



REPORT FROM
Vicki L. Smith
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, REGIONAL OFFICE OPERATIONS
TIME PERIOD: November 01, 2018 to December 31, 2018

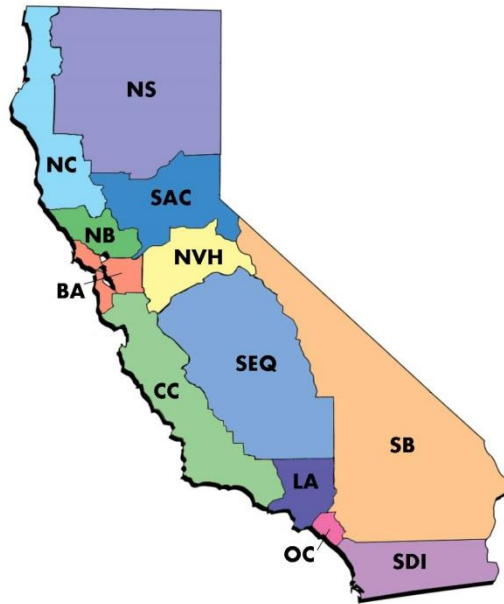
The Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations (DDRROO) provides leadership and supervision to the twelve (12) SCDD regional offices, to the Manager of State Plan and Self-Advocacy, and staff support to the State Plan Committee.

Regional Office Operations:

- The twelve regional SCDD offices have been working diligently on rolling out the 2019 WorkPlan activities for the State Plan Year. They have also been working with the Deputy of Policy for input into local hearings by Assemblyman Frazier and are preparing for upcoming hearings regarding Housing Issues hosted by the California State Treasurer, Fiona Ma.
- We are currently recruiting for the following regional office vacancies: North Valley Hills (AGPA/Community Program Specialist II (BSG)); Los Angeles Regional Office (AGPA/Community Program Specialist II (BSG/QA), and; North Coast Regional Office (Office Technician (BSG/QA)).

State Plan and Self-Advocacy Team:

- Rihana Ahmad, Manager of the State Plan and Self-Advocacy team at Headquarters is:
 - Leading the analysts on the State Plan in preparing the comprehensive Program Performance Report for 2018 and the State Plan Update Report.
 - Leading the analyst coordinating both the Self-Advocacy Advisory Committee (SAAC) and the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) project in meeting preparation from agenda development to minutes.



Highlights of State Plan Activities (full version posted at www.scdd.ca.gov)
REGIONAL OFFICE AND HEADQUARTER ACTIVITIES FOR:

<u>REGIONAL OFFICE (RO)</u>	<u>MANAGER</u>
North Coast (NCRO)	Sheli Wright
North State (NSRO)	Sarah May
Sacramento (SACRO)	Sonya Bingaman
North Bay (NBRO)	Lisa Hooks
Bay Area (BARO)	Sheraden Nicholau
North Valley Hills (NVHRO)	Dena Hernandez
Central Coast (CCRO)	David Grady
Sequoia (SEQRO)	Yolanda Cruz
Los Angeles (LARO)	Christofer Arroyo
Orange County (OCRO)	Scarlett VonThenen
San Bernardino (SBRO)	Tamica Fouts-Rachal
San Diego/Imperial (SDIRO)	MaryEllen Stives

SA=Self-Advocate FA= Family Advocate OTH= Other/Professional ORG = Organizations

Respectfully Submitted: Vicki L. Smith, Deputy Director, Regional Office Operations

GOAL #1.1: The Council will increase knowledge about self-determination and person-centered planning by monitoring, supporting and actively engaging in the implementation of the Self-Determination Program.

- SCDD Staff gave a presentation on Person Centered Planning to the residential care providers for two adult residential facilities in San Jose operated by Rosewood Terrace. At the 2-hour training staff reviewed the principles of Person Centered Planning and the process of discovery, planning, and implementation. 25 direct care providers attended the meeting as well as their administrators. Staff agreed to work collaboratively with the administration as the care homes adopt the principles of Person Centered Planning and preparation for Home and Community Based Service Final Rule implementation. (25OTH)

GOAL #1.2: The Council will promote self-advocates in leadership roles in statewide networks a) through the strengthening of a statewide self-advocacy organization and by supporting self-advocates; b) within cross-disability leadership coalitions; and c) in training other self-advocates to become leaders.

