



# STATE PLAN ACTIVITIES

MARCH 2016

## **Goal #1**

Individuals with developmental disabilities have the information, skills, opportunities and support to advocate for their rights and services and to achieve self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

- Staff attended the final CHOICES 2016 conference planning meeting. There are two staff members from our office on this committee and we have difference responsibilities and therefore complete two reports. This staff person oversees the T-shirt/video contest, t-shirt ordering, Legislative Panel, and MC duties, as well as some secretarial items such as signage, duty form for day of the event, event folders (in kind copying and stuffing). At this final meeting all was completed.  
3/18/16- Staff met with the Self Advocate MC at her day program and worked on her script for the event. She practiced and asked for some items to be changed which was done.
- Staff distributed Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) recruitment information to 24 self-advocates who are active members of their People First Chapters throughout region 2. Recruitment materials distributed and reviewed, as well as discussions of objective and role of members should be committed to providing a voice or people with developmental disabilities on behalf of their geographic area and be willing to work to assure that people with developmental disabilities in California will live their lives the way they want. It was clarified that interested consumers that want to apply can't be employed by a regional center. The regional centers catchment area DDS is recruiting for are Central Valley, East Bay, Far Northern, Inland, North Bay, San Andreas, Harbor, East LA, and North LA, but we are taking all applications for future openings.
- E-blast was sent on the upcoming ASAN/PADSA webinar about Indigenous People. The presenter is Trena Wade- past SSAN member and currently works for PADSA in California.
- E-blast: PADSA is offering mini-grant opportunities again for self-advocacy groups. Last year all the recipients came from California due to our hard work getting the word out. Applications are due April 21, 2016. If you have any questions they should be directed to kit Mead, the Autistic Self Advocacy Network's Technical Assistance Coordinator. Her email is:  
[kmead@mailto:kmead@autisticadvocacy.org](mailto:kmead@mailto:kmead@autisticadvocacy.org). There are links below providing more information, including a flyer, a Mini Grant Handbook and the Application.
- SCDD staff participated in a 2-day Conference March 30-31, 2016. The key note speaker at the event was Michael Smull who is internationally recognized as one of the pioneers of Person Centered Thinking and has written extensively on issues relating to supporting people with challenging behaviors, person centered planning, and the challenge of changing the service system to one that will

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support self-determination. At the event keynote topics were: Community First Choice or Be Careful What You Ask For and How do we learn what matters to each person and act on what we learn? SCDD staff participated as a subject matter panel member along with a self-advocate, a family advocate, representatives from local regional centers the ARC and CDCAN to discuss, "Person Centered Thinking Advocacy Statewide and Self Determination Project Update." Other conference topics included Community Building: Skills, Tools and Stories, Disability Pride, and a Resource Fair. In the "open learning" format, participants actively engage in determining what topics they want to discuss with fellow attendees: some discussion topics at this year's event included: Developing One Page descriptions, Supportive Behavior through Systematic Kindness, Discussing Diversity, PCP Thinking and Personnel Issues, Planning around End of Life, Regional Centers and Programs Can Partner, How do you handle crisis or does it handle you, Writing Person Centered Plan's (PCP's), Positive and Productive Meetings, Becoming a more PCP Organization, Leading Change, Writing Essential Life Plans, Safety Net, What Works.

- Staff reviewed the PADSA webinar on Indigenous People for information to the SSAN. PADSA is a partner of SSAN. Staff was to determine the use of the webinar software and how it worked for possible use for future SSAN webinars. The speaker was a self-advocate and past SSAN member. The support person for the event was also a self-advocate with PADSA. This info will be shared with the SSAN executive team.
- The San Jose Public Library requested staff provide the first event as a way to kick off the library's new inclusive program designed for adults with I/DD. Staff agreed and will provide a self-advocacy and rights training for adults with I/DD on 5/9/16.
- SCDD LA staff facilitated the March meeting of the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County. In an effort to boost membership, members will attend the Life After High School Fair sponsored by NLACRC. They also approved sponsoring five members to attend the facilitation seminar co-sponsored the SCDD LA office, the NLA family resource center and Cal State Northridge. SABLAC was presented information on two housing bills for low-income individuals. They have opted to watch both of them at this time. The information was also shared with the Los Angeles Regional Advisory Committee (LA RAC) meeting on 3/28/2016. They also discussed great concern about how ACCESS services works, limiting flexibility by those who use it. Some members already attend ACCESS meetings; others were

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encouraged to do so as well. The group asked SCDD LA staff to do a presentation on the ABLE Act in May.

- SCDD is a standing agenda item at the Self Advocacy Council 6 quarterly meetings. At this meeting staff asked for input to the DRAFT State Plan Goals info on the HCBS, Self Determination and the upcoming CHOICES and Statewide Self Advocacy Conferences.
- Staff was contacted from a self-advocate from San Joaquin County inquiring about applying to be on SCDD. He heard that there would be an opening in July of 2016 and thought he would make a good council member. Staff gave him the information and answered his questions about the roles and responsibilities. He asked for assistance to complete the on line application a Staff typed his responses to the questions on the form and submitted it for him.
- Staff collaborated with Integrity Cottages Housing to facilitate for the newly-established self-advocacy group. This was the second meeting, which focused on how to speak up for yourself, how to handle difficult situations, how to be a more effective advocate, and how to help others. The group discussed logistics and provided an update on securing the April speaker. The self-advocates would like to have SCDD facilitate and help to arrange speakers as they need. The following topics were discussed at today's meeting: 1. As mentioned above - information on how to speak up for yourself and be a more effective advocate. 2. Pending -- Two SA will coordinate and invite a representative from the Orange County Housing Authority to present on Section 8 vouchers and rental assistance at the April 22 @ 3pm meeting. 3. Future trainings requested: how to run your own IPP, how to obtain VA benefits, relationship and sexuality training, nutrition training, and training on Social Security Disability Benefits. 4. Concerns noted during this meeting are community accessibility for people with mobility impairments and transportation issues, and homeless people squatting on the apartment grounds.
- Staff facilitated for the newly-formed self-advocacy group in Santa Ana. At this meeting, Orange County's new SSAN representative did a presentation about his role in SSAN and what it means to be a self-advocate. We also facilitated a discussion about SB 1072 (Senator Mendoza) to solicit self-advocate feedback if they are aware of any situations and a discussion on self-determination. The group requested to obtain a guest speaker to discuss more about self-determination at the next meeting
- SCDD LA staff, on behalf of the Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County, posted links on their FB page to nine resources available to self-advocates. These

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include: SCDD State Plan feedback request, UC Davis MIND Institute, ABLE National Resource Center, YO! Disabled and Proud, USC UCEDD training opportunities, Heartland Self-Advocacy Resource Network, SCDD LA training opportunity, Supported Life Conference, People First conference.

- SCDD LA Regional staff has been supporting Los Angeles Regional Advisory Committee (LA RAC) member and self-advocate, Julie G, and her husband Rigo, to apply for and prepare to be speakers at the Supported Life Institute's conference, "Get Connected" which will be in May. SCDD LA staff specifically assisted the Gaonas to complete the application (Dec) and the final speaker information forms (March). SCDD LA staff has also been advising them on some of the logistics including strategies for finding financial assistance so they can present at the conference.
- Staff met with the North Coast appointed a representative to the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) to review any questions they may have regarding participating in their meeting with the group and assisted with travel planning and logistics. Prior to the 3-2 and 3-2016 meeting, staff reviewed the meeting packet and assignment and provided facilitation support to the member in order to prepare their report. Staff ensured transportation services were coordinated with SCDD headquarters (HQ) staff. Staff attended the meeting to provide facilitation support during the meeting including and questions that they have for the follow-up assignments. Due to web program upgrades, development of member website is still in process and there have been delays with the format update re-design.
- Staff provided technical support to the SSAN members and SCDD Self Advocacy Coordinator as needed at the two day meeting in Sacramento. This included assisting members, taking minutes, connecting up the power points/computers, displaying handouts and anything else needed. After the SSAN meeting, SCDD had asked that I present a certificate of appreciated to a long standing SCDD staff person who retired March 1, 2016.
- Staff provided technical support to the SSAN Newsletter Work Group by adding the articles and final edits to their 5th edition of their DRAFT newsletter after the full SSAN reviewed at their 3/2 and 3/3, 2016 meeting. Staff opened the conference line as well. The chair of this work group puts his agenda together and sends reminder emails to his committee members.
- Staff provided facilitation support to the member from our catchment area to attend the two day SSAN meeting in Sacramento. This included helping him prepare his report for the meeting, gathering of resources to bring and processing

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his travel advance. We meet before, during and after the SSAN meeting.

- Staff was asked to assist with the SSAN Travel for their March 2-3, 2016 meeting in Sacramento. Staff contacted each SSAN member to gather specific travel needs to and from the meeting. Staff processed all the necessary paperwork before and after the meeting and communicated consistently with the regional manager and Self Advocacy Coordinator and other HQ staff as needed for support or information.
- During the Strengthening Self Advocacy meeting this month the upcoming presentation schedule was reviewed. The group also reviewed the grant budget and had a discussion on how the remaining grant money would be spent. A plan was created on how to get the material packets put together for the two upcoming presentations and all of the speakers confirmed their participation in the trainings. The group also decided to complete an application to do a workshop at the annual self-advocacy conference. The group conducted their Strengthening Self Advocacy training on 3/29/16, ten people were in attendance. The following organizations are participating in the strengthening self-advocacy collaborative: Arc San Diego, San Diego Regional Center, San Diego People First, TRACE, and St. Madeline's.
- SCDD staff facilitated a team of self-advocates, San Diego Regional Center Service Coordinators, SDSU Nursing program representatives and local service providers to hold the 2016 self-advocacy conference on March 5. The event began with a resource fair which included local resources, health information and hands on experiential stations covering the topics of infection control, basic anatomy and blood pressure/heart rate checks. Following the resource fair was the opening session keynote presentation from Maria Marquez and she spoke to the theme of the conference, "Imagine the Possibilities". During her presentation she shared stories about her life and how through her many experiences she learned how to advocate for herself and her family, which resulted numerous doors being opened and providing her with opportunities such as self-determination. Other workshop topics offered were Disaster Preparedness, Internet Safety, Nutrition and Anger Management. Following the workshops was free time and then the dinner dance award banquet. The theme for the dinner was a formal ball and many of the participants really enjoyed having an opportunity to get dressed up for a formal event. One hundred and twenty people came to be a part of the Imperial Valley People First conference this year and based on feedback and comments it was a very successful event. The following

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organizations assisted with the planning of the conference. San Diego Regional Center, Arc- Imperial Valley, San Diego State Nursing Program, Easter Seals, Sure-Helpline and Imperial Valley People First. Funds leveraged for the conference were through sponsorship of the event by Molina Healthcare and California Health and Wellness. Additionally, the Foundation on Developmental disabilities provided \$4500.00 to offset the cost of the conference to ensure the registration rates remained at an affordable rate.

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- Staff, in collaboration with Family Resource Network, provided training to a group of people in Lodi on special education rights and responsibilities and how to understand the Individual Education Plan process and how to participate effectively in an IEP meeting. (Flyer and evaluations Included). Funds leveraged were through the City of Lodi providing the conference room.
- SCDD SBRO coordinated and provided community outreach training regarding "Preparing for Your IEP" training held within the San Bernardino County Regional Office of SCDD. The training material provided was a copy of the power point presentation "Tips for Getting Quality Special Education for a Child", SCDD "IEP Basics" one pager, and the tri-fold brochure provided by Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) "Solving Special Education Disputes between parents and School Districts". The presentation/training was designed to provide individuals with a better understanding of their educational rights and how to prepare for the Individual Education Process.
- SCDD San Diego staff provided Technical Assistance to five callers this month. Three calls regarding San Diego Regional Center issues, one call regarding In Home Supportive Services and one call regarding the Able Act savings accounts.
- SCDD Sacramento staff provided Technical Assistance to 15 callers this month regarding Regional Center services and eligibility, adult services regarding employment, housing, Title 17 regulations, Social Security Income (SSI), conservatorship, day care, In Home Support Services (IHSS), Special Education services, Medi-Cal, Individual Program Plan (IPP) question and diagnosis issues with the Regional Center. As appropriate, calls were referred to Alta California Regional Center, Disability Rights California, UC Davis MIND, In Home Support Services (IHSS) County representative and the WarmLine. Most callers received an emailed or mailed copy of our resource list.
- SCDD - Los Angeles Regional Office Manager and staff attended Bet Tzedek Coalition with partner agencies to discuss effective approaches and current trends to address elder rights, employment rights, disability services/government benefits/housing, guardianships and conservatorships. Information was shared to leverage resources from all partner agencies. Topics of discussion include the new IHSS (in-home support services) wage increase, ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) Act, the launch of Jewish LA Special Needs Trust (a special need pooled trust), WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act), and Self-Determination under the new CMS (Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Rules. SCDD LA Regional Office staff provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination

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Information Sheet", "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".

- SCDD Monterey Bay staff provided Technical Assistance to 5 callers requesting assistance relating to either regional center, autism health insurance or Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). Staff provided technical assistance over the phone as well as shared resources and educational material via email.
- Staff distributed information via E-Blast regarding upcoming Rural Education Institute Mini Conference on May 3, 2016 at Butte Community College to 400 community members. Topic sessions include: "Learning and Teaching Styles - The Art of Individualizing Instruction For All Learners" facilitated by Mindy J. Oppenheim, M.Ed., followed by an afternoon session "Job Development Bootcamp - A Marketing and Networking Approach to Job Development." Concurrent sessions are "Positive Behavioral Approaches for Children & Adults with Developmental Disabilities" by Neil H. Schwartz, Ph.D, and afternoon session "Creating the Optimal Environment for the Person with Prader-Willi Syndrome" by Emily Dame, M. Ed.
- SCDD San Diego staff distributed information on an upcoming Voter Education training to 220 individuals, information on the differences between the ABLE account and a Special Needs Trust to 330 people, and information on a Conservatorship training to parents of adults with developmental disabilities to 393 people.
- SCDD staff forwarded information via 5 E-Blasts regarding the following: A Capital Rally Thank You; F.A.S.T. Families' Autism/ADHD Support Team; WarmLine IEP Training; Alta California Regional Center's Purchase of Service Meeting; and Info. on the PADSA Mini-Grants for Self-Advocacy to request for input. The E-Blasts reached 1,010 subscribers and 1,019 E-blasts were opened.
- SCDD North Valley Hills staff E-blasted from Katherine McLaughlin- Sexuality and Developmental Disabilities Workshops and free PDF handouts.
- SCDD Sequoia staff provided Technical Assistance to 7 callers regarding education issues. Four parents called regarding how to get their children assessed for an IEP/504. Two families contacted the Sequoia Office stating that they were homeless and needed information on how to continue their children's special education in the same school district if they were no longer living in that district. We had two parents call regarding bullying one of the students is being bullied by another student, the other student feels he is being bullied by a coach. Other phone calls received were in regards to the difference between Certificate of Completion or Diploma Track, Family wanting full inclusion for their child with Down Syndrome, School District wanting to discontinue 1:1 and parents concern of safety for her child. Another district feels student should be

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placed in an SDC severely disabled class rather than providing services for home and hospital. Parent called regarding her daughter who is dual diagnosed and is not receiving the support from local mental health that her daughter needs. Gave families information on DRC and OCRA.

- SCDD Sequoia staff, on a monthly basis, collaborate with the H.E.A.R.T.S Connection staff focus on helping educate parents, students and parent mentors to navigate the special education system. "The H.E.A.R.T.S Connection Family Resource Center is staffed by parents and family members of children with disabilities and/or special health care needs. Staff at the Family Resource Center provide families with parent to parent support, advocacy, training and assistance, resource coordination and information." The SCDD staff come in monthly to support and educate the communities by going over how to request services for children in special education and giving the H.E.A.R.T.S staff who attend the IEP meetings along with families the tools that they need to advocate for the children that H.E.A.R.T.S Connection serves.
- SCDD LA Staff developed training materials in plain language about the new Home and Community Based waiver rules from CMS. These rules will have a significant impact on service delivery in California. The intent is to assist self-advocates to understand how they will impact them and the services they receive.
- SCDD San Diego staff participated in monthly planning meeting. Additional information is being added to the website and facebook pages as it becomes available. Online registration is up and running. Participant registration is coming in with 49 registrants to date. There are still some exhibitor tables available in the resource room. Raffle donations are coming in. Ad space requests are still coming in with a total of 12 so far. The following committee members were in attendance: Parents, Exceptional Family Member Program-US Marine Corp, San Diego Regional Center, local attorney, Life Day Program, Crimson Center, Team of Advocates for Special Kids, local educational advocate, Arc of San Diego and Home of Guiding Hands.
- SCDD Staff coordinated and facilitated the monthly planning meeting for the 2016 parent conference, a three part training series on the IEP process and a sibling event. The group continued to discuss the planning details for each of the events and specifically focused on the upcoming sibling event for children aged 7-12. A review of the materials that will be put in each child's goodie bag was discussed and EFRC and the Imperial County SELPA have agreed to each donate 25 books, "News From Our Shoes- Growing up with a Brother or Sister with Special Needs" for each bag. Seventeen people were in attendance at the meeting. In addition to parents, the following agencies participate in the conference planning: Imperial Valley SELPA, EFRC, TASK, Arc- Imperial Valley,

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FINE, Inc. and the San Diego Regional Center.

- SCDD San Diego Office Special Education Training Series: 8 people were in attendance at the 3rd session of a three session training series on special education. The participants were very engaged in the presentation and asked numerous questions about transition and discipline. The presentation was provided by Disability Rights of California. Additional resources and information about other parent training opportunities and resources were provided to all participants. Spanish translation was provided to 2 participants.
- Staff participated in a training hosted by Justice in Education, a local non-profit educational advocacy organization contracted by Legal-Aid Society, and presented by USC-UCEDD SEAT Professor and Vice President of the California Concerned Parents Association, Christine English, on the lawsuit against CDE ordering the disclosure of student data. As part of the suit, she provided first hand information about the court ruling, why the organizations representing students with disabilities went to court, and what steps the court has taken to protect student privacy. At the start of the training, Justice in Education allowed SCDD staff to provide information (handout) about the public input process for the 2017-2021 Proposed State Plan and encouraged them to submit their comments online.
- SCDD LA Regional Office hosted and participated in the Modified Consent Decree Chanda Smith v. LAUSD presentation held at the SCDD LA Office. Dr. David Rostetter, Independent Monitor and Dr. Jaime Hernandez, Research Director of the Modified Consent Decree in the case of Chanda Smith v. LAUSD made a presentation on the status of the modified consent decree and provided a Q&A session with Los Angeles Regional Advisory Committee (LA RAC) members and the public. Read "Chanda Smith, the Face of Los Angeles' Special Education Reform" at [http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/speced/2016/02/chanda\\_smith\\_decree\\_los\\_angeles.html](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/speced/2016/02/chanda_smith_decree_los_angeles.html) Watch "LA's Bold Move to Reform Special Education" on PBS at <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/los-angeles-bold-move-to-reform-special-education/> As the hosting agency, SCDD LA Regional Office staff provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet", "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".
- SCDD Staff, As part of our ongoing effort to educate the community SCDD SV/MB, attended the Parent's Helping Parents, Staff met with parents and gave technical support on ABA services, County Mental Health Services, Person Centered Planning, Disability

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Benefits and use of DB101.org. SCDD staff gave technical support to a family of a school age child regarding IHSS and transitional planning. SCDD staff gave technical support to an adult regarding legislative advocacy. Staff gave technical support to a provider agency regarding researching data about local developmental services.

