

Direct Support Professional Training (DSPT)
Regional Advisory Meeting
Regional Center of the East Bay & Golden Gate
January 10, 2024 10:30 AM - 12 PM

Minutes

Welcome, Introductions

- Service Hub Representatives-Janet Sloan, Margo Perkins, Renae Dominici, Dr. Cindy Christovale, Craig Lang, and Abraham Hill
- Regional Center Representatives-Michael Minton RCEB, Brooke Guerrero RCEB, Sean Galvin GGRC, Skylar Spencer GGRC, and Dania Chawkins GGRC,
- Regional Center Vendor Community Care Facility Provider Representatives-Edwin Isip, Eva Brown, Frank Rodriguez, Alegria Branka, Xavier, Fatima Lacsamana, Connie Vigo, and Alona Alfonso
- SBCSS/CDE/DDS Representatives-Tina Silva SBCSS, Tara Neilson CDE, and Raymond Usac DDS, and Stephanie McNay DDS

Purpose of DSPT Advisory Committee Meeting-

- To ensure that the Challenge Testing and Training are sufficiently scheduled to meet the needs of eligible DSPs within the Service Hub's regional center catchment area
- Provide updates from DDS and CDE on DSPT program issues
- Address and resolve issues related to the DSPT program within the local regional center catchment area
- Provide Training and Testing aggregate results

California Department of Developmental Services Report-

Program updates:

- DSPs can only miss up to 3 hours before the system drops them from the training.
- Authorization letter approved by RC and DDS will need to follow up with an email approving the use of the vendor code/ID.
- Stephanie went over DSP expectations and guidelines when attending a virtual training.
- Stephanie McNay displayed PowerPoint with data for July 01, 2023 through October 31, 2023. Enrollment numbers 3,719, 2,528 tested and 2,377 passed. The pass rate is 94%. The retention rate is at 61.28% for Yr. 1 & 69.46% Yr. 2 due to DSPs dropping the class or not showing. This may be due to continued staffing issues or feeling ill.

Program quality management system:

- Classroom observations are taking place by DDS and by the Hubs.

California Department of Education Report

- **Materials and supply issues:**

1. Student Resource Guides can be downloaded.

- **Local coverage (issues, development of formal agreements)**

1. Coordinates training schedule (Online/In-Person), facility/classroom reservation, and provides trainer materials and equipment.
2. DSPT Training/Recertification will be held in San Bernardino August 2024.
3. Provide statewide support for DSPT training, 4 Hubs - Riverside, Fresno, Orange, and Butte.
4. Conducts trainer monitoring, hiring, and annual trainer re-certification.
5. Maintains Department of Social Services vendorization and course certification of DSPT curriculum for Residential Facility Administrators.

San Bernardino County Office of Education Report

- The Helpdesk is available from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Monday-Friday. Advise staff and administrators to not create accounts for their DSPs. Please have DSPs call the helpdesk to get assistance to register at 1-800-910-4604.
- Attendance should be able to be viewed up to ten business days after the training ends. The administrator and DSPs can view their attendance up to those ten days.
- Tina Silva presented a PowerPoint. Displayed the DSPT homepage and how administrators can navigate their DSP's training and certificate information.
- FERPA Privacy Laws prevent the helpdesk in speaking with anyone other than the DSP. If the DSP needs assistance with translating, they may have a family member or their administrator assist them during a call to the helpdesk, but not a co-worker.
- Current issues are DSPs having multiple accounts. An email will be sent out to DSPs to call the DSPT Helpdesk to correct the issue. The account will be deactivated until the DSP calls to update the information.

Service Hub Report

- Janet Sloan FCSS reiterated that the In-Person classes will continue to grow and encourage administrators/vendors to send their DSPs to the In-Person in their area. The virtual training is going well but would like to continue having more In-Person in the catchment areas of GGRC and RCEB.
- There are In-Person training courses being offered in Marin County. Ellen Faryna, DSP Instructor will continue to work with Stacy Anderson at Cedars of Marin scheduling the next training for the Spring of 2024. Will have an In-Person in the Hayward area as well.

Regional Center Report

- Michael Minton RCEB asked Raymond DDS regarding feedback about the Stipend Program. How are DSPs responding?
Does the stipend program affect the DSP program? Raymond responded that the stipend training program is separate from the DSP Year 1 and Year 2 training. The stipend requires a two-hour training and once completed the DSP receives a stipend amount. The DSPs do not have to have their Year 1 and 2 before participating in the stipend program. Raymond will attach the flyer with more information.
- Sean Galvin GGRC, said everything is going very well. The feedback that Sean consistently receives is having the materials in other languages.
- Michael Minton said that DSPs have a challenging time signing into their DSP portals. Michael did speak with Tina regarding this issue. Also, he was not aware that new homes had to notify Tina Silva with the DSPT Helpdesk to register the vendor number of the new home. Raymond responded that this is something that is new. This is a back up to ensure the new homes/facilities are having their vendor information added to the database for DSPT. DDS sends out that information to Tina, but having the backup will help.
- Brooke Guerrero, RCEB asked if there is a process to obtain permanent permission to give authorization to new vendors to use the RC vendor number. Raymond responded that DDS is currently working on that solution for the regional centers.

Provider Representative(s) Input –

- Edwin Isip provider with Delta Residential in East Bay asked if there are trainings in Spanish? Janet responded that currently there are only quizzes in Spanish, but the test is only in English. The Fresno Hub will work with Edwin to have his DSPs enroll with a bilingual DSP instructor for the extra support. Lydia German, Fidel Garibay, and other instructors with our partnered hubs have bilingual trainers to help with virtual trainings. The trainings are not taught in Spanish, but the instructors can communicate with the DSP in Spanish to answer questions and explain things.
- Edwin asked how his DSPs would know if a class had a bilingual instructor? Renae will work with Edwin to connect him with our bilingual instructors.

DSP Trainer Input-

- Craig Lang Eden Area ROP asked if there is a need in Turlock to host a DSP training? Merced Regional Center does offer their conference room to have an In-Person class there. Scheduling an In-Person Challenge test in the Spring 2024. Due to the Merced location being so close to Turlock, at this point our Hub will continue to have the classes at Merced RC. If anything changes, the Fresno Hub will contact Mr. Lang.
- Dr. Cindy Christovale, Eden Area ROP emailed out the stipend flyer to encourage the DSPs to take advantage of the initiatives by participating in the stipend program.

Next Meeting – Virtual Platform

Recap and Closure- Input from vendors/administrators are always appreciated in helping improve the DSP program.