

**Agenda**  
**Self-Determination Advisory Committee**  
**October 25, 2016**  
**5:30-8:00**  
**Tri-Counties Regional Center Office**  
**Annex located at:**  
**505 E. Montecito St.**  
**Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103**

**Telephone Conference Number: 1-877-262- 0913**  
**Conference ID: 5802721#**

- 5:30 Light Dinner
- 6:00 Welcome and Introductions - Louise / Michele
- 6:05 Review / Approval of the minutes from the last committee meeting – Louise
- 6:10 Overview of the SD Advisory Committee activities – Louise / Michele
- 6:20 Update on what is happening at the state level – Jennifer Lucas, State Council on Developmental Disabilities and Cheryl Wenderoth
- 6:30 SD FAQ – Simple language - Jennifer
- 6:45 Outreach – Who, Where and When? - Louise, Michele
- 7:45-8:00 Q&A

**The Five Principals of Self-Determination**

- Freedom:** The ability to have the freedom to develop a personal life plan based on your dreams and lifestyle.
- Authority:** The ability to have authority to control the resources available for your supports. This includes authority to decide what, who, when, where and how much.
- Support:** To organize resources in ways that are life enhancing and meaningful to you. Supports include personnel, both formal and informal, and resources available in your community.
- Responsibility:** You have a responsibility to use resources wisely, and to contribute back to your community in meaningful ways through your presence, efforts and your gifts.
- Confirmation:** Individuals should play an important leadership role in a newly-designed system.

**TRI-COUNTIES REGIONAL CENTER  
SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**July 26, 2016**

**MINUTES**

**Chair:** Louise MacKenzie and Michele Carbone **Attendance:** Myesha Thomas, Kendra McWright, Wes Moss, Mara Rupert, Ramon Hernandez, Chris Benedict, Stuart, Sandy Waterbury, Jennifer Lucas, Wesley Moss, Phil Stucky, Angie Cortez, April Stewart, Pamela Crabaugh, Diva Johnson, Nancy Samson, Family of M G, Dale Carbello, Lisa Walker, VTC Enterprises, Cheryl Wenderoth  
**Phone:** Robert, Sharon Francis – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative and TCADD Board member, Brendan Kelso

ITEM	DISCUSSION	TASK	RESPONSIBLE PARTY DUE DATE
<b>I. Call to Order</b>	<p>Meeting called to order at 6pm by Louise MacKenzie. Ms. MacKenzie introduced Co-Chair, Michele Carbone, and Cheryl Wenderoth, TCRC Assistant Director of Federal Programs.</p> <p>Committee members and members of the public were welcomed to the meeting.</p>		
<b>II. Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	<p>Introductions were made and members participated in a group round.</p>		
<b>III. Review of Minutes /Actions/Agenda</b>	<p>Ms. MacKenzie asked the committee to review the agenda and previous minutes. Following review, a motion was made to accept the consent calendar, as presented.</p> <p>M/S/C – Unanimous</p>		
<b>IV. Overview of SD Advisory Committee Activities</b>	<p>Ms. MacKenzie and Ms. Carbone advised that the committee has been meeting since its formation one year ago. The SDS Advisory Committee, along with all Californians, continue to wait for federal approval of the SDS application.</p> <p>The committee reviewed roles and responsibilities of the committee, and what has been learned during the past 15 years while participating in the SDS pilot program. Ms. Carbone and Ms. MacKenzie spoke about state-level SDS activities they have participated in recently, including meeting with Aaron Carruthers, State Council of Developmental Disabilities, and Kendra McWright of Office of Clients’ Rights Advocates, along with other statewide representatives. Topics were discussed on a variety of issues, including how participants can best identify the qualities that would offer each person his or her “best life,” what can be done to move toward individual goals while waiting for federal approval of the SDS application, and how person-centered thinking tools will be used as a</p>		