- SCDD San Bernardino Regional Office staff coordinated and scheduled the event, created and disseminated the flyer for the event, adapted the curriculum from Disability Rights California Office of Clients Rights Advocacy presentation and facilitated the "Preparing for the IPP/Individual Program Plan Basic Trg" community outreach event within the San Bernardino Regional Centers and what to do if things go wrong. Materials distributed were a copy of the power point presentation "Tips on getting quality Regional Center services" and SCDD "IPP Basics" one pager.
- Sequoia Regional Office staff conducted a training on Preparing for your IEP at the Central Valley Regional Center. Participants included 19 Central Valley Regional Center Service Coordinators. Staff provided two handouts. 1. IEP Basics 2. Preparing for your IEP meetings, Family Goals, and Building Collaboration as well as the presentation power point. The training focus was on the following: Special Education Eligibility, Suspected Disability & Assessments, IEP Planning & Components, Related Services, Free and Appropriate Public Education, Least Restrictive Environment, Accommodations versus Modifications, Safeguards and answering participant questions.
- Staff attended Regional Center of Orange County's Open House following the merger of two of its satellite offices. This was an opportunity to tour the new building and connect with local consumers, family advocates, and service providers from the West and North Orange County areas. Staff connected with several service providers who are interested in IPP trainings as well as met with several consumer and family advocates to inform them about the State Council. Staff shared information about the public input process for the 2017-2021 Proposed State Plan, and encouraged them to submit their comments online. A few consumers expressed interest in joining the RAC so staff will be sending follow-up information to them about the online application process.
- SCDD staff collaborated with Canyon Springs in Palm Desert within Riverside County to co-facilitate and provide outreach/training on effectively communicating Health information to professionals. This exercise (Part 2) at the monthly group meeting of self-advocates assisted members to think and plan how best to communicate important health information. SCDD One Pager on "Personal & Health Profile" was used as a outline to assist and give examples of the types of information individuals may want to provide. The next group is scheduled for 04/21/2016.
- SCDD staff participated in the Placer County Special Education Local Plan Area's

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(SELPA) community advisory committee (CAC) meeting for the purpose of informing them of the role of the SCDD. In addition, staff presented the SCDD brochure and provided information regarding Employment First and Self-Determination. A power point presentation from the SELPA Director was given on the Use of Related Services to Support a Student's needs and Goals, all centered around and related to the least restrictive environment. The goal of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) is to deliver high quality special education programs and services to special needs students in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. In addition to administrative support, the SELPA helps districts comply with legal requirements concerning students with disabilities, and provides professional development activities to foster better relationships between schools and the families of special needs students. The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is comprised of parents of students (general Education and special education) enrolled in public, county, or private schools within the County SELPA; teachers, pupils, administrators, and agencies who are willing to serve on the CAC.

- SCDD Sacramento Regional Office provided Technical Assistance to 7 callers for assistance with special education issues. All inquiries were answered by phone or email or referred to other community agencies providing resources and advocacy. All families were offered a resource in their area and when appropriate, emailed a list of community resources. All families were encouraged to join our email list and visit the SCDD website for additional information.
- SCDD Monterey Bay Office provided Technical Assistance to 8 callers requesting advocacy assistance relating to special education concerns. Staff provided technical assistance over the phone as well as shared resources and educational material via email.
- SCDD Staff, at the request of the regional center, provided a morning clinic to both service coordinators and one Spanish speaking family (translation provided by regional center) on troubleshooting special education concerns.
- SCDD North Staff provided support letter for Rowell Family Empowerment of Northern California (RFENC) for their application for a Community Parent Resource Center (CPRC) grant. RFENC is a valuable resource in our community whose mission includes "Empowering people with diverse abilities, and their families, to successfully navigate the systems that serve them and to empower them to self-advocate, by providing support, information and training." The CPRC grant would increase their ability to outreach and support underserved populations in 6 rural Northern California Counties. CPRC focus on reaching underserved parents of children with disabilities, such as those living in a

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specific area of the state, those with low income, or those with limited English proficiency. They are funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The two target populations that RFENC hopes to reach through the grant are Hispanic and Native American families that have children with diverse-abilities.

- Staff met with the Interim Executive Director and the Project Director at the local Parent Training and Information Center, TASK, which serves San Luis Obispo, Mono, Inyo and San Bernardino Counties, to identify ways we can partner to identify systemic issues and eliminate barriers within the Orange County special education system. As SCDD phone calls have decreased for advocacy and technical assistance, TASK is willing to share their data on the phone calls they receive to identify trends, help to educate those parents and students on their rights, and to eliminate barriers and systemic issues found within the school districts. TASK obtains 30-40 phone calls per day on a variety of special education issues and they track this data by school district, issue, student age, grade, and disability. Given the volume of calls and the ways they are required to track data (per CDE funding requirements), this information will be useful for SCDD to help identify the types of services and supports that the students need, but the school district is systematically failing to provide, change their practices to improve the educational system within the county, and educate the parents and students throughout the process. Staff is in process of creating an agreement between agencies to clarify roles/purposes in order to move forward with this collaboration.
- Staff provided technical assistance to 27 unique callers: 9 calls regarding the new IHSS regulations and the interplay between IHSS and IHO; 3 calls regarding Social Security Disability Benefit appeals; 13 calls regarding regional center eligibility, services, and fair hearings, and 2 calls regarding overall access to community supports and public benefits.
- Staff provided technical assistance to 7 unique callers regarding special education concerns: three calls were regarding special education eligibility denials, one call was about school district recommendations as the family plans to move from North Carolina to Orange County, and the remaining three calls were about related services and placement.
- SCDD San Diego Regional Office - Facilitation support was provided at the monthly TRACE Governance meeting. The leadership team did a really nice job of leading the group through their agenda and covering the topics they had previously agreed upon with minimal support. During the meeting the Principal of the TRACE program came to speak to the group and ask for feedback on the budget for the 2016/17 school year. During the discussion the students discussed bus passes and what should happen if

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they loose the pass the school provides for them. Following a discussion on the pros and cons the students felt it was the students responsibility to replace the buss pass if the student lost their pass. They also discussed the budget for community based instruction funds and classroom materials/supplies and provided feedback on that topic as well. During the debriefing after the meeting the officers stated they enjoyed being able to give feedback on the budget for the TRACE program.

- Staff completed planning with Family Resource Network to bring staff from Disability Rights Of California to Stockton to present training for the public in regard to how to appeal a Regional Center decision to deny service. A conference room at San Joaquin County Office of Education was secured for the date of the event (September 21st 2016) A flyer is being developed by staff to promote the event.
- SCDD staff participated in a community outreach meeting to discuss community inclusion including individual rights and how to advocate for those rights. Attendees were provided with a brief on the role of the SCDD. The Lanterman Act, Regional Center, Self-Determination, and Disability Rights was mentioned. Early Start Program, transitions services, ILC, and employment options were highlighted as well. Collaborative partners discuss services familiar to them such as IHSS, parent support groups, children support groups, community events, etc. SCDD staff let it be known that SCDD is available to provide community training on a variety of training topics and interested parties should contact SCDD for coordination.

### **Goal #3**

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- SCDD SACRO attended and participated in the Alta California Regional Center Public Meetings on Expenditure data on March 15th and 22nd. The objective was to review data and discuss disparities with community stakeholders. Meetings were offered in the Yuba City and Sacramento offices. The meeting was offered in English with a Spanish speaking interpreter also present. In total at both forums held March 15th and 22, 2016 there were 2 consumers; 1 family member, 2 Mental Health professionals, 1 service provider (Futures Explored), 1 staff from UCD Mind Institute, 1 staff from UCEDD, 3 staff from OCRA/DRC, 15 ACRC staff; and 2 staff from SCDD. ACRC Executive Director, Phil Bonnet, stated that they have been requesting that DDS fund an analysis of the data in the Expenditure and Demographic Data report for many years. Mr. Bonnet shared that this region is very diverse. The Regional Center currently has Service Coordinators who speak 14 different languages and professional translation services are utilized. He also encouraged input about how to read underserved or rural communities. SCDD staff shared that the flyer would be more effective if it were redesigned to be more attractive, user friendly, and in multiple languages. She also offered suggestions for agencies in the community, such as Family Resource Centers, The ARC, and other associations that support families who might be willing to share this flyer to increase community participation and attendance. Mr. Bonnet shared that the flyer was posted on their website and share in all of their offices and to all the Service Coordinators (who were encouraged to share it with families). Due to the poor attendance, this was not effective. Mr. Bonnet shared they participate in Fiesta Educativa, Martin Luther King Day Exposition, and a Hmong group event. There was recently a Russian/Slavik group of 300 families with children with disabilities that a Regional Center staff person attended.
- SCDD SBRO participated at the Inland Regional Center (IRC) Board meeting. Items discussed were the Minutes from meeting on November 9, 2015. Self-Determination updates were provided. Financial, committee and legal reports were provided. The organization restructure was also discussed. Next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2016.
- Staff participated in organizing a unique community event in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center on 3-23-16 in Anderson for cultural exploration and insight into the Native American culture. The facilitator is a cultural competency educator, Lynn E. Fritz who addressed the history of the Native American community in the area, the trust and implications around the service system and the sacred rituals of the culture and people. The event included participation in

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drumming ceremony. The event was attended by 43 community members and well received through survey feedback. The conclusion of the event focused on issues of trust by the Native American culture and why services are not accessed frequently. Far Northern Regional Center will be developing new approaches to families surrounding the lessons learned from this cultural experience. Dollars Leveraged: Far Northern Regional Center paid for the room at the Gaia Hotel and coffee = \$800.00

- SCDD staff attended Alta California Regional Center's Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting at Alta Regional Center. 6 committee members and 8 members of the public were present. The chair of the SDAC is a self-advocate and facilitated the meeting today. Phil Bonnet, director of Alta Regional Center (ACRC) has spoken to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) regarding the SD Waiver status. Joyce McNair, Vice-Chair, reported on her attendance at the first Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee in Los Angeles last week. She emphasized the importance of committee members being familiar with Self-Determination and helping to inform their communities. Patti Diamond, ACRC, reported that minor changes have been made to the Self-Determination Flyer. David Rydquist, ACRC, reported that there are 970 individuals on the SDP "interest list" at ACRC. All Service Coordinators have been briefly informed of Self-Determination and are encouraged to discuss it as an option at each IPP meeting, and to distribute SDP flyers. There is an emphasis to reach rural and diverse communities. ACRC's plan is to develop a special unit of several Service Coordinators with lower caseloads to serve the individuals in SDP. Each member gave an update on Outreach Efforts. Future meeting dates are June 8th, September 14th, December 14th.
- Staff facilitated the March 23rd Provider Association meeting held by video conference at the Regional Center. The objective was to review programs, provide program updates, information on new legislation and rate adjustments, and discuss issues with community stakeholders. There were 12 programs represented and two family advocates from Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt counties. Most of the discussion was centered around the ABX2-1 Bill, how the rate increases will be implemented and the random survey sent out to programs.
- This was our final meeting before the conference. We went over, financial Information, duties charts, confirmed speakers, leg representatives and breakfast lunch to be served. Staff will continue to support speaker from RCEB with his presentation. In addition staff will facilitate- continental breakfast, shopping, set up,

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serving and tear down. Staff will also facilitate speaker Travel arrangements. Meeting was held at NVHO and staff provided technical support as needed.

- Staff met with consumer advocate to provide technical support in preparing power point presentation using the theme "I can't" to "I can" for upcoming Choices conference.
- SCDD staff attended Central Valley Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting in Fresno. Six committee members, and four members of the public were present. The following topics on the agenda were discussed. The February 16, 2016 minutes were approved. It was decided that the group would continue to meet monthly. Currently there are 174 interested consumers on the list at Central Valley Regional Center for Self-Determination. There was discussion about the Statewide meeting of the Boards that the Central Valley Regional Center Self-Determination Chair, Ronald Alan, along with Sidney Jackson from CVRC attended. Ronald Alan was able to meet other chairpersons and share with them Central Valley Regional Center Self-Determinations idea of creating a "skit" on Self-Determination so that consumers may have a better idea of what Self-Determination looks like.
- Staff requested input for SCDD North State Grant Cycle via E-Blast from 100 community stakeholders by asking their ideas on 2 (two) goals they think are the most important for our region to address. The proposed 6 State Plan Goals were provided: Employment, Housing, Health and Safety, Early Intervention & Education, Formal & Informal Community Supports and Self-Advocacy. The process explained that input would be narrowed down to the top 2 goals and a Request for Proposal would be issued to the community for \$20k. 21 stakeholders provided input for the North State Grant Cycle. The top 2 goals selected were: Employment and Housing.
- Staff developed a handout requesting information on the SCDD State Plan Goals- it was sent via email and hard copies were brought to meetings throughout the month. They will be brought to the CHOICES April 8 conference as well to gather input. The 8 legislators that represent our catchment area were also emailed this information. Staff also added this link on email signature.
- SCDD L.A. office staff drafted and distributed a Special Edition E-Newsletter on March 3, 2016 to 1,714 subscribers about our upcoming training for Self-Determination Independent Facilitators on April 30, 2016 at Cal State University, Northridge. Staff drafted and distributed E-Newsletter #53 on March 18, 2016 to 1,714 subscribers. Included in this edition was an article titled, "Seeds of Self-

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Determination Planted Many Years Ago" about how the developmental disabilities service system has struggled with the same basic obstacles and barriers since the Lanterman Act was signed in 1977. Also included was a reminder about the Self-Determination Independent Facilitator training to be held on April 30, 2016 at Cal State University, Northridge, and a reminder that there was still time for the general public to give feedback about the State Council on Developmental Disabilities' proposed 5-Year State Plan. Staff drafted and distributed a Special Edition E-Newsletter to 1,714 subscribers on March 18, 2016 about a teleconference on March 21, 2016 where the general public could give feedback regarding the State Council on Developmental Disabilities' proposed 5-Year State Plan.

- SCDD L.A. office staff attended the meeting of the Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center (FDLRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on March 3, 2016. The SDAC's role is to analyze issues, identify steps and processes, and develop recommendations for FDLRC as it goes forward with the implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP).
- Staff attended and participated in the Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) public meeting on Purchase of Services Expenditures in 2015 and Demographic Information on March 21, 2016. This was the 1st public meeting of 5 scheduled in March 2016 throughout the region. The meeting was offered in English with a Spanish speaking interpreter also present. FNRC Executive Director, Laura Larson started meeting with special legislation update (ABX2 1) on Managed Care Organizations (MCO) funding for Developmental Disability Service System and provided encouraging handouts of ABX2 1 bill summary and funding increases for providers. Laura reviewed current information related to 2015 Expenditures and Demographics information, She reviewed analytical charts related to ethnic disparity for FNRC Purchase of Service. Discussion included barriers and solutions in services. Many expressed frustration towards the social recreation service cuts in 2009 and how many of those services would be of interest to ethnic families. Laura Larson reported that there is a proposal being written to allow regional centers to purpose those services for families. Far Northern Regional Center Purchase of Service by Ethnicity was carefully reviewed. It was reported and reviewed that purchase of service expenditures are increasing with Asian, African-American, Hispanic and Native American ethnic groups served by Far Northern Regional Center.
- Staff developed and distributed a survey to determine the greatest area of need

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within the SCDD goal areas that could be addressed through Grant Cycle 39. Over 80 responses from the community were received and the two greatest areas of concern were housing and employment. Data was collected through three mechanisms: online survey, a stakeholder meeting and outreach at community meetings. The on-line survey was distributed both through e-mail lists and the SARC facebook page. The survey was also provided in Spanish but we did not receive any responses from that version.

- SCDD Los Angeles Staff met with the COO of Easter Seals Southern California, one of the largest providers of services in this area, to discuss this agency's plans for transitioning to the new HCBS rules. She indicated that their experience is that each regional center will have its own take on the rules and how to apply them. They are currently attending sessions held by the area regional centers on what they will expect in terms of applying the rules. They are at the beginning of this process and have no definitive plan at this point on how they will modify their current services to comply with the new rules. SCDD LA staff indicated that it would be useful for this office to stay in the loop on this roll-out so that we can help guide especially smaller vendors in how these rules will affect them and their services. The ESSC COO indicated a willingness to keep communication open as they work through the process.
- Staff participated in the planning of 3-8-16 "Inclusion is the Heart & Soul of Community" training in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center in Anderson. This was the second training organized to educate service providers, parents, consumers and other professionals. The training focused on California's Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Transition Plan to provide information and support to the community as it transitions the service delivery system to meet the new Federal Rules. The presenter, Laura Larson, Executive Director of Far Northern Regional Center discussed how the new Federal Rules for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) will change our current service system and its' impact on day programs, work services and residential services. She focused on how these new rules will provide opportunities to create new inclusive programs, living situations and employment. The presentation included the relevance of Person Centered Planning for the exciting way to find out about a person's interests, hopes and dreams and design a support plan that is meaningful to the person and their support team. It was shared that Far Northern Regional Center already started the Person Centered Planning and training service coordinators and providers. They are planning to

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continue the training and implement this approach throughout the region to include service providers, families, consumers and service coordinators. The training included group discussions and time for questions and answers. The discussions included what does the new rules mean for families, service providers and future services. It was concluded that there will be more trainings and information on this to prepare and create new services together as a community to prepare for the 2019 implementation of the new rules. FUNDS LEVERAGED: Far Northern Regional Center paid for: \$800 for hotel and \$200 for coffee/muffins=\$1,000

- SCDD LA Staff promoted Independent Facilitator training which will be taking place April 30, 2016 via newsletter, email blast, U.S. mail, and by bringing the flyer to various community meetings and presentations. Responded to numerous inquiries. 70 participants have signed up at this point.
- SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office provided technical assistance and support to the LA Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting on 3/28/2016 at SCDD LA Office. Representatives from LAUSD Office of Independent Monitor and USC UCEDD were invited to the meeting. Updates on the 3/3/16 Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting, the 3/8/16 SCDD Council meeting, SCDD LA Regional Office activities, and the statewide Self-Advocacy Network were provided. Dr. David Rostetter, Independent Monitor and Dr. Jaime Hernandez, Research Director of the Modified Consent Decree in the case of Chanda Smith v. LAUSD made a presentation on the status of the modified consent decree and provided a Q&A session with RAC members and the public. USC UCEDD staff provided an update on their study in statewide Regional Centers' disparity purchase of services information. SCDD LA Regional Manager provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with all meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet", "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, and "AIDD Fact Sheet". The next meeting is scheduled on 4/25/2016 at the SCDD LA Office.
- Staff provided update report on SCDD to Far Northern Regional Center Board of Directors meeting on 3-25-16 to 16 Board members, 6 staff, 1 Department of Developmental Services staff and 6 public. Staff provided updates on SCDD State Plan Committees work on developing State Plan Objectives to the 6 proposed Goals for 2017-2021 State Plan. The proposed State Plan Goals and Objectives were distributed. They were informed that the State Plan Committee directed the Regional Offices to solicit input from our Regional Advisory Committee Members

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and Stakeholders are 2 Goal areas for local Program Development Grant Cycle 39. They learned that for North State Office, the 2 Goal areas (approved by State Plan Committee) are Employment and Housing and the Request For Proposal will be released to the community on 4-15-16. All instructions and application forms will be in the instructions and posted on SCDD website. Senate Bill (SB) 1072 was introduced by Senator Tony Mendoza in response to a 19-year-old man with autism who died tragically trapped inside a school bus parked in a Whittier School District parking lot on 9-11-15. SB 1072 would mandate that all busses have an alert system so that drivers are more likely to find people left on a bus. At 3-8-16 meeting, Council took a support and sponsor position on SB 1072. Fact sheet on SB 1072 was distributed. Staff reported that Commissioner Bishop from AIDD spoke to the Council at the 3-8-16 meeting. He provided positive feedback regarding California's progress the past two years related to our Corrective Action Plan and delivery of 85% of what AIDD is looking for in 14 months.

- SCDD L.A. office staff finalized a date and speaker for a seminar on June 25, 2016 entitled "Person-Centered Approach to the IPP." Co-sponsored by the Inclusion Institute, the speaker will be Liz Harrell, Director of Training and Information at Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center. Staff is working on a venue which will be finalized in April.
- SCDD staff participated in two meetings as a member of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board to discuss the report that was compiled by Kempper Consulting Group on the state of the county on the Behavioral Health Services at a cost of \$50,000.00 to the county. The report provides numerous suggestions for improvement by outlines detailed information gathered over months of interviews with dozens of people throughout the county who are concerned with the mental health system. In general, the assessment of the condition of the county mental health system was critical of how the county contracted out mental health services and the contractor's lack of service delivery to adult mental health clients. The report also noted the County should never have signed the contract it was presented almost three years ago additionally the report stated that there were contract provisions in place there were not being fulfilled and, the County maintained almost no oversight of the contract during. The Board deliberated to make recommendations on priority issues identified in the report that should be addressed by the County and the contractors in order to improve the services of clients.
- The RAC of RO13 met to discuss the target areas to send out Request for

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Proposals for the upcoming Mini-Grant Cycle 39. The participating members decided to focus efforts on soliciting grant proposals regarding Employment and Self-Advocacy, specifically related to Self-Determination.

