



## Self Determination Local Advisory Committee Minutes

**Online Meeting Through Zoom due to COVID-19**

**May 8, 2024**

**6:00pm – 8:00pm**

**Approved 8/14/2024.**

**Meeting Start Time: 6:03 PM**

### Committee Members:

Present:	Absent:	Vacancies:
Terrence Payne – SD-LAC Co-Chair Sherry Johnson – SD-LAC Co-Chair Armida Ochoa Veronica Moser Santiago Villalobos Erica Clark – Clients’ Rights Advocate Crystal Smith – FRC Representative Sofia Cervantes – State Council Representative	Luz Hernandez Raul Muñoz Alberta Moore Alnita Dunn	(1) SCLARC appointed spot available

### Guests:

SCLARC:	State:	Public:
Jenice Turner – Director of Childrens’ Services Odulia Juarez – Chief of Case Management Cynthia Rivera - PCS Edna Robles - PCS Shelley Hash – Interpreter Eduardo Kogan – Interpreter Rocio Rodriguez Ericka Anguiano Kiara Lopez Beatriz Perez	Marianita Mendez - DDS	Maria Leonor Dimas, Cathy Gambrell, María Becerra, Kim Sinclair – Autism LA, Rosa Moreno, Sandra Menendez – GT Independence, Marizela Arroyo, Elia Covarrubia, Mildred Orellana, Ana Batres, Regina Hayes, Beatriz Dover, Tania Rivera, María Paque, Jaqueline Casas, Irma Rojo, Michelle Lowe, Angelica Orellana, Maria Verdugo, Ana O, Griselda Mendoza, Faviola Cruz, Rubi Saldana – ICC, Lucia Rodriguez, Isaura Sainz, Gloria Ochoa, Silvia Calles, Diana Maruri, Stella Ramirez, Mariana Guerrero, Shirley Johnson, Marisol Cardenas, Mari A, Rosie Lasca, Maria Franco, Andrea Camacho, Sonia Morales, Luz Sandoval, Lulu A, Kari Martinez, Sergio Barrios, Jose Canchola, Yesica Ramirez, Maria Castro, Esmeralda Rendon, Minerva, Jacob A, Luz Curiel, Gracie Rodriguez, Teresa Hernandez, Jennifer Haskew, Reina V, Mary Romero, Blanca Pasaran, Patricia Rodriguez

- **Welcome/ Introductions**
  - Co-Chair Sherry Johnson called the meeting to order.
  - Zoom language interpretation was enabled.
  - Co-Chair Sherry Johnson called roll call.
  - Veronica Moser was added as a committee member via SCLARC.
  - Quorum was established.
- **March 2024 Meeting Minutes** (voting item)
  - Veronica M. moved to approve the minutes as read. Armida Ochoa seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

Approved 8/14/2024

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- **SCLARC Participant Updates: DDS Directives Updates**
  - April 22, 2024: Updated Billing Requirements for Services Billing at “Other Rate”
    - Providers billing at another rate other than hourly or daily, the requirements in this directive replace the previous December 26, 2023 directive. This directive does not apply to SDP providers billing at an hour or daily rate, or local businesses and community resources or regional center vendors providing services in accordance with their program design.
      - The cost of services may not exceed the monthly rate.
      - These new invoicing requirements will be effective after June 30, 2024.
    - SDP Participant and SDP Provider shall develop a service agreement that will need to be updated annually.
      - The completed service agreement and any modifications made need to be submitted to the participant’s FMS for verification that the requirements are met.
  - April 25, 2024: Update to Financial Management Service Provider Requirements
    - Effective May 1, 2024, FMS providers are no longer required to file the surety bond with the vendoring regional center.
  - April 25, 2024: Employer Burden and Other Employment-Related Costs
    - Employer burden and other employment-related costs apply to SDP participant’s staff employed under the co-employer or the sole employer models. These costs are required to be incorporated in the participant’s spending plan. Spending Plan shall only cover the costs of services and supports listed in their spending plan.
    - Employer Burden:
      - ❖ Employer Burden costs are limited to; Federal and State taxes, Employment Training Tax, Worker’s Compensation and paid sick leave.
      - ❖ Some costs will be the same for all FMS providers such as taxes while others may differ between providers such as workers’ compensation.
    - Other Employment Costs
      - ❖ FMS may be required to offer certain optional benefits such as health insurance or CalSavers.
      - ❖ The FMS shall discuss these benefits and the impact of the associated costs on the spending plan during initial service planning and at the time of any changes,
    - Standardized Process of Notification
      - ❖ By May 31, 2024:

