



**Self-Determination Local Advisory
Committee Minutes**
Online Meeting Through Zoom due to COVID-19
March 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
 Armida Ochoa – SD-LAC Member
 Alberta Moore – SD-LAC Member
 Alnita Dunn – SD-LAC Member
 Luz Hernandez – SD-LAC Member
 Sofia Cervantes – State Council
 Sonia Totado – OCRA Representative
 Nidya Paredes – OCRA Representative
 Nikisia Simmons – DDS Representative

Present:

Naomi Hagel – SD Program Manager (Staff)
 Erika Anguiano (Staff)
 Ted Bilbao – Chief of Case Management (Staff)
 Odulia Juarez – Program Manager (Staff)
 Crystal Chavez – Program Manager (Staff)
 Jenice Turner – Service Director Assistance (Staff)
 Eduardo Kogan – English/Spanish Interpreter

Absent:

Raul Muñoz – SD-LAC Member

Public in attendance:

Veronica Moser
 Maria Cruz
 Caycee Ricketts
 Karen Chavez
 Alma Morales
 Olivia Gonzalez
 Shelia J. Jones
 Pia Hernandez
 Janet Cazalez
 Jeanetta Borton
 and more

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 pm

I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Meeting Minutes

- The Co-Chair welcomed the public and dove into business. Introductions and roll-calling were brief. It was explained how the Spanish interpretation works. Ms. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Ms. Dunn seconded it. There were no corrections.

II. SCLARC Update on SDP Participants

- As of March 1, nine people are receiving SD Services, and 88 active participants.
- Eighty-six participants have completed orientation, two families are pending orientation, and 16 budgets certified. Furthermore, 14 budget certifications in progress and ten spending plans are certified.
- Six spending plans are in progress, 30 PCPs completed; two families use FMS Weaver funds
- Fifty-six cases have been transitioned to SDP Service Coordinators.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* Please, elaborate as to why only six participants have moved into SDP?
 - *Staff Response:* COVID holds back families. They don't want to deal with one more thing.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* If families don't move forward by June, will it be difficult for them to get in?
 - *Staff Response:* They will be eligible for SDP, but DDS has not said if the regional center can pay for the PCP after June.

The Results of the Survey

- People who responded to the survey, which was disseminated via email and text message after the meeting to get more responses. The results are:

The meeting attendees:	Who are you in relation to Self-Determination?
69% were from SCLARC	7.3% were people who receive services from regional centers
9.5% were from North LA	68.3% were family members
2.4% were from Inland Regional Center	12.2% were SD Service Providers
9.5% were from Lanterman Regional Center	14.6% were service providers or vendors in the traditional service delivery system
4.8% were from Regional Center of the East Bay	4.9% were community members
2.4% were from San Andreas Regional Center, and	2.45% were service provider applicants
2.4% were from Regional Center of Orange County	2.45% identified themselves as parent, and
	2.45% were a resource specialists from PHP. An organization called Parents Helping Parents.

- The third question was whether you were experiencing barriers to Self-Determination. The responses were 23.8% answered Yes, 31% answered No, and 45.2% not applicable.
- What barriers are you experiencing? A summary of the answers is as follows:
 - The concern about the learning curve after transitioning to Self-Determination. *Response:* SCLARC is talking with an FMS agency to set up training in English and Spanish regarding the role of being an employer.
 - Concern about delays regarding the budget process. *Response:* SCLARC follows up within ten days after receiving the PCP completed. SCLARC sends a Notice of Action when services are not permitted under SDP.
 - *Committee Comment:* We would like to find out exactly how we can serve consumers and SCLARC better. We need to know where they're having specific problems. Maybe in the future, we can do a deeper dive with SCLARC consumers.

