



**Self-Determination Local Advisory
Committee Minutes**
Online Meeting Through Zoom due to COVID-19
October 13, 2021
6:00pm – 8:00pm

Present:

Sherry Johnson – SD-LAC Co-Chair
 Terrence Payne – SD-LAC Co-Chair
 Diana Ugalde – SD-LAC Member
 Alnita Dunn – SD-LAC Member
 Alberta Moore – SD-LAC Member
 Luz Hernandez – SD-LAC Member
 Armida Ochoa – SD-LAC Member
 Antwan Jones – SD-LAC Member
 Raul Muñoz – SD-LAC Member
 Sangita Prasad – FRC Representative
 Bhunit Shah – OCRA Representative
 Sofia Cervantes – State Council

Present:

Jason Francisco – DDS Representative
 Naomi Hagel – SD Program Manager
 Odulia Juarez – Program Manager
 Erika Anguiano – Diversity Case Mgmt.
 Specialist
 Jenice Turner – Assistant Director
 Adriana Colon – Program Manager
 Ashton Green – Team Leader
 Eduardo Kogan – Eng/Span Interpreter
 Shelley Hash – Eng/Span Interpreter
Absent:
 Guadalupe Barrera – SD-LAC Member

Public in attendance:

Shelia J. Jones
 Tim Howell
 Marcie Soslau
 Marilu Santibanez
 Merced Gayosso
 Maria Martinez
 Linda Andron
 Carol Hernandez
 and more

Meeting Start Time: 6:04 pm

I. Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Meeting Minutes

- As always, the Co-Chair welcomed the public. Then, the Spanish interpretation was explained on Zoom. Introductions and roll-calling were brief.
- Mr. Muñoz motioned to ratify the minutes from September 8, 2021, with corrections. Ms. Ochoa seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
- The approval of the minutes from July and August 2021 was tabled.

II SCLARC Update on Participants

Phase	Total Number	Increase From Previous Month
Orientations completed	189	9
Person-Centered Plans completed	63	7
Budget Certified	46	12
Budget Certification in Progress	17	
Spending Plan Completed/Agreed Upon	35	5
Spending Plan in Progress	5	
Receiving services under SDP	36	6

- There is a big interest in orientation; thus, there is at least one in English and one in Spanish once a month through Zoom.
- The six participants who started services in October are Hispanic. Also, SCLARC and the Committee are excited to see that self-advocates are interested in SDP. At least four will start service November 1st.

Policies and Procedures

- Some structure is in place for the participants to access the Program and follow the law. With this, SCLARC ensures that it complies with the Medicaid Waiver requirements. It's as follows:
- Providing only a six-month budget for clinical services, after that, a renewal is required. It includes a progress report. Why?
 - Self-Determination is required to have cost neutral when compared to traditional services. The same policies in traditional services need to be true in Self-Determination too.
 - SCLARC evaluates the clinical services to see if it's appropriate and needed.
 - If the progress report shows that the service is needed, SCLARC adds funds. The family, FMS, independent facilitator, or person-centered planner need to provide the progress report. However, a qualified provider has to write the progress report.
- *Committee Inquiry:* How will this impact the new families?
- *Staff Response:* It should not impact them. If the services are still appropriate after that time, another six months of funding will be added.
- *Committee Inquiry:* In regards to the renewal, is there a metric for the family to follow?
- *Staff Response:* It's up to the provider in what format to write the report. Progress reports are not new for professionals; the FMS must ensure the providers are professionals. It's the family's responsibility to keep track of when the reports are due.
- *Committee Inquiry:* The family knows the goals for clinical services. Are they aware that progress reports will be required from the beginning of services?
- *Staff Response:* SCLARC notifies from the beginning of SD services. It's also written into the IPP document.
- *State Council Comment:* Westside Regional Center has asked DDS that progress reports for reauthorization not be required unless a new statute or DDS directives indicate that it's appropriate, or the Regional Center Board were to adopt that as formal policy.
- *Staff Comment:* SCLARC is confident of this requirement. It's consistent with traditional services, the Lanterman Act, and cost neutrality. The Committee can ask staff to raise this to leadership. There was no request during this meeting. The staff continued the presentation.
- There are concerns about duplicative new services requests. When SCLARC sees multiple similar services request, it will convene with an interdisciplinary team (IDT), the regional center clinicians, and the family to discuss the services.
- It brings more interaction with the community and clarifies FloorTime service, which is clinically inappropriate if children are over the age of seven and don't have autism.
 - When all these services are requested, often the family does not know the reason.
 - The service hours exceed the hours that there are in a day.
- *Committee Inquiry:* Is the family required to have a say on these policies?

