



Posted on: www.scdd.ca.gov

STATEWIDE SELF ADVOCACY NETWORK MEETING INFORMATION



DATE: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 and Thursday, December 10, 2020



TIME: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM
Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

This is a teleconference and zoom meeting only. There is no physical location being made available to the public. Per [EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20](#), teleconferencing restrictions are waived during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, committee members are not required to list their remote locations and members of the public may participate telephonically or by Zoom from any location. Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at www.scdd.ca.gov.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING: <https://bit.ly/ssan2020dec>

MEETING ID: **996 5706 6970**

MEETING PASSWORD: **953879**

Check out [Zoom Download Instructions](#) and [Tips on how to use Zoom](#) to learn the basics about the Zoom platform.

OR

JOIN BY TELECONFERENCE: (VOICE ONLY)

CALL IN NUMBER: **(888) 475-4499**

MEETING ID: **996 5706 6970**

MEETING PASSWORD: **953879**

Accessibility

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f) and Executive Order N-29-20 (This Executive Order can be found by clicking the link on page one of the agenda, or by typing <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.17.20-N-29-20-EO.pdf> into your web browser), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact Riana Hardin at (916) 263-8196 or Riana.Hardin@scdd.ca.gov. Please provide at least 3 business days prior to the meeting to allow adequate time to respond to all requests.

All times indicated and the order of business are approximate and subject to change.



AGENDA FOR DAY 1

December 08, 2020
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

- 1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions**
Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson, Desiree Boykin, Vice-Chairperson, and Lisa Cooley, Secretary
- 2. Public Comment**
Public comment is welcome. Comments on agenda items are taken as they are discussed.
- 3. Review and Approval of Agenda**
Presented by: Desiree Boykin, Vice-Chairperson
ACTION
- 4. Review and Approval of Minutes - September 24, 2020**
Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson
ACTION
- 5. Updates from the SSAN Chair**
Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson
Information
- 6. SCDD Update**
Presented by: Aaron Carruthers, SCDD Executive Director
Information
- 7. Approval of the 2019—2020 SSAN Annual Report** Presented by: Riana Hardin, SCDD Self—Advocacy Coordinator **ACTION**



Break



- 9. Approval of December SSAN Newsletter**
Presented by: Robert Levy, Newsletter Workgroup Chair **ACTION**



- 10. Alternative Delivery of Nonresidential Services**
Presented by: Julia Lowe, Department of Developmental Services
Information



- 11. SSAN Officers' Nominations**
Presented by: ALL
Information



- 12. Planning for March 2021**
Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson
Information





AGENDA FOR DAY 2

**December 10, 2020
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson, Desiree Boykin, Vice Chairperson, and Lisa Cooley, Secretary



2. Review of Agenda

Presented By: Desiree Boykin, Vice-Chairperson
Discussion



3. Public Comment

Public comment is welcome. Comments on agenda items are taken as they are discussed.

4. SSAN Elections

ALL
ACTION



5. Adjournment

DECEMBER 8, 2020

**SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 4
ACTION ITEM**



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2020 MINUTES

Attachments

September 2020 Minutes

Recommended Action

Approve the September 2020 SSAN Meeting Minutes.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



DRAFT

Statewide Self Advocacy Network Meeting Minutes September 24, 2020 Zoom

SCDD Regional Members Present

Nathan Florez — North Coast
Teresa Moshier — North State
Lisa Cooley — Sacramento
Robert Balderama — North Valley Hills
David Forderer — Central Coast
Julie Gaona — Los Angeles
Sean Sullivan — Orange County
Daniel Fouste — San Bernardino
Paul Mansell — San Diego–Imperial

Agency Members Present

Desiree Boykin — ARCA
Robert Levy —UCD MIND Institute
Wesley Witherspoon — USC CHLA
(SCDD Representative)
Kecia Weller — UCLA Tarjan Center
Scott Barron — DRC
Russell Rawlings—CFILC
Nicole Patterson — DDS

Members Not Present

Rebecca Donabed — Sequoia
Regina Woodliff — Bay Area

SCDD Staff in Attendance

Rihana Ahmad — SCDD HQ
Aaron Carruthers — SCDD HQ
Charlotte Enders — SCDD HQ
Riana Hardin — SCDD HQ
Dena Hernandez —
SCDD North Valley Hills
Beth Hurn — SCDD HQ
George Lewis —
SCDD North Valley Hills
Sarah May – SCDD North State
Mary Agnes Nolan —
SCDD North State
Sarah Wasiak — SCDD HQ

Non-SCDD Facilitators

Jana Chapman-Plon
Wayne Glusker

Presenters

Christina Mills — CFILC
Gabriel Taylor— DRC

Others Present

Maria Cafirma
Ryan Duncan Wood
Alicia Garispe
Alissa Norman



DRAFT

SSAN Minutes

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

SSAN Chairperson Nicole Patterson, Representative from DDS, called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

SSAN Chairperson Nicole Patterson requested Riana Hardin, SCDD Self—Advocacy Coordinator to assist in the attendance roll call. Members introduced themselves, and the region or agency that they represent.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Review and Approval of Agenda

SSAN Chairperson Nicole Patterson reviewed the agenda for the day. Members reviewed and approved the agenda.

ACTION: Motion #1 to approve the Agenda was made by Wesley Witherspoon/ Seconded by Kecia Weller. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See vote log on page 6.

4. Review and Approval of Minutes June 24, 2020

The members reviewed the minutes from the June 24, 2020 Meeting. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 9–16 of the September 2020 SSAN Meeting Packet.

