



**Self-Determination Local Advisory  
Committee Minutes**  
**Online Meeting Through Zoom due to COVID-19**  
**May 12, 2021**  
**6:00pm – 8:00pm**

**Present:**

Sherry Johnson – SD-LAC Co-Chair  
 Terrence Payne – SD-LAC Co-Chair  
 Diana Ugalde – SD-LAC Member  
 Alberta Moore – SD-LAC Member  
 Luz Hernandez – SD-LAC Member  
 Armida Ochoa – SD-LAC Member  
 Guadalupe Barrera – SD-LAC Member  
 Sonia Tostado – OCRA Representative  
 Sofia Cervantes – State Council  
 Nikisia Simmons – DDS Representative  
 Naomi Hagel – SD Program Manager  
 Adriana Colon – Program Manager  
 Odulia Juarez – Program Manager  
 Erika Anguiano – Diversity Case Management Specialist

**Present:**

Crystal Chavez-Washington – Program Manager  
 Jenice Turner – Assistant Director  
 Ted Bilbao – Chief of Case Management  
 Desiree Boykin – Consumer Representative  
 Carolyn Abraham – Service Coordinator  
 Luis Beltran – Service Coordinator  
 Eduardo Kogan – Eng/Span Interpreter  
 Shelley Hash – Eng/Span Interpreter

**Absent:**

Raul Muñoz – SD-LAC Member  
 Antwan Jones – SD-LAC Member  
 Alnita Dunn – SD-LAC Member

**Public in attendance:**

Caycee Ricketts  
 Shelia J. Jones  
 Linda Andron  
 Shamika Cueva  
 Lorena Gomez  
 Jeanetta Burton  
 Elan Marche  
 Helen Reese  
 and more

Meeting Start Time: 6:05 pm

**I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- The Co-Chair welcomed the public. It was explained how the Spanish interpretation works. Introductions and roll-calling were brief. Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from April as written; Ms. Moore seconded it. There were no corrections.
- The Committee tabled the minutes from May 5, 2021 special meeting.
- Mr. Payne shared that COVID-19 vaccinations are very important. He also encouraged professionals to “speed up” the spending plan process while simultaneously ensuring that participants and families are being guided towards services that are fundable given the guidelines, while encouraging fiscal responsibility. He then had to excuse himself due to personal issues going on at the time.
- The Committee has an email for the public to communicate directly with members. It is [sdp.choice2013@gmail.com](mailto:sdp.choice2013@gmail.com)

**II. SCLARC Update on SDP Participants**

- SCLARC has 110 slots for SDP soft rollout, but the DDS list shows 120 participants. 31 participants have dropped the program, and three have transferred to another regional center. Therefore, there are 86 active participants in SDP.

- Fifteen individuals are receiving services under SD. On the other hand, six participants are working to start services on June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- There are 83 orientations completed, three remain pending, and 37 completed PCPs. Furthermore, there are eight PCPs in progress.
- There are 25 budget plan certifications and 11 more in process. The count for spending plan certifications is 11, and 17 more in progress.
- The FMS waiver funding requests are two, and 77 cases transferred to SD service coordinators.
- Continuous outreach to participants who have not moved forward since orientation is ongoing. The Disparity Specialist is contacting those individuals; they stated that the main reason for not moving forward is the pandemic. Most of them haven't done their PCPs, and they want to wait.
- There are the one-on-one, and small group trainings for the participants on the enrollment process and related topics, including the collaboration with Lanterman Regional Center.
- All these trainings and sessions include Spanish translation.
- In June 2021, SDP will be available to everybody. SCLARC's efforts to prepare for this include having trained all SCs on the enrollment process, added SDP overview to the new parent orientation, and Navigator Program IPP overview.
- In May, the meet and greet event will occur for people to meet IFs/PCPs, and FMS agencies.

### III. Public Comment / Questions

- *Public Question:* Will the COVID-19 funds already spent be included in the annual budget for SDP? Meaning that the COVID-19 expenses are paid for our children; thus, they should be in the last 12 months' budget.  
 - *Two Staff Responses:* The COVID-19 funds are expected to end on June 30; thus, these funds won't be in the annual budget. However, completing the PCP might reveal unmet needs, or the circumstances might have changed, which would result in a budget increase. SCLARC cannot give the entire year funds because the State approved funding as the pandemic progressed, and each case is individualized. Thus, there is no straight answer because the State goes as the pandemic progresses. The best answer I can give you is to contact us for a more individualized response. SCLARC is not adding any more COVID-19 services as it did in the past months.
- *Public Question:* I was selected for SDP in 2019. I got COVID funding in November, and I have not moved forward mainly because of the delays from my IF and regional center. Why are they taking away the COVID funding, and it's not included in the budget?  
 - *Staff Response:* Due to privacy reasons, I cannot discuss your case during this public meeting. Please, email me, and we will discuss all your concern during our meeting.
- *Public Question:* I don't know if classes will be half at school and half at home. If this happens, will COVID services continue?  
 - *Staff Response:* Putting COVID service aside, SCLARC's commitment is to give individualized services to the individuals it serves. Therefore, the answer is: let's talk – it's not a yes; it is not a no. When the time comes, let's talk about it.

