



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
March 25th, 2025
7:00pm – 9:00pm

Member Present:

Cynthia Torres	Caycee Ricketts
Sherry Kidd	Luz Curiel
Teyanna Williams	Renard Standord
Raul Munoz	Cedron McKnight
Illona Hendrick	Christella Frutos
Hynunju Lee	Norma Hernandez
Ana DaSilva	

Members Absent:

Magali Ochoa	Stephanie Reyes
Mireya Romero	Shavon Spiller

Staff Present:

Cesar Garcia	Jospeh Velasquez
Kyla Lee	Ingrid Olivia
Jenice Turner	Iris De La Tova
Cherylle Mallinson	Armando Sanchez
Kiara Lopez	

I. General

- Board President, Cynthia Torres opened the March 25th, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom and In-Person with roll call.

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by The President Cynthia Torres.

B. Public Input – None

C. Approval of BOD Minutes for November 19th, 2024

Board Action:

Approved BOD minutes – January 28th, 2025

M/S/C: Cedron McKnight /Raul Munoz /Unanimous

II. Board Member Reports

A. Supportive Services Committee – Raul Munoz

During the February 10th meeting, key updates were shared, including changes to the IPP template that took effect in January 2025. Jesse Rocha, Director of Adult Services, highlighted the guidance provided to families and participants, with training sessions scheduled in both English and Spanish to ensure clarity. Additionally, there was a focus on recruitment efforts to comply with case load ratios, with job fairs scheduled for May. SCLARC's commitment to assisting families with immigration concerns was highlighted, including providing legal resources and staff training. Co-chairs expressed appreciation for the continued hard work of the committee and staff, and the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 14th via Zoom.

B. Vendor Advisory Committee – Illona Hendrick

The Vendor Advisory Committee met on March 12, 2025. Two vendors shared insights from their participation in Grassroots Day in Sacramento. The new vendor portal was launched, allowing vendors to access information and documents independently. The upcoming Vendor Fair on April 16, 2025, at the Los Angeles Convention Center was discussed, offering vendors an opportunity to connect with service coordinators and families. Vendors were reminded to complete the necessary documentation for the rate reform transition. Pamela Corbin Lee provided details on the Autism Walk at Dominguez Hills College. The next meeting will be on April 15, 2025.

C. Advocate Advisory Committee – Renard Stanford

In the February AAC meeting, Wesley Witherspoon spoke about the importance of sibling relationships, sharing personal stories and photos of his family. He emphasized the diverse interests of his siblings, including sports and business. In the March meeting, Charles Sailor, Senior Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch, discussed budgeting and saving, highlighting the importance of setting financial goals for short-term, medium-term, and long-term savings. He recommended automating savings and using apps to track progress. The AAC also observed Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, celebrating World Down Syndrome Day, Cerebral Palsy Awareness, and Epilepsy Awareness with special events.

D. Self Determination Advisory Committee – Jenice Turner

The Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee met on March 12, 2025, via Zoom. Cynthia Rivera, Program Manager, provided an update on SCLARC's corrected SDP funding allocation for 2024-25, now \$115,314.43. SLARC currently has 150 participants. The Autism Society of Los Angeles was awarded the RFP to train individuals and families transitioning into the program. Public Partnerships and ACE FMS also presented their models and support procedures. SCLARC continues offering self-paced orientation through its Learning Management System and weekly IPP information sessions in English and Spanish. The next meeting will be on May 14, 2025, via Zoom. For more information, contact the Self-Determination team at seldetermination@sclarc.org.

E. Finance Committee – Teyanna Williams

The Finance Committee met on March 12, 2025, where they reviewed the financial statements as of January 31, 2025, and received an unmodified audit opinion from AGT, SCLARC's internal auditors, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. SCLARC's new office space at 2221 Western Avenue is on track for completion by mid-May 2025, with staff moving in early June. The committee also discussed preparations for the upcoming DDS audit, vendor rate updates, and the deadline for vendors to submit attestations by March 31, 2025. Ms. Lee shared that SCLARC will host a job fair on March 15, 2025, and encouraged participation in the POS disparity meeting on March 27, 2025. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2025.