- Attended the Celebration of Life for a long standing RAC member from Amador County. Staff contacted Senator Berryhill & Assemblymember Bigelow to attend the event and participate by giving a certificate to the family. The legislators were unable to attend and asked that I present this in their absence. Staff went to their office in Jackson, CA and picked up the certificate and presented it to the family at the gathering. Staff contacted the Amador County Board of Supervisor's as well requesting a certificate be done since the member was a long appointed self-advocate. They did a certificate and staff picked up prior to the event. The family was very touched by these symbols of gratitude for time well spent for their loved one.
- Staff provided an accessible RAC packet of information to members for the March 22, 2016 meeting in Amador County at their Administration Building. At this meeting- the RAC presented a certificate of Resolution to Mary Dye's sister. Mary passed away March 5 and was a long standing member of Area Board 6 and SCDD North Valley Hills (since 2013).
- State Council staff attended and participated in the 2016 Purchase of Service Expenditure Data Forums on March 25th. The objective was to review the data and discuss disparities with community stakeholders. In attendance were; 1 Disability Rights California Staff, 3 Regional Center Staff, 1 Translator, 1 SCDD staff. SCDD staff offered suggestions regarding how to better reach a broader community cross section noting that during the State Plan Town Hall meeting process meeting at times and locations that were convenient for the groups or organizations helped to reach a more diverse audience. The notice was provided in English and Spanish posted on the regional center website however, not all self-advocates and family advocates access the website on a regular basis even if they have internet and a computer access. The notice format was more a formal press release and SCDD staff suggested that some of the other regional centers have also provided notices in a more informal flier format and that the information could be disseminated through a variety of methods for example through staff, partner agencies, self-advocacy groups, schools, etc.
- State Council staff attended and participated in the 2016 Purchase of Service Expenditure Data Forums on March 24th. The objective was to review the data and discuss disparities with community stakeholders. In attendance were; 1

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Disability Rights Bay Area, 6 Redwood Coast Regional Center staff, 1 Self Advocate and 1 care provider, 1 Translator, 1 SCDD staff. There was only one self-advocate present and her care provider. SCDD staff discussed the issues of outreach due to observing the poor attendance and gave suggestions on how to outreach to the Latino and Native American communities in order to get their representation in future forums. SCDD Staff mentioned the Mental Health forums that are held around the county to assess community needs, look at disparities in services and suggested these would be a prime opportunity for RCRC to engage and network with other service agencies to meet key people for outreach in our rural communities.

- SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office staff attended the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Board of Directors meeting on March 22nd, 2016. The Board took public input from the SCLARC Special Olympic basketball team, who shared about their games to date and plans for the future. Two potential board members introduced themselves. There was lengthy discussion about the ARCA Report (governance letter) and a presentation from Windes & McClaughry, Inc. regarding a fiscal audit. The Board approved the POS expenditure projection summary, balance sheet, and revenue report from fiscal services; approved the 2016 performance contract year-end report; received public input for the conflict of interest exemption report; received the Vendor Advisory Committee report, and received the Executive Director's reports. The following items will be postponed to the May 2016 meeting: Consumer Service Committee report, Disparity presentation, approval of the January 2016 meeting minutes, Consumer Advisory Committee reports, and Fund Development Committee report. The next meeting will be on May 24th, 2016 from 7pm - 9pm at SCLARC.
- The SCDD Los Angeles Office staff attended the monthly South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) and SCDD Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on March 9th, 2016. SCDD LA staff gave an extensive update of the HCBS Waiver as well as an overview of the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting held on 3/3/16 at Westside Regional Center. From a lengthy discussion regarding SCLARC outreach efforts, two committee members agreed to be "point people" with SCLARC management to ensure the program is being shared at IPPs by Service Coordinators who are properly trained on the program. The OCRA CRA presented about SD and Senate Bill 555 and the SCLARC Fair Hearing Coordinator presented on the appeals. SCDD LA staff requested that the SDAC discuss Bagley-Keene and posting requirements (as

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well as access to meeting minutes) in April 2016. Additionally, the SDAC tabled discussion about consumer profiles until the April 13th, 2016 meeting.

- Staff participated in the South Coast Regional Project (SCRP) Liaison meeting that assists in activities related to admissions, transition planning, deflection and resource development. Of particular interest were the number of consumers RCOC has residing at Fairview DC (78) and the minimal number of consumers in active transition (5), compared to the other regional centers. Additionally, staff sent an email to Holly Bins to follow-up on concerns that FDC staff are not utilizing free and/or other resources to get consumers updated/renewed California Identification Cards and/or birth certificates. FDC staff reported that consumers must pay \$29 to get an updated ID card; however, most are unwilling to do so given their P+I is between \$35-\$50/month depending on the type of Social Security Benefit they receive. Many residents would prefer to spend their limited P+I on desired items versus a renewal ID.
- State Council staff coordinated and attended the local self-determination advisory committee meeting. No quorum was established, so no motions were addressed. Training was provided to the public on the self-determination program. During the public comment period, information on CSUN and facilitator training was presented by Premier Health Care. Disability rights also provided information to the group on two Purchase of Service (POS) meetings scheduled for Apple Valley and Riverside on 3.29.16. SCDD staff also provided information on upcoming employment summit. All other items on the agenda, including updates, were tabled until the next meeting on 4.26.18. Distributed: Self-Determination one-pager from DRC (English & Spanish), Disparity Data, CSUN Flyer, Employment Summit Flyer, POS meeting information Attendees: 9 @ 3 Family Advocates and 6 Professionals.
- SCDD LA Staff contributed to public comment with the following items: 1) Encourage participation from families with QA project, 2) Sign-up for e-newsletter 3) Offered training to BOD for upcoming retreat 4) Per WIC 4629.5 (a) (7) SCLARC transparency portal out-of-date (also no agendas available prior to the meeting or at the meeting for public) 5) SDAC agendas not posted per Bagley-Keene and SDAC minutes not available on-line.
- Staff was contacted by a constituent who had heard about the Self Determination Program and was inquiring about the status and program availability. Staff informed the individual that, although the legislation had passed, the Department of Developmental Services was in the process of re-submitting the Waiver which

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must be approved by the federal government before the program can roll out in the state. However, in the meantime, there are ways to be informed and participate at the local level prior to program implementation. Staff provided information about signing up on the Self Determination Page on the Department of Developmental Services Website to be notified of updates and provided information about how to connect with at the local level with the Self-Determination Advisory Committee.

- In collaboration with Imagine Services of Santa Cruz, State Council SV/MB staff held the monthly meetings of the Self Determination Facilitation Learning Community. One meeting was held at the SCDD offices in San Jose, the other was held at the Imagine offices in Santa Cruz.
- The Self Determination Advisory Committee was held this month. SCDD staff has been active in carrying out the assignments resulting from the meeting, including developing the agenda for next month, preparing a statement on the role of the SDAC, and working with the chair on how best to meet the goals of the committee in its effort to provide outreach to the community.
- SCDD staff attended a meeting with Inland Regional Center (IRC) executive staff to discuss training efforts in self-determination. SCDD will assist in training of Regional Center training unit on April 19, 2016, so that they may provide various trainings to families and self-advocates throughout the catchment area in English and Spanish. IRC will schedule and provide the trainings and SCDD will assist and collaborate to ensure that information is provided to the community.
- SCDD staff attended the Self-Determination (S-D) workgroup teleconference meeting coordinated by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on March 23, 2016. DDS informed the workgroup of the status regarding the Self-Determination Waiver. Jim Knight, DDS, explained that they are working on a response to CMS's letter and hope to resubmit the Waiver by March 31, 2016. Training Modules continue to be developed and finalized. When they are complete, DDS plans to schedule 4-5 trainings of Regional Center Service Coordinators in several locations around California (Northern, Southern, Bay Area, etc.). Trainings will most likely occur in May or thereafter. Trainings will mostly likely be one full day. DDS and workgroup participants including consumers/family members/advocates will be involved in the trainings. Training coordinators from DDS encouraged anyone with specific ideas of who should be involved in which modules, to email them. It was also suggested that the trainings be recorded. Outreach Update. The Self-Determination video on DDS's website now includes voice overs in several additional languages. More languages are still being added.

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- SCDD staff provided community outreach training regarding the Self-Determination Program overview offered by Department of Developmental Services to be delivered by Regional Centers. This training took place within the San Bernardino Regional Office and a staff member from the training unit of the Inland Regional Center attended. The training materials used were the SCDD one pager "What is Self-Determination?", Self-Determination NOW! and the SCDD power point presentation. The presentation was designed to provide members of the community with an overview of the Self-Determination program information.
- SCDD L.A. office staff attended the meeting of the San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (FDLRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on March 8, 2016. The role of the SDAC is to analyze issues, identify steps and processes, and develop recommendations for FDLRC as it goes forward with the implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP). At this meeting the SGPRC SDAC discussed the first meeting of the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) held on March 3, 2016 at Westside Regional Center. The Committee Co-Chair reported that the majority of SDACs were meeting every other month. SDACs were still in the process of deciding on what their current role should be given that the SDP will not officially begin for some time. SDACs reported that they are providing trainings on certain topics at each meeting for the benefit of committee members and the general public. SDACs also reported that they were working with their regional centers on community outreach efforts. Next the committee discussed its outreach efforts to get the word out to underserved communities in the SGPRC catchment area. The committee finalized a Power Point presentation that members will use when conducting outreach meetings with stakeholder groups. Next, State Council Los Angeles Office staff gave a brief presentation on the role of the Independent Facilitator in Self-Determination. Los Angeles Office staff also shared information about our training for Independent Facilitators on April 30, 2016 at Cal State University, Northridge. The next meeting of the SGPRC SDAC will be held on May 17, 2016.
- SCDD-Los Angeles Regional Manager and staff provided technical assistance and support to the 1st Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) meeting per statute. 21 SDAC Representatives from statewide 21 Regional Centers gathered in the Southern California to discuss best practices in effective preparation and implementation of self-determination once the waivers are approved. In addition to the discussion among SSDAC members and the public, the following presentations were shared during the meeting: Catherine Blakemore,

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Executive Director of Disability Rights California, who gave an overview of self-determination, and discussed legal requirements and roles and responsibilities. Jim Knight with DDS provided the status and update of the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver for Self-Determination. Victor Lira from Premier Healthcare provided a presentation about the role of Financial Management Services (FMS) in Self-Determination. SCDD LA Regional Office staff provided handout materials during the meeting to enhance future collaboration with meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet", "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, and "AIDD Fact Sheet". The next statewide SSDAC in-person meeting will be scheduled later this year at the Northern California.

- SCDD L.A. staff assisted at the first Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee Chairpersons' Meeting held in southern California on 3/3/16 at Westside Regional Center. SCDD LA staff provided technical support and took meeting minutes for the conference. (People who attained membership on public/private bodies) - This was a meeting of the Chairpersons or their designee of each of the 21 regional centers' Self-Determination Advisory Committees plus the Chairperson of the State Council. The complete group was 4 self-advocates and 18 family members = 22 total.) (Members of the general public reached) - Based on the sign-in sheet and personal knowledge, 4 self-advocates, 15 family members and 29 professionals/other were in the audience = 48 total.)
- This was our final meeting before our 911 emergency training event. Today we finalized all details regarding the event- speakers, location set up & tear down, agenda for the day and refreshments. We also previewed the skits related to emergency readiness that will be performed by self-advocates. In addition staff prepares agenda and arranges SLS network meeting location.
- SCDD staff participated in a 2-day Conference March 30-31, 2016, titled "Northern California Gathering of The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices". The Learning Community (TLC) for Person Centered Practices advocates for a "One Page Profile", believing they are the foundation of personalization, and can lead to positive change for people, whatever their age or circumstances. A one-page profile captures all the important information about a person on a single sheet of paper under three simple headings: what people appreciate about me, what's important to me and how best to support me. It helps define personalized expectations, understanding the person, measuring progress, guidance to

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approaching challenges (what is working what is not), and promotes involvement in their lives. Person-centered thinking and planning teaches supporters to balance what is important for the person with a person's wants, wishes and preferences by valuing those things that are important to a person. PCP offers the best chance that people will have positive control over the lives they have chosen for themselves. PCP's are about designing a "program" that is tailored to achieving a person's objectives. The conference offered presentations from Michael Smull titled, "Requirements for the new Community First Choice or Be Careful What You Ask For" (settings rules) and "How do we learn what matters to each person & act on what we learn?" About 250+ people attended representing The Learning Community staff, statewide Regional Center management and service coordinators, Day Program and residential vendors, self-advocates, family members, Employment and vocational training staff. Marketplace group topics included:

- Developing One Page descriptions
- Supportive Behavior through Systematic Kindness
- Exploring how you might bring a BFF to your meeting
- Parents Helping Parents
- PCP thinking and Personnel issues
- Planning around End of Life
- Regional Centers and Programs can partner
- How do you handle crisis
- Writing PCP's
- Positive and Productive Meetings
- Becoming a more PCP Organization
- Leading change
- Safety Net, what works
- No Wrong Door
- Disability Pride
- Writing One Page Profiles

- Staff attended the monthly VMRC Consumer Services and Board meeting. Staff shared the request for input to the SCDD State Plan goals. Hard copies were also given out to encourage those without internet services to give input. Staff also requested VMRC to make their POS Variance flyer for their upcoming meeting in Spanish. They said they would and then I would email to me and post on their website. Once I received it in Spanish- I emailed Spanish speaking folks to encourage them to attend.
- With the local representative of Williams Syndrome Association developed a media pack and letter to use to have local legislature announce May is Williams Syndrome Awareness month. Also representative is invited to attend a variety of community meetings with the aim of building an awareness among our community of Williams Syndrome.
- SCDD staff participated in a community town hall meeting to discuss North Bay Regional Center's, Purchase of Service disparity data. Attendees were given a copy of the disparity data, however most didn't understand the information. Discussion took place at great lengths with the public asking many questions. The

### **Goal #3**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families express the degree to which they are satisfied with their services and the extent to which they feel their needs are being met.

meeting went over the allotted 2 hour meeting time by about 45 minutes. Many questions went unanswered as the family advocates were trying to understand service authorization/denials. NBRC only provided clarity on the disparity data. Translation services were available to Spanish-speaking attendees during the presentation and public comment.

- SCDD staff participated in a community town hall meeting to discuss North Bay Regional Center's, Purchase of Service disparity data. Attendees were given a copy of the disparity data, however most didn't understand the information. Discussion took place at great lengths with the public asking many questions. The general concern from most attendees was the denial of services in relation to how that affects the disparity data. Family advocates are concerned that services are being denied without explanation or assistance with helping families understand how to get services. SCDD staff briefly mentioned the NCI survey and the benefits of completing the survey and returning the packet accordingly. 7 FA spoke of having children 3-18 receiving Regional Center services and living in the home; however, only 1 FA had received the NCI survey packet. SCDD staff provided before mentioned FA with the blue NCI postcard and instructed individuals to call or email SCDD if another survey was needed. Translation services were available to Spanish-speaking attendees during the presentation and public comment.
- SCDD staff attended a meeting hosted by the Vallejo SELPA CAC. Training was provided by the SELPA director on what is an IEP. Attendees had questions regarding school district denial of services. Most of the questions remained unanswered as they were related to specific individuals. FA attendees were encouraged to discuss matters with teachers and school administrators. Information on Disability Rights California was provided to FAs. SCDD mentioned that community training is available on topics such as understanding the IEP and IEP process. The Self-Determination Program was also mentioned. The Vallejo CAC only has one community member. SCDD addressed the issue of public meetings rules in regards to establishing committee goals and plans via the voting approval process. Most attendees were not aware of Bagley Keene. SCDD staff gave a brief overview of the rules. A copy of the Local Plan was requested to which the SELPA director stated that the most current Local Plan on file is almost some 20 years old. The Local Plan will be reviewed for necessary updates and provided to the CAC as soon as possible.

#### **Goal #4**

Public safety agencies, other first responders and the justice system get information and assistance to be knowledgeable and aware of the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities so they can respond appropriately when individuals with developmental disabilities may have experienced abuse, neglect, sexual or financial exploitation or violation of legal or human rights.

- As part of the statewide effort, the SCDD Sacramento Regional office sent 85 letters to all Law Enforcement Agencies/Departments throughout the Sacramento Regional Office's 10 county area including, Police, Sheriff, Fire, District Attorney's, Attorney General, Consumer Affairs (Medical and Dental), and Coroners commanding their commitment to protecting and serving citizens of California and informing them of the role and responsibilities of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Respecting the complex, difficult, and often dangerous work that their agency does in our community, we offered trained and experienced staff in supporting people with ID/DD our availability to assist as requested. Our letter requested information to the following questions: 1. What is your best estimate as to the number of calls your agency handles, in regard to people with disabilities (whether as victims, witnesses, suspects, or citizens requesting assistance/information)? 2. What percentage of your overall call response/caseload does this number represent? 3. Does your agency have or participate in a Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) or a comparable, multi-disciplinary equivalent? Yes or No. If Yes, please provide us with contact information so that we may extend our training/technical assistance opportunity to that team, as well. We received several phone calls for clarification on SCDD role and 26 written responses with various notations. Many agencies do not collect data on the calls they receive or responses to people with disabilities.
- LD-4 Victimology (CalFire LE Academy) - Victimology is an 8-hr basic POST law enforcement academy course that covers functional capacity, the criminal justice system, post-trauma response, victim responses and resources, etc. It provides important 'soft skills' training to those who are anticipating a career in enforcement and may not necessarily relate directly to the sheer amount of time spent serving people who have been traumatized and may also be members of vulnerable populations.
- Persons with I/DD (DSS CCL - LA) - This 8-hr training is part of a 36-hr block of continuing professional training provided to Licensing Program Analysts through the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing division. LPA's are tasked with the investigation of licensing compliance issues &/or abuse/neglect of elder/dependent adults in licensed care facilities and/or adult day activity programs. This class includes information about intellectual/developmental disabilities, functional capacity and communication, risk issues, facility-related concerns, and traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injuries. Class attendees were

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unfamiliar with the work of the Council and were very happy to have resources and contact information for local/regional offices, in the event of significant needs regarding people with I/DD in a facility. Additionally, LPA's reported that they frequently deal with unlicensed facilities that provide housing/services to people with I/DD, although the quality of those services is frequently substandard.

- Interviewing People with I/DD (DSS/CCL - LA) - This presentation was part of a 36-hr training for Licensing Program Analysts, through DSS/CCL, and was designed to give them information about how to communicate effectively with people with I/DD, SCI, &/or TBI, for investigative/interviewing purposes. As part of the class, self-advocates and family members were invited to speak to the class and participate in mock interview scenarios. The first self-advocate/speaker to present has CP and no cognitive impairment, is non-verbal, uses an electric wheelchair, and also uses assistive technology (via an electronically programmable, synthesized voice production device) to (expressively) communicate. Class participants very quickly became impatient and/or inattentive when the interview subject (who types into her communication device using the tip of her nose) took extensive amounts of time to type out her responses to questions posed by interviewers or the participants in general. Eventually, the class realized that they had 'checked out' and revisited their expectations in regard to the time necessary to communicate with people with significant impairments. The second speaker was an 11-yr old boy with Down Syndrome, whose twin sister was killed by a nanny at the age of 16 months. This subject, who has moderate cognitive impairment and well-developed and age-appropriate social skills, demonstrated echolalia and a tendency to repeat his last response to subsequent questions, regardless of actual truth. While he was exceptionally engaging with the class, it eventually became clear to the LPA's that his friendly responses were designed to engage and 'charm' adults, rather than reflect the truth. When questioned and redirected by his parent(s), as necessary, his answers changed or were corrected and he, in turn, laughed at the group's response to having been 'taken in' by his charming social skills.
- Persons with I/DD (DSS/CCL - Sacramento) - This 8-hr training is part of a 36-hr block of continuing professional training provided to Licensing Program Analysts through the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing division. LPA's are tasked with the investigation of licensing compliance issues &/or abuse/neglect of elder/dependent adults in licensed care facilities and/or adult day

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activity programs. This class includes information about intellectual/developmental disabilities, functional capacity and communication, risk issues, facility-related concerns, and traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injuries. Class attendees were unfamiliar with the work of the Council and were very happy to have resources and contact information for local/regional offices, in the event of significant needs regarding people with I/DD in a facility. Additionally, LPA's reported that they frequently deal with unlicensed facilities that provide housing/services to people with I/DD, although the quality of those services is frequently substandard.

