

Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical Therapies

**REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY VIA
ZOOM: FEBRUARY 11, 2022 @ 1 PM**

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UPDATE ON COVID -19 in OUR COMMUNITY

TRACKING CASES FOR INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY RCEB

January 5, 2022 : Total Cases Since March2020-872

February 11, 2022: Total Cases Since March2020- 1287

Of note, Young children have been more impacted this time . In the next weeks, we may see vaccines for those under 5 years.

Boosters: Required unless a religious or medical exemption in place for staff as soon as they are eligible providing services to regional center consumers

Vaccines For Regional Center Consumers

- ▶ Alameda County: <https://www.primarybio.com/r/alco-vax-signup>
- ▶
- ▶ CC County: <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/get-vaccinated>
- ▶
- ▶ CA/both counties: <https://myturn.ca.gov/>

RESTORATION SOCIAL RECREATION AND CAMPING

- ▶ These services were restored with the budget passage and Governor's signature in July 2021.
- ▶ During the great recession, social recreation, camping, educational services and non medical therapies were eliminated for almost all individuals served.

Outreach Plan

- ▶ On October 7, 2021 the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) requested that regional centers submit an outreach plan regarding the restoration of camping, social recreation, and other services per Welfare and Institutions Code 4648.5. There was also a request for a revision of our purchase of service policies to reflect the restoration.

Outreach Plan

► **Provide Information to Service Coordinators**

All RCEB case management staff will receive training in February 2022 specific to the updated policy for these services. This training will include an update to the annual review documents to prompt case managers to review the restoration of these services this year with each individual and family. Since IPPs are completed every three year, this will assure that this is addressed in a timely manner with all people served. RCEB will assure that all documents produced on these services are available

RCEB will also prioritize training of our case managers for our low to no purchase of service caseloads about these service.

Outreach Continued

▶ **Provide Outreach to Individuals and Families**

RCEB will prioritize the sharing of information about the restoration of these services with:

Individuals and Families who may not typically use these types of services or other services but may benefit from these services.

Individuals and Families from communities of color and/or are non-English speaking

Outreach Continued

Activities will include:

- ▶ Holding 2 Community Meetings via Zoom with Translation in preferred languages on the restoration of these services
- ▶ Reaching out to offer Informational Meeting to all Community Based Organizations that have received Service Equity grants in our community
- ▶ Pairing Each Purchase of Service Expenditure Meeting this year with a Presentation on the restoration (Note: these may be overlap with meetings with community based organizations)
- ▶ Meeting with our Consumer Advisory Committee and other advocacy groups of people served to share information

New Purchase of Service Policy

- ▶ Approved By RCEB Board of Directors on January 24, 2022.
- ▶ Available on our WebSite
- ▶ Submitted for Review to DDS.

Purchase of Service Policy

- ▶ **PHILOSOPHY**



- ▶ The Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB) understands that all consumers have a basic need for leisure activities that may include both structured and unstructured social and recreational opportunities. These activities may be simply having a friend over to visit, attending a sports event, and/or going to a recreational program offered through various local Recreation Departments, clubs and agencies in the community. For many RCEB consumers, generic community activities meet the need for social and recreational opportunities. Others may experience barriers to participating in typical social activities by virtue of their behavior, physical condition, or level of skill thereby needing specialized supports to access community programs or may require a program that is specialized as an inclusive and integrated recreational option.

POS Policy

▶ **SERVICE DEFINITION**



- ▶ Social and recreational services are set up specifically to either provide an opportunity to engage in an activity during the consumer's leisure time or to help a consumer or consumers to access a leisure time activity of the consumer's choice. These activities may be organized to take place at a specific site or take place in various settings in the community and may include educational services for children three to seventeen, inclusive, years of age; and nonmedical therapies such as art, dance, music and specialized recreation. To the greatest extent possible, the service should maximize integration and inclusion in the community. Camping services and associated travel expenses are also included.

- ▶ Note: RCEB Respite policy (#3420) for ages 3 years and older currently supports camping services used as out-of-home respite for consumers who cannot be unsupervised. This Social Recreational Policy supports the use of camping solely as a social recreational activity.

POS Policy

- ▶ **BOARD Policy**

- ▶ Social and recreational needs should be addressed as part of the Person Centered Planning Team's discussion and assessment of the consumer's needs. RCEB may only fund social and recreational activities once it is determined that these activities cannot be accessed in any other way.



- ▶ The RCEB Board of Directors supports the use of services and supports that further the consumer's ability to access social and recreational activities that are available to all people. The Board of Directors supports the concept of activities that emphasize access to activities that have inclusion as their goal.



