

Social Recreation Services and Non-Medical Therapies

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Restoration of Social Recreation and Camp

- ▶ During the Great Recession (2008-09), social recreation, camping, educational services and non-medical therapies were eliminated for almost all individuals served.
- ▶ These services were restored in July 2021.
- ▶ RCEB pivoted to providing camps as out-of-home respite at that time.

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.

Purchase of Service 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.** Social /recreation services are for both children and adults. 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;
- ▶ **Non Medical Therapies: such as Art, Dance, Music and Specialized recreation and Hippotherapy.** To the greatest extent possible, the service should maximize integration and inclusion in the community.
- ▶ **Camping services** and associated travel expenses are also included.

RCEB Board of Directors Policy

- ▶ **Board of Directors Policy – Updated April 24, 2024**
- ▶ Social and recreational needs should be addressed as part of the **Person Centered Planning** Team's discussion and assessment of the consumer's needs.
- ▶ 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. There's an emphasis on activities that have **inclusion as the 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

The Planning Team may authorize RCEB to purchase the appropriate supports/services under the following circumstances:

- ▶ 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

- ▶ For adults who live in a licensed home, **it is the responsibility of the residential program** to ensure participation in appropriate social and recreational activities. If an individual wants to pursue individualized interests, requests will be considered by RCEB through the individual program planning process. •
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ **Non Medical Therapies are approved based on the recommendation of a certified or registered therapist in that modality.**
- ▶ 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.

POS Policy

- ▶ W&I Code section 4688.22(b) states regional centers must not require a consumer or family member to exhaust services under the In-Home Supportive Services program, exchange respite hours or any other service or support authorized by the regional center or pay a copayment or similar shared pay arrangement aimed at offsetting costs, in order to fund any restored service.
- ▶ The case manager will **provide advice and advocacy** if needed to access generic activities that should be available to all people.
- ▶ Regional Center of the East Bay recognizes that some individual needs are so unique that they may not be addressed in this Service Policy and may **require an exception**. Such requests for an exception to this Service Policy will be made through the Planning Team process.

Case Management Process

- ▶ **The Planning Team:**
- ▶ **Reviews** within the person centered plan, the person's needs for socialization and for recreation
- ▶ **Develops** a statement of **goals based upon the needs and preferences of the consumer.**
- ▶ **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).
- ▶ **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 or review as an exception.

How To ASK For These Services

▶ **Contact Your Case Manager:**

- ▶ **Individual Program Plan Meeting (IPP):** 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.
- ▶ **Be prepared to ask who, what, where, when, why (potential IPP goals).**
- ▶ The IPP identifies the service, quantity and schedule therefore it's important to have the social or recreational activity identified
- ▶ **For Non-Vendored Services:** 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
- ▶ **Services Start Once IPP is completed and signed:** Funding for these services can start once the IPP is completed, signed, and a target start date is identified within the IPP

Vendorization of New Services

- ▶ All potential vendors submit a **Letter of intent**. The letter is to loi@rceb.org and then evaluated to determine if it is Social Rec or another service.
- ▶ **Contact is made** via email to review, vet the experience, verify/clarify information with vendor, ask questions/gather more info. It is critical to have all the details so it is “crystal clear” for all parties (vendor, my department, Case Managers)
- ▶ **Determine rate:** either Usual & Customary or rate/service code from DDS rate table. Rate letter is signed by vendor and our RCEB Director of Community Services. The vendor is bound by this rate.
- ▶ **Vendor packet** is completed by the vendor.
- ▶ The Vendor Coordinator will review for completeness and **vendor number is assigned**.
- ▶ The vendor can now **accept referrals**. An email is sent to Case Management to share the details of the new program.
- ▶ The vendorization process can take to **45 days** if the potential has all the required documents submitted.

Resource Specialist role - Social Rec services

- ▶ Senior Resource Specialist, Mary Lynn Rochlitz
- ▶ Assist new vendors with vendorization process.
- ▶ Vendor works with their assigned vendor clerk. Mary Lynn is not involved in the POS process. Case Managers can consult with supervisors in regards to POS/billing questions.
- ▶ Assist as changes are made to the vendorization such as rate increases, adding new location.
- ▶ Only involved, if there is an ongoing QA issue or an issue with the way the vendorization is set up.

Non Medical Therapies

What is a “therapy?”

- ▶ Treatment, intervention, remediation, form of care
- ▶ Intentional process aimed at meeting specified goals
 - ▶ Designed to effect change or growth based on an individualized plan
- ▶ Provided by a qualified therapist (e.g., licensed, certified, registered, otherwise recognized by a professional organization)

Non-Medical Therapies

What is a “non-medical” therapy?

