



**Self-Determination Local Advisory
Committee Minutes Summary**
Online Meeting Through Zoom due to COVID-19
February 10, 2021
6:00pm – 8:00pm

Present:

Terrence Payne – SD-LAC Co-Chair
Sherry Johnson – SD-LAC Co-Chair
Diana Ugalde – SD-LAC Member
Antwan Jones – SD-LAC Member
Luz Hdez Gutierrez – SD-LAC Member
Armida Ochoa – SD-LAC Member
Raul Muñoz – SD-LAC Member
Alberta Moore – SD-LAC Member
Alnita Dunn – SD-LAC Member
Sofia Cervantes – State Council
Sonia Totado – OCRA Representative
Nikisia Simmons – DDS Representative
Nidya Paredes – OCRA Representative

Present:

Naomi Hagel – SD Program Manager (Staff)
Jesse Rocha – Director of Consumer Services
(Staff)
Ted Bilbao – Chief of Case Management
(Staff)
Desiree Boykin – Consumer Advocate (Staff)
Odulia Juarez – Program Manager (Staff)
Erika Anguiano (Staff)
Eduardo Kogan – English/Spanish Interpreter

Absent:

None

Public in attendance:

Bernadette Buckley
Illona Hendrick
Adrian Jimenez
Tina Scruggs-Tate
Caycee Ricketts
Karen Chavez
Alma Morales
Olivia Gonzalez
Shelia J. Jones
Sonni Charness
Linda Rodriguez
Elly Craig
and 21 more

Meeting Start Time: 6:05 pm

I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Meeting Minutes

- The Co-Chair started the meeting welcoming the public and diving into business. Introductions and roll-calling were brief. It was explained how the Spanish interpretation works. The Committee approved the minutes without corrections.
- The Committee set precedents as to how to move forward to help the community in their transition to Self-Determination.
- Some speaking points were:
 1. Encouraging everyone to be respectful and respect the meeting time
 2. The meeting will start on time at six o'clock, and it will end anywhere between seven and seven-thirty.
 3. On a go-forward basis, the chat will be closed so that the Committee can go through the action items quickly and succinctly. However, the public can still use the chatbox to send messages to the host; these messages will be public comments. Also, anything said by the co-host or host will be visible to everyone. It will allow one of our committee members to be an active participant in the meeting and if we need to share any information.
 4. All attendees will be able to provide comments. They will have two minutes during the public comment session. Spanish-speaking attendees will have three minutes because there is a translation that has to take place. The Committee wants to be mindful and respectful to that as well.
 5. SDP-LAC is linked to SCLARC, DDS, State Council, and other governing bodies. The Committee wants to be respectful of the protocols, the processes, the rules, and Bagley-Keene, which will not be deviated. The Committee will abide by the rules.
 6. Send any issues not related to SDP, or if you want to be in SDP, to Naomi Hagel by way of an email. Do not express those issues in this meeting.

7. All service providers offering services, products, or any support to the SDP Advisory Committee or the consumers, must send an executive summary or a summary of your company to Naomi Hagel's email.
 8. On a go-forward basis, the Committee will draft a Vendor Preference Program for the current vendors working with the consumers at SCLARC. We intend to provide business, referrals, and support to vendors. It does not mean that the Committee will not look at outside services; we invite representatives and love their ideas.
 9. These points represent our protocol on a go-forward basis. I would like for the meetings to be more succinct, to increase our numbers, and be about the business of education. It's about inclusion and Self-Determination!
- The attendance poll was renovated with English and Spanish questions. The results were:
 1. What regional center do you primarily belong to or provide services? 81% were from SCLARC, the North L.A were 4.8%, not applicable were 9.5%, and other were 4.8% and said that they were vendors with 19 out of 21 regional centers.
 2. Who are you? Consumers were 9.5%, consumer's family members were 42%, SD service providers were 19%, traditional services vendors were 9.5%, SCLARC staff members were 9.5%. A service provider, and a parent of an individual in SD responded.
 3. Are there barriers to SDP? Not applicable were 52.4%, No were 28.6%, Yes were 19%
 4. What are those barriers? There were eight responses. Three were not applicable, one was unwilling to attend training, one was not federally reimbursable services, and one was they have difficulties understanding SD.
 - To obtain a greater response, this poll will be disseminated via email