- *Staff Response*: If the family doesn't agree to any policies, they have the right to the Fair Hearing process.

III. Self-Determination Codes and Categories

- SCLARC defined Employment and Community Participation (Participant Directed Good and Services code 333).
 - An example: Sensory equipment not available through other sources.
 - Cannot be purchased: Toys
- SCLARC defined Employment and Community Participation (Individual Training and Education code 334).
 - For example: Conferences for the participant
 - Cannot be purchased: College tuition

IV. Public Comment

- *Public Inquiry*: What a committee is?
- *Staff Response*: Half of them are appointed by State Council, and half of them are appointed by SCLARC; it is their job to oversee how SCLARC is rolling out the Self-Determination Program. The members give us feedback on the good and what needs improvement.
- *Public Inquiry*: Is the Individual Training and Education code 334 only for adults 18+?
- *Staff Response*: No.
- *Public Inquiry*: All services would require progress reports?
- *Staff Clarification*: No, only clinical services require progress reports. In general, the services that are statutorily required. For example, supported living services providers working with people who live independently. Most services do not require progress reports.
- *Public Inquiry*: SDP is wonderful for me! What are the COVID-19 guidelines?
- *Staff Response*: People working for IHSS and the regional centers, including vendors and their employees, are required vaccination. However, there are exceptions to proper documentation.
- *Public Inquiry*: Can a Personal Emergency Response System be purchased under code 336?
- *Staff Response*: It is funded under code 358. It's not an item that the regional center can add funds for, but you can use the money to purchase it. Generic sources gives this service for free.
- *Public Inquiry*: If the individual makes progress; the reports show this progress, can the budget be reduced? Who will give the regional center the progress report?
- *Staff Response*: Maybe, the services are based on the needs. The individual can meet goals, but it does not mean their needs disappear or the budget will significantly decrease. The person who would give the report may be the FMS, independent facilitator, or the family; the clinical department reviews it.
- *Public Inquiry*: What is the difference between Self-Determination and traditional services?
- *Staff Response*: In brief, it's flexibility and the ability to purchase services from people who don't have a contract with the regional center. To hire, decide how much you want to pay, and purchase creative services not available in traditional services.
- *Committee Comment*: DDS released the directive about social recreation on October 7th, and they appointed an SDP ombudsperson.

V. Coaching Update

- Jocabed does not have an update at this time because there have been issues with her insurance.

- Linda and her team are working with seven participants who are moving forward without delays. Chances are their first participant will transition into SDP on December 1st.
- Sheila Jordan Jones reached out to the individuals that they support. One family decided not to move forward; another wants to wait until Summer 2022. One participant is working on his PCP. Furthermore, two families are hard to reach.

VI. Reallocation of 2019-2020 Implementation Funds – Action Item

- In June 2020, the Committee and SCLARC allocated funds on areas that later on became unnecessary; so, it's time for a new reallocation.
- The amount that was for meeting and training interpretation. It's all spent.
- The Committee allotted funds for the Resource Fair. It was spent.
- An amount for the printing of guidebooks was not enough. They're about to be done. However, there was an extra cost to make them better; thus, SCLARC spent extra funds.
- The allocation for translation equipment is not spent yet. The equipment is not purchased.
- A sum was committed to document translation. When translating the guidebooks, they edited the content so that the guidebooks reveal SCLARC guidelines. Its final cost was more than it was committed.
- The amount allocated for technology is unnecessary. There is enough technology to conduct meetings and training at this time. SCLARC asks for reallocation to get a membership at canva.com, which is a graphic design website.
- Plans are to have independent facilitator training and hire an agency for this. SCLARC recommends reallocating an amount for the 2020-2021 allocation.
 - Move funds from technology to guidebooks printing and documentation transition.
 - Not to purchase independent facilitator training because the provider stopped showing interest in the contract, reallocate funds to cover the remainder of the documentation transition cost. It leaves funds unallocated. The need for these funds is in the translation and interpretation category.
- After discussing technology, the Committee concluded that it can be an agenda item for a future meeting.
- Also, the Committee could not agree to vote on the Action Item. It requested a spreadsheet to have a visual sense of what is voted on.
- To allocate the funds, a special meeting is scheduled for November 15th from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

VII. Agenda Items for November 10

- The new SDP Ombudsperson, Katie Hornberger, will have a Q & A Presentation about her office's duties for the meeting.
- A discussion about the possibility of having an in-person meeting in the South Gate when SCLARC opens up.

VIII. Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. The Committee thanked the public and SCLARC for their support. The next meeting is on November 10 from 6 PM to 8 PM.