ACTION: Motion #2 to approve the June 2020 minutes was made by Kecia Weller/ Seconded by Russell Rawlings. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See vote log on page 7.

5. Updates from SSAN Chair

SSAN Chairperson Nicole Patterson asked SSAN Members to provide feedback on meeting dates for 2021. Members discussed the pros and cons of changing the meeting months and days and decided that keeping SSAN meetings in March, June, September and December would be best. SSAN Chairperson Patterson also asked members to provide input on the structure of the December SSAN meeting, and said that SSAN Officers would be making the final decision with their input in mind.



DRAFT

6. SCDD Update

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided SSAN members with an update on SCDD activity since the June SSAN meeting. This update included information on the agency's efforts to advocate for people with I/DD during COVID—19, the ongoing wildfires across California, and the Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).

SCDD has partnered with the American Red Cross to put together go-kits to give to people with I/DD throughout California. Members were encouraged to contact their regional SCDD office for more information. SCDD continues to educate Californians with I/DD about voting in the upcoming election and the importance of participating in the 2020 Census Count.

At the September Council meeting, members of the Council approved the 2022—2026 State Plan and it will be out for public comment soon. SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers encouraged SSAN members to provide feedback on the SCDD 2022—2026 State Plan. Executive Director Aaron Carruthers took the time to answer members' questions.

Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 19–22 of the September 2020 SSAN Meeting Packet.

7. CFILC and YO! Disabled and Proud

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) Executive Director Christina Mills and Statewide Community Organizer Russell Rawlings provided SSAN members with an overview of the different programs and networks that CFILC supports. More information on these programs can be found online:

- [YO! Disabled and Proud](#)
- [Disability Organizing Network](#)
- [Ability Tools](#)
- [Digital Access Project](#)
- [Disability Disaster Access and Resources](#)



DRAFT

8. Voting in the 2020 Election and Voting Rights Training

Disability Rights California (DRC) Voting Rights Advocate Gabriel Taylor and Peer Advocate Scott Barron provided SSAN members with an overview presentation on voting in the upcoming election scheduled for November 3rd. Members discussed the importance of participating in the voting process and their plans to vote in the upcoming election. The following resources were shared during this presentation:

- [California's Where is My Ballot Tool](#)
- [California's Secretary of State's Website](#)
- [California's Voter's Edge org](#)
- [League of Women's Voters Easy Voter Guide](#)
- [California's Voter's Choice Act](#)

9. Approval of the September 2020 Newsletter

SSAN Newsletter Workgroup Chair Robert Levy presented members with a draft of the September 2020 edition of the SSAN Newsletter. The following corrections were made: add articles on the ADA 30th Anniversary and SAC6 Chats. Members suggested minor spelling and formatting edits to be made. Members discussed ideas for the December 2020 edition of the newsletter. Submission deadline for the December Newsletter is November 9th. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 27 –40 of the September 2020 SSAN Meeting Packet.

ACTION: Motion #3 to approve the 22nd volume of the Voices of SSAN Newsletter with the suggested changes, was made by Kecia Weller/ seconded by Daniel Fouste. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See the vote log on page 7.



DRAFT

10. Input for Next SSAN Meeting

SSAN members suggested the following items as possible topics of discussion at the December SSAN meeting:

- Ticket to Work with Progressive Employment Concepts
- Interacting with Law Enforcement
- Conflict Resolution
- Self-Determination Success Stories
- Update on Day Programs Reopening
- Annual Report
- Officers Elections
- SCDD Report

The next SSAN meeting will be in December using Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:43 PM



DRAFT

Name	Region	Roll Call	Motion 1	Motion 2	Motion 3
Wesley Witherspoon	SCDD	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below
Nathaniel Florez	North Coast	Present	For	For	Did Not Participate
Teresa Moshier	North State	Present	For	For	For
Lisa Cooley	Sacramento	Present	For	For	
Vacant	North Bay	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant
Robert Balderama	North Valley Hills	Present	For	For	For
Regina Woodliff	Bay Area	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
David Forderer	Central Coast	Present	For	For	For
Rebecca Donabed	Sequoia	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
Julie Gaona	Los Angeles	Present	Did Not Participate	For	For
Sean Sullivan	Orange County	Present	For	For	For
Daniel Foste	San Bernardino	Present	For	For	For
Paul Mansell	San Diego	Present	For	For	For
Desiree Boykin	ARCA	Present	For	For	For
Nicole Patterson	DDS	Present	For	For	For
Robert Levy	Mind Institute	Present	For	For	For
Wesley Witherspoon	USC – CHLA	Present	For	For	For
Kecia Weller	Trajan Center	Present	For	For	For
Russell Rawlings	CFILC	Present	For	For	For
Scott Barron	DRC	Present	For	For	For

DECEMBER 8, 2020

**SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 5
INFORMATION ITEM**

Statewide Self-Advocacy Network



UPDATES FROM THE SSAN CHAIR

The SSAN Chair will provide a verbal update to SSAN members.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

DECEMBER 8, 2020

**SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 6
ACTION ITEM**



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

SCDD UPDATE

Since the September 24, 2020 SSAN meeting, the State of California, the United States of America, and many countries around the world have continued to face challenges in addressing the public health and safety challenges of COVID—19. In addition to COVID—19, SCDD has been closely monitoring California’s wildfires and their impact on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the state. SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will update SSAN members on Council activities for meeting the needs of Californians with I/DD during these challenging and unique times.

