



Self Determination Local Advisory Committee Minutes Online Meeting Through Zoom

July 16, 2025

Approved

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Meeting End Time: 7:06 PM

Committee Members:

Present:	Absent:	Vacancies
Sherry Johnson – SD-LAC Co-Chair Alberta Moore Veronica Moser Santiago Villalobos Sofia Cervantes – State Council Rep.	Terrance Payne – SD-LAC Co-Chair Luz Hernandez Armida Ochoa Alnita Dunn Magali Ochoa Crystal Smith – FRC Representative	(1) Appointed Spot Available

Guests:

SCLARC:	State:	Public:
Jenice Turner – Director of Child Services Ayana Shepard – Chief of Case Management Teodoro Bilbao – Chief of Adult Services Cynthia Rivera – Program Manager Alex Marquez – Program Manager Edna Robles – Participant Choice Specialist Luis Salazar – Participant Choice Specialist Marisol – Interpreter		Alma Joy, Daniel Lott, Gaby Duarte, Jacqueline Casas, Lilibeth Quiroz-Hernandez, Mike Velasco, Monica Torres, Nelson Orozco Sandra Menendez,, Sheila Jones, Silvia Calles, Carla Amaya, Dahia Navarro, Blanca Martinez, Luz Maria Ortiz, Maria Poblete, Maricela Donate, Monica Romero, Shirleys Gruber, Tomasa Mendez, Xiomara Escobar, Xochitl Gonzalez

1. Welcome/Introductions

1. Co-Chair Sherry Johnson called the meeting to order.

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2. Members of the committee gave a brief introduction of themselves.
3. Quorum was not established.

2. Approval of May 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes

- Since quorum was not established, minutes were not reviewed. May 14 minutes were not approved in this meeting.

3. Self-Determination Program (SDP) Updates

Presented By: Alex Marquez

- Overview of the SDP Team and Roles
- Enrollment Pathways & Timelines
- Enrollment Totals: 174 total participants (94 adults, 80 children)
- Budget Data:
 - \$13M in total authorizations
 - Average individual budget: \$98K
 - Adults average: \$118K | Children average: \$76K
- Budget Utilization Rates:
 - Year 1: 68%
 - Year 2: 75%
 - Year 3: 80%
 - Years 4 & 5 lower due to unreported expenditures
- FMS Providers: 11 in use, top 3: GT Independence, Acumen, Aviana
- Challenges and Opportunities for Improvement:
 - Issues with budget development and spending plans
 - Need for more training and alignment with Independent Facilitators
 - Concerns with provider availability and system delays

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4. Actions Items and Initiatives:

- Monthly Independent Facilitator Roundtables (English & Spanish)
- Bi-monthly FMS meetings
- Internal staff trainings and drop-in office hours
- Outreach presentations and monthly SDP info sessions
- Upcoming video series and printed flowcharts
 - Continued support from executive leadership

5. Community Q&A and Committee Discussion

- Questions regarding potential budget reductions due to federal changes were addressed. No current impact for FY 2025–26 anticipated.
- Community members asked about timelines for orientation, FMS availability, and in-person meeting options.
- Committee discussion emphasized the importance of individualized services and potential cost comparisons with traditional services.

6. Public Comment

- Comments included:
 - Request for more accessible dissemination of flyers and info session details.
 - Interest in holding in-person and hybrid committee meetings.
 - Announcements about Spanish-language SDP Q&A sessions by the State Council.
 - Autism Society of Los Angeles provided contact info for IF training program interest.

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7. Other Agenda Items

- **Community Survey Results:** Only 13 responses received so far. Survey link to be redistributed for increased input.
- **Proposed 2025 State Budget:** No definitive changes at the state level currently impacting SDP; monitoring to continue.

8. Announcements

- Since quorum was not met, there were no further announcements.

8. Upcoming Local Advisory Committee Meeting

- **Next meeting agenda:** September 10, 2025

9. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at **7:06 PM**.