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- SCDD staff co-sponsored event with Inland Empire Autism Society. The Safer & Stronger community outreach event provided training on safety and emergency preparedness. SCDD staff provided Feeling Safe, Being Safe red binders which included "My Personal Safety in an Emergency plan" Personal Safety refrigerator magnet", "Feeling Safe, Being Safe DVD and SCDD "Let's Get Prepared" pages w/more go-kit items, supplies you can carry on you." SCDD staff also made a brief presentation about what SCDD does for the community, as well as, discussed each of the handouts and encouraged attendees to sign up for the

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agency electronic listing to ensure receiving updates about trainings and other information relating to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In addition, other materials were disseminated such as; "A note from your Regional Center Service Coordinator", the brochure entitled "SCDD Disability Advisory Committee", "SCDD What is Self-Determination?" & the Spanish equivalent "Que Es La Autodeterminacion?", SCDD "Self-Determination The Main Ideas", SCDD, San Bernardino Office one-pager "What is the State Council on Developmental Disabilities?", Self-Determination NOW!", SCDD "Employment First Policy", SCDD "Then & Now", SCDD flyer on "Free training opportunities available", one-pager on Housing & Living Options, IEP/Individual Educational Plan & IPP/Individual Program Plan Basic Trainings and Self-Determination Training. This event was held in Riverside county. Attendees = 68    Self-Advocates = 24    Family Advocates = 40    Professional = 4

- Bus Safety – SCDD Staff made contact through phone and mailings with transportation departments of Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tuolumne Counties inquiring as to bus safety protocol for drivers exiting vehicles to insure no passengers are left behind on the bus. San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties report that they were unaware of this problem and no special program is in effect to prevent it from happening in their school districts. Tuolumne County shared they have a program called "no student left behind" which calls for a driver inspection before exiting the bus. The other counties responses are pending.
- SCDD-Los Angeles Regional Manager attended the two-day conference in collaboration with SCDD, UCEDD UC Davis and CCLD, and provided technical assistance and support. This was part of the annual safety and disability training with CCLD staff to enhance their knowledge working with individuals with disabilities. SCDD LA Regional Office Manager shared contact information during the meeting to enhance future collaboration with meeting attendees in the LA region.
- PERT Academy San Diego/Imperial - A brief overview of the State Council in Developmental Disabilities is provided to everyone which is followed by a resource fair. 47 people stopped at the table to pick up supplemental information and talk about who the State Council is and how we can be of assistance to law enforcement. Four times a year during the 3 day PERT Academy (Psychiatric Emergency Response Team) a resource fair is offered to inform the participants of the services and supports that are available to people with disabilities and the

#### **Goal #4**

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State Council hosts a table. Informational articles regarding report writing about people with disabilities and field response tips we Information about persons who have a developmental disability and flyers about The State Council on Developmental Disabilities were made available to the participants.

- SCDD hosted and participated in a presentation on Training First Responders given by Ian Gayton and Janet Fernandez. The presenters shared their experience in informing first responders about interacting with people with ID/DD and explained how they work with agencies in training the first responders. There were 5 self-advocates, 8 family members and 7 other people who attended.
- Staff received and reviewed responses to letters mailed to law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and law enforcement training agencies (LETAs) offering outreach and training/technical assistance re best practices for working with individuals with disabilities in the community. The letters sought information on the frequency of law enforcement contact with individuals with developmental disabilities and asked if the LEA currently has training in place to facilitate interaction with individuals with disabilities. As of the end of March SCDD North Valley Hills office have received 6 responses from LEAs; Ripon PD, Modesto PD, Manteca PD and Escalon PD, Sonora PD and the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Department. No LEA reported data compilation in regard to contact with the developmentally disabled nor did any LEA request technical assistance from SCDD re best practices for inter- action with the developmentally disabled community.

## **Goal #5**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.

- 911 What's Your Emergency/Training - Collaborative effort between SCDD, SLS Vendors, self-advocates, VMRC, DDS and California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, we held a training on emergency preparedness. We had over 120 participants made up of self-advocates, family members and professionals. Speakers included representatives from DDS -Emergency Preparedness & Response, VMRC emergency services liaison, Office of Access and Functional Needs California Governor's/ Office of Emergency Services and DDS Consumer services Feeling Safe being Safe. SCDD also disseminated materials about transportation, voting and NCI. We were able to secure a donated space at a local church leveraging that cost of \$600.00. In addition the sound equipment and refreshments were all donated- funds leverage \$250.00
- Staff facilitated 60 contacts to identify agencies interested in becoming a member of California Community Network, developed by the Office of Access and Functional Needs (OAFN) at the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)f or the purpose of enhancing communication in order to identify needs and locate resources for individuals with access and functional needs impacted by disasters. OAFN utilizes the network to communicate with partner organizations during disasters and recovery. When OAFN was established in 2008, the office was tasked with enhancing communication in order to identify needs and locate resources for individuals with disabilities and access and functional needs before, during and after disasters. The California Community Network is utilized throughout the state. It is essential for governmental agencies that are designed to respond to disasters to have relationships and networks with local resources of all kinds. Of the 60 agencies contacted, 16 completed and submitted the membership form to become involved with California Community Network.
- SCDD LA staff posted information about emergency preparedness for people with disabilities on behalf of the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County on their FB page. The information came from [www.earthquakecountry.org](http://www.earthquakecountry.org).
- SCDD staff attended the collaborative effort between SCDD North Valley Hills Office, SLS Vendors, self advocates, Valley Mountain Regional Center, DDS and California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, called 911 What's Your Emergency? 130 people (90 self-advocates) attended the training. Staff was able to connect with Tamara Rodriguez, Officer Emergency Preparedness & Response, DDS, about putting on a similar training in the Sacramento area.
- North Coast staff assisted the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center and

### **Goal #5**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.

collaborators, Police, Sheriff, Fire, Ukiah Unified School District, First 5, and the Boys and Girls Club develop an emergency evacuation plan. The plan is to be used to evacuate all in the center due to an active shooter, fire, terrorist threat, or in the event of a flood, earthquake or in any other emergency situation and to give all users on the campus the tools to do so. It was important that the co-located programs use the same plan so as not to create chaos in the event that different plans were being used. At any given time there could be up to 650 kids and adults on this campus and the recreation center which is on the school campus. Three plans were consolidated into one common plan so that all are on the same page and responding to any danger in the same manner.

- SCDD Los Angeles staff shared information from Earthquake Country about earthquake preparedness for people with disabilities with the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County's Facebook page. This information was originally provided to SCDD LA by LA RAC member, Harold Fujita. 31 people follow the SABLAC FB page; 5 people were noted as having been "reached."
- SCDD Staff disseminated the Tsunami Warning Communications announcement to notify residents that a test of the Tsunami Warning System was scheduled to be conducted in order to ensure the system works properly during a real tsunami emergency in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties. Staff was concerned that agencies and community members may not have heard the Public Service Announcement or did not see the notice in other media consequently, it was beneficial to e-mail community members and agencies to alert them of the test so it did not lead to panic and individuals could be prepared in advance that is was only a test and not an actual tsunami which did occur in the region in 2011.

## **Goal #6**

Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

- SCDD staff met with the executive director at the DDSO Arts Center for a tour and provided training on the significance of the new settings rules which may have impact on this center-based program which serves 100 consumers. Discussion with the executive director about expanding into community based day programming and employment for consumers was our primary focus. Consumers have a variety of classes they can take at the art center, including sewing, woodworking, painting, crafts, ceramics, media, drawing, and games. Each day a consumer can rotate to two classes of their choosing. The consumers have an opportunity to sell their projects at an event they will open to the community at the end of April. SCDD staff also met the Consumer Council members at DDSO Arts Center and have set a time to attend their next meeting.
- Students from SUSD came to the office to learn work skills. The students assisted in the preparation of the CHOICES Conference - they inserted the conference materials into over 500 conference folders. This month they helped with opening survey envelopes, sorting surveys by language, putting them in numerical order and then binding them into bundles of 25.
- SCDD staff forwarded information via an E-Blast announcing a Think Transition work-group that hosted a workshop titled "Working and Saving with Social Security". Topics discussed: When and how people with disabilities can apply for SSI/SSDI; How work income affects SSI/SSDI; Keeping your Medi-Cal/Medicare insurance while working; and The upcoming ABLE accounts that will allow people to receive contributions from loved ones and save money without losing SSI benefits. This E-blast was sent to 1,010 subscribers and had 261 opens.
- SCDD staff attended and participated in Alta California Regional Center's (ACRC) Adult Day and Employment Provider Forum on March 17, 2016. There were 80 vendors at the forum representing 30 agencies. ACRC staff discussed and provided information on Employment First and the HCBS Waiver. Quality Assurance measures initiated by ACRC were outlined as ACRC reports to be focusing on "Quality Improvement". Programs that will be under heightened scrutiny will be offered technical support from ACRC to remedy issues for consumer safety and satisfaction. Currently ACRC has the following programs: 14 programs for which 242 individuals have Individual Placement -- 11 programs for which 578 individuals are in a group setting -- 5 Large Activity Programs for which 1,113 individuals attend -- 1,933 individuals are in Supported Employment -- SCDD staff had the opportunity to introduce ourselves and SCDD to the vendors and begin networking with providers in our 10-county area.

## **Goal #6**

Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

- SCDD LA Staff assisted the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County to set up a table for the Life After High School Fair sponsored by NLACRC. The intent is to try to recruit younger self-advocates to SABLAC. 50 copies each of the SABLAC brochure, the SCDD LA office brochure, and the SCDD brochure.
- State Council staff co-sponsored the Life After High School conference to assist transition aged youth and their families with attaining tools for planning for the future. SCDD staff opened the conference by presenting on our role and responsibilities. Jay Nolan Center for Person Centered Planning (PCP) presented on PCP and demonstrated some graphic facilitation techniques to assist parents and consumers in determining their PCP goals. They did a role play and provided examples for parents. OCRA presented on Alternatives to Conservatorship to parents, provided strategies, contact information, and answered questions for families. State Council staff also provided information packets and pamphlets to the group. State Council handed out materials (50 English and 50 Spanish) on: SCDD Then & Now -- Pamphlet on Turning 18 - SCDD overview -- Upcoming Trainings (Dress for Success, Housing, SSI, Self-Determination) -- Trainings Offered
- Staff was approached by the Family Resource Center in Monterey County to develop a transition fair similar to the Santa Clara fair. Staff approached the Santa Clara Transition Fair organizer and got agreement from him to work with a committee to bring a similar fair to Monterey County.
- Staff participated in a teleconference where the team discussed the The LEAP program and the supported decision making process. Michelle Villados, Deputy Director of the Department of Health Care Services /Office of Civil Rights, discussed SB 644, a new program with potential to dramatically increase hiring of people with disabilities under the state LEAP program. Katie Hornberger, The Director of the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy also called to discuss some viewpoints about supported decision making. This group meets monthly at UCD Mind Institute to discuss issues pertaining to transition aged youth with I/DD. 14 individuals and agencies were represented this month.
- San Diego/Imperial Transition Coalition - The Transition Coalition meeting had a very small turn-out because of the CSUN Technology Conference, as well as spring break for some participants, illness, etc. The future trainings were addressed, as there are only 3 people signed up for the presentation on Post-Secondary Education opportunities that is scheduled for April 16. The intent of providing single subject presentations was to better meet the needs of the

## **Goal #6**

Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

community, but perhaps the panel presentations that offered a variety of presenters and topics were a better method to employ. Since changing the format, attendance has significantly been reduced, so staff will strongly encourage all members to attend the April meeting so there can be further discussion on this. The committee further discussed the idea of having centralized Transition Fairs, to be held at the various San Diego Regional Center offices. This would be a better use of vendors time, as opposed to attending numerous school fairs, and also allow for presentations to be provided simultaneously to the attendees. The new Director of Community Services will be invited to the next Transition Coalition meeting, and perhaps a small sub-committee could be formed to begin this venture with the San Diego School District TRACE program and the non-public schools that serve this community. The idea was also presented to offer these Transition Fairs by SELPA, so that is another consideration.

- SCDD staff attended The Rancho Cordova Luncheon with guest speaker, John McGinness. John McGinness spent more than 31 years with the Sheriff's Department and has served in every service area of the Department. He is a highly decorated veteran with a background in many high profile assignments. He shared insights into how current laws are making it difficult for police to do their job. He encouraged citizens to read laws carefully before voting. He also encouraged businesses and private individuals to work together (as they are doing in Rancho Cordova) to increase the safety of their communities, increase business success and encourage communities to thrive and have opportunities for individuals of all ages to get involved.
- Staff attended and provided information the Santa Clara County Transition Fair, sponsored by Parents Helping Parents. Staff also discussed with day and employment programs at the fair HCBS Final Rule regulation to determine the level of awareness among the provider community about the upcoming changes in legislation.
- Participated in the East Side Union High School District Transition Fair and the Parents Helping Parents Transition Fair. Provided information about SCDD, special education rights, and transition.
- Staff participated in a meeting designed to discuss and act on methods to improve the transition process in Stanislaus County. Team discussed agency activities and toured transition program of Turlock Unified SD. Staff took notes and provided minutes to the group.
- Staff participated in a teleconference where the team discussed the LEAP

### **Goal #6**

Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

program and the supported decision making process. The Deputy Director of the Department of Health Care Services /Office of Civil Rights, called discuss SB 644, a new program with potential to dramatically increase hiring of people with disabilities under the state LEAP program. The Director of the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy also called to discuss some viewpoints about supported decision making.

## **Goal #7**

Children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their families receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential.

- SCDD staff participated in the Inland Regional Center Early Start Family Resource Network Annual Inter-Agency Council meeting to discuss upcoming annual goals and to obtain updated information to better assist community members navigate the system.
- SCDD staff forwarded information about a training on Anti-Bullying Policy and Support by the Sacramento City Unified School District to our collaborators: Warmline Family Resource Center, Alta California Regional Center, FamilySOUP, Down Syndrome Information Alliance, UCD Mind Transition Project, and The Arc. The total email lists of these organizations is about 13,000.
- Staff participated in the Orange County Child Care and Development Planning Council's "Inclusion Collaborative" that meets monthly to ensure that children, age 0–12, with disabilities have equal access to all types of child care and education programs. The Inclusion Pathway is live on the Quality Start OC website; however, there are still links that need to be added to make it navigable; unfortunately some of the links were corrupted and caused delays. The surveys developed by this collaborative and the Early Childhood Mental Health Collaborative, went out to 2,650 child care providers and State preschools and phone call follow-ups will begin shortly. The CSUF Center for Social Science Research that will collect, aggregate, and analyze the data, reported that at least 600 surveys will need to be completed in order to have statistically significant results. SCDD staff shared information about SB 1072 that we are sponsoring. Additionally, the co-chair for the Inclusion Collaborative recently held a Director's collaboration where child care directors were invited to share stories, receive information, and get support on challenging cases. Twenty-one child care directors attended and they will meet quarterly.
- SCDD LA Office staff participated in the Early Start Family Resource Fair with CPAD to better assist community members navigate the system. 225 copies of the Early Start brochure in both English and Chinese developed by SCDD LA Office were distributed. SCDD LA Regional Manager provided handout materials during the Resource Fair to enhance future collaboration with all event participants. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet" in English/Chinese/Spanish, "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, "Early Start" in English/Chinese, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".

## **Goal #8**

The State of California will adopt an Employment First policy which reflects inclusive and gainful employment as the preferred outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities.

- Staff distributed information via E-Blast to 400 community members on USC UCEDD's March 31, 2016 "Webinar on Employment First - Integrated Employment for people with significant disabilities." Webinar to address: What Employment First is and is not; About some of the benefits of working; About the California Employment Consortium for Youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CECY) and What things you can do if you want to work. Webinar is free and designed for family members, people with developmental disabilities and advocates. Marketing flyer that was provided in the outreach efforts and included all details to interested community members.
- Employment First Training – San Diego/Imperial Regional Office - This staff led training was given on 3/25/16 to 13 participants. Staff used the Employment First power point presentation developed by the Statewide Self Advocacy Network. The training lasted a little over an hour and was very well received. Participants were fully engaged in discussion of information, asking questions and providing ideas on promoting employment first activities and outreach to employers.
- SCDD staff met with manager of Workability Program to discuss the local office being a training vocational site for a student. SCDD staff interviewed the student and agreed to have him work at the office completing work on a website for the disability coalition. Support will be offered the student through a job coach from the Workability Program.
- SCDD L.A. office staff applied for conference space at the California Endowment's conference center, exactly one year ahead of desired date, as required. March 2, 2017 is successfully secured, and it is tentatively planned to have 3 strands, one on Employment, one on Self-Determination, and one possibly addressing health/dental issues. SCDD and the Inclusion Institute will be creating a planning committee with community agencies in the coming months.
- Staff participated in the monthly planning meeting for Jobtoberfest. The date for this year's Jobtoberfest Employment Fair will be October 4, 2016. A list of subcommittees was distributed and committee members signed up for subcommittees. I will be on the Volunteer subcommittee and the Scholarship subcommittee. Outreach to employers and potential sponsors will begin. The committee is looking into possible keynote speakers for the event and possible workshop presentations. Committee members in attendance were the following: Dept of Rehabilitation, Deaf Community Services, Outreach Consulting Services, Goodwill Industries, San Diego Employment Solutions-Mental Health Services, Sycuan Mental Health Employment Services and San Diego Futures Foundation.