II. SCLARC Update on Participants, SDP numbers/Outreach

- As of February 1, SCLARC has eight people in SDP. 89 active participants hope to continue the process.
- Two participants are pending orientation; there have been some scheduling challenges.
- There are 14 budgets certified, and 12 budget certifications in progress. In addition, there are eight spending plans certified, eight spending plans in progress, and 26 Person-Centered Plans completed.

SCLARC Efforts

- SCLARC has implemented the FMS directive from DDS allowing for funds to be reallocated for COVID-19 purposes for individuals in the program. These funds were allocated for two participants. Every participant has been notified about this waiver. During the pandemic, participants don't need to pay the FMS from their budgets.
- Every participant is in the process of transferring to an SDP Service Coordinator who will have a lower caseload. This would allow them to provide more intensive and one-to-one support.
- There have been unit trainings; every unit will have the training to ensure that they are aware of Self-Determination. It makes sure that families are aware of it and know how to access it.
- On an ongoing basis, SCLARC has intensive training of our SD Service Coordinators.
- On February 24, there will be our next session of the English Self-Determination Training series with Spanish translation. It will be on the role of the FMS budget and spending plan; how they all work together to assist you in Self-Determination.
- On February 17, the training will be on The Role of The Person-Centered Planner and Independent Facilitator in SD. It's a collaboration with Lanterman Regional Center, Spanish training with English translation available.
- Hopes are to start office hours in March or April. It will allow SDP participants, and family

members, to come and ask questions to staff who speaks either English or Spanish, which will be available at the same time.

- SCLARC is taking a Person-Centered approach to Self-Determination. Such an approach reflects on everything that it's done at this time. Sometimes, it means that SCLARC provides additional services in the traditional service system if the individual needs extra help. SCLARC doesn't push anybody towards SD if they are not ready.
- On February 16, from 10:30 am to 12 pm, SCLARC will have an English/Spanish vaccination informational meeting to discuss general information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, statistics, debunking myths about the vaccine, and facts about COVID-19.
 - *Committee Inquiry*: Why is it taking so long to transfer the participants to the SD Service Coordinators?
 - *Staff Response*: SCLARC needs to make sure that there are enough SD SCs available and the previous service coordinators need to finish up anything pending before transferring them to an SD SC.
 - *Committee Inquiry*: How is SCLARC informing current vendors to “Think out the box” to continue their services as service providers under Self-Determination?
 - Staff Response*: SCLARC presented Self-Determination at the VAC in November; this meeting had over 300 people. Ms. Hendrick, VAC Chair, has been tremendous assistance; vendors attend the monthly informational sessions to learn more about SD.
 - *Committee Inquiry*: Thank you, Naomi, for your professionalism and the support that you provide to the families!

III. Questions/Public Comment

- *Public Comment*: I was so sad after the last meeting because I wish I could help. There is no need to find English-speaking PCP Trainers; there are plenty waiting to do the job. Every time we hear that people can't find planners, it's like: why?
- *Public Comment*: I was listening to the instructions provided at the beginning of the meeting. I'm confused about what you're looking for and what you want us to do.
- *Committee Response*: As a committee, every vendor bombards us; thus, we need a way out of allowing us to serve the Community. We need to organize the vendor and service perspectives. This way, we can be fair to bring the best of the best and have it in an organized fashion. If you have an executive summary on your company, it's no longer than a sheet, send it. It should be enough because it should have all the major points about your company.
- *Public Comment*: If you could put those instructions in writing would be great! Maybe that could go on the new website for Self-Determination so that information can be available to people who might have missed it.
- *Public Comment*: I hadn't been to these meetings before; part of the reason is that things have been going well with SD. I feel our family feels very grateful to be part of it. I just want to give my gratitude to Naomi and the CEOs here. If any family feels stuck, they can contact me.
- *Public Comment*: What happens after you finish the spending plan?
- *Staff Response*: After the spending plan is done, you complete a new IPP meeting. Then you start services in SDP at the beginning of the next month.