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	<p>foundational principal of the SDS program. Additionally, they participated in The Gathering, a conference focused on enhancing person-centered thinking tools and practices, and a regional meeting of SDS committee members from around the state.</p> <p>Next, the committee discussed the process of gathering and distributing information about the program.</p>		
<p><b>V. State-Level Update - Jennifer Lucas, SCDD</b></p>	<p>Jennifer Lucas, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, provided the committee with a short update. The DDS Workgroup has developed a committee to work with the Center for Medi-Caid Services (CMS) and to address the Home and Community-Based Waiver needed to align the program with federal requirements.</p> <p>Federal dollars and resources are required to support the SDS program in California, and the state must ensure that participants receive freedom of choice, along with full integration and community involvement while enrolled in the SDS program. The federal government has requirements and guidelines that must be met for the SDS program to receive funding necessary to move forward.</p> <p>TCRC SDS Committee members will receive updates on the status of federal approval as more information becomes available.</p>		
<p><b>VI. Fiscal Management Services Presentation – Premier Health</b></p>	<p>Wes Moss, a representative from Fiscal Management Services (FMS), attended the meeting to present information about how FMS will support those who participate in the SDS program.</p> <p>Mr. Moss began by advising that SDS participants will be required to use a Financial Management Services provider to access their individual budgets. The FMS provider is vendored by regional centers to oversee and guarantee the accounting of funds used in the individual’s SDS program, help them to manage and direct funds, and to ensure that individuals have sufficient resources to support the goals of each Individual Program Plan (IPP). Additionally, the providers are mandated to uphold the Self-Determination Principles of “Freedom, Support, Authority, Responsibility, and Confirmation.”</p> <p>The committee learned how the FMS provider will receive and disburse funds for an individual, process payroll and withhold necessary taxes, along with ensuring</p>		

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	<p>compliance with all laws. The FMS will provide individual budget statements and maintain required documentation.</p> <p>Mr. Moss also explained the three types of FMS models, including Fiscal Agent, Fiscal/Employer Agent, and Co-Employer. Additionally, he explained how the FMS provider will assist the person receiving services in selecting the plan that best meets their needs, based on the IPP and individual budget. Additionally, the group discussed the need for additional FMS companies to support SDS participants after the initial roll-out of the program.</p> <p>Copies of the PowerPoint presentation are available, and interested parties should contact Cheryl Wenderoth, TCRC Assistant Director of Federal Programs, or Liliana Castillo, TCRC Support Staff, to obtain this information.</p>		
<b>VII. Outreach – Community Membership - Vacancies</b>	<p>The committee discussed options for community outreach, and ways to distribute information about SDS. Additionally, the committee discussed ways to obtain new members for the SDS committee, as there are current vacancies that must be filled.</p> <p>Cheryl Wenderoth distributed a list of community groups that could be resources for distributing information about the program in the future. SDS committee members were asked to review the current list, and to provide information about resources that can be added to the list.</p> <p>The committee will revisit this topic in the future.</p>		
<b>III. Adjournment</b>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.</p>		

**NEXT MEETING: October 25, 2016**

TCRC Annex – 505 E Montecito St – Santa Barbara

*The Self-Determination Program is a voluntary program which provides individuals with I/DD and their families with more freedom, control and responsibility in choosing services and supports to help them meet their Individual Program Plan (IPP) objectives.*

## Eligibility and Enrollment

**Who is eligible to enroll?** Individuals must be at least 3 years old to enroll and either receiving regional center services now or eligible for regional center services. Individuals may not live in a long-term health care facility, such as an ICF, unless they are expected to transition to the community within 90 days.

**Is there a limit to the number of participants?** Yes. During the first three years, 98 individuals in the TCRC area may be enrolled. Following that period of time, the program is open to all eligible individuals.

**What is the process to enroll?** Let your regional center service coordinator know you would like your name added to the interest list; attend the regional center's pre-enrollment informational meeting; receive confirmation from DDS that they received your name from the regional center; and wait to hear from DDS as to whether you've been selected. If not selected initially, individuals will remain on the interest list for future enrollment opportunities.

**How are participants selected?** The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will randomly select participants based on the names they receive from the regional centers.

**Are there any requirements once I'm enrolled?** Yes. You must work with a Financial Management Services (FMS) entity, utilize self-determination services and supports only when generic services and supports are not available and operate within the agreed upon budget.

## Where to get more information:

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/>

<http://autismla.us/1/self-determination-now/>

## Person-Centered Planning and Budget

**Who can assist me with person-centered planning?** You can use an independent facilitator to assist in the person-centered planning and individual program plan (IPP) processes. An independent facilitator must be a person who does not provide services to you and is not employed by a person who provides services to you. You may also use a regional center service coordinator to assist with these functions. An Independent facilitator can advocate for you during a person centered planning meeting, assist you in making informed choices about your budget, and help you identify and secure services. The cost of the independent facilitator is paid from your individual budget.

**How is my individual budget determined?** The budget is determined by the IPP team, and is based upon the amount of purchase of service funds used in the most recent 12-months. This amount can be adjusted, up or down, if the team determines the individual's needs, circumstances, or resources have changed. Additionally, the team may adjust the budget to support any prior needs or resources that were not addressed in the IPP.