## **Goal #9**

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

- SCDD Staff Eblast "Teens and Adults with ASD - Want to Sell or Advertise at the Walk?". The Autism Society Inland Empire's Employment Zone @ Hero Walk, Sunday, April 17, 2016. For Adults and Teens with ASD who are interested in owning their own business: ASIE wants to help you explore self-employment. They will provide a tent, table the funds and provide receipts.
- SCDD staff participated in the Western Regional Committee meeting of the Riverside County Workforce Development Board to obtain information regarding new programs being offered to ages 16-24, challenges faced with skills gaps and the need for more tech programs offered to youth.
- SCDD LA Staff, on behalf of the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County, posted an article from ULoop, College Recruiting News entitled "5 Best Practices For Recruiting Students With Disabilities" on SABLAC's Facebook page. The link is: <http://jobs.uloop.com/news/view.php/190546/5-Best-Practices-For-Recruiting-Students-With-Disabilities>
- Staff hosted and participated in the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) Work Services Meeting held at the SCDD Orange County Office. The purpose of the meeting is to inform DOR supported employment vendors and providers about new legislation, information, and any employment-related updates. DOR Orange/San Gabriel District Administrator presented on the passage of the Workforce Innovation and Improvement Act (WIOA) and what it means for providers. She explained that all IPE goals must be for competitive integrated employment (CIE) and DOR will have limitations on the use of subminimum wage group as a successful employment outcome (permissible for a short-time if it is a pathway to CIE), and the additional restrictions on use of subminimum wage groups for individuals under 24 years old. DOR is in process of releasing a request for proposal on Pre-Employment Transition Services. As the hosting agency, SCDD staff did a quick presentation on who we are, what we do, and provided handouts on the 2017-2021 State Plan Survey input request, as well as answered other provider questions about our services and collaboration.
- SCDD Staff disseminated USC UCEDD - FREE webinar: Employment First which is part of the 2016 Webinar Series: Policy Issues in Intellectual & Developmental Disability (I/DD) - What Self-Advocates and Families Need to Know. The webinar took place on March 31, 2016 and was presented by Dr. Olivia Raynor and Kecia Weller from the Tarjan Center at UCLA. Topics discussed:
  - What Employment First is and is not
  - Some of the benefits of working
  - The California Employment Consortium for Youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CECY)
  -

## **Goal #9**

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

### Things you can do if you want to work

- Staff sent out e-blast on the following employment and post-secondary education opportunities: (1) Project College at the University of San Diego; (2) Assistive Technology: Tools for Transition Training - workshop that focuses on how technology can help a student transition successfully from high school into the adult world. The trainer will introduce different types of technology that may be useful in high school, college, in the workplace, or to help foster independence; (3) Orange County Employment Advocacy Network Save the Date flyer for an employment conference and resource fair that will be held in October.
- Distributed to 503 individuals and agencies regarding an open house at San Diego City College, a training on Preparing for Post-Secondary Education, and a Webinar on Employment First.
- E-blast- Registration OPEN: Web Course: Marketing and Job Development Apr 6-19 Introduction to Job Placement Marketing Research: Using marketing research to understand employers and their needs Marketing Tools for Job Placement: How to develop brochures and other publications, as well as utilize special events, networking, and social media on the web to establish business relationships. Job Development Principles: Learn to approach employers and represent job-seekers with confidence. Job Development Tools: Know the tools job seekers and job developers need to represent their best qualities, from resumes to skills portfolios. Includes information on using social networking over the Internet to develop job leads - LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, as well as discussing online applications. Users proceed at any time during the course period by interacting with readings and video, along with activities and downloadable forms. Post comments and questions and respond to examples on a forum.
- E-blast- flyer information for job opportunities in Southern CA at WCIL. Staff has many contacts in Southern CA and sent this email to them in case they or someone they knew would be interested in these employment opportunities.
- SCDD staff participated in the California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (CCEPD) planning meeting on March 10th for the Youth Leadership Forum 2016. Those present were: Department of Rehabilitation,(DOR); Department of Developmental Services (DDS); Calif. Dept. of Health Care Services (CDHS); Calif. Department of Education (CDE), Career ACCESS and Friends, Inc. A presentation on Career ACCESS (Adult Coaching Counseling Employment Support Services) was given. The Center's purpose is to impact the dramatic unemployment rates and poverty of people with disabilities.

## **Goal #9**

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

The goal is to reform current SSI policies and programs and improve economic outcomes for individuals with disabilities who, without such reform, face a lifetime of poverty and dependence on federal benefits. To optimize career success, employment supports and coaching are available because work is assumed instead of discouraged. Career ACCESS: -Realigns new and existing supports from across federal agencies to empower more young adults to build careers at competitive wages in the community; -Simplifies eligibility and reporting requirements for young adults with disabilities seeking career employment as a path to independent living; and, -Supports young adults through career coaching, benefits planning, financial counseling, and employment support services.

- SCDD - Los Angeles Regional Office Manager attended the Employment Round Table of Southern California in collaboration with DFEH. The objective of the meeting is to reduce discrimination and promote inclusive/equal employment opportunities. Guest speakers from DFEH, EEOC, Pacific Clinics and Wilson Partners discussed fair pay act, and fair employment and housing practices and trends. Topics of discussion include promoting accessibility for all, advocating employment for people with disabilities and legal protection at workplace. SCDD provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with ERTSC partners and attendees. Handouts include 50 copies of each outreach materials titled "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet", "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".
- SCDD staff participated in VIP screening of Autism: Behind the Camera, which focuses on young adults with autism and the resources needed when students with autism "age out" of high school. The screening presented one vocational program within the film industry trying to change the unemployable outcome for autistic individuals. The screening at KVCR television studios provided an opportunity for representatives from the school districts, Department of Rehabilitation, Inland Regional Center, and other partners to view the program and discuss the duplication efforts of this program in the southern California region. Currently, the program exists in Livermore, Sacramento, and Bakersfield. It is the hope that this 12-week program can be offered to II/DD individuals and train them for employment. The program costs approximately \$8500 per person and is currently funded at the other locations using Regional Center dollars. Representatives participated in a round table discussion of the program, and spoke to two participants in the program who are now employed in this industry.

## **Goal #9**

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Participants have ranged in abilities from severe behaviors to moderate, and have proven to be effective and successful. Further, replication of the program is being supported by the Autism Society of the Inland Empire and they are speaking with possible venue locations within the Inland Empire area to conduct these trainings. KVCR's studio has also offered to support the program, if developed, with internship and training opportunities. Possible jobs opportunities may include: sound technicians, writers, prop and costume designers, film/video editors, producers, videographers, and camera operators. Individuals learn the soft skills needed to be successful on any job, and most importantly, they gain experience necessary to be self-confident and successful in life.

- SCDD staff forwarded information about a SAHRA and SRHEC Career and Education Fair on May 11, 2016 at UC Davis Extension Galleria in Sacramento. It was forwarded to UCD Mind Institute and the collaborate group of Job Developers from all the Supported Employment agencies in this area. The intention is that Job Developers could attend the Job Fair to make According to Alta Regional Center, 1900 individuals with I/DD are in Supported Employment services, either receiving employment supports or seeking employment.
- Staff participated in the Orange County Employment Advocacy Network (OCEAN) collaborative that meets monthly to identify issues and develop solutions to the changes that are occurring with respect to employment and day services. At this meeting, the following topics were discussed: (1) Workforce Innovation and Improvement Act (WIOA) and the provider letter that went out to vendors last month; (2) SCDD request for State Plan input; (3) RCOC updates with respect to the number of consumers in work activity programs (510 consumers) and those in competitive integrated employment (1847 consumers); (4) Project Search at CHOC Hospital is underway with 8 identified departments participating in 2-3 rotations. The project will serve 10 Department of Rehabilitation eligible consumers the first year; (5) Review/revise of the OCEAN Brochure; (6) Updates to the OCEAN Employment and Resource Fair in October. OCEAN, established in 1991, is a professional association that assists members and employers in creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
- Staff promoted the Free Tax Preparation Program through North Coast Opportunities and United Way to help individuals with low incomes or on Social Security to get free tax preparation for 2015. The flier was sent or given to 11 clients, 5 advocates and 15 programs and posted the flier at the office. A total of over 150 people were reached.

### **Goal #9**

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- The Project College Committee met to review the applications, share information on the upcoming interviews being scheduled. Staff will utilize the office in Santa Ana this year to offer interviews to potential students in that area, instead of requesting these students travel to San Diego for a 30 minute interview. The schedule of classes and instructors were review and finalized, as well as evening activities once again considered. The 2015 Cohort Reunion plans were finalized, and the invitation will be sent out this coming week. Additionally, a PhD candidate at the University of San Diego will assist with an activity designed to solicit information and feedback from these students to assist with future planning for the incoming cohort. This gentleman will also assist with the 2016 class on campus, as his interest in educational leadership for students with IDD is strong, and the opportunity will serve both the students and himself well.
- Provide technical assistance to support workability students learning various job skills: utilizing copy machine, sorting 7 piles of handout materials and compiling 50 training material packets for Upcoming Self-Determination, and Housing & Living Options trainings. Added 100 SCDD Business cards in the 2016 Employment Summit folders.

## **Goal #10**

Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.

- SCDD staff collaborated with Desert ARC in Palm Desert within Riverside County to co-facilitate and provide outreach on effectively communicating Health information to professionals. This exercise (Part 2) at the monthly group meeting of self-advocates assisted members to think and plan how best to communicate important health information. SCDD One Pager on "Personal & Health Profile" was used as a outline to assist and give examples of the types of information individuals may want to provide. The next group is scheduled for 04/21/2016.
- SCDD staff coordinated with Peppermint Ridge in Corona within Riverside County to utilize their facility at Angel's Hall for the Corona Self-Advocacy meeting and Health training. The curriculum used was SCDD "One page profile for Doctor Visits" (part 2) and provided the self-advocates the opportunity to think about important information about themselves that would be useful for medical and other social services personnel to know about. When discussing medications and their various side effects the majority of the self-advocates shared that they did not know what medications that they take nor why they take the medications. Self-Advocates also discussed the need to learn the proper names of each medication and what the medication is prescribed for. Many of the self-advocates made personal goals for themselves to ask the names of the medications they take on a daily basis and the reason for the prescription so that they can learn this important health information.
- Staff attended a training entitled "Navigating the Maze of Medi-Cal for Autism Related Interventions" to become better educated about the switch from regional center funded to Medi-Cal funded behavioral services. Over 50 family members were in attendance. Staff spoke with some families after the training and learned of concerns and also spoke with regional center staff about their role and how to assist with the transition.
- SCDD hosted and participated in a presentation on California Children's Services (CSS) given by Elaine Linn. The topic of the presentation was about the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) proposed redesign of CSS, shifting specialty care from CCS to Medi-Cal Managed Care beginning 1/2017. Ms. Linn is involved with a group CCS4Families which is not affiliated with the California Department of Health Care Services. They are organizations, families, and individuals committed to preserving access to high quality pediatric specialty care for California children with complex medical conditions. Contact info: [CCS4Families@gmail.com](mailto:CCS4Families@gmail.com)
- Staff participated in the CalOptima Community Alliances Forum, designed to

## **Goal #10**

Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.

develop, strengthen, and sustain positive relationships with community-based organizations that care about community health to ensure access to quality health care. The forum's purpose is to discuss current health issues, share information and resources, and build partnerships to address community health issues. With more than 30 community partners involved, today's topic focused on domestic violence and the new Domestic Violence & Health Collective of Orange County funded by the Blue Shield of California Foundation to establish a countywide, integrated and collaborative health and domestic violence system in Orange County. Last quarter, 211 Orange County, the comprehensive information and referral system for the county, reported over 700 domestic violence database searches last quarter and 383 domestic violence email and phone inquiries. There were 630 individuals referred to the 4 State-funded domestic violence organizations.

- SCDD staff participated in a stakeholder meeting at CalOptima to discuss the California Children's Services redesign that provided information about the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) proposed changes to the CCS program, including the CCS redesign goals, whole-child model, transition timelines, and next steps. Jennifer Kent, Director of the Department of Health Care Services was the keynote, while Michael Schrader, CalOptima CEO, facilitated the discussion.
- Currently, DHCS estimates 180,000 kids enrolled in the CCS program and in Orange County, 90% of CCS-eligible children are CalOptima beneficiaries, while the other 10% are with commercial health care plans. This is the first of the stakeholder meetings to be held over the course of the next 18 months with the estimated roll-out date of July 2017.
- SCDD staff collaborated with Molina Healthcare to coordinate (6) community outreach trainings regarding Health information within the catchment areas we mutually serve. SCDD staff will provide assistance by exploring venues for outreach presentations. Molina would like to inform the community about the various available service options and accessible providers through the plan that is available to the low income, disabled and seniors.
- Staff provided presentation and information about our regional coalition, Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN), in collaboration with DAN Grant Manager from Disability Action Center (DAC) to 15 people at the Adult Services Coordinating Council on 3-16-16. The presentation included the history of the two agencies working together on a previous grant through The SCAN Foundation to

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the current grant funded by The SCAN Foundation. The collaborative partners were introduced including Far Northern Regional Center, Passages - Area Agency on Aging, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, North State Office, Disability Action Center and Disability Rights California, Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy. The accomplishments of activities since DAN was created in 2012 to present was shared, including organizing numerous community forums around the education and awareness of the mandatory changes to Medi-Cal managed care as part of the Rural Expansion Project for our rural counties, developing and maintaining relationships with the managed care health plans that serve our 9 counties, etc. The current projects were highlighted including a community training that is being organized for June 23, 2016 in Chico. The training is titled "Medi-Cal 2020: Opportunities for Integration and Collaboration." The information was well received and we were invited to attend the meetings on a regular basis. Staff will return in May 2016 for the next meeting.

- SCDD L.A. staff attended the USC UCEDD's all-day Community Education Conference, "Co-Occurring Developmental Disabilities and Mental Health Issues in Transition Aged Youth." Attended break-out sessions on abuse/neglect, bullying, fitness for teens, medication management, and substance abuse in people with developmental disabilities. Helped promote this event in our newsletter, at SCDD and Inclusion Institute's Self-Determination seminar on February 27 and at the Statewide SDAC Meeting on March 3. Helped respond to some questions in the Bullying workshop about legal rights and IEP strategies which the presenters did not have information about. Provided flyers at this conference about SCDD LARO's upcoming (April) Independent Facilitators workshop. Shared the power points and training materials from the conference with the L.A. office staff.
- Staff distributed an information guide titled "Paying Minimum Wage and Overtime to Home Care Workers: A Guide for Consumers and their Families to the FLSA" to 400 community members. This guide is meant to help individuals, families, and households who use home care services determine their responsibilities under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the federal minimum wage and overtime law that applies to most home care workers. The guide explains who must follow the FLSA rules, with examples of situations involving hiring a home care worker directly, using a home care agency, and arranging care through a self-directed program. It discusses paid providers who are family members of the consumer and who are live-in workers. The guide also explains how to follow the FLSA

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rules, that is, what it means to pay minimum wage and overtime, track hours worked, and keep proper records.

- Staff distributed E-Blast to 400 community members providing information on 19 questions developed by California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) during February's monthly State-wide call. Many concerns were expressed about the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) changes in Overtime, Wait-time, Travel Pay, how counties are handing the added requirements for forms and questions consumers may have. CICAs sub-committee came up with the 19 questions with a few sub-questions under them. Staff is the Chair of Butte County IHSS Advisory Committee and participates in CICA's monthly State-wide calls. The questions were provided to Butte County Public Authority and IHSS staff to review the 19 questions. Staff is requesting that the questions are included in the upcoming May 10, 2016 IHSS Advisory Committee meeting for discussion. CICA is requesting responses back to the questions by May 27, 2016.
- SCDD staff forwarded information via an E-Blast regarding the 14th Annual Family Voices Summit on March 14, 2016, sponsored by CCS4 Families. The purpose of this summit is to bring together families, youth, providers, policy makers, advocates, state agencies, insurers, and other stakeholders to identify and address the health challenges that affect one of California's most vulnerable populations: children and youth with special health care needs. The E-Blasts reached 1,010 subscribers and had 200 views.
- Staff sent out e-blast on the following two health-related topics: (1) SCDD press release dated 2/29/2016 regarding passage of MCO funding reform that will bring between \$400-\$500 million to the DD system, when paired with federal matching funds; (2) Eblast on CalOptima hosting a CCS stakeholder meeting to share information on the DHCS proposed changes to the CCS program, focusing on the new DHCS initiative, including the CCS redesign goals, whole-child model, and transition timelines.
- Eblast- UCEDD Rules of Sex Webinar- info on second sheet and flyer attached. You are invited to the next \*FREE\* webinar in the USC UCEDD series: The Rules of Sex for People With Developmental Disabilities Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 10:00am PST Register Here: <http://www.uscucedd.org/upcoming-events>
- SCDD staff participated in a 2-day Conference March 14, 2016, titled "Family Voices of California, 13th Annual Health Summit and Legislative Day". Family Voices of California (FVCA) is a statewide collaborative of locally-based parent run centers working to ensure quality health care for children and youth with

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special health care needs. 125 participants attended (60% family members, 15% advocates, 15% government staff, 4% health care providers, 2% legislators, 2% foundations). This summit features experts in the field of healthcare pertaining to children and youth with special healthcare needs. Senator Richard Pan, Katherine Blakemore (DRC), Jennifer Kent (DHCS) and many others including family members/parents shared information and their experiences. The issue of California Children's Services transitioning to Managed Care was discussed throughout the day and many are concerned about ensuring a smooth transition and continuing to have access to high quality specialized care.

- North Coast SCDD staff met with Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center staff and Board in March to continue planning for the "Cycle Without Limits" Bike Camp project teaching individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to ride a bicycle. Collaborators on the event are the County HHSA Health Dept. Prevention and Planning , the Family Resource Center, the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center staff, Special Olympics, United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay, Ukiah Unified School District, and the Boys and Girls Club. Three family advocates are participating in the project planning. It was to occur in March but will now be re-scheduled to July. The "Cycle Without Limits" Bike Camp provided by United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay called "Cycle Without Limits" will be offered in the summer at Grace Hudson School on July 21st to the 25th. It is one of the new projects that will be offered at the Open ARRC Recreation Center. This project would provide a 5 day instructional program that teaches children and adults with intellectual and or developmental disabilities how to ride a conventional two wheeled bicycle or an adapted cycle.
- Distributed information on a training to 17 individuals in the Imperial Valley regarding "Learn to Use Motivation as a Pivotal Response to Teach First Words and Multiple Utterances", and distributed a flyer on a NHA Dental Health Awareness Workshop Event to 400 individuals in the San Diego area.
- SCDD staff met with training representative from Inland Empire Health Plan, to discuss trainings that they can provide to the community regarding their services for the disabled. They have a specialized disability unit that provides training, outreach, referrals, and assistance with navigating the health care service and provider network and other generic resources in the Riverside and San Bernardino areas. IEHP agreed with the Regional Office to provide (4) trainings to the Riverside, Coachella Valley, San Bernardino, and Mountain communities on their services. The trainings are to be offered in English and Spanish. Translation

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equipment is to be requested from IRC and a translator will be provided from IEHP to assist with any accommodations needed by attendees.

- SCDD staff met with Hope Services about collaborating with Behavioral Health Services of Santa Clara County to expand mental health services for people with developmental disability. A plan of action was developed. Staff will prepare a report describing the need for services and schedule a meeting with Mental Health administrator to introduce them to current mental health services for our community and current needs. The goal is to maximize funding opportunities.
- Staff participated in the 3-3-16 Partnership HealthPlan of California (PHC) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) to assist their managed care agency to meet the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) for access to medical services under the plan. PHC requested that CAC members complete the Department of Health Care Services "What Matters to Members Most regarding Quality of Care" survey which included the following questions: "What is most important to you about your health and well-being?" and "What is most important to you about your health care?" Staff also completed an additional survey soliciting suggestions on how to improve PHC's CAC. This information will be reviewed and summarized and brought back to the CAC members for discussion in June 2016. PHC provided updates from the last Commission meeting, updates on the Health Education and Cultural and Linguistic Work Plan 2015, 2015 CAC accomplishments which include: Member Website Q & A Section, Suggested List of Resources in the PHC Website for Medicare and Health Insurance Counseling Assistance Program (HICAP), Appointed CAC Board Members and Alternates Members, and Provided Feedback on the Member Newsletter/Member Engagement. Other updates included Policy and Program Updates related to Health Homes, Social Determinants of Health Grants, Behavioral Health Treatment and California Children's Services (CCS) Program. It was reported that PHC has recruited 39 Providers to date to the local area. This has been accomplished through creating a Provider Recruitment Fund Program, Residency Program and other strategies. This demonstrates commitment and strategic planning of PHC.

## Goal #11

Individuals with developmental disabilities have access to affordable and accessible housing that provides control, choice and flexibility regarding where and with whom they live.

- SCDD LA Staff provided technical assistance via telephone regarding new housing needed for consumer who is currently living in a level 4 group home. Parent is appealing level of care and consumer needs alternative housing. Staff also provided a summary of the Fair Hearing process as well as alternative housing supports.
- SCDD staff coordinated with the Housing Authority for the County of San Bernardino (HACSB) to provide a collaborative training regarding the public housing eligibility, program size, application process waiting list and the difference between public housing, housing choice voucher, section 8 and other housing programs and the specific requirements per program. SCDD staff them provide a power point presentation "Living Options" and gave additional information regarding living options for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities provided by the regional centers.
- Staff provided technical assistance to a parent (a member of the VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee) regarding her son's living situation now that he is 18 and must leave the children's home he has lived in for the past 4 years. The home will not request a waiver. The parent stated that her son needs intensive ABA at school and home and had been receiving both in current home. The home is out of our catchment area and her son may have to move back to our catchment area. Staff gave her information about possible solutions. This parent really wants her son to get in to the self-determination program but as a VMRC SD Committee member she understands that this is not a solution at this moment, but possibly in the near future.
- Staff provided technical assistance to 2 unique callers regarding housing access: one parent is interested in the Legacy Homes model and donating their home to their adult daughter with a disability upon their passing for her benefit and the benefit of others in her situation and the second caller inquired about what HUD counts as annual income for the purposes of determining rent.

