



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

SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER
Remote Zoom Meeting
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 23rd, 2024
7:00pm – 9:00pm

Member Present:

Jesus Murillo	Caycee Ricketts
Cynthia Torres	Luz Curiel
Lauren Black	Shavon Spiller
Illona Hendrick	Renard Stanford
Raul Muñoz	Cedron McNight
Teyanna Williams	Mireya Romero
Ana De Silva	Sherry Kidd

Members Absent:

Magali Ochoa
Malcolm Harris

Staff Present:

Dexter Henderson	Jesse Rocha
Jenice Turner	Kyla Lee
Cherylle Mallinson	Maricel Cruzat
Kiara Lopez	Daniel Ospina
Ingrid Oliva	Moses Shiferaw
Armando Sanchez	

I. General

- Board President, Jesus Murillo, opened the January 23rd, 2024, Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom with roll call.

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by The President Jesus Murillo.

B. Public Input – None

C. Approval of BOD Minutes for November 14, 2023

- It was noted by the board liaison that the following board members were missing from the November 14th, 2023 minutes. Asked the board to add the following members present.

Luz Curiel

Mireya Romero

Malcolm Harris

Shavon Spiller

Teyanna Williams

Sherita Rogers

Board Action:

Approval of BOD minutes – November 14th, 2023

M/S/C: President Murillo/ Ana DaSilva / Unanimous

II. Board Member Reports

A. Executive Committee – Jesus Murillo

- The Executive Committee met to discuss the Executive director's performance evaluation and forward the results to DDS.

B. Supportive Services Committee – Raul Munoz

- The committee reviewed updates from the SSC meeting held on December 11, 2023, which included reports from Mr. Munoz on Social Recreational Services and Coordinated Family Services by Jesse Rocha, Director of Adult Services. The Remote Services Directive permits individuals served by SCLARC to choose remote delivery of services until June 30, 2025. As of December 1, 2023, Self-Determination Participants can Access service through the Coordinated Family Support Services Pilot Program. Services under the Self-Determination Program (SDP) may be provided remotely if they meet specific requirements. Furthermore, on November 3, 2023, DDS informed Regional Center of changes impacting POS Policies for reinstated services such as Social Recreational, Camp, Non-Medical Therapy, and Education Services.
- On December 15, 2023, Kiara Lopez, Chief Advancement Officer, organized an event called "Photos with Santa." It was successful in serving 100 children of ages from 3-10.

Next SSC Meeting will be February 12, 2024, from 6 pm to 7:30 pm

C. Vendor Advisory Committee – Illiona Hendrick

- In December, the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) held a Facility Enhancement Zoom Meeting instead of its usual meeting, focusing on program updates and enhancements. In January 2024, the VAC met with SCLARC, discussing upcoming initiatives such as the HCBS Support Group. The Vendor Fair is scheduled for February 21, 2024, at the LA Convention Center with approximately 104 tables secured, showcasing programs to families. A Parent Resource Fair is also tentatively planned for April or May 2024, with potential locations including South Gate or community college campuses.

D. Advocate Advisory Committee – Caycee Ricketts

- On January 22, 2024, Santiago Villalobos expressed appreciation for the Self-Determination program, stating that it has significantly improved his life in various aspects since 2020, providing him to achieve the work-life he has always wanted. During the meeting, AAC members discussed topics such as self-love, and the importance of practicing “I am” statements. They encouraged each other to say positive things about themselves; emphasizing the need to take care of their mind, body through exercise, healthy eating, and spiritual practices.

E. Self-Determination Advisory Committee – Jenice Turner

- The Self Determination Local Advisory Committee met on January 10th from 6pm – 7:30pm via zoom.
 - Cherylle Mallinson, SCLARC’s Director of Community Services & Family Support provided a presentation on the DDS Directive, dated December 22, 2023, for Self-Determination Program: Updated initial person-centered plans and pre-enrollment transition support guidance, which provided the following:
 - Provider eligibility to offer services under updated Option A (Initial Person-Centered Plan) and Option B (Initial Person-Centered Plan and General Self-Directed Supports under service code 099).
 - General Self-Directed Supports will no longer include supports provided by Financial Management Services (FMS) providers (previously called FMS SD Supports). FMS providers will instead be paid for transition support they provide as identified in the guidance dated December 22, 2023.
 - General Self-Directed Supports may be authorized for up to 40 hours.
- *Questions regarding Service Code 099 vendorization can be directed to vendorhelp@sclarc.org.

