



City of Arts & Innovation

Commission on Disabilities Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**

FROM: GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**SUBJECT: PRESENTATION FROM CALIFORNIA MENTOR FAMILY HOME AGENCY
ABOUT HOW MENTORS PROVIDE CALIFORNIANS WITH INTELLECTUAL
AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES AND SUPPORT NEEDED IN
FAMILY HOMES**

ISSUE:

Receive a presentation from the California Mentor Family Home Agency about how Mentors provide Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities services and support needed in family homes.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission on Disabilities receive a presentation from the California Mentor Family Home Agency about how Mentors provide Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities services and support needed in family homes.

DISCUSSION:

The Family Home Agency (FHA) program model was adopted by the State in 1996, providing Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities a new way to receive the support they need. In an FHA program, individuals live in private family homes where they can receive services, form relationships, participate in everyday family activities and be active members of their community. FHA services are a community-based alternative to more traditional care facilities and a welcome solution for families that are seeking quality services for a loved one.

Before FHA programs, most adults who were unable to live independently or with biological family members, found themselves living in more restrictive settings such as institutions, nursing homes, group homes or other settings, with limited privacy and opportunities to develop meaningful relationships.

Over the last 20 years, FHA programs have become a preferred method of service delivery among individuals, families, payors and human service professionals. With the right services and support, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities have the best opportunity to realize their full potential when they participate in the ordinary rhythms of neighborhood life. They learn

and grow. They create independent, healthy lives. And they make our communities rich and rewarding places to live.

For more information about becoming a Mentor, visit <http://www.camentorfha.com/fha-program>.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

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Attachment: Brochure