## **Goal #12**

Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

- SCDD SV/MB staff forwarded to the Housing Choices Coalition and Bay Area Housing Corporation a handbook for individuals and families to use when developing housing opportunities. The handbook included suggestions about housing advocacy and coalition building.
- North Coast staff researched the progress of a 42 unit apartment complex planned for the area. Staff collected information from the local housing development agency and the out of area developer and attained information about the application process that will be shared with the community. The owner of the units will take applications starting March 30, 2016. At this point, the project has met all county approvals but it is anticipated that it will be one year before we see apartments finished and ready to rent. Staff was able to direct the individuals inquiring about the project and provided technical assistance about on how to get an application and advised individuals to advocate with their service coordinators for any assistance necessary to complete the application process.
- The SCDD staff attended the Lanterman Housing Alliance Thought Leaders Conference in Sacramento along with 35 other individuals and agencies involved in housing initiatives for people with I/DD. Three SCDD staff were on a panel to discuss SCDD's advocacy and involvement in housing initiatives. Staff highlighted the new CMS Settings Rules and the potential relationship between CMS, Self-Determination, and expanding housing options for people with I/DD. The conference had panels with Advocacy Partners, Policy Partners, and Funding Partners. The second day was focused on developing a Statewide Housing White Paper and drafting a housing strategic plan. SCDD committed to advocating for increased housing options for people with I/DD and collaborating with this Alliance. Lanterman Housing Alliance is a group of 30 agencies all sharing a common goal of increasing housing options for I/DD.
- SCDD LA staff worked with Alex Visotzky of Neighborhood Housing Services to coordinate time for him to present to the LA RAC on the work of NHS and how SCDD LA and NHS might collaborate on accessible and affordable housing development. He is scheduled to make a presentation at the June meeting of the LA RAC..
- SCDD staff attended the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino Board meeting to foster better inter-agency communication and to discuss the upcoming collaboration with the Housing Authority to provide community outreach information regarding the development of available housing and living options all throughout the county of San Bernardino.

## **Goal #12**

Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

- SCDD LA staff, on behalf of the Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County, posted an article about a unique approach to integrated housing development titled, "Families Work To Create Integrated Housing Model." A group of families and individuals with disabilities have purchased land to develop housing for people with and without disabilities. One of the parents stated, "'We want an integrated neighborhood,' ... 'We don't want to create a colony of people with disabilities.' She went on to say, "...the project is trying to create a model for dignified, independent living for adults with disabilities, something between the options of having to live with their parents or being "warehoused" in state-run or private facilities."
- After the 3/14/16 VMRC Board meeting- staff voiced concerns regarding the VMRC Strategic Plan report and asked to meet with the Housing Focus group for clarification. The Strategic Plan is attached. The group - which is made up of all VMRC staff, met with me at VMRC. The area of concern that staff voiced was on a new housing model called "Simulated Independent Living". Staff was puzzled by this term and the reasoning behind it and how it was a housing model. This group stated that their "task" for this goal was to come up with housing models that could be done in our area. They were not willing to think outside the box as they were developing these models based on a "survey" they gave. Staff asked who completed the survey, to which they replied "staff, and board members". SCDD staff has talked to a couple of self-advocate board members who did not remember any such survey. After much conversation, the group decided to change the name from "Simulated Independent Living" to "Life Skills". It will be a group home that targets transition youth (18-22) that aren't sure if they want to or "can" move out on their own. The VMRC staff said this is also what parents want. Staff will follow the process of this Housing Focus goal. Based on their survey results (attached) Affordable Housing Projects was identified as 2nd ranked area of importance. This VMRC group said that would be too hard to do at this time.
- SCDD staff coordinated a collaborative community outreach training presentation with the Fair Housing Council of Riverside County to provide information to community members about Accessible housing and living options. Fair Housing Council presented on housing programs, services provided, waiting list information, and housing counseling available to consumers. The materials provided to attendees included; the SCDD power point presentation "Living Options for People with Developmental Disabilities", SCDD "What is the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, SCDD "Then & Now" one pager, SCDD

## **Goal #12**

Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

"FREE Training Opportunities Available", Federal Trade Commission (FTC) publication "Building a Better Credit Report" (in both English and Spanish), FTC publication "Renting an Apartment or House" (in both English and Spanish), SCDD flyers for upcoming trainings on; Employment Summit, Individual Educational Plan, Individual Program Plan, Self-Determination Program, Alternatives to Conservatorship, Dress for Success, & Social Security Benefits & Wages.

### **Goal #13**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.

- SCDD Staff, Eblast "Low cost internet and refurbished computers and laptops". Cal Powers at the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) in partnership with Digital Access Project provides services for eligible persons such as: Free basic computer training classes, Low-cost refurbished computers and laptops, and • Internet service at home as low as \$10.90 a month (no contract or credit check) Computers for Classrooms (CFC) offer complete refurbished computer systems with a Windows OS and MS Office 2010, guaranteed for 1 year, starting at \$100. Computers for Classrooms was started in 1991 as a volunteer program to refurbish donated computers for schools. Now CFC can serve schools, college students, senior citizens, low income families, and non-profits. We are a non-profit organization that is associated with the Chico Unified School District. CFC provides: pick-up, White Canyon wipes of all hard drives, asset tracking, audit trail for wipe or destruction of hard drives and 21 years' experience of receiving state donations.
- SCDD staff attended the multi-agency collaboration of the Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative (IEDC) meeting. This multi-agency collaboration team meets monthly and generally has a presentation component providing training information regarding a particular agency of the team and highlights the agency and services. The presentation for this month was provided by the California Department of Insurance and gave useful information and handouts about insurance scams and things to look out for when families are estate planning for their dependent adult or senior.
- SCDD staff in collaboration with Desert ARC in Palm Desert within Riverside County to provide an informational training and overview of social security benefits, work incentives and how wages affect benefits. SCDD staff coordinated the training using (2) power point presentations SCDD "Employment Incentives" and "Understanding SSA Benefits & Work Incentives" curriculum adapted from Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) presentation. The training was designed to provide the most information to the group in attendance iwith the hope to give a better understanding about how wages can affect public benefits and the need to seek out individual benefit counseling to find out what work incentives are available.
- An email was sent to SCDD SV/MB mailing list informing community about: • Upcoming Regional Center POS meetings. • Upcoming Regional Center to Vietnamese Community A Coffee Social hosted by the Regional Center • Survey request for Internet Technology • Low Cost Computer Sales Announcement •

### **Goal #13**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.

- Respite Newsletter and Announcement of Professional Respite Professional Organization • Announcement of a CAC meeting for SELPA in Watsonville, Ca. • Announcement of ABA services through Health Insurance for Federal Employees • Announcement recruiting DDS CAC members. • Announcement about a mini-grant for Autism Services • Announcement of DOL Overtime and Final Rule from DOL for Home Care Professionals • Announcement of an California Adult Sibling Organization
- SCDD - Los Angeles Regional Office Manager participated in a statewide conference titled "Asians and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities of California (APIDC)" in collaboration with many stakeholders serving the disability community. SCDD - Los Angeles Regional Office Manager spoke with several agencies at the event and provided handouts to seek further collaboration in the area of SCDD advocacy, outreach and systemic change involvement and participation. Information shared with the event participants including "Self-Determination Information Sheet" in English/Spanish/Chinese; "Early Start" brochure in English/Chinese; "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office Training Announcement on IEP, IPP, How to Advocate with Your Elected Officials, Self-Determination Facilitator, Person Centered Planning", and "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure.
  - SCDD staff attended the multi-agency CARE Team which brings together many professional agencies as a multi-disciplinary team with the same common goal to protect and advocate for those individuals who are the most vulnerable within the community. The monthly meeting is held in Moreno Valley Council Chambers within Riverside County and generally provides a training component and this month the training was provided by the Riverside County Superior Court Self-Help Center regarding the Lodgers & Renters Laws for Evictions. Several Agencies were in attendance; Adult Protective Services, local Law Enforcement, Code Enforcement, District Attorney's Office, Community Care Licensing, Public Guardians Office, Riverside County Probate, Local hospitals, Social Security, In Home Supportive Services, Inland Regional Center, Veterans Administration, County Ombudsman and SCDD.
  - SCDD Staff trained library staff for San Jose Public Library about developmental disability awareness. Also discussed is how services are provided and how libraries can offer support to the developmental services community.
  - SCDD staff attended the Santa Cruz Provider Leadership Group to discuss enhancement of services in the Santa Cruz county area.

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- Staff participated in the La Sierra/CSUF Transition Program Careers Day and Resource Fair that hosted over 40 service providers and served over 70 self-advocates and 30 family advocates on job training, job placement, community involvement, recreation, transportation, advocacy, etc. Staff handed out the following materials at this outreach event: (1) IPP Basics - 63 copies; (2) Adult Transition Basics - 76 copies; (3) Regional Center Eligibility - 63 copies; (4) Emergency Preparedness Basics Planning Page - 31 copies; (5) IHSS Basics - 70 copies; (6) SCDD State Plan Request for Input - 60 copies; (7) OCEAN Employment Conference and Resource Fair Flyer - 76 copies; (8) OCEAN Brochure - 76 copies; (9) Social Security Disability Benefits Flyer - 71 copies.
- Staff sent out e-blast on the following generic services goal area: (1) the Center for Accessible Technology's (CforAT) request for public input to keep affordable telecommunications services available for people with disabilities in California. The CforAT is gathering this information to be used in partnership with the California Public Utilities Commission to ensure that customers have adequate choices for reliable and affordable landline, wireless, and internet service that meets their needs throughout the State; (2) e-blast on the City of Lake Forest's first annual special needs resource fair. This opportunity is for families, self-advocates, and caregivers to learn more about the resources available to the community. SCDD will be represented alongside other service providers, agencies, and vendors.
- SCDD Staff, Eblast "Free Tax Preparation- March 19, 2016." Free Tax Preparation March 19, 2016 at Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County 696 S Tippecanoe Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92408. Take advantage of the Free service and have your 2015 Federal and State Tax returns filed by one of our friendly IRS-certified volunteers. You may qualify for up to \$6,424 in Federal Earned Income Tax Credit and up to \$2,653 in the NEW California Income Tax Credit. Services are provided by Certified Tax Prepares for households and individuals with income up to \$54,000 in 2015.
- SCDD Staff, Eblast "Opportunity for input - Telecommunications and people with disabilities". The Center for Accessible Technology (CforAT) is currently working on a project to keep affordable telecommunications services (landline, wireless and internet) available for people with disabilities in California. Over the next few weeks, stories will be collected about how people with disabilities use and pay for telecommunications services, including wireline phones (landline), wireless phones, internet-based phones, and broadband internet service. The information

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gathered to be used in work before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), a state agency that regulates telecommunications. The CPUC is investigating whether customers have adequate choices for reliable and affordable service that meets their needs throughout the state. All personal identifying information will be kept confidential unless you agree otherwise. To gather this data, a short Internet survey or a short (15 minute) telephone interview will be offered.

- E-blast -from CA EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit)- Tax Day is around the corner and we want to make sure you know about all the tools available 24/7 on CalEITC4Me.org to help you get the most money back in your pocket this year! Eblast email regarding "Difficult Families": What can we learn from the families of the people with disabilities that we support? Here's what happened when we asked families if they are difficult. Must watch ilm: <http://www.openfuturelearning.org/blog/index.php>
- Distributed information about a new opportunity for adults to discover their inner creativity through Saori (Free- Style) Weaving. Initially, the classes are being offered free of charge for 6 weeks. This information went to 56 individuals. Distributed information on a guest speaker that wrote a memoir titled One More Step and did a documentary called Beyond Limits. Bonner Paddock is the first individual with cerebral palsy to summit Mt. Kilamanjaro and to finish the Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii. This presentation is being offered as part of National Disability Awareness Month. This information went to 486 people.
- The Executive Director of Family Resource Network is retiring in July 2016 and their board requested SCDD staff and VMRC staff to participate on the hiring panel for a new ED. SCDD/ North Valley Hills has a long standing relationship with FRN and have collaborated on numerous activities together. Being a part of this hiring panel will hopefully allow for future collaboration with the new person. The interview panel met at FRN to review questions and their protocol. Only one applicant applied and was interviewed. Feedback was given to the two FRN board members on the panel. They will take to their full board for a decision.
- Staff continued to facilitate meetings with community collaborators in March to improve access to community and recreational activities for individuals with disabilities at the "ARRC" Center. The collaborators included participants from the ARRC, Mendocino County Health Dept., Special Olympics, People First, ABC Program, parents & mentors. Staff attends the People First meeting in Ukiah monthly and provides information and fliers reminding people about Open ARRC

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and explained the Open ARRC activities on Fridays Nights and Sundays. The local program staff are providing transportation and facilitation to 15 to 20 individuals weekly. Individuals are participating in movie day, Karaoke twice a month, a sign language class once a week, a self-advocacy workshop once a month and a skills building workshop every week. Another program requested gym time once a week as well. SCDD staff has encouraged other programs to use the ARRC facility to provide activities and socialization activities. Fliers are beginning to generate requests for use. The First 5 program shares the use of their rented room for part of the activities. The Gym was built large enough to accommodate multiple users at the same time. Day programs have new options for daily programming activities especially when it is raining and will the Center will provide an additional site for integrated community based activities in the summer.

- State Council staff attending the Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative meeting at the Indio Senior Center. A presentation was provided to the professional staff by the Inland Counties Legal Services (ICLS) regarding free legal services to assist the Riverside and San Bernardino persons with a disability. They assist with legal issues regarding housing, social security benefits and wages, family law, public benefits (i.e... medi-cal, Cal Fresh, Cal-works, IHSS, simple wills, advance healthcare directives and Generic Relief). Their services are paid for through federal, state, local and private sources, which allow them to provide their services free of charge for the disabled community. They only need to be a citizen or legal permanent resident. There are also financial qualifying factors. ICLS works with Disability Rights of California and Office of Clients Rights Advocacy should the services they provide overlap, or need to be referred out. In order to sign up for services, they have an on-line intake system, telephone inquiries (calls returned within 24 hours), or e-mail processes. They have (6) branch offices to serve the inland empire, which includes remote areas.
- Staff participated in the monthly In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee meeting. The San Diego Public Authority has a new Executive Director who was introduced to the committee and gave a brief status report. An update on how things are going with the new overtime regulations was given. San Diego has assistance available for both recipients and care providers who have questions or problems. In Home Supportive Services has a phone line for recipients and the Public Authority has a phone line for care providers. The United Domestic Workers Union is also providing training and support. In Home Supportive Services is going to continue with the Children's unit based on the success of a

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children's unit pilot project. There will be specialists in each district. Staff gave a report on the monthly California In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance teleconference call. The following were in attendance: Consumers, care providers, Aging and Independence Services, Public Authority and In Home Supportive Services.

- The SCDD Los Angeles Office staff attended the monthly LA County Commission for Public Social Services on March 10th, 2016. The main topics of discussion were the Homeless Initiative, CalWORKs and the FLSA Time Sheet (IHSS overtime regulations). The county just instituted IHSS intake/assessments at LA County hospitals for those about to be discharged to facilitate proper care in an effort to discharge patients to their own homes rather than holding them at the hospital longer than necessary due to lack of support. There was continued discussion that IHSS overtime violations will be issued beginning 5/1/16. Concerns were expressed that the new IHSS overtime regulations are too punitive (3 mistakes/strikes and then ineligible to be an IHSS worker), which would leave many without essential IHSS services. The next DPSS meeting will be on April 14th, 2016.
- Primary Advisory Committee meets every other month to discuss the needs of Central Valley Regional Center consumers. Sequoia Regional Office staff presented a training on Voting and Voting rights and requirements. There were 8 self-advocates and 12 others that attended the training. The following topics on the Agenda were discussed and the Minutes of January 7, 2016 were approved. There was discussion of 50 years of Developmental Disability Awareness celebration to take place in July 2016 at Inspiration Park and have the Primary Consumer Advisory Committee host the event.
- Staff developed and provided the first of two disability awareness trainings to library personnel in order to assist with the development and implementation of a program for adults with ID/DD. The second training will take place in April.
- Staff provided technical assistance to 12 callers during March 2016 for requested assistance in various service areas. After briefing caller, the referral and resource number was provided for them to contact Office of Client's Rights Advocacy (530) 895-4331. Areas included: education assistance, respite, tenant's rights, clients' rights training, and residential care complaint.
- Staff provided technical assistance to 26 callers in March 2016 who called North State Office in attempting to call California State Disability Insurance (SDI) in downtown Chico to obtain assistance for their SDI medical claim. Staff provided

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each caller the local phone number (530) 895-4350 for referral to SDI.

Appreciation expressed for the resource and referral.

- SCDD staff attended the San Andreas Regional Center Board meeting and updated them on local council activities including upcoming Cycle 39 Grant.
- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to 9 regarding generic services such as DPSS, Cal-Fresh, & Child protective services. On Regional Center related matters: 1 call was referred to OCRA & given to Shannon Meehan CPS II SB Office. On Educational matters: 1 call was given to EPU Children's Center, 1 call to West End SELPA, 2 calls given Basic information on IEP's. On IHSS issues: 1 call was referred to OCRA. On Health & Safety issues: 1 call was referred to Loma Linda School of Dentistry.
- The Vendor Advisory Committee meets every other month to discuss issues that might arise for vendors of the Central Valley Regional Center. The vendors shared information and concern about their perspective organizations. Central Valley Regional Center provided Budget Report, Executive Director's Report and Community Services Report. 2016 marks the 50 year anniversary of the Lanterman Act/Disability Awareness. Central Valley Regional Center and their Vendors want to celebrate at Inspirational Park on Saturday July 9, 2016 with activities/games at each booth, water fun for the consumers and their families and of course food.
- SCDD L.A. staff informed regional center and other transportation professionals in the community about a Los Angeles County grant opportunity to develop Volunteer Driver Programs. Effective for years in the senior community, this could be a promising model in the developmental disabilities community, providing a potential new transportation option. Staff offered to brainstorm ideas with any interested providers. (Number of organizations sent to: ELARC, FDLRC, HRC, NLACRC, SCLARC, SGPRC, WRC, United Cerebral Palsy, Mobility Management Partners, Independent Living Center of Southern California, Californians Living Independent and Free = 11)
- SCDD staff attended webinar on Working and Saving with Social Security. Disability Rights California discussed the following topics: When and how people with disabilities can apply for SSI/SSDI, how work income affects SSI/SSDI, keeping your Medi-Cal/Medicare insurance while working , and the upcoming ABLE accounts that will allow people to receive contributions from loved ones and save money without losing SSI benefits. People with disabilities and their families, medical providers and community members attended this event. SCDD staff

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received February 2016 updates and information that can be shared through our presentations.

## Goal #14

Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

- Staff distributed information via E-Blast to 400 community members on Assembly Bill (AB) 1930. Currently, individuals who provide services through the state's In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program to their child or spouse are not allowed to contribute towards social security, Medicare, or state unemployment insurance (UI). This means that when they retire, if they become disabled, or if they lose their jobs, these hard-working caregivers do not have access to our nation's most important programs for seniors and the uninsured. This has resulted in terrible economic hardship for tens of thousands of IHSS workers who are at or near retirement age. It also results in indirect costs to taxpayers as hard-working seniors are forced into poverty and reliance on state public assistance programs. The Internal Revenue Code defines "employment" as any service an employee performs for an employer. The IRC contains an exception to this definition for family employment. The "family employment exception" applies to service in a private home "in the employ of an individual's son, daughter, or spouse". In those cases, according to the IRS, no actual employment relationship exists. As a result, the California Department of Social Services has determined that wages paid through IHSS to parent or spouse providers fall under the "family employment exception" and therefore are exempt from employment taxes such as FICA and state UI. Assembly Bill 1930 would simply establish an advisory committee to study how this exclusion impacts the economic security of individuals who provide these critical services and their communities. This committee would include policy experts as well as those directly impacted by the exclusion. AB 1930 would require the committee to report back to the Legislature with recommendations on steps that the state can take to ensure that IHSS providers that are taking care of family members have access to social security, Medicare, and UI.
- SCDD staff forwarded information via an E-Blast regarding the Senate and Assembly passing the MCO Tax - a two-bill package that will provide over \$400 million a year of extra funds for people with ID/DD and the people who serve and care for them. This E-blast was sent to 1,010 subscribers.
- E-blast- USC UCEDD Webinar on Legislation sent out- flyer to people with disabilities and families and it is in common drive. "How ideas become law and how to get involved"
- E-blast sent out on the ABLE Act, this info was also shared at community meetings and at our RAC meeting.
- E-blast from the Arc Action Alert on S 2614. Kevin and Avonte's Law (S 2614) was introduced last week by Senators Grassley (R-IA), Schumer (D-NY), and Tillis

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(R-NC) to help prevent and reduce the harm from wandering by children with developmental disabilities, including Autism. It would allow Justice Department grants to be used by state and local law enforcement agencies and nonprofits to develop training and emergency protocols, supply first responders with additional information and resources, and make local tracking technology programs available for individuals who may wander because of their condition (27% of children with developmental disabilities are reported to wander from safe settings each year).