**What is a Financial Management Services (FMS) Agency?** FMS agencies are vendored by the regional center and help participants manage their individual budgets by paying bills and managing the payroll for support workers. The cost of the FMS agency is paid from the individual budget.

**What services can I receive?** Services are based upon the individual's person centered plan. There is no requirement the service provider be vendored by the regional center. This allows the purchase of some services that were suspended services, such as social recreation, camp, non-medical therapies, and respite.

**What's done to protect the safety of individuals receiving services?** All providers of services and supports under the Self-Determination Program are required to have a criminal background check. If family members provide direct personal care, they must obtain background checks and receive clearance as well.



# Preguntas Frecuentes de Auto-Determinación



*El programa de Auto-Determinación es un programa voluntario que proporciona a individuos con discapacidad intelectual y sus familias con más libertad, control y responsabilidad en la elección de servicios y apoyos para asistir a cumplir sus objetivos dirigidos en su plan de programa individual.*

## Elegibilidad e Inscripción

**Quien es elegible para inscribirse?** Individuos deben tener al menos 3 años de edad para inscribirse y estar recibiendo servicios del centro regional ahora o ser elegible para los servicios del centro regional. Los individuos no pueden vivir en un centro de atención médica de largo plazo, a menos que se espere la transición a la comunidad dentro de 90 días.

**Habrán un límite en el número de participantes?** Sí. Durante los primeros tres años, 98 personas en el área de TCRC pueden ser registrados. Tras ese periodo de tiempo, el programa estará abierto a todas las personas elegibles.

**Cuál es el proceso para inscribirse?** Avise a su coordinador de servicios del centro regional que desea añadir su nombre a la lista de interesados; asistir a la reunión informativa de preinscripción; reciba la confirmación de DDS que recibieron su nombre del centro regional; y esperar a oír de DDS si fue seleccionado. Si no fueron seleccionados inicialmente, las personas se mantendrán en la lista de interesados para futuras oportunidades de inscripción.

**Como se seleccionan los participantes?** El Departamento de Servicios del Desarrollo (DDS) seleccionara al azar los participantes basados en lo nombres recibidos de los centros regionales.

**Hay algún requerimiento una vez ya inscrito?** Sí. Debe trabajar con una entidad de servicios de gestión financiera (FMS), utilizar servicios de auto-determinación y apoyos solo cuando los servicios genéricos y apoyos no están disponibles y operar dentro

## Planificación centrada en la persona y Presupuesto

**Quen me puede ayudar con la planificación centrada en la persona?** Puede utilizar un facilitador independiente para ayudar en la planificación centrada en la persona y procesos del plan individual (IPP). Un facilitador independiente debe ser una persona que no proporciona servicios a usted. También puede utilizar un coordinador de servicios del centro regional para ayudar con estas funciones. Un facilitador independiente puede abogar por usted durante una reunión de planificación centrada de persona, ayudarle a identificar y asegurar servicios. El costo del facilitador independiente es pagado de su presupuesto individual.

**Como se determinara mi presupuesto individual?** El presupuesto es determinado por el equipo IPP y está basado en la cantidad de compra de fondos usados en los últimos 12 meses. Esta cantidad puede ajustarse, arriba o abajo, si el equipo determina que las necesidades de la persona, circunstancias o recursos han cambiado. Además, el equipo puede ajustar el presupuesto para apoyar cualquier necesidad previa o recursos que no fueron dirigidos en el IPP

### **Que es la Agencia de Servicios de Gestión Financiera (FMS)?**

Agencias de FMS están contratados por el centro regional y ayudaran a los participantes a manejar sus presupuestos individuales, pagar sus facturas y administrar la nómina de sueldo a los trabajadores de apoyo.

**Que servicios puedo recibir?** Servicios se basan en el plan de persona centrada. No hay ningún requisito que el proveedor de servicios sea contratado a través del centro regional. Esto permite la compra de algunos servicios que estaban suspendidos como recreación social, campamentos, terapias no médicas y respiro

**Que se ha hecho para proteger la seguridad de las personas que reciben los servicios?** Todos los proveedores de servicios y apoyos bajo el programa de auto-determinación están obligados a tener una verificación de antecedentes penales. Si miembros de la familia proporcionaran atención directa, deben obtener una verificación de antecedentes penales también y recibir autorización.

Donde conseguir más información

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/>

<http://autismla.us/1/self-determination-now/>