

**AGENCY DIRECTORS' REPORT**

AGENCY: Sierra Regional Center

SUBMITTED BY: Julian Montoya

DATE: 09/10/2020

Reporting Period: 07/31/2020

**STAFFING**

Positions filled: @ 06/30/2020 73

Vacancies 9

Difficulties filling: The majority of our open positions have been frozen due to the recent budget cuts.

**CASELOADS/WAITING LISTS**

**Program: Target Case Management (TCM)**

Caseload: @ 07/31/2020 1,493

Waiting List:  
*All Individuals accepted into services receive TCM*

**Program: Supported Living Arrangement (SLA)**

Caseload: @ 06/30/2020 767

Waiting List: @ 08/31/2020 85

Number of People in ISLA homes: 387

Number of Intermittent/Shared Living Homes: 343

Number of Fiscal Intermediaries: 37

**Program: Jobs and Day Training**

Caseload: @ 06/30/2020 114

Waiting List: @ 08/31/2020 31

Facility-based Non-Work (Day Habilitation): 11

Facility-based Work (Prevocational): 75

Integrated Employment (Supported) 8

Community-based Non-Work (Day Habitation) 20

Career Planning:

**Program: Family Support**

Caseload: @ 6/30/2020 212

Waiting List: @ 6/30/2020 91

**Program: Respite**

Caseload: @ 6/30/2020 145

Waiting List: @ 6/30/2020 91

*Note: Respite Services for children are approved by and paid for by the county of residence of the custodial parent.*

**Program: Autism**

Caseload: 0

Waiting List: *Transferred to ATAP July 1, 2011*

**intake Information**

Number of Applications Received: @ 8/31/2020 19

Number of Applicants found Eligible: 9

Number of Applicants found In-Eligible: 5

## PROGRAMS

SRC continues to operate a pilot program with our sister agency – Lake’s Crossing. We have opened an ISLA home that will have specialized training for staff to work with 2 individuals that are co-served by SRC and Lake’s Crossing as part of the conditional release program. We have just recently added another individual in that home which brings it to 3 co-served individuals being served by this new program. We meet frequently to monitor the progress of the home with the goal of integration into the community when conditional release has been fulfilled. This house has been open for over a year now and we are getting good reviews from the team. During this last month Chrysalis, the provider agency who is covering this home almost had to close this home due to staffing shortages due to COVID-19. Fortunately, they were able to procure staff and the 3 gentlemen remain in the home and did not have to go back to Lake’s Crossing.

## Service Needs/Recommendations

SRC has identified the current lack of SLA Intermittent Providers as a major problem area for the people we serve. Providers state that with the provider rates remaining on the low end it is not cost effective for them to take on these smaller service hour contracts. Providers also suggested that adding a mileage stipend to this service would also help. SRC continues to work on this service delivery component as it vital to our folks who want to remain in their homes with limited service.

## Agency Concerns/Issue

SRC has identified the need to work with JDT providers to increase capacity for supported employment in our community. The CMS final ruling will require DS to work with our JDT providers in re-vamping their programs to be more community based (as opposed to facility based). Our current JDT structure (facility based) does limit the number of people they can serve – our goal is to move toward a more community-based service system. We are also experiencing a shortage of JDT providers who can serve some of our more challenging behavior individuals and we has since started a waitlist. (2) DS providers express concern about the current provider rate (there was a rate increase during this last legislative session, however they still feel that it is not enough to remain competitive) and report that it is impacting their ability to recruit qualified employees. The 24-hour SLA providers report a high turnover rate which impacts consistency of supports offered to individuals served. (3) DS is experiencing a major shift in rental increase for homes and apartments in the Washoe County area. As major companies such as Tesla and Switch come into the area with an increased need for a labor force, prices have increased making it difficult to find homes that are aligned with what DS can support.

**Note:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the majority of new service requests for our individuals has been suspended until division gets a better idea about the impending budget crisis. The commission will see increases in waitlists on all of the DS regional center’s reports as a result. The commission will aslo see a decrease in JDT numbers as these sites have had to close many of their sites due to the pandemic.