Cynthia Rivera, SCLARC’s Participant Choice Specialist provided a report to the committee as follows:

SCLARC has:

- 103 individuals are currently enrolled in the Self Determination Program.
- 3 individuals are scheduled to begin Self Determination on February 1st.
- SCLARC’s next Self Determination Orientations are scheduled:
 - February 6, 2024, from 9:30am-1:30pm in English (SCLARC LA Office).
 - Monday, April 22, 2024, 1:00pm-5:00pm in Spanish (South Gate Office).
 - SCLARC Orientations are held in-person and via zoom, every other month.
 - The State Council on Developmental Disabilities also offers orientations throughout the month that individuals and families can attend if a SCLARC orientation does not fit their schedule.
 - For additional information on orientation, please reach out to the SCLARC Team at selfdetermination@sclarc.org or State Council at losangeles@scdd.ca.gov.

The Participant Choice Specialist also reviewed the:

- SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES TRANSITION SUPPORTS directive dated December 22, 2023, which provides guidance about the types of transition supports FMS providers are able to provide to SDP participants, their families, and authorized representatives. These

FMS transition supports are associated with the period of initial enrollment, when an SDP participant transfers from one FMS to another, or transfers from one regional center to another, and the payment to the FMS for those services.

- The Participant Choice Specialist also reviewed the SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM: BILLING REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICES directive dated December 26, 2023, which provides guidance to regional centers and their FMS providers regarding billing requirements for services provided to participants in SDP, and to distinguish a local business or community resource from a SDP Provider.
- Lastly, Yvette Torres from Acumen FMS provided a presentation on the FMS Onboarding process for SDP Participants.
- The committee meets every other month, the next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2024, 6pm-8pm, via zoom. Please reach out to our team at selfdetermination@sclarc.org for information on this meeting, self-determination orientations, upcoming trainings and to join the mailing list.

F. Recruitment & Training Committee – Sherry Kidd / Ana DaSilva

- Sherry Kidd provided updates on the January 16, 2024, meeting which included discussions on conducting interviews and presenting Christella Frutos to the board during the upcoming board meeting. The committee also discussed future plans for meetings and training sessions for both new and current board members. There's an intention to implement regular training sessions, potentially on a quarterly basis, to ensure consistency in the board operations and understanding.
- Christella Frutos introduces herself along with a quick summary of her background, experience, and the excitement of being part of SCLARC Board.

Board Action:

Approval of Christella Frutos as new Board Member

3 Year Term: Effective date 01/23/2024 - 01/23/2027

M/S/C: Teyanna Williams/ Ana DaSilva / Unanimous

G. Finance Committee – Lauren Black

- During the committee meeting on January 17, 2024, key points were reviewed, focusing on FY 24-25 and the Governor's January budget. Projections indicate an increase in the number of individuals served across the state, from 429,453 in FY 23-24 to 460,228 in FY 24-25. A budget allocation of \$98.1 million is allocated for regional center staff and increase in FY 24-25. Kyla provided an update on SCLARC's ongoing hiring plan, aligning it with the 2024 budget allocation. Additionally, there was discussion regarding SCLARC's South Gate office, and management actively seeking additional office space in the Sout Gate, Downey, or Bell areas.

The next finance community meeting will be held in March 2024.

III. Staff Reports

A. Budget Update & Finance Report (November 2023) – Kyla Lee

- **Statement Of Financial Position** – As of November 30, 2023, our cash and cash equivalents amount to approximately \$57 million, compared to \$67 million during the same period last year, representing a decrease of roughly \$10 million. This decrease is attributed to timing differences in receiving state fund claims and vendor payments. Despite this decline, our cash flow remains robust. As of November 30, Accounts Payable stand at \$36 million, which is almost the same as the previous year's figure of approximately \$36 million. The slight increase of roughly \$766,000 in accounts payable this year highlights the stability of our cash flow. We maintain approximately 11 check runs each month without any issues, ensuring payments are processed promptly.
- **Statement Of Activities** – The report describes our revenue and expenses, with a focus on our operations. As of the current date, our preliminary allocation for operations amounts to approximately \$71 million. We have received \$71 million through our E1 amendment contract on Ops, of which we have expended roughly \$19 million, representing approximately 28% of our allocation. We anticipate spending the remaining balance of our allocation by the end of the fiscal year to fully utilize the allocated funds.
- **POS Expenditure Projection Summary** –The POS (Purchase of Services) Expenditure Projection Report is a crucial document submitted monthly by all regional centers to DDS (California Department of Developmental Services). This report tracks expenditures and projections for the fiscal year. The projection indicates that by the end of the fiscal year, expenses are expected to reach approximately \$546 million.