- SCDD supported the SAC6 Area Meeting of Self Advocates which was held at Howard Training Center in Modesto. SCDD provides technical support to the SAC6 at their area meetings by providing their power point, handouts and group facilitation as requested. At this meeting- Disability Rights CA/Office of Clients Rights Advocacy provided Rights Bingo. VMRC's Cultural Specialist spoke about VMRC's mission to be more inclusive when it comes to services. DRC donated swag as prizes and the CHOICES Institute provided t-shirts. Howard Training Centered provided lunches for sale and individuals advocacy groups gave their chapter reports. There were also microbusiness owners selling their wares. SCDD had a resource table which included information from SSAN, Self Determination, and the CHOICES T-shirt and video contest materials. (200SA/ 5FA/ 25OTH)

GOAL #2.1: The Council will increase and promote culturally competent strategies and resources that facilitate competitive, integrated employment (CIE) of people with I/DD.

- SCDD staff developed an informational flyer and materials on Tailored Day Services for consumers at an Independent Living Training Program. Tailored Day Services are an option for all regional center self-advocates and creates increased integration and inclusion. It provides a customized approach which lines up the person centered planning and offers flexibility for self-advocates to select tailored day services and time frames for their day that are not directed by the typical vendored day service programs. SCDD will distribute this flyer for the purpose of informing self-advocates, families, regional center vendors of this inclusive option as a pathway to CIE. (25 SA / 6 OTH/ 1 Agency)

GOAL #3.1: The Council will work with housing entities to increase the development and/or provision of community housing for people with I/DD.

- SCDD Staff participated in the housing conference sponsored by the Kelsey Group of the Bay Area. 53 participants in the area of disability services and low-income housing development were in attendance. At the meeting in both small group and among all attendees, staff discussed the importance of inclusive communities and the role men and women with developmental disabilities play. Policies to promote inclusive communities were discussed. Particularly staff discussed the relationship between both public and private space in the need for individuals with developmental disabilities to not only be receivers of services but also active in offering community enrichment. (24FA/ 29OTH)

GOAL #3.2: The Council will identify and decrease barriers to housing for people with I/DD.

- SCDD coordinated and facilitated a "Living Options Panel" featuring panel presentations on Independent Living Services (vendor Creative Concepts), Supported Living Services (vendor Creative Support), Adult Family Home Agency (vendor My Day Counts), Community Care Facility (vendor MDH Network), and a parent perspective of services available to adult children living in the family home. Of the surveys received, 29 people reported that they are "very likely" to increase their advocacy because of the training and 39 people feel that they are better able to say what they want as a result of the training. Additionally, 28 people reported that they are very satisfied with the activity and 13 were somewhat satisfied. Given this was the first time coordinating such an event, we will be facilitating it differently in the future to maximize parent participation. (7SA/ 55FA / 4OTH)

GOAL #4.1: The Council and its federal partners will increase knowledge and awareness for people with I/DD and their families about the availability of and access to health and public safety-related services and supports.

- SCDD Staff provided education to church volunteers working with fire victims to encourage people to register themselves safe through the safeandwell.org website. Agencies involved – Far Northern Regional Center, Hope Point Church/East Ave. Church Chico Temporary Shelter volunteers, Adventure Church/Church of the Nazarene Oroville volunteers.
2 SAs/1 FA/39 Other

GOAL #4.2: The Council, its federal partners, and self-advocates will increase information and training to law enforcement, court personnel, health care providers, and/or other care professionals about disability-related health and safety issues.

