

## Workgroup Budget Ideas

### **Proposal: Quality Assessment Consolidation**

Redirect funding for the Life Quality Assessment (LQA) and the Evaluation of People with Developmental Disabilities Moving from Developmental Centers into the Community (Movers Study) into a single quality assessment tool and data collection effort. The tool will be nationally recognized and programmatically up-to-date. DDS will contract for administration of the tool with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

In consultation with stakeholders, DDS will establish a set of nationally recognized quality assurance performance and outcome indicators that will:

1. Provide consistent and measurable data for DDS' Quality Management System;
2. Enable DDS, regional centers (RCs), and policy makers to benchmark the performance of California against that of other states, as well as a comparison of quality measures across all 21 California regional centers;
3. Provide a stratified, random sample of surveys among the entire DDS consumer population; and
4. Avoid the duplicative data collection of personal outcome elements (e.g. school, work, health, safety), currently generated by the Client Development and Evaluation Report (CDER).

### **Background Information on Program Area:**

Legislation has required DDS to administer two consumer quality assurance evaluations, the Movers Study (WIC 4418.1) and the LQA (WIC 4570). These two evaluations are in addition to the regular oversight and monitoring conducted by the regional centers and the periodic state licensing agencies' reviews. Conceived over ten years ago, these surveys do not provide adequate quantifiable data to inform current quality assurance efforts and meet the evolving continuous quality assurance expectations the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) have for the Home and Community Based Services Waiver (HCBS).

### **Please check box if proposal requires:**

- Trailer bill language
- Regulation change
- Waiver amendment/New waiver

### **Pros:**

- Elimination of duplication of effort.
- Provides ability to compare the performance to other states.

- Quantifiable results that make it possible to identify areas where the system is performing well and areas requiring improvement.
- Potential to utilize the Area Board's existing statewide data collection structure and cadre of trained surveyors.

**Cons:**

- Information would not be available at the individual level to assist regional centers and consumers with IPP development.
- Reduction in State staff.

**Fiscal :**

2009/10 Savings \$2.0 million TF (\$2.0 million GF)

*Annual Savings \$2.2 million TF (\$2.2 million GF)*

Assumptions:

To achieve these outcomes and maximize cost effectiveness, DDS take the following steps:

1. Terminate the Movers Study and draft trailer bill legislation to sunset the statutory requirement for implementation the study (WIC 4418.1), effective June 30, 2009. Cost savings will be \$600,000.
2. Terminate the Life Quality Assessment and draft trailer bill legislation to sunset WIC 4570, the statutory requirement for implementation the program as of January 1, 2010. Funding of \$2.4 million for first ½ of FY would be for winding down the current LQA contract and process.
3. Effective January 1, 2010, implement a new quality assurance data collection system. Funding for second half of the fiscal year would be for start up of new system at a cost of \$1.617 million (reports on performance outcomes would be available after the initial data collection period and the end of full year of operation, FY 2010/11 at a cost of approx \$3.337 million).