

**Self-Determination Local Advisory
Committee Minutes**

Online Meeting through Zoom due to COVID-19

September 8, 2021

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Present

Terrence Payne – SD-LAC Co-Chair
Armida Ochoa – SD-LAC Member
Alberta Moore – SD-LAC Member
Antwan Jones – SD-LAC Member
Luz Hernandez – SD-LAC Member
Raul Munoz - SD-LAC Member
Guadalupe Berrera - SD-LAC Member
Sofia Cervantes – State Council
Perla Zuniga– DDS Representative
Naomi Hagel – SD Program Manager

Present

Rocio Rodriguez - Service Coordinator
Crystal Chavez-Washington-Program Manager
Oduvia Juarez –Program Manager
Adriana Colon – Program Manager
Teodoro Bilbao – Chief of Case Management
Desiree Boykin – Consumer Advocate
Sangita Prasad- Navigator
Eduardo Kogan – Eng/Span Interpreter
Shelley Hash – Eng/Span Interpreter

Absent

Alnita Dunn – SD-LAC Member
Sherry Johnson – SD-LAC Co-Chair
Diana Ugalde – SD-LAC Member
Sonia Tostado – OCRA Representative
Bhumit Shah – OCRA Representative

Public in Attendance

Alvenus Hillis
Angela Harrison
A E
Araceli Cabrera
Dr. Henny Kupferstein
Bobby Johnson
Silvia Diaz

Benita Shaw

Helen Reese

Heidi Peratoner

And many more

I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Meeting Minutes

- The Co-Chair welcomed the public. There was a closed caption request. The Spanish
- Interpretation was explained on Zoom.
- Introductions and roll-calling were brief. The new Family Resource Center Representative, Sangita Prasad, introduced herself.

(Action Item): Table Meeting Minutes from July and August.

II. SCLARC Update on Participants

- The Committee asked staff to reveal the number of participants and updates on orientation only.
- Time was limited on this occasion.
- As June 21st, 2021 SCLARC has 30 participants receiving services under Self-Determination.
- There are monthly orientations in English and Spanish. The SCLARC website lists the dates and times.
- SCLARC will accept participants who have taken SCLARC's orientation entirely to move
- Forward into the Self-Determination Program. It is to ensure the participants know the
- Mechanism of the program at SCLARC.
- This month our first participant who was not part of the soft roll out started services.
- The recording of the orientation is in process. This recording will be available online as a reference for the participants.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* Is there any numbers from the Latino Community or is this general information?
 - *Team Response:* This is all inclusive of everyone so it's not broken down by demographic.

III. SDP Codes & Categories

- **Employment & Community Participation: Independent Facilitator (IF) (Code 340)**
- Independent facilitator means a person, selected and directed by the participant, who is not otherwise, providing services to the participant pursuant to his or her IPP. The service or function is intended to assist the participant to plan for and access services to implement needed services identified and participants IPP.
 - *An Independent facilitator may not provide any other service to an individual in their IPP, nor may work if they work for an agency that is providing services in the IPP.*
- A participant may elect to use his or her regional center service coordinator to fulfill the functions of an Independent facilitator, instead of contracting with or using the service

of an independent facilitator. Independent facilitators are required to have training at their own expense.

- A parent may not be a paid independent Facilitator for a minor.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* Does the independent facilitator have to be trained to write the Person Centered Plan?
 - *Team Responses:* Not necessarily. They have to have training in Person Centered Thinking, which is different from person centered planning.
- **Health & Safety: Skilled Nursing – (Code 361)**
- Services listed in the Plan of care which are the scope of the State’s Nurse Practice Act and provided by a Registered Nurse or a licensed practical or vocational nurse under the supervision of a registered nurse.
- Skilled nursing is only provided to individuals age 21 and over. All medically necessary skilled nursing services for children under the age of 21 are covered under the EPSDT benefit and it is not available to children in self-determination. SCLARC will only provide this level of service to individuals who require it due to medical conditions, and that it is determined, by a nursing assessment.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* If a family has LVN Respite, Can the family choose a personal assistance to go into the community with the LVN?
 - *Team Response:* Normally when an individual is eligible to receive Nursing Respite, they are not eligible to receive Personal Assistant services. Additional Nursing Respite Hours may be provided to assist in the community for community integration.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* Who determines LVN or this level of care?
 - *Team Response:* It is based on the individuals medical conditions, so if it's shared with us, or if we're aware that an individual has specific medical conditions, including a G tube, seizures, and Catheters things like that that's a short list, it is not an exhaustive list, then the law requires us to conduct an assessment to determine the appropriate level of care. The assessment is conducted by a licensed nurse through SCLARC’s clinical department, who writes up an assessment and provides it to our clinical department with recommendations. And from there, the case management department will let you know of the determination. If a family is not in agreement with this, they can always file for a fair hearing and we can always send a notice of action.