Handouts

- December Council Meeting Summary

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

DECEMBER 8, 2020

**SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 7
ACTION**



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

APPROVAL OF 2019—2020 SSAN ANNUAL REPORT

The SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator and SSAN Officers will present SSAN members with the 2019–2020 SSAN Annual Report that summarizes SSAN Activity for the past year.

Attachments

- DRAFT 2019—2020 SSAN Annual Report

Recommended Action

Approve the DRAFT 2019—2020 SSAN Annual Report

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



SSAN Annual Report

The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

DRAFT 2019—2020 SSAN Annual Report



The 2019 – 2020 SSAN Annual Report was produced by the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities
3831 North Freeway Blvd. Suite 125
Sacramento, CA 95834
916-263-7919

2019-2020 SSAN Annual Report

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
ABOUT SCDD	3
ABOUT SSAN.....	4
AGENCY MEMBERS	5
SSAN MEMBERS	6
MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICERS	7
2019 – 2020 SSAN MEETINGS	9
REFLECTIONS FROM SSAN MEMBERS	10
2019 – 2020 HIGHLIGHTS	14

About SCDD

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is established by State (Lanterman Act) and Federal (Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000) and is one of 56 Councils on Developmental Disabilities within the US and its territories. SCDD belongs to a national association called the National Association for Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) that provides guidance and support to all 56 DD Councils. Growing and supporting self-advocacy is a core principal for every Council, as identified by the Developmental Disabilities Act of 2000.

SCDD has identified self-advocacy as their top goal in their current State Plan and is committed to supporting self-advocacy in California. To meet their commitment to establishing and strengthening a program lead by individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, develop and promote leadership skills, and expand participation in a cross-disability coalition, SCDD created the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) in 2012. Through supporting SSAN, the Council aims to help self-advocates in California increase knowledge and provide support to help them advocate for their civil and service rights and achieve integration and inclusion in all areas of community life. SCDD supports SSAN members' efforts to be leaders in their communities.

About SSAN

The Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) promotes leadership and builds bridges that strengthen advocacy among disability communities by focusing on policy change.

Vision Statement

SSAN is a cross-disability network of self-advocates that was established in 2012 and works to do the following:

- Develop the knowledge and skills to make a difference in our region and state.
- Speak up for all people with disabilities.
- Learn about and advocate for issues important to all people with disabilities.
- Lead regional and statewide advocacy groups and networks.
- Train advocates in their communities in order to grow the Self-Advocacy movement in California.
- Share information about programs and supports for people with disabilities.

Agency Members



[California State Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)



[California Department of Developmental Services](#)



[California Foundation for Independent Living Centers](#)



[Association of Regional Center Agencies](#)



[Disability Rights California](#)

California UCEDDs



[UCLA Tarjan Center](#)

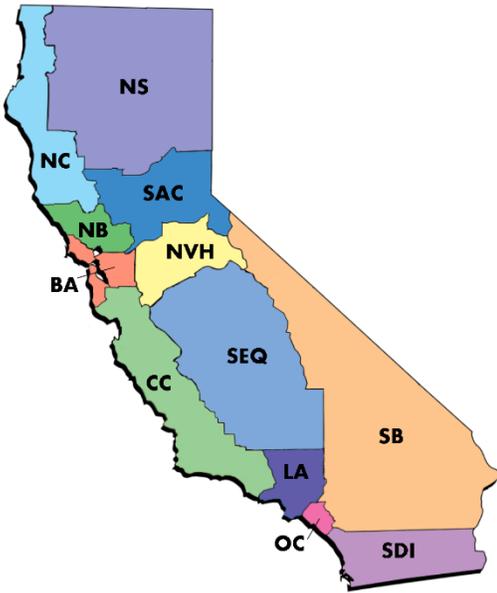


[USC Children's Hospital](#)



[UC Davis MIND Institute](#)

SSAN Members (Roster) 2019–2020



- North Coast Region – Nathaniel Florez
- North State Region – Teresa Moshier
- Sacramento Region – Lisa Cooley
- North Bay Region – Vacant
- Bay Area Region – Regina Woodliff
- North Valley Hills Region – Robert Balderama
- Central Coast Region – David Forderer
- Sequoia Region – Rebecca Donabed
- Los Angeles Region – Julie Gaona
- Orange County Region – Sean Sullivan
- San Bernardino Region – Daniel Fouste
- San Diego Region – Paul Mansell



- Association of Regional Center Agencies – Desiree Boykin



- California Foundation of Independent Living Centers – Renee Wooten/Russell Rawlings



- Department of Developmental Services – Nicole Patterson



- Disability Rights California – Scott Baron



- State Council on Developmental Disabilities – Wesley Witherspoon



- University Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities



- UC Davis MIND Institute – Robert Levy

- UCLA Tarjan Center – Kecia Weller



- USC Children's' Hospital – Wesley Witherspoon

Message from the Officers

It has been two years of great work and surprises for the SSAN membership. We are so honored that we had the privilege of leading this team over that time. It has been with great pride to see how the SSAN adapted to dealing with the pandemic and continued their work and commitment to SSAN and advocates they represent in their own communities. No words can express how delighted we are to be a part of such a great body of people. We have grown into a strong team of advocates and have learned how to support each other in new ways as we charter unknown territory. It is important for the SSAN to continue to be present, and a voice not only in our communities, but statewide even as we continue working through this difficult time. Over the last two years, SSAN has been able to accomplish the following:

