACRC)

Address: 2241 Harvard Street Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95815

Dates: 10/15/2024, 10/22/2024, 11/13/2024, 11/19/2024 and 11/20/2024

Times: Morning Session 9:00 AM-12:00 PM / Afternoon Session 1:30 PM-4:30 PM

Southern California Region Locations and Dates

Location: Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC)

Address: 1000 S. Fremont Avenue Suite 23, Alhambra, CA 91803

Dates: 11/5/2024, 11/7/2024, 12/4/2024 and 12/5/2024

Times: Morning Session 9:00 AM-12:00 PM / Afternoon Session 1:30 PM-4:30 PM

Location: San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (SG/PRC) Address: 75 Rancho Camino Drive, Pomona, CA 91766

Dates: 10/2/2024, 11/6/2024, 11/19/2024, 12/3/2024 and 12/10/2024

Times: Morning Session 9:00 AM-12:00 PM / Afternoon Session 1:30 PM-4:30 PM

Regional Center Executive Directors September 26, 2024 Page 2

Location: South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) Address: 2500 S. Western Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90018

Dates: 10/10/2024, 10/17/2024, 10/24/2024, 11/7/2024 and 11/14/2024

Times: Morning Session 9:00 AM-12:00 PM / Afternoon Session 1:30 PM-4:30 PM

EquitiFy will utilize a registration process that allows regional center staff and contractors to choose a date and location to attend the in-person training. Individuals will only be allowed to register for one session. Space is limited at the location sites and each training will not exceed 50 individuals; therefore, individuals should reserve a training spot at their earliest convenience.

Availability will be on a first-come, first-served basis. EquitiFy will track registrations and attendance at each of the trainings, although each regional center should also maintain records of the location and date that their staff attended a training. Reservations for makeup sessions can be made here at Implicit Bias Course 4 Registration.

Implicit Bias Training will occur on an annual basis in the form of refresher training for existing regional center staff and contractors, and initial training for new staff and contractors. The Department will continue to monitor the impact of the training and how it decreases biases and increases access to services for the various communities served by regional centers.

If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Shanola Harvey, Community Program Specialist II, Service Access and Equity Division, at Shanola.Harvey@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

RAPONE ANDERSON Interim Chief Equity Officer Service Access and Equity Division

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
Pete Cervinka, Department of Developmental Services
Michi Gates, Department of Developmental Services
Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services