- SCDD participated in a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder info dissemination with a stakeholder group, with the target of getting Alameda Co Juvenile Probation Department a baseline understanding of FASD, and tools to better identify and get support for this population. The presentation, led by Peggy Black, President of NOFAS Northern CA, addressed statistics,

myths, impact of the lack of identification and treatment on the individual with FASD, their family, and systems they come in contact with (health, law enforcement, court systems, education, housing, etc.), and best practices for working with and serving this population. The juvenile probation administrators and officers reported that this was very helpful for them, and is quite helpful to the systems change work they have begun. BARO provided some answers and feedback for attendees about a variety of systems and the level of awareness and capacity to serve this population. BARO also provided some feedback for members of NOFAS at the end of the presentation about suggested next steps for continued advocacy and awareness outreach across various systems, and discussed the challenges tied to the funding of services for this DD population. This will support the updating and informing of intake and ongoing processes and services within probation, in relation to the FASD population. (4FA/ 15OTH)

GOAL #5.1: The Council and its federal partners will increase knowledge and awareness of developmental milestones and intervention services for families of young children and professionals.

- SCDD developed 2 informational flyers: 1) Places to look for a therapist for your child and; 2) Ways to help your grade-schooler manage stress. Both flyers are distributed to Family Resource Centers and Special Education in the Local Plan Area (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee meetings where parents meet. SCDD staff will make this information available to health providers and councils as well. (100 OTH)

GOAL #5.2: The Council, in consultation with its federal partners and other stakeholders, will increase awareness and knowledge for families and self-advocates about the availability of and access to services which support inclusive education.

- SCDD participated in the 4th Annual Conference on Strategies for Educating Children with Down Syndrome in Stockton. Conference topics included the What, why and How of Inclusive Education and differentiated instruction. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Villa. SCDD NVH manager was the emcee for the second time and assisted with registration. SCDD is also a conference supporter and SCDD logo was on all the marketing materials and SCDD is on the planning team. The audience was made up of parents, educators and regional center staff. There was approximately 300 people in attendance.

GOAL #6.1: The Council, in collaboration with our federal DD partners, will reduce service access barriers and decrease the disparity in available information, which describes services and supports that may be purchased throughout California's Regional Center system, by translating and providing that information in Spanish and tracking statewide POS disparity data for Spanish-speaking self-advocates and families.

- SCDD None reported

GOAL #6.2: The Council will increase the knowledge and skills of people with I/DD to move from institutional to community settings and to increase their ability to self-advocate.

- SCDD Staff met with Tri-Counties Regional Center Housing Corporation nonprofit developer, the TCRC resource development team, and housing coordinator as well as managers of the Mentor program along with council member to tour and review the progress and development of two adult residential facilities for individuals with extreme health care needs. These homes are developed for five residents each who are exiting developmental centers and have extreme nursing needs. The homes are located in Santa Ynez and Solvang and are projected to be opened in 2019 the homes are funded through CPP funds. The homes will accommodate the needs of 10 tri-counties Regional Center clients with 10 more needing placement from developmental centers into the community.

GOAL #6.3: The Council will increase outreach, training, and technical assistance to improve the quality of and access to services, including (but not limited to) Regional Centers, education, transportation, public benefits, child care, and recreation for people with I/DD and their families.

- SCDD staff participated in Helping Hands East Bay's first annual gala and year end event. BARO prepared a short speech about employment first, and the commitment that community partners need to continue to uphold in order for us to meet our employment first goals in the community. The audience was made up of family members, self-advocates, board members and donors, most of which were of Asian descent and were relatively new to employment first and CIE concepts. BARO also spoke with several attendees 1:1 about best practices in areas of CIE, and some helpful tools and programs, such as the PIP, post-secondary programs in the area committed to CIE, and job development. Most of the evening's presentations were given in Chinese, with English interpretation. (25 SA)

GOAL #6.4: The Council, in consultation with its federal partners, will increase identification, advocacy and/or sponsorship of legislative, regulatory, policy, procedure and/or practice changes to increase access to quality community-based services for people with I/DD and their families.

- SCDD participated in a Disability Action Coalition DCAD Policy Meeting to collaborate with other disability justice leaders in narrowing down timelines and approaches to organizing the larger community for Disability Capitol Action Day for 2019. BARO shared updates re the Assembly Select Committee on I/DD, and updates re our SCDD legislative platform with the other committee members from across the state. (15 SA/ 10TH)