- Updates to SSAN Bylaws
- Supported our members affected by wildfires across California
- Provided a presentation for AUCD in Washington D.C. (through some SSAN members who were able to attend)
- Disability Sensitivity Training
- Disability Pride and Being a Better Advocate-Training
- Established SSAN Priorities
 - ✓ Youth
 - ✓ Transportation
 - ✓ Employment
- Renewed our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)
- Person Centered Planning Training
- CalFresh Training
- Census Training
- Voting Trainings
- Public Transportation Projects and People with Disabilities presentation
- Cyber Security Training
- CFILC and YO! Disabled and Proud Training

DRAFT 2019—2020 SSAN Annual Report

- Distributing Personal Protective Equipment to people in their community with the Regional Offices of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

As the team passes on the torch to the next executive team, we would like the next team to know that no matter what the future holds as far as who becomes elected in December 2020. Please know that the support from this team will always be there to carry out your vision to drive the SSAN forward. As things come to an end for this team, we want the SSAN members to know how much we appreciate them for doing that for this team and making it so easy to lead.

Nicole Patterson (Chairperson)

Nicole has been involved with the SSAN since the beginning in 2012 representing the California State Department of Developmental Services (DDS) as a partner. Nicole has worked for DDS for fourteen years as the Coordinator of Advocacy Services. Nicole provides a voice, on behalf of people DDS serves, to the Director and the Department, on issues and problems that people with disabilities may be facing in California and helps to come up with solutions. Nicole has worked in the field of empowering people with disabilities for the past 25+ years. She is passionate about working with people with all types of disabilities, providing assistance and advising them on their rights, helping to change the future view of people with disabilities. It's important to me to show California and other states that people with disabilities can be fully included in all aspects of life by helping to educate the people who provide services, and to enlighten the communities we live in.

Nicole would like to thank SSAN members for the opportunity to serve as Chairperson and appreciates the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities continued support in empowering SSAN members as advocates on a state and local level.

Desiree Boykin (Vice-Chairperson)

Desiree has a B. A. degree in Health and Human Services. In 2011, South Central Los Angeles Regional Center hired her as their Consumer Advocate. She is passionate about the people they serve having the resources they need to reach their goals. Desiree also serves on the Association of Regional Center Agencies' Client Advisory Committee (ARCA CAC). The ARCA CAC elected her to serve as their representative for the SSAN.

Desiree would like to thank SSAN members for the opportunity to serve as Vice-Chair from December 2018—December 2020. She has learned so much under the leadership of Chair Nicole Patterson, along with Secretary Lisa Cooley. She is grateful for the opportunity to work with all of you and looks forward to seeing SSAN continue to advocate for many young and older adults with developmental disabilities throughout California and encourage people with disabilities to get involved in creating positive change.

Lisa Cooley (Secretary)

Lisa started doing disability advocacy work over twenty years ago because our local transportation provider thought that she could walk to a bus stop because she could walk around her house. She became so good at advocating that she decided to become a member of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. She also is a longtime member of her regional center's Client Advisory Committee. Her passion is to empower people with disabilities and move California forward.

Lisa would like to thank SSAN members for the opportunity to serve as the SSAN Secretary for 2018—2020. She has enjoyed working with Nicole and Desiree and getting to know them as the strong and determined advocates they are. She has learned a lot of skills that could help her with future opportunities with advocacy organizations and employment.

2019 – 2020 SSAN Meetings

SSAN held 4 meetings between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020. The meetings were held both in-person in Sacramento, California and virtually using Zoom. Each SSAN meeting included member reports on issues and concerns in their regions, legislative updates, training for members, and resources to distribute to member's communities. Highlights from Meetings include:

- Participated in a training on the California legislative process
- Presentation on AUCD and the importance of Competitive Integrated Employment
- Presentation on healthy relationships
- Identified priorities for the year
- Discussed the importance of Disability Sensitivity
- Disability Pride and Being a Better Advocate
- Impact of the Camp Fire on People with Disabilities
- Overview of the Disability Organizing Network
- Reviewed the MOU between SCDD and SSAN
- Person Centered Planning
- Reviewed and approved 4 editions of the SSAN Newsletter

Reflections from SSAN Members



“This year has been challenging for people with I/DD because of social distancing practices. I have had the opportunity to participate in the virtual training series “Raise the Roof” and learned a lot about the topic of affordable housing.”

– Paul Mansell, San Diego

Reflections on “Raise the Roof”

Members of SSAN participated in the virtual, training series “Raise the Roof” hosted by the Kelsey, on affordable housing. Key takeaways included:

- The Five basic needs that people have

“There are five basic needs people have to have—food and water, shelter, clothing, and education. Shelter means housing, and for many with limited income, that means affordable housing because housing these days is so terribly expensive.

- Housing needs for people with disabilities

For people with disabilities affordable housing needs to have the following: accessibility (especially for those who use wheelchairs), amenities (located near mass transit hubs, grocery stores, quality schools, and medical facilities), safe, and clean. Affordable housing is a health issue as underscored by the pandemic and the need to shelter in place. Very importantly affordable housing is social justice issue fighting racism, poverty, and ableism.

- Barriers to Affordable and Accessible Housing

Affordable housing is extremely limited due to the concept of “Not in My Backyard (NIMBYism)”, Zone restrictions, regulations, state law, funding complexity, and limitations to housing monies. Regardless of the limitations, it is essential for people with disabilities to live independently, included and integrated in their communities.

