

Alta California Regional Center A community where individuals with developmental disabilities are valued members who are treated with dignity and respect.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

(Virtual Meeting)

Public Hearing for Stakeholder and Community Participation for ACRC's Proposal for alternative service coordination pursuant to the Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) Section 4669.2.

When: April 11, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Please join using this link: https://video.cloudoffice.avaya.com/join/394842993

Meeting ID: 394842993

One tap to join audio only from a smartphone: +12134634500,,394842993, United States (Los Angeles, CA)

Or dial: +1 (213) 4634500 United States (Los Angeles, CA)

Access Code / Meeting ID: 394842993

International numbers available: <u>https://video.cloudoffice.avaya.com/teleconference</u> Any questions or concerns, please email or call:

> Denise Hopkins, MSW Community Services and Supports Alta California Regional Center 2241 Harvard St., Ste 100 Sacramento, CA 95815 T: (916) 978-6265 F: (916) 486-7338 dhopkins@altaregional.org



Alta California Regional Center A community where individuals with developmental disabilities are valued members who are treated with dignity and respect.

ACRC developed their first Family Home Agency (FHA) in October of 1999. FHAs serve as a unique residential option for adults. ACRC vendors the Family Home Agency who recruits, trains, approves, and monitors family homes that can offer residential services to maximum of two adult individuals. This service provides non-licensed residential options in a smaller, more family like atmosphere. FHA agencies are bound by Title 17 regulations through the Department of Developmental Services and services and supports are monitored through ACRC. Regulations prohibit services to individuals under the age of 18 and do not address unique individual situations such an ACRC client who may also be the parent to a minor child.

ACRC would proposes a waiver to the regulations prohibiting a minor, an individual under the age of 18, from residing in an FHA setting. ACRC is proposing the waiver through WIC 4669.2 to allow FHA agencies to provide services to an ACRC client who is also the parent of a minor child; therefore, allowing both the parent and the child to reside in the FHA home.

ACRC places a high priority on providing opportunities for our families to remain intact and seek ways to ensure the family is able to receive the necessary supports to remain a cohesive unit. Making the choice to receive residential services in an FHA should not mean a decision between raising one's child and securing housing. This waiver would allow additional residential and support choices to ACRC clients who are also parents of a minor child, increase the flexibility and creativity in meeting the unique needs of ACRC clients who are parents of a minor child, and recognize and build on family strengths.

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 4669.2(a)(3), Regional Center Alternatives for Service Delivery, provides for a process to negotiate levels of payments with services providers for specific delivery of specific services to a group of consumers.

WIC 4669.2(a)(1) Alternative Service Delivery

4669.2. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, and provided that there shall be no reduction in direct service to persons eligible for services under this article, a regional center, with the approval of the State Department of Developmental Services, and in consultation with the state council, consumer and vendor advisory committees, and local advocacy organizations, may explore and implement any regional center service delivery alternative included in this section for consumers living in the community, as follows:

(1) Alternative service coordination for consumers.



Alta California Regional Center A community where individuals with developmental disabilities are valued members who are treated with dignity and respect.

WIC 4669.75 Proposal Process

(a) Any proposal approved by the department pursuant to this article may be implemented immediately upon approval. Prior to submitting a proposal to the department, the regional center shall conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the proposal. Notice of the public hearing shall be given at least 10 business days in advance of the hearing. The public hearing shall be conducted in accordance with this section.

(b) Notice shall include a summary of the proposal, analysis of the effect of the proposal upon the regional center budget and the state budget, the impact on regional center services, and the impact on consumers served under the proposal, and a list of the statutes and regulations that will be waived under the proposal. No proposal approved under this article shall authorize a regional center to implement proposals that

ACRC does not anticipate a significant impact on the regional center or the state budget, as the FHA residential model is already a choice for residential services available at this time.

Comment Period

ACRC would like to receive public comment by **April 10, 2023** in order to share comments at the public hearing. Stakeholder comments on this proposal may be made in writing at any time prior to the close of the public hearing on **April 11, 2023**, or in oral testimony at this public hearing. ACRC shall give serious consideration to all comments received. In addition, ACRC will continue consultation with stakeholders following the formal public hearing process in preparation to submit the proposal to DDS.

Please email or mail your public comment to: Denise Hopkins, MSW Community Services and Supports Alta California Regional Center 2241 Harvard St., Ste 100 Sacramento, CA 95815 <u>dhopkins@altaregional.org</u>