



San Bernardino Regional Office

Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)

Minutes

04/11/2020

Location: *Virtual Meeting via ZOOM*

Posted on <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/sanbernardino.htm>

Members Present

Ernie Saldana
Violet Arellano, **Member-At-Large**
Douglas Perkins, **Chair**
Ronald Allan
Reginald Davis
Lanette Hollowell
Maia Pawooskar, **Secretary**
Christina Christenson-Rockwell, **Vice Chair**
Carmela Garnica
Julio Garnica, **Councilmember**

Members Absent

Cathy Rosas
Cindy Cox
Kim Risser

SCDD Staff

Tamica Fouts-Rachal, Regional Manager
Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director
Robbin Puccio, CPS II

Public

Chris Rogel
Judy Rogel
Victoria Bianchi
Christine Pangelinan
D Levisé

Meeting called to order at 10:02 am

Quorum established
Welcome/Introductions

Approval of Minutes



Voting on the minutes – 12/14/2019, Violet Arellano Motion to Approve the Minutes, Christina Christenson-Rockwell 2nd's, Minutes approved.

COVID-19 Resources

- **RAC Virtual Presentation**
 - **Governors Website – Visit <https://covid19.ca.gov>**
 - Education (e.g...closures, online learning & lunches)
 - Employment and Taxes
 - Healthcare
 - Recommendations on Public Places
 - Local information
 - **Dial: 2-1-1 – Visit <http://211.org>**
 - Essential Needs (e.g...food, housing, healthcare, and more)
 - Crisis and Emergency Resources
 - Disaster Assistance
 - **Feed America IE Visit – <http://Feedingamericaie.org>**
 - **In need of Food Assistance:**
 - Contact your local food banks or 2-1-1 for information on local resources.
 - **Visiting the Grocery Store:**

Source/Fuente: <https://www.consumerreports.org/food-shopping/how-to-protect-yourself-from-coronavirus-when-grocery-shopping/>

 - In Person
 - Go shopping at a time that's less busy
 - Practice Social Distancing
 - Use the Accessible hours option
 - Be prepared to stand in line
 - Put hand sanitizer in your go bag
 - Use a Credit or Debit card
 - Use you own pen if you need to sign receipts

- Delivery service (if available)
 - Avoid a direct hand-off
 - Tip electronically
 - Order earlier than you usually do
 - After you put away groceries
 - Wash your hands, counter, and other surfaces you've touched with soap and water
 - Things to do at home
 - Take a virtual field trip
 - Watch a movie together
 - Virtual costume contests
 - Participate in book clubs
 - Learn at home
 - And more!
 - Where you can go to access resources
 - Several parents and advocacy organizations have generously created lists of activities on their websites:
 - Autism Society Inland Empire
 - <https://www.ieautism.org/coronavirus-2020/things-to-do-at-home/>
 - Disability Voices United
 - <http://disabilityvoicesunited.org/cv/>
- **Guidance and Information**
 - California Department of Public Health
Source/Fuente:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Guidance.aspx>
 - Facilities
 - Adult and Senior Care
 - Community Care, including assisted living and childcare
 - Public Places
 - Home Cleaning
 - Schools
 - And much more!
- **State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)
Resources List**
 - 1-Page Prevention Recommendations (Plain Language)
<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2020/03/2020-3-17-v2-Eng-COVID-19.pdf>

- Top Questions SCDD has received from Parents and Family Advocates
 - Family Advocate
<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2020/03/ENG-FA-Coronavirus-q-and-a-plain-language-FA-3-18-20-002.pdf>
 - Self-Advocate
<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2020/03/ENG-SA-Coronavirus-q-and-a-plain-language-SA-3-18-20.pdf>
- (COVID-19) Palin Language Information By and for People with Disabilities
<https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2020/03/Green-Mountain-SA-Info-By-and-For-People-with-Disabilities.pdf>