SCLARC Efforts to Assist with the SDP Transition

- SCLARC implemented the FMS waiver funds, which is available to anybody who is in SDP.
- Over two-thirds of case transfers to SDP Service Coordinators will be done by March 11, 2021.
- SCLARC continues conducting intensive training with service coordinators regarding SDP. It's an ongoing process every two weeks.
- Continuing our Spanish training in collaboration with Lanterman Regional Center
- SCLARC added Self-Determination to all new parent orientations, the Navigator Presentation, and IPP Overview.
- SCLARC's person-centered approach continues in the traditional service delivery system.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* Would families and consumers be allowed to complete orientation

- before June to get ready?
- *Staff Response:* Honestly, we have not gotten that far.
- *Committee Inquiry:* If an individual has a sibling selected for SDP, can they just be added to Self-Determination in June?
- *Staff Response:* Yes. SCLARC will not force families to go through the orientation again.

III. Questions/Public Comment

- *Public Comment:* A three-minute limit to speak is too short. Please, be patient and understanding. I'm in SD but not yet receiving services. I didn't understand the process; thus, I requested a third meeting with the team; I'm still waiting for it. However, a contract was signed and paid for, arguing that I agreed to it. Such action makes me doubtful. Now, I'm asking for reimbursement to find another provider who I trust. Can this be done?
- *Staff Response:* Thank you for your comment. SCLARC is not able to respond to specific cases during this meeting. However, if you contact us directly, we can address your concerns. Our contact information is on the chat.
- *Public Comment:* SD has been a wonderful experience for our family because we always put our son Terry to the side and make decisions for him. Terry is 34 years old because he was so quiet, we decided that we would do things for him. However, the PCP Planner guided me on how to encourage him to communicate with me. I must say it is rewarding to see him speaking for himself. He wants to be an entrepreneur by being a DJ and have a pizza truck. We've developed the PCP and the spending plan. I encourage parents to get involved!
- *Public Comment:* My daughter is hugely interested in animal rights! She started a petition to end bird abuse. One of the things that we can get in SDP under technology services is cell phone services. It has been helpful for her because she has many interests; she always wanted to use my or her dad's phone to call advocacy groups to find a place to volunteer. How can she get her petition out? Things like that. Since she got a phone, she can call those places herself, which has made her feel empowered. Now, she doesn't wait for us to help her with it. It is only one aspect of her PCP; I'm willing to talk to any parents who have questions about SDP.
- *Committee Comment:* These stories are inspiring for us and the general public. The parents and consumers that are out there, if you go through and challenge yourself, you'll discover that you have an unpolished diamond!
- *Public Comment:* I want to communicate directly with the Committee. I don't want it to be translated. How can I communicate with them?
- *Committee Response:* We're definitely interested in your comment but the communication must be through SCLARC to protect your privacy. Please, send your concerns to the Program Manager and she will forward your message to us.

IV. Update on Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting

- The Self-Determination Statewide Advisory Committee meets quarterly; on February 16, there was a meeting. The purpose of this was regarding recommendations to SDP. They are:
- Transitioning all participants who were selected for SDP by June 1st. Regional centers should find out at what stage participants are and who is responsible for their next step

- Simplifying the orientation and ongoing training for participants, and coaching of participants
- Training the regional centers' staff, and outreaching underserved communities. There are disparity issues rolling over into the SDP, thus, regional centers should prioritize enrollment of underserved in our Spanish-speaking population.
- LACs and RCs staff should speed their response time in all aspects of the program
- LAC members and their families should be enrolled in SDP no later than May 31st.
- LAC meetings should be more open, accessible, informal, and less bureaucratic. FMS and Independent Facilitators should be at LAC meetings.
- RCs should send letters to all SDP participants notifying them about the SDP expansion no later than May 31st.
- On February 23rd, there was a Senate Budget Committee meeting. During this meeting, DDS Director presented her concerns regarding SDP's low numbers of enrollment. One Senator commented on whether or not the program should even be rolled out. SDP needs community support by writing letters to the Senate.

The Committee agreed to table the following items

- Update on logo *Possible Action Item*
- Meet/Greet(Matchmaking) *Possible Action Item*
- Continued Discussion on Coaching/IFs *Possible Action Item*

V. Committee/SCLARC Ideas for Future Agenda Topics

- Report on a logo *Possible Action Item*
- Meet/Greet(Matchmaking) *Possible Action Item*
- Continued Discussion on Coaching/IFs *Possible Action Item*
- LAC Budget

VI. Closing Meeting

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM. The next meeting is on April 14, 2021, from 6 PM to 8 PM.