SSAN Reflections on Collaborating with Regional Offices to Respond to Community Needs

In the wake of the ongoing COVID—19 Pandemic, SSAN Members worked with SCD D Regional Offices to distribute Personal Protective Equipment to Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Key takeaways included:

2019 – 2020 Highlights

SSAN Members participate in Coalitions, Boards and Planning committees throughout California along with providing self-advocates, family advocates and others, trainings related to increasing self-advocacy and access to community supports. Highlights from members during the 2019 – 2020 reporting period include:

- Participated at Regional Advisory Committees
- Participated at SCDD Meetings in Sacramento
- Participated on the SCDD Self Advocacy Advisory Committee
- Attended, presented at and organized the following conferences:
 - Supported Life Institute Conference Online
 - In-person and online PFCA Gatherings
 - Virtual “ADA for the Next Generation” Event
 - Virtual Disability Vote California Trainings and Chats
 - Virtual Regional Self-Advocacy Chats
- Members are on their regional center boards, IHSS Public Authority, transportation boards, and People First groups
- Wrote and sent their stories to their Legislators
- Collaborated with regional offices of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to give statewide trainings
- Collaborated with regional offices of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to distribute Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Participated in the Kelsey’s “Raise the Roof: A Training Program for Leaders with Disabilities to Advance Housing”
- Presentations informing their community about SSAN
- Collaborating with agencies to conduct interviews
- Presentation on the California Self-Determination Program



California State Council on Developmental Disabilities
3831 North Freeway Blvd. Suite 125
Sacramento, CA 95834
916-263-7919

DECEMBER 8, 2020
SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 9
ACTION ITEM



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER APPROVAL AND IDEAS FOR NEXT EDITION

Robert Levy, Chair of the SSAN Newsletter Workgroup will present SSAN members with a DRAFT version of the December Newsletter and ask members for any changes or additions. Robert will then lead a discussion about ideas for the March Newsletter.

Attachments

- DRAFT December Voices of SSAN Newsletter

Recommended Action

Approve the DRAFT December Voices of SSAN Newsletter

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



IN THIS EDITION:

Article 1: Letter from SSAN Officers

Article 2: COVID—19 Update

Article 3: Exploring Issues: Mental Health

Article 4: Alta Regional: Thanking DSP Workers

Article 5: Regional Office Interview: North State

Article 6: Exploring Issues: Human Trafficking

Article 7: PEC 25th

Article 8: ADA 30th Celebration

Article 9: Kudos Corner

Article 9: Community Resources

Article 10: Save the Dates

Editor: Robert Levy

Contributors:

- Nicole Patterson
- Desiree Boykin
- Lisa Cooley
- Paul Mansell
- Wesley Witherspoon
- Robert Levy
- Teresa Moshier
- Russell Rawlings
- Julie Gaona

Letter from SSAN Officers

By Nicole Patterson, California Department of Developmental Services

Desiree Boykin, Association of Regional Center Agencies

Lisa Cooley, Sacramento Regional Representative

It has been two years of great work and surprises for the SSAN membership. We are so honored that we had the privilege of leading this team over that time. It has been with great pride to see how the SSAN adapted to dealing with the pandemic and continued their work and commitment to SSAN and advocates they represent in their own communities. No words can express how delighted we are to be a part of such a great body of people. We have grown into a strong team of advocates and have learned how to support each other in new ways as we charter unknown territory. It is important for the SSAN to continue to be present, and a voice not only in our communities, but statewide even as we continue working through this difficult time.

“Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as your Vice-Chair from December 2018—December 2020. I’ve learned so much under the leadership of Chair Nicole Patterson, along with Secretary Lisa Cooley. I’m grateful for the opportunity to work with all of you. I look forward to seeing SSAN continue to advocate for many young and older adults with developmental disabilities throughout California and encourage people with disabilities to get involved in creating positive change.”

— **Desiree Boykin, SSAN Vice—Chair 2018—2020**

(Continue on Page 2: “Letter”)



VOICES of SSAN

December 2020

Volume 23

(Continued from Page 1: “Letter”)

“Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the SSAN Secretary for 2018—2020. I have enjoyed working with Nicole and Desiree and getting to know them as the strong and determined advocates they are. I have learned a lot of skills that could help me with future opportunities with advocacy organizations and employment.”

– **Lisa Cooley, SSAN Secretary 2018—2020**

We would like to share some of the SSAN’s highlights during these past two years:

- Updates to SSAN Bylaws
- Supported our members involved in the Campfires
- Some SSAN members attended AUCD in Washington D.C. and did a presentation
- Disability Sensitivity Training
- Disability Pride and Being a Better Advocate-Training
- Established SSAN Priorities
 - ✓ Youth
 - ✓ Transportation
 - ✓ Employment
- Renewed our Memorandum of Understanding with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Person Centered Planning Training
- CalFresh Training
- Census Training
- Voting Trainings
- Public Transportation Projects and People with Disabilities presentation
- Cyber Security Training
- CFILC and YO! Disabled and Proud Training
- Distributing Personal Protective Equipment to people in their community with the Regional Offices of the State Council on developmental disabilities

As the team passes on the torch to the next executive team, we would like the next team to know that no matter what the future holds as far as who becomes elected in December 2020. Please know that the support from this team will always be there to carry out your vision to drive the SSAN forward. As things come to an end for this team, we want the SSAN members to know how much we appreciate them for doing that for this team and making it so easy to lead.