### IV. Discussion on SDP Rollout – Orientation Dates & Requirements

- Orientations for stakeholders began in May. One in English and one in Spanish each month; a translator will be present at least for the first sessions.
- SCLARC will require that people interested in SD take orientation at SCLARC. Each regional

center operates slightly differently; thus, to reach success; the agency will have this requirement.

- The first dates were released via email to the SDP interest list this afternoon. They were also posted on our website and social media. The orientations will be on May 28, and June 2.
- Plans are to partner with Lanterman Regional Center to increase the number of orientations available.
- The public is highly encouraged to communicate with us directly if they can't attend orientation on the given dates. There might be ideas on how to arrange accommodations.
- *Committee Question:* If a family has two children who don't get into SDP together, do their need to attend orientation again? What is Zoom capacity?  
- *Staff Response:* No, SCLARC won't require a family to attend orientation for each child. Zoom can host events for 300 users.
- *Committee Comment:* The Zoom recording feature is a great idea for the future. Orientation can be recorded and posted on our website.  
- *Staff Response:* SCLARC is encouraging people who have attended orientation to review the Lanterman Regional Center's orientation summary online, if needed. In the future, SCLARC plans to record and have the orientation online for people to review.

## V. Review of Independent Facilitator's Summaries

- The Co-Chair encouraged the members to start the discussion to select the IF/PCP Companies and asked SCLARC for feedback. It is a collaborative decision as directed by DDS.
- The Committee can select multiple companies because there are funds for this action.
- One of the things that is critical in selecting IFs/PCP writers is ensuring that they know the Lanterman Act and the definitions of the Waiver. This way one can be sure our families would have the guidance they need without delays.
- The Members were in favor to select several companies.
- *Committee Question:* How many companies can we afford? Can we afford five companies?  
- *Staff Response:* The Committee has \$75,250 in funding to help families transition into SDP. If the Committee wants to allocate more to translation, it will not hurt. Depending on how much each company charges, the Committee can select the number of companies.
- *Committee Inquiry:* Can the Committee make a requirement of what they do and that they have to finish the process to get paid?  
- *Staff Response:* If that's what the Committee wants to do, absolutely!
- Doing the math, the Committee concluded that if they select six companies and allocate \$60,000, they would pay \$12,000 per company and still have funds for translation services. Everything has been covered and is in place when the program opens up for everyone in June 2021.
- After further discussion, the Committee came to their top six companies. However, many members were absent, and one of them has missed important information to cast a vote. Staff suggested that the Committee would wait until the next meeting to vote and make the final decision. The Committee agreed.
- The Members picked one company each to confirm their availability to present for the next meeting.
- The companies that had the most votes and need to be contacted are NestDan, JJA Impact

Solutions, Ochoa's Consulting, Linda Andron, Jocabed Garcia, and Education Spectrum for a 15 minutes presentation at the next meeting. During this meeting, the Committee will vote on three, four, or how many they agree.

- *Public Comment:* I support the idea of selecting multiple companies and a flat rate. The IFs/PCP writers can give the time needed to each family with no competition, and the work is done. My system is going to be groups of parents to help each other and interchange resources. We all have expertise that works better with certain families. Hopefully, by the end of June, I have Spanish-speaking staff.
- *Public Comment:* I am also in favor of group support; many families need our help.
- *Committee Comment:* Yeah, it's a great idea to move forward, and I'm happy to be part of the transition helping the Latino Community.
- Ochoa's Consulting, Linda Andron, and JJA Impact Solutions confirmed their availability to present on June 9, 2021, during the committee's meeting. Ms. Barrera will contact NextDan, Ms. Hernandez is going to contact Jocabed Garcia, and the Program Manager will contact Education Spectrum.
- For clarification, at the next meeting, the Committee will vote on the companies. However, the Committee needs to specify the allocation during the meeting.
- SCLARC hopes that the companies that the Committee chooses can start working with families on July 1st. It also hopes that the struggling individuals can benefit from this project.

#### **VI. Announcements / Suggestions for June 9<sup>th</sup> Agenda**

- *Announcement:* To continue sharing the flyer for online self-paced training for Independent Facilitators, and the list of IFs. If there are any IFs who would like to add themselves to the list, feel free to contact me, Sofia Cervantes [sofia.cervantes@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:sofia.cervantes@scdd.ca.gov)
- For the agenda, we will have the approval of the minutes, SCLARC's update, and the presentations as an action item.

#### **VII. Meeting Adjourning**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM. The Co-Chair thanked the Committee and SCLARC for its support. The next meeting is on June 9 from 6 PM to 8 PM.