III. Staff Reports

A. AGT CPAs & Advisors Auditors Reports – Ellyn Bruce & Kristel Maikranz

Kyla Lee introduced Kristel Maikranz from AGT CPAs, who summarized the results of SCLARC's financial statement audit. This was AGT's second year auditing SCLARC, and Krystel confirmed a clean, unmodified audit opinion with no issues found, including for the federal program audit. She praised the accounting team for their timely work. Krystel also noted that AGT helped prepare Form 990 for tax reporting, with no issues. Additionally, she communicated to the Board that SCLARC has the required Whistleblower and Conflict of Interest policies as required by Form 990. She concluded by expressing appreciation for the opportunity to continue the audit engagement for the next three years.

Approval of the Draft Financial Independent Auditor Statement ending June 30, 2024 and the form 990 ending on June 30, 2024, was requested to the Board of Directors.

Board Actions:

Approval of SCLARC's Draft Financial Statement ending June 30, 2024

Approval of SCLARC's Form 990 – June 30, 2024

M/S/C: Sherry Kidd /Norma Hernandez /Unanimous

B. Budget Update & Finance Report (2025) – Kyla Lee

Statement of Financial Position: As of January 2025, SCLARC's statement of financial position shows a significant increase in cash, with a balance of \$84 million compared to \$49 million at the same time last year, an increase of \$35 million. Accounts payable (AP) as of January 2025 was \$44 million, compared to \$42 million the prior year, a \$2.4 million increase. The increase in AP is a normal reflection of SCLARC's 11 check runs per month, payments to POS twice a month, and weekly operational payments, which are constantly increasing and relieving the accounts payable.

Statement of Activities: SCLARC's statement of activities shows an operations allocation of \$78 million, with \$38 million spent and \$40 million remaining for the fiscal year. The total POS allocation is \$724 million, with \$374 million spent so far and \$324 million expected to be spent. The allocation for the year includes \$78.9 million for operations, \$200,000 for FRC, \$428,000 for CPP operations, \$643 million for POS, and \$1.6 million for CPP POS. In 2024, SCLARC spent \$636 million across operations and POS, a significant increase from \$532 million in 2023, reflecting growth in funds, consumers, and staff to meet rising demand.

POS Expenditure Projection Summary: The POS expenditure projection summary outlines the expected expenditure by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2025. These projections are integrated into the financial statements and provide the state with insight into anticipated spending. The projections are designed to ensure that SCLARC can manage its funds effectively and maintain adequate cash flow to meet vendor obligations.

Approval of A-2 Allocation: The A-2 allocation was presented as the second allocation of SCLARC's current fiscal year, as part of the five-year block. SCLARC received \$720,000 for operations and \$79 million for POS operations. This brings the total allocation from \$724 million to \$804 million, an increase of \$187 million. The increase is largely due to rate reform, which requires adequate allocation authority to ensure sufficient cash balances for timely vendor payments.

Board Action:

Approval of A-2 Amendment

M/S/C: Norma Hernandez /Caycee Rickets /Unanimous

IV. Staff

A. Person Centered Thinking Skill – Joseph Velasquez

Joseph Velasquez, Talent Development and Training Manager at SCLARC, presented a key Person-Centered Thinking skill called the "Donut Sort." This tool helps clarify roles and responsibilities, focusing on balancing what is "important to" individuals (things that bring joy, comfort, and fulfillment) with what is "important for" them (necessary for health, safety, and social integration). The Donut Sort identifies three areas: core responsibilities (expected duties), creativity and judgment (opportunities to learn and try new things), and responsibilities outside of the job (personal matters that fall outside work). Joseph emphasized that supporting individuals is about "power with" them, not "power over." He encouraged board members to apply this framework in their roles, focusing on collaboration, listening, and supporting individuals while respecting their autonomy.

B. Ambassador Program and Grassroots Update – Kiara Lopez

Kiara Lopez, Chief Advancement Officer at SCLARC, provided an update on the Ambassador Program, which was launched with a \$40,000 grant from the Department of Developmental Services. The program trains 10 individuals, including self-advocates and parents, to help educate the community about SCLARC's services and the intake process. The ambassadors assist with outreach, distributing materials, and supporting families in accessing services and registering for the Family Portal app. They have received training on various topics, including SCLARC services, intake eligibility, motivational interviewing, and public speaking. Additionally, the ambassadors participated in Grassroots Day in Sacramento, advocating for three ARCA-sponsored bills: the Workforce Policy Bill, Seizure Rescue Medication Bill, and the Blue Envelope Program. These efforts aim to expand work opportunities, improve seizure response, and enhance interactions between individuals with disabilities and law enforcement.

V. Public Comment

VI. New Business

VII. Executive Director Report

VIII. Executive Session- As Needed.

IX. Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm by The President Cynthia Torres

X. Supplemental Information