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- i. FMS shall notify their vendoring regional center of their employer burden costs using the enclosed form.
  - ii. By June 30, 2024 the vendoring regional center will submit a copy of the form to the department via [SDP@dds.ca.gov](mailto:SDP@dds.ca.gov) for approval.
  - iii. Once approved DDS will send a copy to the regional center and post it to the Department’s website no later than July 31, 2024.
  - iv. Following Department’s approval, the regional center will send a copy to the FMS within 10 days of receipt.
  - v. Participant’s shall update their spending plans with adjustments to their employer burden based on the approved form; at the start of a new budget year, at participant’s request, or by October 31, 2024.
- ❖ After October 31, 2024:
- i. Any changes to the approved formed shall be processed as: FMS will submit a new form to their vendoring regional center for review. Regional Center will review within 15 days of receipt, and they will provide a copy to DDS. DDS will review within 15 days of receipt and provide a copy of the approved form to regional center and post it on DDS website. Regional Center will provide a copy to the FMS within 10 days of receipt. SDP Participant’s will receive a copy from their FMS and with the FMS’ help the necessary changes will be made to their spending plan.
  - ii. FMS shall update their employer burden no more than one time per year, unless as a result of significant change in policy or law and with approval from DDS.

<b>SCLARC SELF DETERMINATION PROGRAM PARTICIPANT STATUS DATA March 2024</b>		<b>SCLARC SELF DETERMINATION PROGRAM PARTICIPANT STATUS DATA May 2024</b>	
<b>In process for Self Determination Completed Orientation and Requested Budget</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>In process for Self Determination Program Completed Orientation and Requested Budget</b>	<b>154</b>
<b>Currently Started 1st yr Self Determination Program</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>Currently Started 1<sup>st</sup> yr Self Determination Program</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Continuing Self Determination Program for the 2nd yr</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Continuing Self Determination Program for the 2<sup>nd</sup> yr</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Continuing Self Determination Program for the 3rd yr</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Continuing Self Determination Program for the 3<sup>rd</sup> yr</b>	<b>31</b>

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Continuing Self Determination Program for the 4 <sup>th</sup> yr	5	Continuing Self Determination Program for the 4 <sup>th</sup> yr.	5
Total Individuals Receiving Services Under Self Determination Program	107	Total Individuals Receiving Services Under Self Determination Program	114
Entered on March 1, 2024	2	Entered on May 1, 2024	3
Scheduled to Begin Self Determination Program April 1, 2024	2*	Scheduled to Begin Self Determination Program June 1, 2024	3*
Transferred Cases to Other Regional Centers	13*	Transferred Cases to Other Regional Centers	13
<b>DATOS DEL ESTADO DEL PARTICIPANTE de SCLARC en el PROGRAMA DE AUTODETERMINACIÓN NOVIEMBRE 2023</b>		<b>DATOS DEL ESTADO DEL PARTICIPANTE de SCLARC en el PROGRAMA de AUTODETERMINACIÓN ENERO 2024</b>	
En proceso para el programa de autodeterminación Orientación complete y/o presupuesto solicitado	139	En proceso para el programa de autodeterminación Orientación complete y/o presupuesto solicitado	139
Para empezar el primer año en el programa de autodeterminación	36	Para empezar el primer año en el programa de autodeterminación	36
Continuar para el segundo año de autodeterminación	35	Continuar para el segundo año de autodeterminación	35
Continuar para el 3er año de autodeterminación	31	Continuar para el 3er año de autodeterminación	31
Continuar para el 4 año de autodeterminación	5	Continuar para el 4 año de autodeterminación	5
Total de personas que reciben servicios bajo el programa de autodeterminación	107	Total de personas que reciben servicios bajo el programa de autodeterminación	107
Participantes iniciando el programa de autodeterminación para el 1 de marzo del 2024	2	Participantes iniciando el programa de autodeterminación para el 1 de mayo del 2024	2
Programado para comenzar el programa de autodeterminación el 1 de abril del 2024	2*	Programado para comenzar el programa de autodeterminación el 1 de junio del 2024	3*
Casos Transferidos a Otros Centros Regionales	13*	Casos Transferidos a Otros Centros Regionales	13

