



South Central Los Angeles
Regional Center
for persons with developmental disabilities, inc.

**Self-Determination Local Advisory
Committee Minutes**
Online Meeting Through Zoom due to COVID-19
April 14, 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
Alberta Moore – SD-LAC Member
Alnita Dunn – SD-LAC Member
Luz Hernandez – SD-LAC Member
Sofia Cervantes – State Council Nidya
Paredes – OCRA Representative Nikisia
Simmons – DDS Representative Naomi
Hagel – SD Program Manager Adriana
Colon – Program Manager
Ted Bilbao – Chief of Case Management

Present:

Odulia Juarez – Program Manager
Crystal Chavez-Washington – Program
Manager
Jenice Turner – Assistant Director
Carolyn Abrahan – Service Coordinator
Julius Tad-y – Service Coordinator
Tami Summerville - Service Coordinator
Eduardo Kogan – Eng/Span Interpreter
Sonia Hernandez – Eng/Span Interpreter

Absent:

Raul Muñoz – SD-LAC Member
Armida Ochoa – SD-LAC Member
Sonia Tostado – OCRA Representative

Public in attendance:

Veronica Moser
Caycee Ricketts
Worknesh Wakero
Vanessa Chay
Olivia Gonzalez
Shelia J. Jones
Juana Gutierrez
Linda Rodriguez
Jinsoon Baek
Pia Hernandez
Cheryl Johnson
Cesar Villamar
and more

Meeting Start Time: 6:02 pm

I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

II. SCLARC Update on SDP Participants

- As of today, 33 individuals dropped SDP, and two transferred to other regional centers. It leaves SCLARC with 85 active participants.
- Thirteen participants are receiving services under SDP. Six more hopefully will start services on May 1st.
- There are 22 budget certifications completed, and 13 PCPs in process. Nine budget certifications started the process.
- Furthermore, there are 14 spending plans completed and ten plans in process. Two participants requested FMS waiver; one in progress.
- Seventy-one cases have been transitioned to SD Service Coordinators.
- SCLARC efforts to increase enrollment into SDP continue on an ongoing basis. It includes outreaching to participants where there has been no movement since orientation.
- There are 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 training and sessions include Spanish translation.
- Service Coordinators and vendors receive training on SD bi-weekly. Vendors are encouraged to complete COVID-19 alternative services for assistance with the transition.
- SCLARC hopes to begin orientation for interested stakeholders during May before the full rollout of the program.
- For May, plans are to do a meet and greet event in collaboration with Lanterman RC for potential participants to meet the PCP Planners, IFs and FMS agencies.
 - *Committee Inquiry*: Have any consumers requested a Fair Hearing?
 - *Staff Response*: There have been three. One was in favor of SCLARC, and the second was in the favor of the family. One is pending a decision.
- The Committee requested a written update on the participants

III. Public Comment / Questions

- *Public Question*: Regarding the implementation of services, is there any additional requirement to report directly from SCLARC or DDS regarding services performed? Is it going to be required by the participants? Who's going to dictate the reporting?
- *Staff Response*: Requirements are related to Title 17 and the Lanterman Act; thus, it depends on each service under Self-Determination. It is the responsibility of the IF, Participant, and/or FMS to obtain and submit required progress reports
- *Public Question*: How are you basing the meet and greet (matching) process? I don't speak Spanish, and I don't drive the freeway. I probably will have limited ability.
- *Committee Response*: A high priority is our Spanish-speaking families. The main factor is to recruit bilingual companies.

IV. DDS Implementation Funds/Allocation of Funding

- There were several items that the committee and SCLARC agreed to allocate funds from the 2019-2020 year. They are meeting/training interpretation services, resource fair, guidebook printing, translation equipment, document translation, person-centered trainer training, SSDAC allocation, and independent facilitator training.
- The Resource Fair was held in February 2020 before the agency closed; its cost was \$482.36.
- At this time, SCLARC has spent the \$13,800 originally allocated for meeting and training interpretation services, plus an additional \$900. In July 2020, the Committee requested translation services for public meetings to translate not only from English to Spanish but from Spanish to English. SCLARC asks the Committee to approve a \$900.00 reimbursement, as well as additional funds from the 2020-2021 allocation.
- If the Committee would like the same number of meetings; trainings and the level of interpretation, SCLARC asks for additional funds to cover the cost for the fiscal year 2021-22.
- In the past, the Spanish-speaking community was not at the same level of knowledge as the English-speaking; therefore, the training had to be different. SCLARC's goal is to have training at the same level, so the English translation would not be necessary. This goal is to be reached by the end of June.
- Building in some extra funds would allow covering for additional translation services when needed.

