

**Area Board 7 Strategic Plan
Draft Document
7/29/2010**

Advocacy

Goal:

Area Board 7 will empower and assist individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and other agencies through education and advocacy in navigating all systems.

Benchmark:

Individuals and families receive the supports and services they are entitled to under the law.

Benchmark:

Area Board 7 will perform case advocacy and when warranted systemic advocacy with families and individuals.

Benchmark:

Area Board 7 will collect data through the SCDD content management system to assist the Area Board/State Council in collecting information regarding: (1) Advocacy services provided, (2) Individuals /Families County of Residence, (3) Advocacy issue, regional center, education, etc.

Strategies:

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will provide direct advocacy to 50 families whose children receive special education services and supports from local school districts by attending planning meetings and Individual Education Planning meetings.

By October 2010 Area Board 7 will work with 25 individuals in regional center matters related to services and supports.

By February 2011 Area Board 7 will enhance their web-page when the SCDD web-page link is available with information to include but not limited to:

- Recreation programs & services.
- Guide to Advocacy with names and numbers-organizations
- access and utilize an array of organizations empowered to address issue within AB7 jurisdiction.
- Quality Assurance Projects

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will initiate research and planning on providing materials in languages reflective of the community which we serve.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will provide advocacy assistance to a minimum of 100 individuals and/or families. This advocacy may include systems navigation, technical assistance, attendance at meetings (IEP's and IPP's) and assistance with due process as appropriate.

By June 2012 Area Board 7 will participate in local workgroups and committees to improve and enhance services, local workgroups include but not limited to Bay Area Project: QMS, Parents Helping Parents and others.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will serve as a resource for the distribution of information to assist families and individuals in understanding the process of applying/acquiring services from the regional center system as well as appealing Regional Center decisions.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will serve as a resource for the distribution of information to assist families in understanding their **educational rights** within the special education system. The information will include local special education director's name and contact information, the process for securing special education services and supports as well as a student's and families rights in securing special education and or 504 supports and services.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will produce 300 copies of information (understanding educational/regional center rights) described above for community distribution. Information will also be posted on the website.

By January 2012 Area Board 7 will produce 300 copies of the information described above in Spanish.

By January 2011 Area Board 7 will utilize the formalized intake process developed by SCDD.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will initiate planning for a “Summit” on accessing public and private insurance companies in meeting children and family needs. The Area Board will form an Ad Hoc Committee to work on this target “Summit”. The Summit will include such issues as:

- Training and education on how to work with private agencies, Insurance company’s, non-profits (service providers)

- Training and support on how to research resources available

The materials developed through the Summit will be uploaded to the Area Board website.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 in collaboration with other community partners (such as Family Resource Centers, Regional Center, Parent Groups) will convene a “Summit” to discuss a “How To” access insurance carrier for services.

Self-Advocacy/Self-Determination

Goals:

Area Board 7 will promote the Self-Advocacy and People First movement.

Benchmark:

People with developmental disabilities know their rights and responsibilities and know how to advocate for themselves.

Strategies:

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will distribute information about self-advocacy and People First California (PFCA) to 40 day programs throughout Area Board 7’s four counties.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will host 1 People First California (PFCA) training in each AB 7 county.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will support the formation of 1 local People First support group and/or chapter in each AB 7 county in coordinate with PFCA.

By June 2011 Area Board 7 will provide information at local People First support groups and/or chapters.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will disseminate information about self-advocacy, PFCA and AB 7 at 30 community meetings and events.

By June 2011 Area Board 7 will sponsor 2 self-advocates and 2 staff members to attend the People First California (PFCA) Statewide Conference in June of 2011.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will host a” Clients’ Rights Training”in collaboration with Disability Rights California or other organizations.

Collaboration/Facilitation

Goal:

Area Board 7 will strengthen its role as a liaison with governmental and nongovernmental agencies through collaboration.

Benchmark:

Area Board 7’s board representative to the State Council will become a member of the LPPC (**Legislative Public Policy Committee**)

Strategies:

By October 2011 Area Board 7’s Governors appointee will request a seat on the LPPC Committee of the State Council.

By October 2011, Area Board 7 staff will participate and maintain relationships with governmental and nongovernmental agencies through the promotion of systemic and individual case issues.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will maintain an interactive relationship with SARC's Board and Executive Management Team by meeting quarterly or as needed.

