



## **Executive Director Report January 28, 2020**

I am proud to lead this excellent team in reporting our progress in the following areas:

### State Plan

Our work on the state plan reached:

October 2019: 233,739 people

November 2019: 129,274 people

For a total of 363,013 people for those two months.

Additionally, the community has filled out about 3,000 State Plan Surveys to voice their opinion on what SCDD should work on for the next 2022-2026 State Plan.

### Public Policy

I worked with the Council Chair and Vice Chair drafting the Council's 2020 public policy goals of housing, employment, and safety. Council leadership will present these goals at the January 2020 meeting.

### Housing

We are working with Senator Anna Caballero on legislature to make sure existing housing funding programs put projects for

people with disabilities on equal footing as other projects and to possibly create a one-time dedicated funding for housing for people with disabilities.

### Employment

We are teaming up with Disability Rights California to codify strong federal definitions of competitive integrated employment into state law.

### Safety

The Council and a coalition of disability advocates sent a letter to Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Edison, and San Diego Gas and Electric asking for regular communication with statewide disability advocates to prepare for and mitigate the impact of public safety power shutoffs on people with disabilities. SCDD distributed Public Safety Power Shutoff and wildfire information and resources statewide.

Also, we authored a letter signed by coalition of disability advocates to Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin regarding the shooting of Kenneth French. The letter asked the District Attorney to the table to discuss the office's decision to not press charges against Officer Salvador Sanchez who shot and killed Kenneth French, a young man with Autism, while off-duty at a Costco. The District Attorney met with SCDD and others, gave more information on the case and what went into the decision to not file charges, agreed to release more information publicly and agreed to participate in SCDD public safety trainings in the community.

The Administration on Community Living (ACL) announced that they would like to tour California in February to meet with people with IDD, their families, and providers on their responses to disasters. We located a site in Chico, so they can discuss wildfires and PSPS, and San Bernardino, so they can discuss wildfires and active shooters.

### Self-Determination Program

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) drew additional names for the Self-Determination Program (SDP) phase-in. 2,500 participants can begin the program until June 2021, when SDP will be open to all regional center clients. DDS has not published a recent number of how many people have fully transitioned from traditional regional center services to SDP.

Also, I met with Council leadership and members of the Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee to agree on shared governance and ideal meeting frequency and locations. The next SSDAC meeting is February 10, 2020 in Sacramento.

### DD System and Rates

I testified on the Council's behalf in the Senate Budget Committee regarding the efforts to stabilize and improve the developmental disability service system. DDS released proposed changes to the rate study based on community input. As the Governor and Legislature contemplate whether to fund the rate study, the Council's contract with the California Supported Living Network to create performance outcome measures has been noticed.

## National Leadership

I continue to work with the Administration on Community Living (ACL) with four other Council Executive Directors to identify ways Councils can communicate with ACL and build value with administration values.

## Administration

SCDD's budget continues to remain strong, Congress approved an \$2 million increase for Councils nationally. We will soon know how much of this total amount will be granted to SCDD.

DDS agreed to continue the CRA/VAS contract for six months and work with SCDD toward a long-term sustainable solution.

The current BSG vacancy rate is 5% and the overall vacancy rate is at 7%. SCDD met the goal of being under a 15% vacancy rate in BSG and under 10% across the organization by February 2020. We continue to work to maintain that goal.

SCDD's website met higher accessibility standards by January 1, 2020 (AB 434 requirements).