



## **Executive Director Report January 20, 2016**

I am glad to be leading an excellent team and proud to report our progress in the following areas:

### Inland Regional Center

- With our close working relationships with the Executive Director and staff at the Inland Regional Center and our SCDD Office only a mile away from the Center, we were able to be key support during the Dec 2 incident and afterwards. The meeting with SCDD was the first meeting Inland Regional Center held with an outside organization when it reopened to staff on January 4, 2016. We have found strategic ways to support them in continuing their mission, including using our San Bernardino office for the location of their local Self-Determination Advisory Committee as well as making it available for client intake meetings.

### Policy

- So far in the 2015-16 two-year Legislative cycle, the Council has supported 23 bills. Of those, 11 have been chaptered into law, with only 2 being vetoed. We will continue to follow the others.
- Staff are working with Legislators on the additional legislative ideas the Council adopted in December.
- We are working closely in collaboration with our federal partner Disability Rights California on AB 488, which would

provide Fair Employment and Housing protection to individuals working in sheltered workshops.

- We are working on the individual placement supported employment (Hancock) bill, which we will cosponsor.

### State Plan

- In the past, your packets contained a summary of State Plan activities for the prior two months. I heard the feedback that this made the packets very big. From now on, you can find those summaries online at <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/activityreports.htm>. The team continues to implement the State Plan in every community throughout California. As you read these summaries, you get a sense as to how far and wide SCDD's reach is.
- Last month, you approved the PPR in concept. We completed the report and submitted it on December 31, 2015. I want to share with you how much work has been done. All objectives and goals have been met and we reached 296,000 people, which is up from 118,000 last year and 93,000 the year before that.

### Collaborations

- In December, the Council issued a press release calling for supports for first responders during an active shooting scenario. I worked with the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) on the needs for people with access and functional impairments during these scenarios and how to inform and train first responders during active shooting scenarios. CalOES has applied for federal funding on this

topic and SCDD will serve as technical experts as CalOES develops the curriculum.

- We are strengthening collaborations with our federal partners, including AIDD. Together we have held a few conversations to plan for Commissioner Aaron Bishop's visit to California in March. Given Commissioner Bishop's leadership with both AIDD and the Independent Living Administration, we have coordinated with Independent Living leaders in California on the visit.
- The Council was also contacted by the Close-Up Foundation regarding their recent partnership with the National Association of Council on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD). This partnership focuses on education opportunities for middle school and high school students.
- I am glad to announce that the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) has invited SCDD to participate in their Equity Committee. I look forward to serving on this Committee that will look at disparities in services.
- I met with self-advocate leaders to discuss the mission of the Statewide Self-Advocates Network and how SCDD strategically supports that specific self-advocate leadership effort. The goal is to draft a Memorandum of Understanding and bring that to the Council this year for review and approval.
- I met with Bryon McDonald, the Program Director for the World Institute on Disability, to discuss the Disability Benefits 101 resource, an online tool for benefits. We are looking at strategic ways to partner, as this promotes the Council's employment goals.

### Administration

- Now that we've hired all the Regional Managers, we are focusing supporting them to grow into a successful team. My attention now turns to headquarters. I have to make 8 hires there, including 4 functional vacancies. I need to convert four exempt positions into state service positions per AB 1595, as well as fill the 4 vacancies resulting from retirements and promotion. I want to thank the team in headquarters, as many are doing multiple jobs to keep the work of the Council moving forward.

### Budget

- Our cash flow remains strong.
- We made significant progress on the structural deficit recommendations. The poll closed, we collected the answers, and held a staff work group to discuss all 133 ideas. That work group then forwarded its recommendation to the Administrative Committee, which meets next week to discuss. That Committee will then send its recommendations to the Executive Committee before sending to them to the full Council. The full Council should expect to take up the proposals at its March meeting.

### AIDD

- We submitted the most recent Corrective Action Plan Progress report to AIDD on December 31, 2015. We have now submitted 85% of the required items. The next report is not due until October 1, 2016, and it will contain the next State Plan.