- SCDD staff made a request of the community to provide stories to the council about problems with school transportation services for people with developmental disability. The request was made to build a narrative about the problem children being harmed when left by mistake on the school bus. These stories to be used to support the passage of legislation that will require an alarming device on busses to assure drivers inspect their vehicles at the conclusion of their shifts. SCDD office received three stories of incidents occurring.
- As part of the Resource Fair at the Imperial Valley People First Conference, staff attended and asked participants if they would like to have their picture taken with a sign that meant something to them. These photos will be used as background information at the Legislative Forum coming up in May, as a way to educate Legislators about what people with IDD want in th their lives. The options presented to individuals included "Employment for All", "Relationships for All" , "Jobs for All", "Love for All", "College for All", "Inclusion for All", "Choices for All", "Opportunity for All", "Community for All", "Homes for All", "Education for All", "Family for All". People were informed about the upcoming forum, and if interested in participating, were asked to sign a "Release of Information" to have their picture included in the slide show that will be running in the background during one part of the Forum. Agency staff and family members were also informed about this opportunity coming up in May. Interestingly enough, the vast majority of individuals that participated selected "Jobs for All" "Employment for All" and "Relationships for All".
- Discussed what needs to be done as the event is fast approaching on May 6, 2016. Staff agreed to obtain Release of Information forms and pictures of Self-Advocates for the slide show to be run in the background, the facility was confirmed for the day, but there will be no Resource Fair this year since the additional room was not available, the Client Information Specialist (and SSAN rep) has confirmed his participation to man the Voter Registration table, and staff have been secured to take photos the day of the event. The Legislators that will

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receive "Change Maker" awards will be Senator Marty Block, and Assembly Member Brian Maienschein. Registration will be accomplished through the use of Eventbrite, and the ability to "live tweet" throughout the event will be pursued. The committee still needs to confirm volunteers, linen rental, centerpieces and attendance of legislators and their staff. The agency that formerly provided transportation to the Balboa Park Club from alternative parking lots is no longer available, so the committee needs to locate a new agency willing to provide this service. Updates were provided on panel members, and discussion was held on the types of questions that would be asked to the panelists.

- Staff participated at the Mayor's task force recognition ceremony. Prior to event staff e-blasted flier about ceremony and distributed at meetings and to local vendors whom serve persons with disabilities. Staff was also recognized for serving people with disabilities through the work he does with SCDD. The evening had a great turn out with- self advocates,
- SCDD LA staff, on behalf of the Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County, posted three articles related to voting, engaging with legislators, and understanding candidates' records on issues of concern to people with disabilities. It is a goal of SABLAC to educate other people with disabilities and the general public on disability-related public policy issues.
- SCDD staff participated in the 9th Annual Developmental Disabilities Public Policy Conf. sponsored by The Arc of California and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration. Staff gathered information state and nationwide about the new CMS settings rules, collaboration with staff from various agencies, and contacts for future presentations at our Regional Advisory Committee meetings and/or topics for trainings. Collaborated with Early Start Inter-agency Coordinating Council staff, behaviorists, MIND Institute staff, Department of Social Services, IHSS staff and Program Manager for Justice Initiatives, the National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability. Staff participated during public comment by providing feedback regarding local issues with regards to housing, IHSS, employment, Self-Determination, and CMS settings rules and how it applies/affects current day programs. for consumers and families in our area. SCDD staff gained valuable resources and contacts for future trainings and information sharing for the consumers and families in our area. Self-Determination leaders presented and updated SCDD staff on the current status with regards to the waiver.

## **Goal #15**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to information and resources in ways that reflect their language and cultural preferences.

- Staff attended two of the regional center POS disparity meetings and presented information about the role of SCDD as well as the Disparity Task Force. The Disparity Task Force was formed by SCDD - Silicon Valley, Monterey Bay in 2014 and is made up of a number of community members including representatives from San Andreas Regional Center. Its purpose is to ensure services are provided to all individuals and families regardless of language and/or cultural differences.
- Staff provided training on IHSS Protective Supervision to 20 parents from the Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled (CPAD) with simultaneous translation provided in Chinese. Per the support group's request, this training focused on the protective supervision component of IHSS, detailing who qualifies for protective supervision and explaining the criteria the county uses to determine eligibility.
- SCDD LA Regional Office staff translated the following announcement into Chinese to be shared with the Asian community in the Monterey Bay/Silicon Valley area. SCDD staff in collaboration with the Disparity put together a database of parent groups within the four counties. The data base was shared with members of the task force and those on the data base. Those receiving the database were asked to review and make any necessary corrections. Once reviewed, SCDD will forward the database to the provider community and its larger mailing list.
- Staff received information about the Spanish conference near our area called Congreso Familiar and sent an e-blast of the registration material
- SCDD LA Staff participated in Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center's disparity data presentation at Fiesta Educativa's parent meeting. Concerns expressed by parents included lack of information about what kinds of services are available, lack of trust in the regional center, and qualifications of vendor staff. SCDD LA Staff discussed opportunities offered by our office for training and technical assistance on various topics including rights, person-centered planning, self-determination and others. This meeting was in coordination with Fiesta Educativa in order to specifically address issues of concern to the Hispanic/Spanish-speaking community. Some of the meeting was conducted in Spanish; all other parts were translated. This was one of four meetings conducted by ELARC on the disparity data.
- SCDD LA Staff participated in Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center's disparity purchase of services (POS) data presentation to CPAD. Concerns expressed by

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parents included lack of information about what kinds of services are available, lack of trust in the regional center, and qualifications of vendor staff. USC UCEDD staff helped prepare and empower Chinese parents to provide testimonies of their concerns to the Executive Director and staff of ELARC. SCDD LA Staff discussed training and technical assistance available with SCDD on various topics including rights, person-centered planning, self-determination and others. This meeting was in coordination with CPAD in order to specifically address issues of concern to the Chinese-speaking community. Some of the meeting was conducted in Chinese; all other parts were translated. This was one of four meetings conducted by ELARC on the disparity data. SCDD LA Regional Manager provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with all meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet" in English/Chinese/Spanish, "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, "Early Starts" in Chinese, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".

- SCDD L.A. Office staff attended the Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center's Disparity Data Meeting on March 23, 2016. In addition to the FDLRC Board of Directors and staff representatives, 6 members of the community (all parents) and the Clients' Rights Advocate were in attendance.
- SCDD hosted a Regional Center & IHSS training for the Spanish support group, Fiesta Familiar. The training was primarily questions and answers by host, Fiesta Educativa Outreach Coordinator, Cecilia Mercado. SCDD staff also provided information in Spanish on the self-determination program, IHSS updates (FLSA), and on competitive integrated employment. Fiesta Educativa was founded in California in 1978 to inform and assist Latino families in obtaining services and in caring for their children with special needs. Fiesta Educativa was formed by family members and professionals who recognized the need to provide assistance and advocacy to these Spanish-speaking families. As an ongoing collaboration between the two agencies in an effort to serve monolingual Spanish-speaking families in Orange County, the SCDD Orange County Office hosts all of Fiesta Educativa's parent support group and committee meetings.
- SCDD staff attended the Purchase of Service (POS) Disparity meeting in Apple Valley at the Best Opportunity program. The annual expenditures for the 2014-2015 fiscal year reports were provided to outline disparity data on ethnicity, diagnosis, residence, and other data. In addition, data for the change in unemployment rates for various groups was also discussed and provided. Some

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strategies that Inland Regional Center is looking at to bridge the gap are the following: - hiring translators in each unit for individuals who answer the phones that speak Spanish. This will avoid transferring and provide an opportunity for immediate assistance. - accessibility of forms in multiple languages. Currently the self-determination video has been translated into multiple languages, and they are working on their documents (i.e... IPP, etc) by utilizing templates through their translation services vendor. - Inviting native speakers of languages to participate in events and possibly trainings.- Cultural sensitivity training for their employees to assist in fostering better relationships with consumers and communication. Office of Clients Rights Advocacy (OCRA) representative and SCDD encouraged additional growth in these areas to close the gap, and shared concerns for the catchment area on outreach and participation. There was no community representation at the meeting and only professionals attended. Encouragement of better outreach efforts were expressed by SCDD and OCRA.

- SCDD Los Angeles Regional Manager was approached by Fiesta Educativa, Inc. and Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled--Community Parent Resource Centers requesting a letter of support which will be included in their grant applications to OSEP for renewal of our Community Parent Resource Center (CPRC) grant. Through community partnership, both organizations have been able to provide critical information and resources for ten years. It is important for Fiesta Educativa and CPAD to continue offering education, resources, and information to families of children with disabilities in targeted area in collaboration with various agencies and school districts. The purpose of a Community Parent Resource Center, consistent with section 671(b) of IDEA, is to help families in the geographically defined communities with a focus on low-income families, parents and families with limited English proficiency, and limited access to resources available to an individual with a disability and whose children are receiving special education services.
- A North Coast staff participated in a 1 1/2 hour webinar on March 22nd sponsored by the Autistic Self Advocacy Network. The presenter of the webinar was Trena Wade, PADSA consultant. Trena presented on indigenous advocacy and the issues affecting their communities. There are 25 Federally-recognized tribes in the North Coast four county service area. Staff wants to understand the issues and work within these communities to be more effective in our advocacy and understanding of how tribal government works and the systemic problems facing the communities.

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- Staff participates on the annual planning committee for the Multicultural Health and Community Fair. NVH staff has been part of the planning team for the past 5 years. The event is on October 8th 2016. At this meeting, the committee worked on flier & translations, entertainment, and getting vendor participation. Staff will be the MC at the event for the 3rd year in a row.
- SCDD LA Staff participated in North Los Angeles County Regional Center's disparity data presentation at their Van Nuys' office. Of the approximately 80 attendees, at least 20 were Spanish-speaking. Questions about the disparities were not well explained by executive director George Stevens. There were many questions about personal situations by the audience. One of the common themes was that people did not feel that the RC provides them with adequate information on the types and availability of services. SCDD LA staff indicated to the group that we will happily talk to people about what options are available and provide them with our IPP Strategy Guide which includes a list of services commonly available by regional centers. After the meeting several individuals approached SCDD LA staff to discuss their situations and request the guide.
- SCDD staff with other members of the Disparity Task Force SCDD attended San Andreas Regional Center POS Report Community Meetings. At the meetings staff announced the role of SCDD and the Disparity Task Forces. Attendees were invited to join the Task Force. At the meeting Disparity Task Force information was handed out in English, Spanish, and Mandarin to attendees. SCDD staff met with the Hope Video crew to review the story boards from the previous taping for the training material being developed.
- SCDD staff attended the Tri-Counties Community Meetings in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. At the meeting staff gave suggestions research strategies to determine the possible reasons for a disparity in purchase services between white and non-white ethnicities.
- Staff attended the Purchase of Service Expenditure Data meetings in both Imperial and San Diego County. The meeting in Imperial County was attended by 1 self-advocate, 6 family advocates and 5 professionals/agency staff. In San Diego, there was 1 Self-advocate, 6 Family Advocates, and 9 professionals/agency staff. The Executive Director of the San Diego Regional Center repeated the concerns he has had from the first POS meetings three years ago, and disputes the legitimacy of the issue. Mr. Flores stated that there is no credible research to support the claims being made that there are discrepancies in services provided, and said that he is not alone in wanting to see the Legislators

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provide 1.9 million dollars to support research to determine "if" these numbers are accurate, and if so, "why". Mr. Flores also stated that he believed these meetings are being required because there are people that think the Regional Centers are "unfair" in the way services are provided. At both meetings, participants attending the meetings suggested that Latinos do not have as much information as other people, so they request less service because they don't know what is available. Other participants stated that the lack of information on what services are available across the board, so not necessarily limited to Latinos. Neither meeting provided a real opportunity for dialogue, and again, Mr. Flores stated he will not change the name of the meetings (since POS Expenditure Data Meeting, does not exactly provide an accurate description of what the intent of the meetings is) and until a research study is undertaken, he appears to be unwilling to have any meaningful dialogue with the community. The Office of Clients Rights requested additional meetings be held, but that request fell on deaf ears. It would appear there is no interest in encouraging a high turnout by the public and underserved communities.

- SCDD staff met with volunteers from Monterey County interested in developing a Promotora program. The group was informed of recent regional center plans. There is a concern the model being developed by the regional center will not be inclusive of disability services beyond that of regional center services. The goal of the task force is to have a team of promotoras who are experts at all levels in the disability service system. The volunteers agreed to support the efforts of regional center, and to continue development of an effective training model to offer families and to create a train-the-trainers curriculum. Facilitation of seeking potential promotora programs connecting with potential funding sources will also be a focus of the sub-committee.
- SCDD LA Regional Office translated "Self-Determination Information Sheet" developed by Los Angeles Regional Office into Chinese and Spanish to outreach to Regional Center Asian and Latino customers. The flyer provides an overview in three languages, i.e. English/Chinese/Spanish about the new Self-Determination movement and how to prepare and participate in the activities once it is rolled out.
- SCDD LA Staff participated in the SG/P Regional Center's disparity purchase of services (POS) data presentation to CPAD. Concerns expressed by parents included lack of information about what kinds of services are available, lack of trust in the regional center, and qualifications of vendor staff. USC UCEDD staff helped prepare and empower Chinese parents to provide testimonies of their

## **Goal #15**

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to information and resources in ways that reflect their language and cultural preferences.

concerns to the San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center staff. SCDD LA Staff discussed training and technical assistance available with SCDD on various topics including rights, person-centered planning, self-determination and others. This meeting was in coordination with CPAD in order to specifically address issues of concern to the Chinese-speaking community. Some of the meeting was conducted in Chinese; all other parts were translated. SCDD LA Regional Manager provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with all meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet" in English/Chinese/Spanish, "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, "Early Starts" in Chinese, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".

- Through collaboration with Easter Seals (who provides Spanish translation), staff reached out to the Spanish speaking parent group, Chuparrosa. Staff arranged to attend two of their upcoming meetings to provide information on SCDD, technical support and schedule future special education clinics based on need: 4/15/16 in Greenfield and 5/27/16 in King City.
- Staff attended the VMRC POS Disparity Public Meeting at VMRC at 2pm on Monday, March 21, 2016. There were 19 people in attendance. There was 3 from DRC, 1 SAC6, 1 FRN, 8 VMRC staff, 2 VMRC Board members, 1 Spanish Translator, 2 Spanish speaking parents and 1 from DDS. The VMRC Executive Director passed out copies of the date to all and wanted ideas on asking a research group (possibly from the University of the Pacific) to evaluate the data. The group gave many suggestions on outreach to underserved groups as a start to get the word out on VMRC and what VMRC does. Barriers were discussed at length as well.
- SCDD LA Regional Office staff translated the following announcement into Chinese to be shared with the Asian community in the Monterey Bay/Silicon Valley area. SCDD staff in collaboration with the Disparity put together a database of parent groups within the four counties. The data base was shared with members of the task force and those on the data base. The Taskforce is seeking members from the community to represent different culture and ethnicity background.

## Collaborative Partners

- ABC Program
- ACRC SD Advisory Committee members
- Adult Protective Services
- Alex Rorabaugh Center ED & Board
- Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) staff
- Alta California Regional staff, vendors for Adult Day and Employment Programs
- Amador Board of Supervisors Clerk
- Arc- Imperial Valley
- Arc of San Diego
- ARCA
- ARRC Recreation Center
- Asian Pacific Counseling & Treatment Centers
- Assemblymember Bigelow
- Autism Health Insurance Project
- Bay Area Housing Corporation
- Bet Tzedek (a nonprofit organization providing legal assistance to low income/seniors)
- Boys and Girls Club
- Brittnee Gillespie, OCRA (ACRC)
- CA Children's Hospital Association
- CA Wellness Foundation
- Cal State Northridge Outreach Program
- Cal-Fire
- Calif. Department of Education (CDE)
- California Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) in Monterey Park
- California Endowment's Center for Healthy Communities
- California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance
- California Office of Clients Rights Advocacy
- California Office of Emergency Services
- California office of Health Care Services/Civil Rights
- California State Department of Fair Employment and Housing
- CalOptima
- Canyon Springs Community Facility
- Care 1st

## **Collaborative Partners**

- Career Access
- CDCAN
- CDFI
- Chase Employment Services
- Children Now, CFILC
- Children's Defense Fund
- Children's Home Society
- Children's Nurturing Project
- Children's Specialty Coalition
- Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled (CPAD)
- City Ambulance
- City of Irvine
- City of Rancho Cordova, local businesses and individuals
- City Of Stockton
- City of Ukiah
- Clearinghouse
- Code Enforcement
- College 2 Career
- Community Builders
- Community Builders
- Community Care Licensing
- Community Catalyst California
- Community Individuals
- Cordova Community Council
- County HHSA Health Dept. Prevention and Planning
- County Ombudsman
- Crimson Center
- CSUF
- CVTC
- Deaf Community Services
- Department of Fair Employment & Housing
- Department of Public Social Services
- Department of Rehabilitation
- Desert ARC
- Dignity Health

## **Collaborative Partners**

- Disability Action Center
- Disability Rights California (Bay Area)
- Disability Rights California
- Disability Rights Legal Center
- Disparity Task Force
- District Attorney's Office
- DOR
- Down Syndrome Information Alliance
- DSS – Community Care Licensing
- East Side Union High School District
- Easter Seals
- Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center
- Edison High School
- EEOC
- EFRC
- Elwyn CA
- Employment and Community Options
- Employment Development Department
- Employment Round Tables of Southern California
- Ever Well Care Systems, LLC
- Exceptional Family Member Program-US Marine Corp
- Exceptional Family Resource Center
- F.A.S.T. Families' Autism/ADHD Support Team
- Fair Housing Council of Riverside County
- Fairview Developmental Center
- Family advocates
- Family Focus Resource Center at CSUN
- Family Resource Center
- Family Resource Network
- FamilySOUP
- Far Northern Regional Center
- FDLRC
- FDLRC SDAC
- Fiesta Educativa
- Fiesta Familia

## Collaborative Partners

- Fire Dept
- First 5
- Folsom Cordova Unified School District
- Friends Inc.
- Friends of Children of Special Needs
- Get SAFE USA
- Goodwill Industries
- H.E.A.R.T.S Connection Family Resource Center
- HCAR People Services
- Help Me Grow
- Home of Guiding Hands
- HOPE Home Ownership for Personal Empowerment
- Hope Services Mental Health Clinic
- Housing Authority for the County of San Bernardino
- Housing Choices Collaboration
- Imagine Supported Living Services
- Imperial Valley People First
- Imperial Valley SELPA
- In Home Supportive Services
- Inclusion Institute
- Independent Living Centers
- Inland Empire Autism Society
- Inland Empire Health Plan
- Inland Regional Center (IRC)
- Inland Regional Center Early Start and Family Resource Network
- Integrity Cottages Housing Development
- Integrity House
- Interagency Autism Consortium
- IRI
- Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
- Job Developers Collaborative
- Justice in Aging
- Justice in Education
- KZYX Radio Station
- LA County Commission for Public Social Services