IV. Committee Discussion on Requirements for Future Provider Presentations, Committee Actions, Participant Involvement and Logo *Action Item*

- A committee member wanted to express her feeling and giving her input to improve the committee function. Although she had to drop SDP, helping others is important to her. Her suggestions were:

- Discussions that could lead to a vote need to be indicated as action items on the agenda. It allows the Committee to vote and remain in compliance with Bagley-Keene.
 - Moving action items should not take more than two meetings in a row. We need to be prepared by receiving and reviewing the information about the possible action item five days before the meeting. This avoids delays.
 - She offered to design SDP-LAC own logo
- *Committee Response:* Procrastinating either move us in the right direction or allow us to achieve the ultimate goal. With regards to action items, that is what we're doing. A discussion with you will come within days about the logo image and other things that may be of good interest. Thank you very much for your points tonight.
- The motion to consider and expand the discussion regarding a logo for the Committee was on the floor. Ms. Dunn moved it; Mr. Muñoz and Ms. Ochoa seconded it. No one opposed.

V. Match Making/Meet & Greet *Action Item*

- We lack participation to get participants into the program; thus, our goal is to onboard 30 individuals from now and June, when SDP will open up for everyone. We need to carry out an onboarding process and test it.
- Matchmaking and Meet & Greet would be as a pilot program to test it out. SCLARC and SDP will facilitate matchmaking sessions online. It will be like a love connection where participants can find the right services to transition into SDP.
- Within 45 days from today, the Committee will have a completed draft of a plan of action, a schedule, and a list of service providers, along with those individuals willing to participate.
- SCLARC SDP will provide an incentive to bring participants to this virtual gathering. The invitation will be sent out to the families that have gone to the SDP orientation but not completed their PCP or engaged with service providers. Service providers will also be invited.
- The number of attendees will be limited at each session, but the invitation will go to everyone in SDP. We'll put participants with the right providers depending on the participants' needs. It facilitates for participants to choose the right provider for them.
- There will be rules for the Matchmaking, and service providers will have a limited number of sessions they can attend. It will give an opportunity to everybody.
- The participant will send a memo expressing their interest in three service providers. However, if the participant cannot find any service providers, this participant will be invited to another Matchmaking.
- When service providers receive their maximum requests, they work with SDP Manager and the consumer direct. The participating service providers must provide a consumer status and progress report to SCLARC within five business days or a given amount of time.
- Consumers will receive an incentive when they completed their PCP phase. It can be whatever is in the treasure chest and available to us as an organization and regional center.
- The Matchmaking is a pilot program. If it works, good, but if it doesn't, we will redesign it.
- The motion was placed as an action item for us to move. Ms. Dunn and Ms. Ugalde seconded it.

VI. Coaching Companies Research *Action Item*

- During our last meeting, an action item was called out, but we need to discuss it more. The Committee will look at different independent facilitators that can partner with our families to fast-track them into SDP. Fast-track means providing extensive support for the families in every aspect of the process to start services under SDP.

- *Public Comment:* How is the Coaching differ from the Planner Facilitator?
- *Committee Response:* The Coaching assists participants even to find the facilitator. It helps them move through the whole program and going from traditional services to SDP.
- *Committee Comment:* The coaching companies have established proven success in guiding people. It's true not only through the process but encouraging people to trust the process. I believe it will help us reach the goal of 30 people.
- As the SCLARC population is roughly 70% Spanish-speaking, the coaching company the Committee selects needs to speak both languages.
- A motion was put on the floor to move forward with the research for coaching companies. It was seconded by Ms. Ochoa; all were in favor. It was moved.

VII. Suggestions for March Agenda Items

- You can send ideas to SDP Manager; we can synthesize that into the next agenda.

VIII. Closing Meeting

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. The Committee recognized the committee members and SCLARC for their dedication to supporting our community. The next meeting is on March 10, 2021, from 6 PM to 8 PM.