

Program of San Gabriel/Pomona Valleys Developmental Services, Inc. 75 Rancho Camino Drive, Pomona, California 91766 (909) 620-7722 www.sgprc.org

MITIGATE CONFLICTS FOR DELEGATED CONSERVATOSHIPS POLICY

San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center's (SG/PRC) Mission is to collaborate, advocate, and support individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, ensuring that every person enjoys a life of meaningful opportunities and inclusion. As such, SG/PRC fully embraces the role of delegated conservator as outlined and authorized by Health and Safety (H&S) Code Section 416.19 which occurs when the Department of Developmental Services (Department) is appointed as an individual's conservator and delegates the day-to-day conservatorship authority to the regional center serving the conservatee. The purpose of this policy is to mitigate conflicts that may arise when a regional center is the delegated conservator while also providing service coordination to the conservatee. This policy will also address the process a conservatee or their legal representative may use if they are dissatisfied with the way the regional center is carrying out its delegated conservatorship responsibilities.

Delegated Conservator Responsibilities:

To mitigate potential conflicts of interest for individuals served by the SG/PRC with a delegated conservatorship, the day-to-day conservatorship duties for those individuals shall be carried out and overseen by the Executive Director's Designee. These day-to-day conservatorship duties will be separate and removed from the service coordination activities conducted by the conservatee's assigned Service Coordinator and the Manager of that unit.

The Executive Director's Designee, under the direction and supervision of SG/PRC leadership, shall:

- SG/PRC will meet with the conservatee at least once every three months in person. These meetings can take place separately or in conjunction with the quarterly review of the Individual Program Plan (IPP) conducted by the assigned service coordinator. The goal is to ensure the conservatee's needs and preferences are at the center of these interactions.
- 2. SG/PRC will empower the conservatee to actively participate in making their own decisions and expressing their needs and desires by prioritizing their individualism. SG/PRC will strive to align its decisions with the conservatee's preferences, ensuring that these choices reflect both their current wishes and those they have previously expressed. These preferences can be communicated through various means, including spoken language and alternative or augmentative communication methods.
- 3. SG/PRC will ensure that the conservatee's health, safety, and well-being are

consistently monitored, and collaborate with the appropriate regional center staff or external consultants to address any concerns that arise. It is important to prioritize conservatee's rights and actively seek their feedback on their current services and living arrangements. Encourage the conservatee to express any additional needs or preferences they may have and support them in communicating (spoken and nonspoken) any concerns. This approach fosters conservatee's autonomy and ensures that their individual needs and desires are at the forefront of the care conservatees receive

- 4. Oversee the completion of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) monthly reporting tool in alignment with our Contract, ensuring that any changes affecting the conservatee's health, safety, or well-being, as well as modifications to their services or service needs, are accurately documented. In the comprehensive biannual assessment, prioritize the conservatee's preferences, needs, and values. Engage with conservatees to understand their wishes regarding conservatorship and explore alternatives that align with their goals. Provide tailored recommendations that consider conservatees unique circumstances, including any adjustments to the conservator's powers that may better support their autonomy. Additionally, identify potential individuals who may serve as conservator, ensuring that these choices reflect the conservatee's relationships and preferences.
- 5. Encourage and facilitate the conservatee's active involvement in the Individual Program Plan (IPP) review meeting and any other meetings they wish to attend.
- 6. Support the conservatee in expressing any concerns they may have about their conservatorship or regional center services. Help conservatees understand how to request assistance from the Department and connect them with additional resources that can meet their needs.

The Executive Director's Designee

In accordance with the roles and responsibilities of the delegated conservatorship duties, the Executive Director's Designee will be required to receive additional and ongoing training on the following topics:

- Alternatives to Conservatorships and Supported Decision Making
- Clients Rights
- Futures Planning
- Person Centered Planning Facilitation Skills

Process for Requesting Assistance from the Department:

A conservatee or their legal representative who is dissatisfied with a regional center's performance in carrying out its delegated conservatorship responsibilities may request assistance from the Department in resolving their concerns through:

- The Department's Ombudsperson at: <u>Ombudsperson@dds.ca.gov</u> or (877) 658-9731.
- The Department's conservatorship liaison office at: <u>ddsconservatorship@dds.ca.gov</u> or (833) 421-0061.

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