Coping with COVID—19

By Paul Mansell, San Diego Regional Representative

March seems like an eternity ago with following the pandemic protocols. They may not seem like much, sheltering in place, wearing a mask, washing your hands, but it really gets to me after a while. I have the strongest desire to get out of my apartment. Accordingly, I have returned to work three days a week and commute to work by bus. I never thought I would like to take the bus, but I do. I especially love my bus pass. I now go on walks in the neighborhood—anything to get my mind off the pandemic. At work we are very concerned about COVID-19 fatigue—people stressed out over the pandemic and tired of following the protocols. I am on a committee that will develop a training and resources to help staff cope better with the pandemic. Much has been said about tiers and how it can limit our life. Here is some info from [COVID-19.CA.GOV](https://www.covid-19.ca.gov).



Current tier assignments as of November 16, 2020

Understand your county's status

Every county in California is assigned to a tier based on its test positivity and adjusted case rate. At a minimum, counties must remain in a tier for at least 3 weeks before moving forward. Data is reviewed weekly and tiers are updated on Tuesdays. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks. If a county's metrics worsen for two consecutive weeks, it will be assigned a more restrictive tier. Public health officials are constantly monitoring data and can step in if necessary.

(Continue on Page 4: "Coping")



(Continued from Page 3: “Coping”)

CALIFORNIA COVID-19 TIERS

Source: CA Department of Public Health

<p>TIER 1) WIDESPREAD OR PURPLE</p> <p>WHAT IT MEANS: Many nonessential indoor business operations are closed</p> <p>CRITERIA: # of new daily cases: More than 7 per 100K people Positivity rate: More than 8%</p>	<p>TIER 3) MODERATE OR ORANGE</p> <p>WHAT IT MEANS: Some indoor business operations are open with modifications</p> <p>CRITERIA: # of new daily cases: 1-3.9 per 100K people Positivity rate: Between 2% and 4.9%</p>
<p>TIER 2) SUBSTANTIAL OR RED</p> <p>WHAT IT MEANS: Some nonessential indoor business operations are closed</p> <p>CRITERIA: # of new daily cases: 4-7 per 100K people Positivity rate: Between 5% and 8%</p>	<p>TIER 4) MINIMAL OR YELLOW</p> <p>WHAT IT MEANS: Most indoor business operations are open with modifications</p> <p>CRITERIA: # of new daily cases: Less than 1 per 100K people Positivity rate: Less than 2%</p>

Reopening safely for all communities

COVID-19 has impacted some communities more than others. They face higher rates of infection and death. These include our Latino, Black, Pacific Islander, low income, and essential worker communities.

Counties must address COVID-19 in **all** communities to open further, including making sure the positivity rate in certain neighborhoods (health equity metric) does not significantly fall behind overall county positivity rates. These efforts need cross-sector and broad partnerships to succeed. The health equity metric is only used to decide whether a county can move to a less restrictive tier. To move forward, a county must meet the next tier’s criteria for two consecutive weeks. If a county’s numbers worsen for two consecutive weeks, it will be assigned a more restrictive tier.

COVID represents a real challenge for self-advocates. It is harder stay united these days, and the knowledge that things will only get worse before they get better is hard to deal with. As we confront the pandemic, our issues like poverty, employment, healthcare, affordable housing, transportation, and isolation are coming to the forefront for all to see. Now is the time to correspond with our governmental officials and educate them on our issues and make a difference.



Exploring the Issues: Mental Health

By Wesley Witherspoon, USC Children’s Hospital UCEDD Representative



Mental Health is important. Unfortunately, some people have committed suicide due to suffering of mental health. Due to the pandemic, most people have to stay away from other people. Mental health might cause people to act in ways that is not normal. Many people are turning to drugs and alcohol to deal with the pain. Some people stay in bed all day and they feel worthless. People’s mental health suffers due to unmet expectations, peer pressure, abuse, trauma, stress, disappointment, someone who they love passes away. Many people lost their jobs due to COVID 19. Prolonged unemployment can lead to mental health problems as well. Consider visiting [Listos California to find COVID—19 specific Resources](#) relating to fighting isolation for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

(Continue on Page 6: “Mental Health”)

SSAN Members

- Nathaniel Florez – North Coast
- Teresa Moshier – North State
- Lisa Cooley – Sacramento
- Vacant – North Bay
- Regina Woodliff – Bay Area
- Robert Balderama – North Valley Hills
- David Forderer – Central Coast
- Rebecca Donabed– Sequoia
- Julie Gaona – Los Angeles
- Sean Sullivan – Orange County
- Daniel Fouste – San Bernardino
- Paul Mansell – San Diego Imperial
- Desiree Boykin – ARCA
- Renee Wooten – CFILC
- Nicole Patterson – DDS
- Scott Barron – DRC
- Robert Levy – UC Davis Mind Institute
- Kecia Weller – UCLA Tarjan Center
- Wesley Witherspoon –SCDD and USC Children’s Hospital



VOICES of SSAN

December 2020

Volume 23

(Continued from Page 5: “Mental Health”)

I would suggest seeing a mental health professional if sickness last more than 2 months. Almost half the US population sometime in their lives suffers from mental health issues.

Many famous people such as Kayne West, Adele, Billie Eilish, Michelle Obama, and Drew Carey have suffered from mental health issues.

Suicide is 10th biggest cause of death to people. Alcohol and drugs are a multi-billion-dollar industry. I lost one of my classmates due to an overdose of drugs. People drink and take drugs because they want to be cool. Drug dealers can persuade anyone to take drugs including entertainers, politicians, athletes, and super rich people. 90% of the adult population has drunk alcohol. You can make a list of 20 things that you can do at home. Call a friend, family member, or support staff, if you feel alone. Remember you are not alone. Disability Rights California has a program called [Peer Self-Advocacy \(PSA\)](#) that provides self-advocacy trainings for people with mental health disabilities, helps people to build self—advocacy skills, provides guidance for accessing services and supports, and other rights-related topics.

SSAN Mission Statement

The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) promotes leadership and builds bridges that strengthen advocacy among disability communities by focusing on policy change.

[SSAN past Newsletters, Annual Reports, and Meeting info](#), can be found at www.scdd.ca.gov under self-advocacy tab

Let us know if you want to see anything specific in future newsletters!

How do you contact the SSAN Newsletter Editor Robert Levy? Leave a message for him by contacting the SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator **Riana Hardin at (916) 263-8196**



Alta Regional: Thanking Direct Support Professionals (DPS)

By Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute UCEDD Representative



Alta California Regional Center

Alta California Regional Center, Executive Director Phil Bonnet recently released a video to thank all the Direct Services Providers (DSP) connected with Alta Regional for all their hard work in continuing to support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout the region. Clients using programs like PEC/CES rely on DSPs to live independently and reach their goals.

I think that the DPS workers are doing a great job on helping us clients to have a better life. This video was a great project. Both Lisa Cooley, Sacramento Regional Representative SSAN member and I, along with many others were included in this video. You can check it out at the [Alta Regional Center Facebook page](#). Or at the [Alta Regional Center Instagram page](#). Or the [Alta Regional Center home page](#) Check out the video today.

Learn About SSAN Member Organizations

- [Association of Regional Center Agencies](#)
- [California Foundation for Independent Living Centers](#)
- [Department of Developmental Services](#)
- [Disability Rights California](#)
- [University of California, Davis MIND Institute](#)
- [University of California, Los Angeles, Tarian Center](#)
- [University of Southern California, Children's Hospital](#)

Self-Determination Update

Check out the latest [DDS Self-Determination Newsletter](#) for the latest on California's Self-Determination Program.



Regional Office Highlight: North State

By Teresa Moshier, North State Regional Representative

I recently talked with Sarah May, Regional Manager of the SCDD North State Office to learn more about the North State Office.

Question: How long were you employed with Area Board 2 before it became the North State Regional Office in 2015?

Answer: I was employed with Area Board 2 since May 18, 1998. I worked for Area Board 2 for 17 years before it became the North State Regional Office.

Question: What other jobs have you had besides the SCDD, North State Regional Office Manager job?

Answer: After graduating from Chico State University in May 1991, I started working for Work Training Center as a job coach for the Supported Employment Program that was called Jobs R Us in Chico, California. After a year of job coaching, I moved to Chicago, Illinois where I worked for 2 service provider agencies providing day program services. One agency was called Victor C. Neumann Associates and then I worked for Misericordia North as a teacher of Activities of Daily Living. After a year, I moved back to Chico and got my job back as a job coach/job developer helping people get community employment for Jobs R Us Program with Work Training Center. Then I was hired as the Program Coordinator until May of 1998. I started working for Area Board 2 in May of 1998 as the Life Quality Assessment Project Coordinator where I interviewed people using Far Northern Regional Center services and asked them about their life quality and their opinion of the services they received. After approximately 12 years of managing the Life Quality Assessment Project, I worked as the Community Program Specialist II for Area Board 2 providing advocacy and system navigation to people who use Far Northern Regional Center services. Then in February of 2012, I was selected as the Executive Director of Area Board 2 until I applied for the Manager position for the North State Regional Office in 2015. I've maintained the position as Manager of the North State Office ever since and feel honored to work for SCDD.

(Continue on Page 9: "North State")



VOICES of SSAN

December 2020

Volume 23

(Continued from Page 8: “North State”)

Question: Do you enjoy your current job?

Answer: I can't imagine doing anything else. It's very rewarding helping people discover resources, navigating the service system, providing trainings and educational events, collaborating with community agencies and most importantly empowering self-advocates to be leaders living self-determined lives. Working with people with diverse abilities and their families, has taught me how to advocate for myself and how to utilize available resources in my own life.

Question: Tell us about how AMJaMB got the grant from SCDD?

Answer: The SCDD provides regional Program Development Grants throughout the state to the 12 regional office communities every other year and AMJaMB's The Call Connection was a previous grant recipient. AMJaMB was selected in the past for their employment service. SCDD, North State Regional Office was honored to provide grant funding to help them get The Call Connection get started. The Call Connection, which is a service through Beyond Inclusion Program is a wonderful service for Far Northern Regional Center clients who benefit from a welfare check for many reasons. Maybe someone wants to be called for a reminder to take their medication or just to check in on them to make sure they are okay or even for a friendly chat. The Call Connection employs people with developmental disabilities, and they earn a competitive wage. Most people who work for The Call Connection, say it's the best job they've ever had. The Call Connection is still in business and operating successfully today!



Exploring the Issues: Human Trafficking

By Wesley Witherspoon, USC Children's Hospital UCEDD Representative



Human Trafficking is a serious problem. Human Trafficking is when someone is forced to work for free (modern-day slavery). People who are victims of human trafficking, may do different types of work, including being forced into prostitution.

Victims of Human Trafficking are controlled by someone or a group. Anyone can be a victim of Human Trafficking. Predators target people with low self-esteem or vulnerable by wanting relationships or trying to find work. People are being exploited every day.

If you or someone you know are or suspect are a victim of Human Trafficking, you can call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at (888) 373-7888 or check out the [California page on the National Human Trafficking website](#), your local law enforcement agency, social services, and a human service agency.

People with disabilities are vulnerable because they are looking for a relationship or work. Human Trafficking is a serious crime and people who are found guilty of this crime can serve many years in prison. They try to silence the victims of Human Trafficking. You have rights. You have the same rights as everyone else. You matter. Don't let anyone control you.