Executive Director Message

- In-Reach: State Council is working with other agencies and reaching out into communities creating a real-time community impacts due to COVID-19. With this information State Council can locate and provide individuals with the proper resources and supports.
- Information: Creating in Plain Language “Prevention Recommendations,” “COVID-19,” and “FAQ’s & Answers,” resources provided in both English & Spanish.
- Advocacy: March 23, 2020 the Council wrote a letter to the Governor
 - Non-Discrimination in Healthcare - Given that testing and treatment resources are scarce, it will be critical for Health and Human Services Agency to ensure that Medi-Cal and other healthcare providers do not discriminate against people with disabilities.
 - Direct Workforce / In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)/Regional Center Services - The Council believes that contingency plans must be created should caregivers become infected or exposed, need to adhere to quarantine requirements, or are hospitalized and the limited pool of caregivers shrinks to untenable levels. Council recommends that the Health and Human Services Agency ensures that assistance is available when providers are sick or must self-quarantine including creating emergency registries of providers, expediting this registry through systemic approval of emergency IHSS providers, suspending overtime rules, immediately

- expanding online provider orientations and other training opportunities, and permitting online provider enrollment.
 - CalFresh - should be eligible for online purchases.
 - DDS has also been active in ensuring Regional Centers have ongoing proactive and affirmative contact with people with developmental disabilities and families to understand their ongoing wellbeing and needs and to provide information about additional Regional Center services and supports.
 - Medi-cal - The Council recommends that in addition to halting re-determinations for 90 days that all terminations of Medi-Cal eligibility are halted. Any requirements for in-person meetings should be waived.
 - Education and Transition Services - Guidance from the U.S Department of Education that the CDE issued includes information that schools moving to on-line learning must continue to meet their obligations to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for students with disabilities, including special education and related services.
- Economic Impact Payment (commonly known as stimulus checks) and the impacts it will have on IHSS/SSI benefits.
 - Go to www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here and click the "**Enter your information**" button to fill out the form before Tuesday, May 5.
 - If you are an SSI recipient who doesn't need to claim dependents and doesn't file tax returns, you will start receiving your automatic Economic Impact Payments directly from the Treasury Department in early May.
- Survey for SCDD Regional Advisory Committee Members

Open Discussion – Systemic Issues

- Inyo/Mono County
 - Registry Office – Closed. Calls are forwarded to office clerks personal cell phone, but doesn't have access to computer, files etc.
 - PPE is being distributed through Registry Office – uncertain how that will be affected with the office being closed.
 - The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) funds Kern Regional Center (KRC) services provided to consumers, there is a delay in getting services paid for on-time and accurately.
 - Self-Determination - Regional Center staff are unaware of Self-Determination. There is a lack of training provided to staff, consumers, and family members.

- San Bernardino County
 - Additional Resources for event of Emergency such as Earthquake, Fires, Floods.
 - Communication – Self-Advocates, Family Member and Professionals suggestions improvements during this time to utilizing video conferencing services such as Zoom or Freeconference.com.
- Riverside County
 - Power Outage – Noticed was given prior (appreciated)
 - Schools are supportive and are meeting with Special Education Student’s needs.
 - Escuela de la Raza received funding for “Day of the Child Celebration” funds were forwarded to purchase – 150 boxes of diapers. Diapers are more in demand.

Public Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda

- Judy Rogel/Ronald Allan/Lanette Hollowell – Questions regarding the April 17 meeting with Self-Advocates.
 - Phone Tree meeting is being offered to Self-advocates to field the Supports needed in the community to better support Self-Advocates during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Maia Pawsookar - **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** concerns of lack of supplies available for Self-Advocates. Suggests the Regional Center to possibly procure PPE supplies and distribute to Self-Advocates.
 - SBRO manager to email “County Public Health Departments List.”
- Christina Christenson-Rockwell Easter Egg Hunt – Hiding Easter Eggs in the windows for Kids to find via drive by. They have 200 entries, 800 logged in that are hunting and received \$4,000 in donations that were used towards prizes for kids participating.

Meeting adjourns

- (time not stated)

Next Meeting

- Saturday, June 13, 2020