## **Collaborative Partners**

- LA County Mental Health
- LA County Transportation Authority
- La Sierra High School
- Lanterman Coalition
- Lanterman Housing Alliance
- Liberty Church
- Life Day Program
- local attorney
- local educational advocate
- Local hospitals
- local Law Enforcement
- Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)
- Lucile Packard Children's Hospital
- Mendocino County Health Dept.
- Mental Health professionals
- Modesto City Schools, Valley Mountain Regional Center
- Molina Healthcare
- Monterey Bay Provider Network
- Murrieta Valley USD
- My Day Counts
- National Weather Service
- NLACRC
- North Bay Housing Coalition
- North Bay Regional Center
- North Coast Opportunities
- North Coast Regional Center management and staff,
- North Coast Regional Center service providers including residential, day and employment programs
- North Coast Regional Office - Parents, facilitators, Advocates, local agencies
- OCRA
- OCRA (ELARC)
- OCRA (FDLRC)
- OCRA (NLACRC)
- Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (SGPRC)
- Office of Emergency Services

## **Collaborative Partners**

- Office of Independent Monitor (OIM) with LA Unified School District
- Orange County Department of Education
- Orange County Health Care Agency,
- Ortner Management Group
- Outreach Consulting Services
- Pacific ADA Center
- Palo Alto Unified School District
- Parents Helping Parents (Family Resource Center)
- ParentsCAN
- PCS
- People First
- Peoples Care
- Peppermint Ridge Angel's Hall
- Placer County SELPA Community Advisory Committee
- Police Dept
- Premier Health
- Project Independence
- Public Guardians Office
- Rancho Cordova Chamber
- RCRC
- Reaching for Independence
- Redwood Children's Services
- Redwood Coast Regional Center Staff
- Regional Center DC Liaisons
- Regional Center of Orange County
- Regional Center Supported Employment Vendors
- Riverside County Probate
- Riverside County Western Regional Committee of the Workforce Development Board
- Roseville Workability
- Rowell Family Empowerment of Northern California
- Rural Housing Development Corp. "RCHDC", 4 self advocates, 5 family advocates,
- Sacramento County Office of Education
- San Andreas Regional Center

## **Collaborative Partners**

- San Diego Community College District
- San Diego Employment Solutions-Mental Health Services
- San Diego Futures Foundation
- San Diego People First
- San Diego Regional Center
- San Diego State University Nursing Program
- San Diego Unified School District
- San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center,
- San Jose Public Library
- School for Autism and DD
- SDP Workgroup members
- Self Advocacy Council 6 (SAC6)
- Self-Advocacy Board of LA County
- Senator Berryhill
- Service First Of CA
- Service Providers Advisory Committee members
- SGPRC
- SGPRC SDAC
- Sheriff Dept
- Short Center South executive director, staff and consumers
- Social Security Administration
- South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
- South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Comm.
- South Coast Regional Project
- Special Kids Crusade
- Special Olympics
- St. Madeleine's
- Stanislaus County SELPA
- Stockton Unified School District work- ability program
- Supportability
- Sycuan Mental Health Employment Services
- Team of Advocates for Special Kids
- Team Vacaville
- The Arc
- The Children's Partnership

## **Collaborative Partners**

- TRACE
- Translator
- Tribal Governments in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties
- UC/CSU/Community Colleges in So Ca
- UCD Mind Institute
- UCDavis
- UCEDD USC
- UCP
- UCP San Diego
- Ukiah Unified School District
- Ukiah Valley Association for Habilitation (UVAH)
- Ukiah Valley Association Habilitation
- United Advocates for Children and Families
- United Cerebral Palsy
- United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay
- United Cerebral Palsy San Diego
- United Way
- University of San Diego
- Urban Skills Center
- US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission-Los Angeles District
- UVAH
- Vallejo Unified School District
- Valley Mountain Regional Center
- Veterans Administration
- Via Esperanza
- VMRC
- VMRC vendors
- Warmline Family Resource Center
- Westside Regional Center
- Williams Syndrome Association
- WorkFirst Easter Seals

## Emerging Issues

- Emerging issues-often because regional center staff have difficulty keeping up with caseloads, the Individual Program Plans are not thoroughly reviewed each year. There is limited quality assurance of if a person's activities are truly reviewed each year and examples were given of some plans that only the year and signature changed but the goals and outcomes were not changed year after year or the goals and outcomes were designed by staff and not the individual.
- Finding affordable, accessible software for webinars is needed.
- SCDD Application - The questions on the application while few were difficult for this self-advocate to understand therefor staff assisted to "translate" the questions to help him to give answers. Also -applying on line was a deterrent for him because he didn't have a computer or internet services at his apartment.
- SSAN - It appears that not all work group members can get on these regularly scheduled calls. The group will be discussing this at their next work group call.
- SSAN - As the last OT left HQ- there does not appear to be a streamlined process for travel support to members of SSAN but staff person is putting together the information for a possible procedure manual.
- Not all self-advocates and support staff are aware of self-advocacy and the benefits it provides individuals
- Difficulty in receiving information in an understandable fashion on how the educational system operates including laws and procedures.
- Sacramento Regional Office - More and more self-advocates, family members, and professionals are using receiving information by email as a means to stay connected communicate and learn about resources/information. We continue our outreach and currently request updated contact information at each event, training and meeting SCDD staff attends.
- Sequoia Regional Office - There is a large monolingual Spanish speaking community in Kern County and it is difficult for the families to obtain services because the districts do not always have Spanish speaking staff.
- SCDD Los Angeles Office re: Chandra Smith decree -- Both presenters expressed that there is no real "power" to force the school district moving into 100% compliance. It took the class action lawsuit to help shape the system. In addition, the OIM positions are funded by the LAUSD; therefore, there is a conflict of interest concern.
- Families look to regional center service coordinators to assist them, however the service coordinators themselves are unsure and are not familiar with special education advocacy/law.

## Emerging Issues

- IHSS - A few callers expressed concern that they will be adversely affected by the new IHSS FLSA regulations, as they are parent providers receiving hours through In-Home Operations and IHSS combined in excess of the 360 hours/month maximum for dual recipients who meet certain conditions. Disability Rights California is presently seeking out these parent providers for stakeholder input for possible future exemptions.
- Special Education - One caller expressed dismay about the lack of free advocacy resources for low-income parents who are unable to private pay for advocacy services and who lack the resources and education to advocate effectively on their own. While this caller said that she does have access to the regional center-funded special education advocacy clinic through Whittier Law School, she is concerned about regional center having access to her son's special education records and possibly using those to deny future services.
- Lack of understanding by the public on how to appeal regional center decisions that either denies services or that the consumer of service or his/her legal representative believe the service is not in consumer's best interest.
- North Bay Regional Office - IHSS approval. Quality child care. Community services focused on inclusion (i.e. classrooms, work, sports, clubs, church, shopping). Lack of knowledge on individual rights/self-advocacy.
- It was requested of Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) to take a close look at the data of the disparities identified to determine ways to do outreach. For example, the Asian community is under represented in POS expenditures. It was posed to ACRC that they make efforts to outreach to Asian community groups. Mental Health professionals requested information/access to services for the people they serve who are also ACRC consumers. Currently ACRC serves 8 children and 126 adults in Psych Services. It appears many adults are living at home with their family and may benefit from Independent Living Services (ILS). ACRC responds that families do not want ILS services in their homes as it will take the IHSS employment/hours away from the family member assisting them. It is a challenge for families with special needs children to attend trainings and information meetings. This catchment area is very large. It would be helpful for a variety of methods to be explored including an open phone line, web-casting, video feed, scheduling meetings at different locations and different time periods. All of these meetings have been scheduled at 2:30pm.
- In-reach to cultures requires understanding, respect and relationship building, which takes time. To achieve this is a long process and can't be rushed by our

## Emerging Issues

cultural expectations.

- FNRC will be having a public meeting to review Purchase of Service Expenditures 2015 and Demographic Information on March 23, 2016 from 1:30-3pm at Tehama County Visitors Center in Red Bluff, March 29, 2016 from 10am-12noon at Oxford Suites in Chico, 2pm-4pm at FNRC Redding and 5:30-7pm at FNRC. FNRC also organized a special cultural event on March 23, 2016 from 9-12noon at Gaia Hotel in Anderson - A Native American Relational Experience.
- 51% of respondents listed employment and 71% listed housing as areas of need that could possibly be addressed through the next grant. Comments included: "Need incentives for employers to hire individuals with disabilities"; "So few housing opportunities. There should be Section 8 preferential status for DD people to obtain vouchers. Job developers are few and far between with many DD individuals on wait lists to receive employment assistance in the area of job development"; and "Our DDS clients are in desperate need of more housing options for affordable living. Section 8 should prioritize our clients are somehow expedite their housing to avoid continued homeless ID or high restrictive placements. More employment positions with job coaching would be incredibly helpful also. Significant lack of supportive employment positions available in Monterey County."
- Far Northern Regional Center and North State Office are committed to providing more training and support to consumers, service providers, families and service coordinators to support this transition of service delivery in our region. There will also be a lot of training provided on Person Centered Planning.
- In Lake and Mendocino Counties alone there are 17 Federally-recognized Tribes that could have been involved and were not present in the forum activities. It was suggested that regional center should provide more and different types of outreach to underserved populations. The forum notice was provided in English and Spanish, posted on the RCRC website however, not all self-advocates and family advocates access the website on a regular basis even if they have internet and a computer access. The notices/PSA's were sent to local Latino media sources but individuals apparently did not see the information which could also result in poor attendance. Transportation is often an issue for many individuals in rural areas and child care availability maybe a barrier for families as well.
- It appears as though FDC staff members are not well-versed in the various free resources available to our consumers either through the regional center IPP process or as a result of new legislation (such as AB 1733). FDC staff may need

## Emerging Issues

additional support/training in understanding the variety of community resources available as well as keeping them informed of legislative updates/changes that impact our population.

- Delays in the implementation of the Self-Determination Program have caused some confusion and frustration for some self-advocates and family advocates who are eager to try the program.
- Slow roll out of Self Determination in California is prohibitive. The SDAC committee has agreed to focus activity on Outreach. Currently the SDAC is working out its role as an advisory group to the regional center.
- Several committee members emphasized the importance of having self-advocates and family members be a part of the training to Regional Center staff. They felt it was important that this not be a "professional to professional" training. That would not be within the spirit of the Self-Determination Program.
- SSDAC members and the public shared their concerns in the lack of consistent resources, information, and training.
- Discussion from Regional Center personnel with concerns and barriers are the time a Service Coordinator (SC) will need to complete Person Centered Plans (PCP). Currently a Regional Center who implements PCP reports that it takes SCs 2 hours to complete the PCP and then another 4 hours to write up the Individual Program Plan in its entirety. The "No Wrong Door" initiative with Dept. of Aging and the ADRC's is in progress but the Area on Aging and Regional Center county boundaries do not line up and represent equally geographically.
- The representative from Williams Syndrome Association reports that the severity of the disability is often misunderstood by the provider community. Families have difficulty getting IHSS, Special Ed, and DDS services. Increasing awareness of the the disability and services needed is a priority of the organization and has requested SCDD provide the support and technical assistance to meet their goal.
- North Bay RO - Understanding cultural differences within various communities and the impact on services. Lack of affordable housing. NBRC staff turnover and lack of adequate staff to handle Spanish speaking intake referrals.
- North Bay RO - Lack of advocacy support to SA/FA with the IEP process. Lack of knowledge regarding the Bagley Keene Act. Unfamiliarity with the Self-Determination Program.
- Persons with I/DD (DSS CCL - LA) The LPA's reported, during class, that it is the policy of DSS/CCL to NOT report suspicions of neglect/abuse/criminal activity directly to law enforcement; rather, LPA's are required to report their

## Emerging Issues

findings/suspicions to a direct supervisor who will then determine whether or not to forward a referral to DSS's Investigative Bureau (IB) for further investigation. When questioned further, it was clear that the LPA's were seriously concerned with the potential for adverse job actions, in the event that they made direct referral/contact with local law enforcement. They were frustrated by this policy but had little hope that it could be addressed/changed. A local DSS/CCL manager was contacted after class for clarification/confirmation and the issue will be discussed at the DSS/CCL HQ level (in Sacramento) for further consideration/possible change. In the meantime, supervisors will be talking with LPA's to solicit additional information about their concerns.

- Interviewing People with I/DD (DSS/CCL - LA) - The LPA's were all eager to have the previously identified issue involving collaboration with local law enforcement jurisdictions raised with their administration, for the purpose of changing a policy that ties their hands in providing protection to vulnerable victims/populations of people with I/DD, elders, and children in licensed care, daycare, and adult day program environments.
- Persons with I/DD (DSS/CCL - Sacramento) - This class - unlike the southern California group - largely claimed that they used the services of local law enforcement jurisdictions, in addition to referring cases to the DSS Investigative Bureau. The administrators of DSS/CCL were notified of the concerns regarding the timeliness of mandated reporting (to local LE agencies) of exigent circumstances and/or allegations of abuse/neglect of people with I/DD within licensed care environments. Two administrative/training supervisors made contact to ask for further information about the claims made in the training the week before about policy restrictions and practices in the southern California offices. These supervisors will be addressing the issues at a policy level and provide clarification and/or training to LPA's over the next few months.
- During information sharing, it was discussed that some CCLD offices do not respond timely to report suspected abuse or neglect cases. The event participants were reminded their responsibilities as mandated reporters.
- Self-advocates are a great resource of information for collaborating with law enforcement agencies. First responders can benefit from their knowledge.
- With agencies both at the state and local level, working together to assist individuals with access and functional needs impacted by disasters, is essential. Local resources are invaluable when it relates to emergencies. The training in this area is high priority as natural and other emergency disasters are occurring more

## Emerging Issues

often.

- North Coast region sits on earthquake fault and fire zone. It is most imperative that all personnel at the school site and the recreation center that adjoins the school site were using the same plan in order to make all ready for a disaster. There are many programs that use the recreation facility during the day. The group needed to make sure that the plan took into consideration the broad and diverse range of individuals that use the recreation center.
- DDSO Executive Director currently has 100 consumers attending the center based program, staffing at a 1:6 ratio. He is concerned about community integration with this ratio, consumers will not be served well as there will be a limited number of staff and/or concerns with transportation to get them to their destinations.
- Transportation and the Uniform Holiday schedule are a source of frustration for day program service providers. It was encouraged to promote better communication between the Transportation provider and the Regional Center so that consumers are not left without a ride on days their program is actually open!
- The Transition Fair sponsored by PHP in Santa Clara County has been successful for several years. The family resource center in Monterrey County would like to create or expand existing resource fairs to have the same draw as the one in Santa Clara County.
- Sacramento Regional Office - There is a need to increase coordination of opportunities for employment and transition services for young adults with I/DD.
- It is important to explore opportunities to inform communities about inclusion and increasing opportunities for people with I/DD. Chambers of Commerce, Community Councils, City Councils, and business events are good avenues to increase awareness.
- MB/SV Regional Office - Discussed with many day and employment services providers level of awareness toward HCBS final rule to find the regulations are not very well known among the provider community.
- Transition Fair - Many individuals and their families expressed frustration with lack of options after high school or post-secondary education, either with employment or higher education.
- Orange County Regional Office - Child care providers reported that the Licensing Program Analysts (LPA) from CCLD have been inconsistent in informing licensed child care providers about new licensing requirements such as the incidental medical services training certifications, integrated pest management plan

## Emerging Issues

certifications, and the immunization requirements. The failure of the LPAs to communicate these new requirements to child care providers have resulted in citations.

- Orange County Regional Office - Several providers appeared to be resistive to the changes in law citing (1) concerns for their business as they primarily offer long-term subminimum wage groups and whether the regional center will continue to fund in spite of DOR's legal inability to do so, (2) how the future HCBS Settings Rule will impact these groups due to the integration requirement, and (3) how they (vendors) can modify or change their program to comply with the new laws.
- Several employment vendors discussed challenges in creating new group supported employment sites due to minimum wage requirements. Similarly, local school districts reported that they are struggling to secure Workability/TTP sites due to restrictions with DOL requirements and inability to use for-profit sites
- The primary concerns of families were how to obtain the autism diagnosis that Medi-Cal will accept, what to do when there are no providers available to provide behavioral therapy and co-pays. Families were informed that an autism diagnosis from the regional center will generally suffice for Medi-Cal. If a child needs to be assessed for autism and is not a regional center consumer, then the parent should ask the pediatrician for an autism screening and get a referral to a specialist to conduct the evaluation. Unfortunately, even when Medi-Cal has approved behavioral therapy, families often face a lack of providers. Families were advised to get on all the waiting lists and ask for tracking numbers. This is called "network insufficiency" and families were advised to obtain this in writing and then follow-up with letter requesting a "single case agreement" which is the right to have other providers (could be private, out of network) provide the service when no one within the network is available. It may be necessary to file a complaint with managed care as well if still not receiving services 4 weeks later. Regarding co-pays, families are not required to pay if it's in network or a single case agreement. In those cases when there are co-pays and the individual is a regional center consumer, regional center will continue to pay co-pays if the family is at 450% of the poverty level.
- Concern over the CCS redesign is primarily about protecting the high quality of care for children and adolescents. CCS doctors are specialists in treating and advising on medically fragile children and there is concern that managed care plans may use standards that are less rigorous than CCS. Families are wanting the continuity of care so their children can keep seeing their current doctors.

## Emerging Issues

- The Domestic Violence & Health Collective (DVHC) of Orange County does not discern the number of domestic violence inquiries made by people with developmental disabilities. SCDD staff will be working alongside Community Service Programs, Inc., and the DVHC to identify how many callers are I/DD and to help raise awareness of domestic violence as a health issue and to increase awareness of resources available for persons experiencing domestic violence.
- The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) changes to In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) has many consumers concerned and with many questions. Staff is hopeful that the 19 questions developed by CICA will help the Public Authorities and IHSS Advisory Committees to discuss them thoroughly and create solutions to educate consumers and providers on new rules.
- Behavioral and mental health services are essential to prevent emergency responses that can turn negative or include law enforcement.
- It is important for SCDD to be informed about managed care agencies and be able to inform them of the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are members of these health plans. The information shared and relationship developed plays an important role in ensuring people have access to needed health care services.
- Orange County is among the top 10 least affordable metropolitan markets in the nation, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition. A person needs to earn at least \$32/hour in order to rent a 2-bedroom market-rate apartment in Orange County. The local housing authority waiting lists open approximately once every 5-7 years and then it takes another 7-10 years before a person can receive a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher. According to the 2011-12 NCI survey results
- The process for building low income housing in a community is a complicated process that is often confusing. There is a need for advocate training, so the developmental services community becomes more active in housing development.
- North Coast Regional Office - The lack of safe, affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities is a persistent issue throughout the region and the state.
- There is a shortage of affordable housing in California. Many individuals cannot find housing that they can afford with their SSI checks. They must share housing or apartments. Others live in various board and care situations. The development of intentional communities and specialized care home for people with health care or behavioral needs is also an issue. These home take several years to develop. Whether the philosophy of intentional communities will be acceptable to CMS is

## Emerging Issues

also an issue. A vendor who provides housing for the mental health population was invited to share his experiences so that I/DD community could learn from their experiences. There are 100,000 individuals with I/DD living with parents and aging care providers. There are 50,000 individuals with I/DD in California living in Supported Living arrangements. Fairview Developmental Center is slated to close 2020 and Sonoma Developmental Center is slated to close 2018. There are currently 500 housing projects in the works

- Housing models- VMRC is focusing on Residential Care Homes only. Discussion with this group on the HCBS coming by 2019 might be a factor in what they are looking at developing- very specialized, segregated homes.
- Some needed supports are offered by programs only during the day but not on evenings and weekends which limits participation in some activities.
- Ongoing regional center POS disparity issues exist and this is often due to the lack of bilingual providers. The regional center may authorize POS hours/dollars but families are unable to utilize because of the provider shortage.
- Congreso Familiar This conference occurs in Sacramento and in Oakdale, we would like to work with our community members and replicate this in our Stockton area.
- North Coast Regional Office - Each tribe has its own government so you have to go to each one as one tribe does not represent all to make outreach efforts and to develop relationships and trust.
- Spanish speaking families appear to encounter substantially more problems with both understanding their special education rights as well as receiving appropriate services from the school districts in certain areas.