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DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Developmental Services
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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

November 17, 2023

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: FUNDING TO SUPPORT COMPLIANCE WITH THE HOME AND
COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FINAL RULE

The purpose of this letter is to notify regional centers of the process for use of available funding to assist in and maintain compliance with the federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule requirements, and to outline next steps for regional centers in reporting their plan for use of this funding to the Department of Developmental Services (Department).

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 enacted budget includes \$15 million to assist providers in complying with the HCBS Final Rule, and to support broader work in each community which promotes and sustains ongoing compliance. Regional centers should work collaboratively with people who receive services, their families, and the service provider community to prioritize the use of available funds to meet the needs of individuals served in their local area. The Department has identified priorities for use of the funds, which include:

- Establishing or continuing teams to work with and monitor service providers in achieving or maintaining full compliance with all applicable federal requirements, and/or to work together on plans remediating areas not yet compliant, including addressing provider-specific remediation needs;
- Establishing or continuing peer-led teams to engage with individuals served and their families to receive feedback on service provider implementation of the HCBS rules, focusing on providers working to achieve compliance and who are at risk for not being able to maintain compliance;
- Developing training and informational tools for planning teams to use in service planning and in creating or amending the individual program plan to ensure appropriate documentation is included;
- Developing local communities-of-practice which increase knowledge and implementation of best practices and encourage collaborative groups to foster shared learning and solution-focused discussion;
- Engaging families and individuals served, including education and training for families, support professionals and providers on best practices for aligning services with the HCBS Final Rule; and,

Regional Center Executive Directors
November 17, 2023
Page two

- Creating and implementing innovative pathways and provider practices which support community inclusion, individual rights, and individual choice, highlighting a whole-person approach to service delivery.

Regional centers must submit their plan for use of these funds to the Department for review and approval, utilizing Enclosure A, by January 31, 2024. The funds available for each regional center will be included in the next budget allocation as displayed in Enclosure B.

Additionally, regional centers must complete a status report for each current project within an open FY (FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23) by January 31, 2024. Ongoing reporting should be completed once every six months for each project in an open FY. Such reports are due within 30 days following the end date of the six-month reporting period. The Department will send reminders when reports are due, and the link to the reporting platform will be sent to regional centers via email within two weeks of this guidance.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact hcbsregs@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

VICKI SMITH, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Policy and Program Development Division

Enclosures

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Regional Center Chief Financial Officers
Association of Regional Center Agencies
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Nancy Bargmann, Department of Developmental Services
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services
Carla Castañeda, Department of Developmental Services
Jim Knight, Department of Developmental Services
Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services
Suzy Requarth, Department of Developmental Services
Susan Crow, Department of Developmental Services

**California Department of Developmental Services
Regional Center Proposed Plan for Use of
Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Compliance Funding – FY 2023-24**

Please complete and send to hcbsregs@dds.ca.gov by January 31, 2024.

Regional Center	Inland Regional Center
What input was collected to inform the proposed use of HCBS funds?	Joint project with all Regional Centers. No input gathered.
Is the proposed use of HCBS funds a continuation of previous funding? If so, please describe.	No

Brief description of proposed use of HCBS funding with expected outcomes. If available, please list proposed contractor or vendor.	Estimated Amount
Statewide HCBS Animation Project to educate and inform clients/families and residential providers about the Final Rule.	\$62,000.00
Total Amount	\$62,000.00

Home and Community-Based Services Funding, FY 2023-24

Regional Center	Funds to Support Compliance
Alta California Regional Center	\$892,020
Central Valley Regional Center	\$814,842
Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center	\$578,229
Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center	\$563,140
Far Northern Regional Center	\$566,675
Golden Gate Regional Center	\$620,034
Harbor Regional Center	\$675,401
Inland Regional Center	\$1,175,109
Kern Regional Center	\$567,088
North Bay Regional Center	\$589,615
North Los Angeles County Regional Center	\$826,792
Regional Center of the East Bay	\$845,055
Regional Center of Orange County	\$810,960
Redwood Coast Regional Center	\$432,287
San Andreas Regional Center	\$739,658
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center	\$733,186
San Diego Regional Center	\$1,012,252
San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center	\$658,108
Tri-Counties Regional Center	\$670,194
Valley Mountain Regional Center	\$673,929
Westside Regional Center	\$555,425
Total	\$15,000,000