



PARTNERS
Therapeutic Horsemanship
Lakeside, CA

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Government Funding
for your programs

Session Objectives



Inform about the Regional Center system in California and how it can fund your program

Take you on a journey of why and how Partners became a Regional Center Vendor

Share specific information and tips regarding the process and incorporation of Regional Center clients in a program

Session Agenda

1. The history of the Regional Center System and how it works.
2. Background on Partners and our decision to become a Regional Center Vendor.
3. How to become a Regional Center Vendor.
4. Discussion regarding tips we have and questions or comments you may have.



Lanterman Act 1969.

- Established the Regional Center System

Department of Disability Services (1978)

- provides leadership and funding for services
- contracts with Regional Centers to disperse funds

21 Regional Centers

- community-based, non-profit centers
- Unique to CA.

Vendors

- Contract with a Regional Centers to provide services



1985. California Supreme Court rules that the Lanterman Act

- "Defines a basic right and a corresponding basic obligation"
- To provide developmentally disabled individuals with services that enable them "to live a more independent and productive life in the community."
- Services are to be determined through the individual program planning process and provided as an entitlement.
- Regional Centers have wide discretion in determining how to implement the process, but no discretion at all in determining whether to implement

Association for Retarded Citizens v. California Department of Developmental Services et al.



Regional Centers

Services include:

- Case finding and intake
- Assessment, diagnosis, evaluation, and counseling
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Development of a Plan and coordination of services
- **Purchase of services to meet Plan objectives**
- Advocacy for the protection of legal, civil, and service rights
- Resource development, program evaluation, and community education
- Public information and training; Information, referral, and linkage to other services and support



Regional Centers

- Required by law to provide services in the most cost-effective way possible.
- Must use all other resources, including generic resources, before using any regional center funds.
 - School district,
 - Social services,
 - Medi-Cal,
 - SSA, and
 - Natural supports from family, friends or others at little or no cost.



Fun Facts

1965: 2 pilot Regional Centers.
Budget \$966,386, 559 clients.

2024-25: DDS budget includes \$15.3 Billion
for 450,000+ individuals.



2001

\$11,886: Regional Center services cost per person
\$163,060: State Developmental Center cost per person

Partners Therapeutic Horsemanship

Celebrating 20 years!



Regional Center programs

- Therapeutic Riding
- 35 riders per week;
 - half use Regional Center funding.

Unmounted EAL program

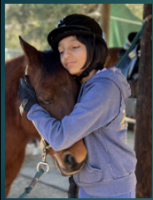
Summer camp

Why apply to be a Vendor?

- 1. Allows clients to use existing funds allocated for this purpose instead of their disposable income
- 1. Opens opportunity up to more participants of any income level
- 1. After transition, billing is routine and reliable



Vendor Application Process



Contact the Community Services Coordinator at your local Regional Center for a Vendorization Package.

Submit

- completed Vendor Application,
- Disclosure Statement,
 - Section 4748.12 of the Welfare and Institutions Code
- Conflict of Interest Form
 - Section 54314 of California's Title 17 Regulations

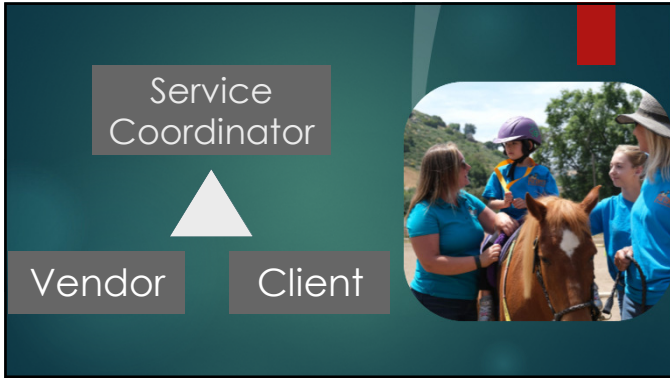
- After complete submission, the Regional Center then has 45 days to approve or disapprove vendorization.

- Once vendored, the Vendor may be utilized by other Regional Centers as well as the vendoring Regional Center.

- Regional Center must vendor an applicant who meets all the requirements for the service to be provided

- Vendorization in no way obligates that Regional Center to purchase service from that Vendor. Not guaranteed any referrals, not obligated to accept referrals





Tips

- Communicate early and often.
- Remember that staff within the Regional Center may not all have the same information, particularly Service Coordinators.
- Update your center's policies on weight limits, weather, cancellations, etc. before embarking on the process.
- Have a graphic or flowchart to share with potential caregivers and Service Coordinators of how the application and evaluation process works at your center.

Partners Therapeutic Horsemanship Wait List Flowchart

01 Getting Started
New student submits completed Student Paperwork. Note that a signed Physician's Statement is required for all students.

02 Evaluation Ride
As availability opens, PTH will contact you to schedule a complimentary evaluation ride. This allows us to assess each student's unique therapeutic riding needs.

03 Moving Along
Following the evaluation, you will be offered a lesson spot if one is open, or placed on the wait list for an open spot.

04 Request Funding (SDRC)
If the student is a SDRC client, we will contact you with an estimated start date so that you can request funding through your service coordinator.

05 Accept Lesson Spot
We will contact you when a lesson spot becomes available. Please note that lesson spots open more frequently than weekend spots. Lessons can begin in non-payment, or approved authorization, is received.

www.partnersh.org

- Remember that each Regional Center operates independently and has different procedures.
- Have patience and be flexible.
- Issues will arise regarding authorizations for service.
- Learn to use their portal.
- Know they are still working on improving procedures





Questions or
Comments?