By January 2012 Area Board 7 will outreach to 15 service providers to improve collaborative relationship in the community.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will continue to strengthen the relationship with housing organizations to promote the development of an affordable housing project.

Goal:

Area Board 7 will create a relationship with the appropriate schools of law.

Benchmark:

Access legal resources for families and individuals facilitated by the Area Board.

Strategies:

By June 2011 Area Board 7 staff will explore/identify schools of law in the catchment area that could provide legal services to families and individuals referred by the Area Board.

Education and Information

Goal:

Area Board 7 will be recognized as a resource for education and information on mandated services and supports described in the Lanterman Act and IDEA

Benchmark:

In part, through its investigative, resource gathering, and collaborative efforts, the Area Board will increase its onsite library of materials and information.

Benchmark:

Will collaborate with agencies including but not limited to Regional Center and Disability Rights California, Parents Helping Parents, Area Board 7 will provide training, information and resources to individuals and families.

Strategies:

By April 2011 Area Board 7 will link to the SCDD website when available. The website will feature advocacy tips, Lanterman act info, changes to the law, self-advocacy/PFCA info and links to relevant resources.

By December 2011 Area Board 7 will update its current brochure in both English and Spanish.

By January 2012 Area Board 7 will distribute Area Board 7 brochures to 1000 families, service providers, agencies and hospitals.

By December 2011 Area Board 7 will participate in at least 3 resource fairs and transition fairs.

By January 2010 Area Board 7 will maintain hard copies of the Lanterman Act at the Area Board office.

By April AB7 will have links and information including direct access to the Lanterman Act on our website.

By December 2012 Area Board 7 will collaborate with and co-host an IEP Training with Parents Helping Parents to be conducted a minimum of 1 time a year.

Governance

Goal:

To have a complete board of 17 members who represent and understand the diversity of our community, and who are active and effective in their duties as established in the law.

Benchmark:

Area Board 7 board members will continue to be apprised of staff activities as related to the execution of the Area Board 7 Strategic Plan.

Benchmark:

Area Board 7 staff will assist the Board in recruiting new members.

Strategies:

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will work with SCDD to insure all applications are complete and that they are presented to the Governor's Appointment Secretary in a timely fashion.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will develop and provide to each Board Member a revised Area Board 7 Orientation Binder.

By October 2011 the Board will participate in 2 trainings on a yearly basis. Topics reviewed will include State and Federal mandates, clients' rights, self-advocacy and other topics as requested by the Board

By March 2011 Area Board 7 will communicate with the Board of Supervisors office in each of our 4 counties regarding upcoming vacancies and appointment needs.

By June 2011 the Executive Director and Area Board Chairperson will develop a reporting template which reflects the Strategic Plan for staff reporting to the Area Board.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will meet to review relevant legislation and the Area Board 7 Strategic Plan.

By October 2012 Area Board 7 will have at least 2 members that reflect the diversity of the catchment area.

By October 2011 Area Board 7 will be trained in the policies of the State Council, Bagley-Keene and Lanterman Act.

By October 2012 AB 7 staff will develop an ad-hoc committee to review the role of the Area Board in assisting families and individuals with due process.

Quality Assurance

Goal:

People with developmental disabilities have quality lives and a service system that assures safety, practices respect and promotes inclusion, employment and educational services.

Benchmark:

People with developmental disabilities will report satisfaction with their quality of life and in the services they receive.

Strategies:

By October 2011 Area Board staff will provide training to include but not limited to visitors families, consumers, staff of outside agencies, professionals and the community as requested. As an ongoing project, Area Board 7 staff in cooperation with other Quality Assurance staff will provide training as needed to service providers in quality of life.

By July 2010 Area Board 7 staff will participate as a member of the Quality Assurance committee of the San Andreas Regional Center board of Directors.

By July 2010 Area Board 7 staff will serve as commissioner to the Quality Management System Committee.

By October 2010 Area Board 7 staff will participate in a minimum of 1 Human Right's committees at residential and day program agencies.

By December 31, 2010, Area Board 7 staff will coordinate the Quality Assurance project for Area Board 7 and Area Board 9; coordination includes project implementation and management of the National Core Indicators. 423 adult surveys to be completed from Area Board 7 and approximately 405 surveys for Area Board 9.

By June 30, 2011, 400 parent and service provider surveys will be completed.

By June 2011 Area Board 7 staff will complete 41 third-party interviews based on assignment from San Andreas Regional Center.