B. The Approval of the 2024 Performance Contract – Cherylle Mallinson

- The 2024 performance contract, which spans 18 months of reporting, includes measures related to regional centers such as early start. DDS recognized our success in meeting these measures. SCLARC received an award for consistently providing person-centered plans, with person center trainers for every 10,000 individuals served in South Central. The document details the center's performance and activities related to employment. Disparities in performance and expenditure captured by primary language were discussed, with public input gathered on November 28th. The document has been shared for over 30 days with the Board, the community, the vendor advisory committee, and staff. Board approval is sought for approval and submission to the department.

Board Action:

Approval of the 2024 Performance Contract
M/S/C: Ana DaSilva / Renard Stanford / Unanimous

C. NCI Data – Ted Bilbao, Chief of Case Management Adult Services Odulia Juarez, Chief of Case Management Children Services

- Ted Bilbao Chief of Case Management Adult Services and Odulia Juarez, Chief of Case Management for the Children's Department, introduced the presentation on the National Core Indicators (NCI) surveys. NCI is a nationwide quality assessment tool utilized by the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and regional centers to evaluate services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as mandated by Welfare and Institutions Code 45, 71. These surveys allow individuals and families served by SCLARC to provide feedback on regional centers and community services, which is then used to impact policy decisions and service improvements. Four surveys are conducted under NCI, with the presentation focusing on three: the Adult Family Survey, Family Guardian Survey, and Adult In-Person Survey. Challenges in data collection post-COVID included issues with trust, disconnected contact numbers, and families relocating, leading to ongoing training for regional center staff and efforts to educate families about the surveys' importance. While only highlighting select slides due to time constraints, the full NCI survey is available on the DDS website for further reference.

FY 2017/2018 Adult-In Person Survey:

- The survey for FY 17-18 involved face-to-face interviews with individuals aged 18 or older receiving regional center services.
- Questions included topics such as job satisfaction, community participation, and interactions with case managers.

FY 2019/2020 Adult Family Survey:

- This written survey, conducted during FY 19-20, targeted families of adults living with them and receiving regional center services.
- Survey questions covered aspects like information accessibility, inclusion in Individual Program Plans (IPP), and satisfaction with services.

FY 2019/2020 Family Guardian Survey:

- Completed by families and conservators of adults over 18 in community placements receiving regional center services during FY 19-20.
- Topics covered included understanding of services, satisfaction with services and support, and emergency preparedness.

FY 2020/2021 Adult-In Person Survey:

- Conducted with individuals aged 18 or older receiving at least one regional center service during FY 20-21
- Topics addressed included choices and decision-making, interactions with service coordinators, and satisfaction with services.
- These surveys provide valuable insights into the experiences and perceptions of individuals and families receiving regional center services, impacting policy decisions and improvements in service delivery.

D. SCLARC is providing an additional 30-Day Notification regarding SCLARC's NCI Surveys Presentation at the Board of Directors meeting scheduled for March 26, 2024.

- SCLARC plans to share information for the following NCI Surveys:
 - a) FY 2021/2022 Adult Family Survey
 - b) FY 2021/2022 Child Family Survey
 - c) FY 2021/2022 Family Guardian Survey

Executive Director Report – Dexter Henderson

E. Governor’s Budget FY 24-25

- Mr. Henderson provided an update on the status of the 2024-2025 Governor's budget, acknowledging the presentation by the finance chair, Lauren Black. During the Governor’s Budget FY 24-25 discussion. He noted the typical fluctuations in budget allocations this time of year, highlighting both positive and challenging aspects. The state budget, totaling approximately \$291 billion, includes Regional Centers, which anticipates serving approximately statewide 458,000 individuals by the start of the new fiscal year. This represents a 6.7% increase from current numbers. Mr. Henderson mentioned the complexity of the proposed budget and its various components, emphasizing the need to navigate these changes effectively.
- Mr. Henderson discussed initiatives to improve the developmental services system, including the establishment of a statewide DDS services task force involving regional centers and community members. He highlighted budgetary updates, noting continued support for reducing caseloads in programs like Early Start. However, he mentioned a delay in rate increases for service providers and potential funding cuts to programs like the Participant Choice Staff and Coordinated Family Supports Program. Despite these challenges, there is optimism about ongoing support for workforce training programs and social recreational services in the budget. Mr. Henderson emphasized the importance of community advocacy to address budgetary concerns and support positive initiatives. Additionally, he highlighted recent advocacy efforts by regional center leaders to support crucial budget items during discussions in Sacramento.

IV. New Business

V. No CLOSED Board Session

VI. Supplemental Information:

Submitted by:

Ingrid Oliva
Executive Assistant

Date

Approved by:

Shavon Spiller
Board Secretary

Date