

# Social Recreation, Camping, and Non-Medical Therapies

**REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY  
VIA ZOOM**

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# RESTORATION SOCIAL RECREATION AND CAMPING

- ▶ These services were restored in July 2021.
- ▶ During the great recession, social recreation, camping, educational services and non medical therapies were eliminated for almost all individuals served.
- ▶ RCEB pivoted to providing camping 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.

# 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;
- ▶ **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.
- ▶ 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. 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: Process For Review

- ▶ **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 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.
- ▶ **NEW** 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

- ▶ **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.
- ▶ 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:**

- ▶ **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.
- ▶ **Call Your Case Manager:** To discuss and complete 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
- ▶ **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

# 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

# We Need Service Providers

- ▶ Since these services haven't been allowed for many years, RCEB has been able to slowly add vendored service providers, [a list of which can be found here](#). Reach out to your Case Manager to find out more about these resources.
- ▶ Outreach will be ongoing to identify new service providers
- ▶ DDS developed grant priorities for Social Recreation with input from families, self advocates, ARCA, community based organizations and local parks and recreation entities.
- ▶ DDS awarded 2 grant applicants for RCEB: Alameda Boys & Girls Club, and Be Exceptional
- ▶ The mission of the grant is to support children and adolescents who are from diverse monolingual and multilingual communities who face barriers to accessing RC services.
- ▶ Let us know of potential providers, you can let your RCEB Case Manager know or share with us on [writetous@rceb.org](mailto:writetous@rceb.org)

# CHALLENGES OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS TO ADDRESS

- ▶ Provider Capacity
- ▶ Vendorization

# QUESTIONS