- **Public Comment**

- Cynthia R. will ask about SCLARC’s Self Determination Program’s Key Performance Indicators at the next DDS meeting per Terrance Payne’s inquiry.
- Terrence P. speaks about the issue of interested individuals not understanding or misunderstanding the information that is available currently. Sofia Cervantes echoes this sentiment and suggests that the committee might want to include an agenda item where they discuss this issue. She suggests that the committee may want to hear from those individuals who completed the orientation but have not entered the program.
- Crystal Smith suggests surveying the individuals who have attended the orientation and elected not to enter the Self Determination Program or even surveying all attendees. She also suggests subcommittees and offering something prior to attending the

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- orientation so that the individuals and families are more informed and have an easier time understanding the terminology and information given at the orientation.
- Terrence P. suggests surveying the attendees of these meetings to see if the committee is reaching the intended audience, which is the consumer.
  - Armida O. – Support also needs to be given to those already enrolled in Self Determination. The more supported the enrolled family feels the more they advocate for others to join SDP. The families often speak to each other about the issues they encounter with the FMS' and IFs.
  - Sherry J. – How many transitional supports are vendored at SCLARC (Code 099)?
    - Cynthia R. – 4, although some Independent Facilitators have opted to not enroll in Code 099 and continue to help family. After orientation is attended SCLARC provides a list of IFs from State Council and SCLARC.
    - Sofia C. – State Council list is for those who have already transitioned into SDP.
  - Sherry J. – Wonders if this lack of transitional support is what is hindering the enrollment of many consumers.
    - Cynthia R. – There may only be 4 vendored with SCLARC currently but the families can still choose someone outside of these 4 and be reimbursed via code 024.
    - Edna Robles – There can be various things that cause delays in enrollment, and one is that sometimes the families do not contact their Service Coordinator or the SDP team when they encounter an issue.
  - Jaqueline Casas – Feels that SCLARC can sometimes be a barrier for individuals trying to receive traditional services. Rest of comment is redacted for being too case specific.
    - Individual was asked to email one of the chiefs for further help.
  - Griselda Mendoza – Feels that SCLARC is not providing adequate support to transitioning families and this might be because the Service Coordinators need more support to provide the necessary support to families.
  - Mari A – Feels that SCLARC needs to regroup and change the way they handle SDP, Other regional centers have a unit dedicated to SDP and that makes a huge difference in getting enrollment.
    - Also feels that it is not okay to limit families' comments on this platform when it becomes inconvenient for the regional center, especially when there are few participants even at the meeting. Less time should be spent on the directives because that information is not reaching the families.
  - Mildred Orellana – Would like a resolution to her case.
  - Maria Franco – Looking for more information on SDP but accidentally attended a meeting for the wrong regional center, Help was provided in the chat.

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- Rosie Lasca (with the Independent Facilitator Training Academy) – Just completed a series of animated shorts to help families better understand SDP.
- **SDP Individuals’/ Parents’ Presentations**
  - **Aileen Dimas (3<sup>rd</sup> Year)**
    - SDP allowed her to flourish. She went to college for a year to study acting. She wrote a book and is currently working on the second. She has someone to mentor her for video direction and acting.
    - Mother says that she appreciates the freedom of being able to choose who works with her child.
  - **Theodore Haskew (1<sup>st</sup> Year)**
    - Mother appreciates being able to find extracurriculars for son that have safe engaging environments with people who understand the world the way her son does.
    - SDP has allowed him to go from someone who would have challenges getting water on his head to someone who enjoys swimming.
- **Self Determination Implementation LVAC Funds (voting item)**
  - Allocation of \$89,260 for 2021-2022 was used in full.
  - Categories for the next round of allocations were previously selected and will be revisited at the next meeting.
    - Sherry J. suggests maybe more community based and a support group?
- **Upcoming Local Advisory Committee Meetings Agenda and Date**
  - Focus for July meeting –
    - Crystal S. suggests that the Support Group should be guided and specific to SDP. Not a place to vent but a place to get information and resources to help new and continuing SDP consumers. Giving additional support to finding an IF and an FMS, just a space that is really topic specific and community driven. A place where families can help guide others through situations that they have encountered.
      - Maybe we can fund a worker to help coach consumers through SDP. They could hold drop-in clinics at a scheduled pace, same place, time, and mode offered. This coach would need to attend SDPLAC to stay up to date with what is needed.
      - Previously discussed an online presence but that requires a lot of background work that may be too much.
  - State Council continues to offer orientations in various languages. They offer trainings every Monday 10AM; one Monday in English and the following Monday will be in Spanish. They also offer technical assistance in case families do not understand something during the enrollment process.
- **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.