- After some discussion, Ms. Moore made a motion to approve \$14,000 to cover the cost for translation for the fiscal year 2020-21. Ms. Dunn seconded the motion; it was approved. Thus, this amount will be allocated for translation and interpretation services from the second allocation of funds for SDP Implementation from DDS.
- SCLARC is still working on the guidebook; it is almost done. Its allocation was \$5,999.49. SCLARC hopes to have the guidebook before the rollout in June.
- The translation equipment has not been purchased because there has not been a need for it yet. Its allocation was \$17,804.
- Two Spanish-speaking staff members are being trained to be person-centered trainers. Its allocation was \$17,075.
- SCLARC continues to finalize the contract with the selected contractor for the independent facilitator training. There have been delays due to COVID-19 but soon the contract will be finalized. Its allocation was \$2,435. The IFs from training will be culturally sensitive and familiar to SCLARC's community needs when providing their services.

V. Meet and Greet (Matching)

- From experience, it showed that training did not move participants towards the transition. It suggested doing more coaching with the participants instead of training.
- The State Council also offers training with interpretation, so there is no need to duplicate and spend on training.
- As this event is closely tied to IFs and PCP Planners, it was noted that the Committee was supposed to select the coaching companies by now. However, due to limited time, transparency, and attempting to be fair, the Committee has not done so.
- A member raised a truthful point which is to move on with what they have. At this point, the Committee has five Executive Statements to consider to help the participants transition into SDP. As things move forward, there will be more to help.
 - *Public Comment:* I'm one of the five, but I was never looking to take on all participants. I understood that there would be a matching event, which would enable families to look for the best service provider for them.
 - *Staff Response:* When the coaching idea came up, it was like ten agencies, ten planners, and independent facilitators. That way, there would be a great selection to pick from and match people to them without overwhelming anybody.
 - *Public Comment:* The Committee already has the Executive Statements; thus, it's to review them and ask specific questions. It's not necessary a discussion.
 - *Staff Comment:* A concern is our Spanish-speaking Community. There's only one Spanish-speaking provider. Thus, it's the reason for more outreach from the Committee Members to get more service providers involved. Maybe the Members could split up the PCP planner list or the independent facilitator list to invite them to send their Executive Statements.
- Attending the Spanish-speaking session on April 28th will be a good source of feedback for the Committee.
- After some discussion, it was ultimately decided to have a special meeting on May 5th in hopes of further clarifying the Matchmaking Process and hearing presentations from potential providers.
- In revising the proposal, the Committee would review the five Executive Statements that it already has and have specific questions during May special meeting. The five presenters will be

called in alphabetic order and have ten minutes, including Q&A. Any additional Executive Statements will be for the next meeting.

VI. Update on Logo

- Ms. Ugalde, a Committee Member, designed three logo samples for the Committee to choose from. This design will be on official committee documents.
- The Committee showed an inclination for the design explanation that read as follows: Thinking outside of the box is Self-Determination's main concept. The stars symbolize the participants' desires in life, which are supported by services. The birds represent the freedom that the program offers, and the individuals' unique needs are the different colors in the silhouettes.
- A suggestion was to have an English version and another in Spanish to fully include the Spanish-speaking Community.
- A motion was put on the floor for approving sample number two with the Spanish version, Ms. Dunn moved it, and Mr. Jones seconded it. The SDPLAC approved the design for its logo.

VII. Committee/SCLARC Ideas for May 5th Agenda Topics

- Update on participants
- Public comment
- Meet and greet event discussion and presenters – Action item
- Implementation of funds for meet and greet – Action item

VII. Closing Meeting

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM. The Co-Chair thanked the Committee and IFs for their participation and support. She also encourages the Spanish-speaking Committee Members to reach out to IFs who speak Spanish to submit their Executive Statements. The next meeting is a special meeting on May 5 from 5 PM to 7 PM. The regular SDPLAC will be on May 12, 2021, from 6 PM to 8 PM.