

Direct Support Professional Training (DSPT)  
Regional Advisory Meeting  
Kern Regional Center  
May 05, 2025 10:30AM-12PM

## Minutes

### Welcome, Introductions

- Service Hub Representatives-Margo Perkins, Renae Dominici, Lisa Jo Gage, Tamerla Prince, and Jamie Beckner
- Regional Center Representatives- Sharon McGee, Marian Costantino, Susan Gottardi, Jamie Patino, Joanne Frasher, Alejandra Chavez, Rome Quiton, and Marcus Anderson
- Regional Center Vendor Community Care Provider Representatives-Helen Houck, Jessica Pence, Richard Sikes, Crystianna Robinson, Shannon Gratt, Leslie Mosqueda, Rose Salmon, Beatrice Villegas, Rubi Parra, Adina Alaniz, Donte Williams, Vanessa Moreno, Gurinder Kaur, Adre Rochelle, Ingrid Rincon, and 0Adam Gomez
- SBCSS/CDE/DDS Representatives-Tara Neilson CDE and Stephanie McNay DDS and Brett Snyder DDS

### Purpose of DSPT Advisory Committee Meeting-

- To ensure that the Challenge Testing and Training sufficiently meets 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:

- Stephanie displayed PowerPoint with data from January to Dec. 2024 enrollment numbers. Jan 1 to Dec. 31, 24 Enrollment is 16,630 Tested is 11,350 and passed is 10,762. The pass rate is 96%. The retention rate is around 64.7% for Year 1 and 74.2% for Year 2.
  - Listed reasons why DSPs may not have completed their training. Scheduling is the highest reason with personal being the second highest.
  - Stephanie with DDS went over Workforce Initiatives-
    - a. DSP Stipend ended August 30, 2024
    - b. DSP University – In progress to complete contract. Pay differential. Optional

- c. DSP Bi-/Multi-Lingual Pay Differential
- d. DSP Internship – 3-month training and internship, service providers and diverse groups. Opportunity for a DSP to see if they would like to continue to be a DSP.
- e. Technology Pilot – Provide more independence regarding their technology skills.
- f. Regional Center Staff Tuition Reimbursement – any healthcare related program can receive up to 10,000 a year. The application process has closed. Please Contact 1-800-622-8904. DDS email: [ccfdsp@dds.ca.gov](mailto:ccfdsp@dds.ca.gov)

Program quality management system:

- Classroom observations are taking place by DDS and by Hubs.
- **Legislation:**  
Stephanie mentioned that DDS is currently working on curriculum contract to include Spanish translation.

### **California Department of Education Report**

- Materials and supply issues:  
Recertification will be done at the Hub level this year. The curriculum has been put on hold at this time.
- 1. Local coverage (issues, development of formal agreements, etc.)  
Coordinates training schedule (Online/In-Person), facility/classroom reservation, and provides trainer materials and equipment.
- 2. Provide statewide support for DSPT training, 4 Hubs - Riverside, Fresno, Orange, and Butte.
- 3. Conducts trainer monitoring, hiring, and annual trainer re-certification.
- 4. 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
- In-Person and Virtual Trainings offered. DSPs need to pay attention to which platform they are registering for.
- Obtain attendance for up to ten business days after the training ends. The administrator and DSPs can view their attendance up to those 10 days.
- Test results for virtual training are in right away. DSPs must log in to view results.
- Remind staff not to create duplicate records. This interferes with the registration process and incorrect records.

## **Service Hub Report**

- Please go to [www.dsptrain.org](http://www.dsptrain.org) to register for DSP training. Contact Renae Dominici, DSP Hub Project Specialist at (559) 497-3757 if the helpdesk has not responded.
- In-Person Training July 2025 for Year 1
- In-Person Training October 2025 for Year 2

## **Regional Center Report-**

New Development in Kern County – Alejandra Chavez Program Manager gave report

- Approved CRDP CPP Plan as of November 1, 2024
- Opened 2 Enhanced Homes
- 1 Community Crisis Home
- 1 Children's Residential Crisis Home

## **Provider Representative(s) Input –**

### **DSP Trainer Input-**

- Lisa Jo Gage inquired whether the changes at the state level will affect the DSP training? Tara with CDE said none of the changes will affect the training classes/schedules.
- Tamerla requested that administrators please schedule the DSPs around their training time. This will allow them to focus completely on their class. DSPs come to class tired because they just got off work and do hours of training.
- Margo, Director with Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, FCSS did reiterate that this is professional training, and the DSPs cannot be driving, on their phones, or distracted.
- Also, the DSPs should be familiar with HCBS. It is a topic in the training.
- Tamerla mentioned that the DSPs need to access their portal to pull their attendance.
- Administrators can create their own vendor account and can see any of their staff enrollment information as well as printing their attendance.

## **Next Meeting – Virtual Platform in Fall of 2025**

**Recap and Closure-** Appreciate input from vendors/administrators in helping improve the DSP program.