



Self Determination Local Advisory Committee Minutes

Online Meeting Through Zoom

January 14, 2026

Approved

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Meeting End Time: 8:00 PM

Committee Members:

Present:	Absent:	Vacancies
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sherry Johnson 2. Terrence Payne 3. Santiago Villalobos 4. Sofia Cervantes – State Council Representative 5. Crystal Smith – FRC Representative 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Veronica Moser 2. Erica Clark – Clients’ Rights Advocate 3. Magali Ochoa 4. Alberta Moore 5. Armida Ochoa 6. Alnita Dunn 7. Evan Peaks 	<p>(1) Appointed Spot Available</p>

1. Welcome/Introductions

- Chair Terrence Payne called the meeting to order.
- Quorum was NOT established.
 - Committee Members Present:
 - Sherry Johnson
 - Terrence Payne
 - Santiago Villalobos
 - Sofia Cervantes – State Council Representative
 - Crystal Smith – FRC Representative

2. Approval of May 14th and July 16th Meeting Minutes

- A review of meeting minutes was conducted.

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Motion to approve minutes as written:

- **Motion:**
- **Second:**
- No quorum was reached

3. SCLARC Consumer Updates & Recent DDS SDP Updates

Presented By: Alex Marquez

- **Enrollment Success:**
 - The self-determination program has surpassed its target, enrolling 216 individuals.
 - This marks a sharp rise of ~ 44% compared to 2024
 - The age makeup comprised of 74 minors and 142 adults
 - To ensure equal attention for all participants, we have decided to provide support by last name rather than age group
- **Facilitator Engagement:**
 - Independent facilitator roundtables held in separate Spanish and English sessions.
- **Support Initiatives:**
 - Weekly drop-in office hours provide immediate support for facilitators during program transitions and renewals.

4. Medicaid Cuts Update

Presented By Sofia Cervantes

- **Medicaid Updates**
 - **A new law has been passed, but the specific changes will gradually become implemented**
 - Work requirements have been implemented into Medicaid and will go into effect 12/31/2026
 - Parents of children over the age of 14 will now be required to work, volunteer, or attend school for 80 hours to maintain enrollment for Medicaid services (Children or parents with disabilities may be exempt)
- **Information & Transparency**

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- Sophia also discussed that for further direction of programs, we will now have to await further instructions from the federal government
- Eligibility checks for Medicaid will also be done every six months instead of every year
- She also encouraged participants to maintain contact with state council to encourage advocacy
- She further linked the platform Medicaid Watch for future updates and report any changes to Medicaid provided services

5. Public Comment

- Concerns were expressed by parents about the federal cuts and when they would be in effect for their services.

6. ASLA SCLARC SDP Project Update

Presented by: Kim Sinclair

- **Program Overview**
 - Group coaching sessions
 - One-on-one navigator support
- **Current participation:**
 - 26 enrolled (13 English/ 13 Spanish)
 - 18 have attended orientation with those unable receiving recorded material
- Recruitment goals not met
- Services provided online
- Outreach encouraged to maximize funding

7. SDP Implementing Funding – Review and Discussion

- Discussion centered on maximizing return on SDP implementation funding
- Emphasis on:
 - Outreach through Regional Center platforms
 - Committee and community member referrals
 - Ensuring the committee develops future RFP / implementation funding considerations founded on most up to date accounting of remaining implementation funds.

8. Announcements

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- Reminder to use updated 2026 materials and flyers
- Transition to .gov Zoom platforms due to security for future meetings
- Community encouraged to report broken links or access issues

9. Next Meeting Agenda

- March 11th, 2026

10. Adjournment

- Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM.