



Executive Director Report January 15, 2019

I am proud to lead this excellent team and glad to report our progress in the following areas:

Budget

SCDD's budget position remains stable and strong.

The current federal government shutdown does not impact the SCDD budget. When the federal government's fiscal year began on October 1, 2018, Congress had enacted 5 of the 12 appropriations bills for fiscal year 2019. This included the Health and Human Services appropriation, which covers SCDD and many programs critical to people with disabilities, including regional center services and IHSS.

Governor Newsom released his proposed 2019-2020 budget, which proposes level funding for SCDD.

Service Disparities and Diversity

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is still reviewing the responses to the Disparities Program Grant, including SCDD's proposal to provide national and state expertise to up to 5 Regional Center Directors to work on targeted disparities projects for \$312,000. The proposal would bring together the expertise of the Georgetown National Center for Cultural Competence with the CA federal partners to provide technical assistance directly to 5 Regional Center Directors.

Opportunities

In follow up to the November 2018 Council meeting, we have stayed in discussions with the Department of Social Services on how SCDD can be helpful in making sure people with disabilities on SSI who may also be eligible for CalFresh in July apply for the expanded benefit.

We reached an agreement to be reimbursed for our costs in providing training in community care licensing.

I met with DDS to discuss ideas for future projects that can be funded from the CRA/VAS contract as developmental centers close.

Conflict of Interest

I met with DDS to follow up on the Council's concerns around COI

- SCDD Legal Counsel and DDS have the position that a Vendor Advisory Committee member of a regional center board does not need to seek a conflict of interest waiver because the law already contemplates their potential conflicts and restricts their activities as board members
- DDS agreed to our request that if we receive a request for a waiver and it does not seem to have a conflict we can refer it to DDS for their determination before SCDD reviews the mitigation plan
- DDS agreed to review regional centers who have not submitted waiver requests in the past three years

Self-Determination

- I continue to participate in weekly meetings with the DDS workgroup to work through implementation issues
- DDS issued guidance in three areas: Individual Budget, Independent Facilitator, and Financial Management Services
- The next step is for DDS to set dates for train-the-trainer sessions on the Orientation. Once the trainers are trained on the Orientation they can begin training the initial participants selected on October 1st, 2018

Administration

- Hired new BSG staff, bringing the BSG vacancy down to 12% and the overall vacancy rate down to 10%. This meets the goal of having a vacancy rate under 15% in BSG and under 10% across the organization by February 2019
- Welcomed Public Information Officer Scott Yates