- ▶ The RCEB Board of Directors supports the concept that all consumers should have access to social and recreational activities. The Board believes that parents have the primary responsibility to guide and support their minor children in accessing and funding leisure time activities.

POS Policy

▶ **PROCEDURES**

- ▶ The Planning Team, which includes the consumer, reviews within the person centered plan, the person's needs for socialization and for recreation and develops a statement of goals based upon the needs and preferences of the consumer. The Team considers the various factors that support or inhibit the achievement of the person's goals (e.g., the consumer's own abilities, family, friends, residential care facility, and community resources). The Team then decides if the aforementioned resources and supports are available and sufficient to meet the consumers need and goals.If not, then the Team may authorize RCEB to purchase the appropriate supports/services under the following circumstances:

POS Policy

- ▶ When the consumer is at least three (3) years of age; and
- ▶ An opportunity has been identified to achieve improvement in the consumer's social, recreational and leisure life in the community or to develop friendships; and
- ▶ The need for the purchased service is documented in the person centered Individual Program Plan (IPP) which also includes specific desired outcomes and plans to develop social skills or friendships with the overall goal of including the consumer in social and/or recreational activities with non-disabled peers; and
- ▶ Social/recreational activities should not interfere with or occur during educational programming, adult day programming; and

POS Policy

- ▶ RCEB believes that participation by clients in a socialization, leisure or recreation program may also meet a family's need for respite. Accordingly, RCEB will review the purchase of both respite (including camping as out-of-home respite) and social, leisure and recreation services and make individual adjustments accordingly.
- ▶ Consumers who live in community care and health care residential homes are entitled to receive social, leisure and recreation services as part of such residential programming; as a rule these services may not be purchased for clients who reside in such licensed homes. To meet social and recreational needs that would not otherwise be available, Campership not to exceed two weeks will be supported for individuals in licensed residential homes.
- ▶ RCEB may purchase supported community integration programming at a 1:1 staff to client ratio to develop the client's ability to independently access the community through circles of supports.

POS Policy

- ▶ RCEB may purchase Nonmedical Therapies at a maximum frequency of one session per week; for a maximum of 5 sessions per month, to accommodate months that span more than four weeks.
- ▶ Purchase of tickets to amusement parks, sporting events and social activities that require entrance fees remain the responsibility of the consumer and shall not be funded by RCEB. When there is extreme financial hardship, RCEB will assist in identifying resources to assist with payment of fees for classes and basic activities that support IPP goals.
- ▶ The case manager will provide advice and advocacy if needed to access generic activities that should be available to all people.

How To ASK For These Services

- ▶ Contact Your Case Manager:
 - ▶ Discussion/Request can be made during your regularly scheduled Individual Program Plan (IPP) or Annual Review or Quarterly Review for those residing outside of the family home.
 - ▶ Discussion/Requests can also be made at anytime outside of these scheduled meetings and will require completing an Addendum to the IPP
 - ▶ The IPP identifies the service, quantity and schedule therefore it's important to have the social or recreational activity identified
 - ▶ To support use of non-vendored services which RCEB has no avenue to fund, individual/family reimbursement would be considered.
 - ▶ Individual/family reimbursement requires an abbreviated vendor application process
 - ▶ Funding for these services can start once the IPP is completed, signed, and a target start date is identified within the IPP

Developing New Services

- ▶ **Outreach to Service providers and Community Organizations to Assure Service Availability**
- ▶ Expand our outreach to previous service providers to increase the availability of these services.
- ▶ Reach out to providers of camping services to assure that they have a travel component as needed for individuals
- ▶ Conduct outreach to local providers of non-medical therapies to encourage them to become vendors
- ▶ Work with local recreation departments to support their expansion of services to the individuals served by regional centers. While not supplanting the community's responsibility to all their citizens, RCEB will work with these entities to look at what specialized supports might make inclusion possible for many

Identifying Resources/People Served

- ▶ Let us know of potential opportunities for social recreational, camping and non medical therapies.
- ▶ Let us know of potential providers as well as types of supports you might want
- ▶ You can tell your case manager or share with us on write to us

We Need Service Providers

- ▶ Since these services haven't been allowed for many years, our community needs to develop new resources
- ▶ Outreach will be ongoing to identify opportunities that are what people want
- ▶ Opportunities should allow people to be included as much as possible in their community.

CHALLENGES OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS TO ADDRESS

- ▶ Provider Capacity
- ▶ Vendorization

QUESTIONS and IDEAS