- ▶ Distinction from “educational” or “medical” therapies
- ▶ Ultimately based on goals for treatment
 - ▶ Examples: Improved self-regulation, sensory processing, play skills, communication, self-esteem, socialization
- ▶ Per W&I Code section 4512(b), not restricted to only those services that are” directed toward the alleviation a developmental disability.”

Non-Medical Therapies

What do we require for funding of non-medical therapies?

- ▶ Written information detailing
 - ▶ A description of the therapy to be provided
 - ▶ A statement that the client is a good fit for this therapy
 - ▶ Client-specific goals of therapy – *must align with an IPP goal*
 - ▶ The credentials of the person providing the therapy – *only for non-vendored providers*
 - ▶ The rate schedule of the provider – *only for non-vendored providers*
 - ▶ Recommendations for therapy – e.g., 1x weekly for 6 months
 - ▶ RCEB may purchase Non-medical therapies based on the recommendation of a qualified therapist

Therapies requiring clinical review

Some therapies require clinical review

- ▶ Mental health therapies, play therapy
 - ▶ WRAP, START
 - ▶ East Bay Art Therapy
 - ▶ The Center of Well Being, Antidote Wellness
 - ▶ Embracing Autism, social skills training
 - ▶ Applied behavior analysis (ABA), behavior supports 10+ hours/month
 - ▶ Speech therapy, augmentative & alternative communication (AAC)
 - ▶ Occupational therapy, physical therapy
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- ▶ These therapies may or may not have an SRA subcode
 - ▶ Email BehaviorReferral@rceb.org for clinical review

“Educational Services”

- ▶ “Social /recreation services are for both children and adults. 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”
- ▶ “Educational services” consist of opportunities to socialize and/or engage in recreational activities that are of particular interest to the client.
 - ▶ Examples: Coding class, language & cultural programs, anime workshop
- ▶ Academic classes and tutoring, for the purpose of improving educational skills, are not included in this policy.

Transportation to Camps

- ▶ Camping services and associated travel expenses are included.
 - ▶ Most camps expect that parent(s) or guardian(s) sign in the minor upon arrival and complete other initial drop-off requirements; getting set up in room, medication drop-off, etc.
 - ▶ Camps that are vendored with RCEB may have transportation as an additional component, **see rate table to confirm if 880 service code is included**. If the service code 880 is included in the vendors rate table, you may move forward with the POS authorization.
 - ▶ **Camps that are not vendored and recommend a transportation company** with the expectation that parents/guardians do not need to complete registration requirements upon arrival (i.e. Camp Quest), **will need to submit exception with receipts for travel reimbursement**.

Transportation to Social/Recreational Activities

- ▶ Social/Recreational activities do not include travel expenses.
 - ▶ When a minor is attending a social/recreational activity, the expectation is that there will be an adult accompanying that minor to/from this activity.
 - ▶ When there is a request for transportation to/from a social/recreational activity for a minor, the CM should check in with the legal guardian to ask follow-up questions.
 - ▶ You can use the Family Transportation Questionnaire located on the intranet.
 - ▶ [CS Family Transportation Questionnaire.pdf](#)
 - ▶ CM should try to understand why there is no adult supervision necessary for this activity or if there is another support/service in place for supervision.
 - ▶ When the request for transportation to/from a social/recreational activity is for an adult, the CM must consider how the person typically travels around the community. Can they access the bus or paratransit?
 - ▶ Any travel reimbursement for transportation to/from social/recreational activities require exceptions submission and must include supporting documentation

Using a Financial Management Service (FMS)

- ▶ RCEB currently has one vendored FMS for Social Rec Purchases, Miji Health.
- ▶ The FMS can pay directly for the activity or can reimburse the family directly.
- ▶ There is a separate referral process for the agency.
- ▶ Two separate POS are required.
- ▶ Vendor #PL2249, Service code 459 (SRA service): 1 POS – units will be the cost of one time or number of sessions per month.
- ▶ Vendor #PL2248, Service Code 490 (FMS fee): 1 POS with multiple services (1 for each Tier)

1:1 Supports for Social Recreation

- ▶ **The goal is to provide 1:1 support so clients can participate in more Social Rec activities.**
- ▶ **24 Hour Home Care #PB2715 and #HB1369**
 - ▶ Services for children & adults with 1:1 ratios.
 - ▶ Families can select their own service provider to become a trained DSP.
 - ▶ Up to 20 hours per month. 4 hour maximum hours for one time assessment.
- ▶ **UCP of Golden Gate, #PB0898**
 - ▶ Provides 1:1, 1:2 and 1:3 support.
 - ▶ Provide aid to go to after school site or social rec program.

Exceptions Cheat Sheet, Social Rec Services

QUESTIONS