IV. Public Comment

- *Public Comment:* If my PCP charges \$2500.00, for the same amount can she be the independent facilitator? If I want to be the Independent Facilitator can you send me some information on how I can be the Independent facilitator? If the person does the PCP, will she charge me extra to be the Independent Facilitator?
 - *Committee Response:* The \$2500.00 should cover at minimum the plan, helping you with the spending plan, and then making sure you get into self-determination. It shouldn't just be them handing you a plan and leaving you because most people are going to need more support. But you don't have to have an independent facilitator after the transition to self determination you can choose to but you don't

have to. You can learn how to do it- I'll tell you right now there's some links that I'm going to put in the chat that people are sharing with me as I speak of people who may be able to support you. It's up to you; there are no set rates for independent facilitators. The Advisory Committee has identified three independent facilitators and if you do have questions, they will be giving us updates later. It's up to you there's no set rates for independent facilitators

- *Public Comment:* How would you provide technical assistance to access this process; when I have a unmet medical need that I cannot get met with generic resources because of a gap in the medi-cal access for developmentally disabled people. We have a law that forbids medi-cal patients to pay for out of pocket care. We have out of pocket providers being threatened with malpractice and medi-cal fraud if they take my money. So, then, we have liens for this, because they keep refunding my money and they keep putting a lien on me for these financial responsibilities. How can we streamline this technical assistance for person who cannot even get a piece of paper evidence that they cannot access care for a medical need and that there has to be a de facto approval.
 - *Committee Response:* Well, first off Dr. Kupferstein can I apologize for the mishap and Roadblocks. In regards to administrative side we are governed by Laternman Act and Rules/Regulations of the Regional Center. I have some ideas for you, but they're very much one on one personal level. Can you send me an email-I have some ideas of some stuff that I think will work .

- *Public Comment:* Could the \$2500.00 also include transition support for the self-determination program in addition to the person centered planning services? Like negotiating the individual budget creating the spending plan FMS assistance, etc.?.
 - *Committee Response:* Absolutely yes, and in fact we highly encourage that it does.

- *Public Comment:* Thank you for this this meeting again I'm learning a lot I'm trying to become independent facilitator I've completed a lot of training. Where do I go from here and getting started?
 - *Committee's Responses:* Most service providers basically discuss and also market their services or present their services to the service coordinators. We add to a list of resources that we do have on our website and the link is in the chat.

- *Public Comment:* How can families understand the role of the independent facilitator versus the FMS when implementing the spending plan and services?
 - *Committee Response:* This is the self part of self determination, so the family is going to need to know what they want to purchase and who they want to work with. And if they don't know what they want, then they need to put services and supports into the plan that can help them with that. It is really the role the family who needs to take an active role and if they're not able to take an active role they need to find an independent facilitator, who is really, really well versed and is able to take that role, and some of them are out there, some of them are probably on this call tonight.

V.SDP Coaching Updates

- **Linda Andron-Ostrow:** Some people are definitely moving along and some people have very serious medical/familial issue which is why traditional services right this minute until they get a diagnosis and a medical plan which are more appropriate. We've got several families that have interviewed two independent facilitators. Most of the school aged families are settling into going back to school and so that's then just putting on hold for now and I'll reach out again this week to connect them with person Center planners.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* What kind of numbers are we following up with this process? How many of the 20 families have accessed this support since the meeting that it was decided upon, where we would give the amount of money to each of these groups?
 - *Team's Response:* Nobody's going to have a specific answer of all 20 because they're split up. And they only got the information of the individuals specifically assigned to them.
- **Shelia Jordan Jones**
- With my seven families, these are attempts I mean how many times we either tried to call or email the families contact me is how successful we were in actually making that call and getting through to them. The status of where they are at this particular time.
 - *Committee Inquiry:* If the family decided not to go into self-determination and stayed in traditional services but they needs support with Generic Services?
 - *Shelia's Response:* Yes we help families with accessing generic services and connect them with their services coordinator, and of course we keep Naomi in the loop.
- **Jocabed Garcia,**
- We are ready to start working; the contract has not been signed because of a delay with one contact. As soon as contract is signed, work with family will start.
- *Committee Inquiry:* I think it's important to have numbers, like in details to see what is actually you know with the Hispanic community-But I want to see the numbers more than the general information.
 - *Team Response:* We can certainly add in an ethnicity part to Miss Jones template already but anything specific that isn't about ethnicity or language that I can easily add
- **Announcements / Suggestions for June 9th Agenda**
- *Budget And Allocation* - It will expire in March if not spent. Also, \$30,000 pending on the 2020 -2021 one and you have one coming in for 2021-2022. You may want another contract that isn't only focused on the soft rollout but that's going to be up to the committee.
- Ratification of July, August and September Meeting Minutes for October Meeting.
- Go over two definitions 333 & 334 for October Meeting?

VI. Meeting Adjourning

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM. The Committee thanked the companies for their Presentations and SCLARC for its support. The next meeting is on October 13 from 6 PM to 8 PM.