There are many agencies and organizations in California to address human trafficking. Check out these pages on the California Attorney General's website to learn more about Human Trafficking:

- [Office of California Attorney General Human Trafficking Page](#)
- [Office of Attorney General Human Trafficking Resources](#)



Progressive Employment Concepts Celebrates 25 Years

By Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute UCEDD Representative

25 years ago, on October 16, 1995, Carole Watilo decided to open her own business and help out people with people disabilities to have a productive life. The nonprofit organization was called Progressive Employment Concepts (PEC) and initially served Sacramento and Placer Counties. Over the years PEC expanded to serving Del Norte County; as well as Yolo County through Community Employment Concepts (CES), based in Davis, California. Over the years, clients have gotten jobs at Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), Franklin Templeton Investments and like me, working at UC Davis MIND Institute and other organizations. The great thing about PEC/CES is that they continue to help their clients after they get a job by helping their clients to understand how to manage working and receiving benefits like SSI and SSDI through the Social Security Administration's Ticket to Work Program, and develop and strengthen job related skills.

I had the opportunity to ask Carole Watilo a few questions about PEC/CES.

What made you decide to start PEC/CES?

I had been working in this field for 11 years doing ILS/SLS, working with kids in schools and then supporting people with work. There were very few services for people who wanted to work, go to school and be involved in their communities. Most services were segregated, site based and paid people subminimum wage. We wanted better options for people.

What was your process for starting PEC/CES?

Luckily, I had a lot of help. The person that I worked for at the time was very supportive during the process of starting PEC. They were able to mentor me and connect me to the resources that they used. I was able to reach out to other agencies doing this work and get advice from them as well. It was a big learning experience. First, we had to start the business, then we had to vendorize with the regional center in order to get funding to do our work.

(Continue on Page 12: "PEC/CES")



(Continued from Page 11: “PEC/CES”)

What has made PEC successful for the last 25 years?

I think the key to our success is that we offer people the support they need and want. We believe in people’s abilities and hold very high expectations of both the people we support as well as ourselves. PEC has become successful because the people that we serve desire to succeed—we just provide them with the resources that help them do that.

What are PEC/CES future plans in supporting other clients like me?

PEC/CES has grown beyond what we ever envisioned but we are very happy it has. We have had the opportunity to work with some amazing people and businesses. We continue to learn and grow and want to always offer people the services they want and need. I will continue to be the Executive Director at PEC/CES as long as they’ll have me. I am very lucky that we now have an outstanding leadership team that can carry on our services even if I take some time off here and there. It is a team effort at PEC/CES!



VOICES of SSAN

December 2020

Volume 23

Kudos Corner

By Julie Gaona

Nicole has been a good leader and chairperson for the SSAN. I knew she was going to be a good chair because she is a good leader. She works hard to try to get people involved in the SSAN. She wants to hear our ideas and gives us suggestions on how we can expand our ideas and goals for SSAN. I feel even though Nicole has a lot of experience she learned a lot from us, and we learned a lot from her. I'm very impressed with Nicole because she is so busy with other things. I don't know how she was able to take on the SSAN as chair like she did. She inspired me to try to improve my advocacy skills. Right now, I have a lot on my plate with my husband's health. I am not able to advocate like I was, but this time will pass. So, for right now I am relying on Nicole to keep doing her best and I will be there cheering her on and then fighting the biggest storm we have coming ahead. Do not think I do not recognize all the hard work that we do as well. We are all leaders and fighters. Nicole is just one of the leaders that really inspires me. Kudos to you!!

Community Resources

Check out the State Council on Developmental Disabilities' [Series of Informational Videos on COVID—19](#) featuring people with disabilities on YouTube.

[California Disaster Strategies Coalition](#) consists of a broad group of community service providers and advocates working on inclusive emergency planning, response, recovery, and mitigation.

SAVE THE DATES

Disability Rights California



Events and Trainings:

<https://bit.ly/3jmZV6N>

California's 13th Annual Developmental Disabilities Public Policy Conference

Monday March 15th—
Thursday, March 18th, 2021

[WE'RE GOING VIRTUAL!](#)



Plain Language COVID—19

Resources Available on:

[SCDD Website](#)

Contact your SCDD
Regional Office for:

- information on upcoming trainings
- local self-advocacy meetings
- find out how to get Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for you and your family.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

DECEMBER 8, 2020
SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 10
INFORMATION ITEM



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY OF NONRESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Julia Lowe, from the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will be presenting SSAN members with information on the status of day programs during COVID—19.

Attachments

- Alternative Service Information for Self—Advocates and Families with FAQs
- Final Family Member Engagement Guide

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Alternative Services: Information for Self-Advocates and Families

DDS recognizes that individuals who receive regional center services and their families have experienced stress during COVID-19 and that families have taken on increased care responsibilities for their loved ones. DDS recently issued a new Directive, "Policies and Procedures for Utilizing Alternative Non-Residential Services During the COVID 19 State of Emergency," This Directive explains alternative services, , It also explains how alternative services can help consumers and their families receive services and supports that meet their individual needs when the services they received before COVID are not available. The Directive may be found [here](#).

DDS also developed a Family Engagement Guide. This Guide helps families think about what has changed for their loved one during COVID-19 and what services and supports are needed now. As you think about the questions in the Guide, we encourage you to share all or some of the information with your provider and regional center service coordinator. A copy of the guide may be found [here](#)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About Alternative Services

1. What Service Types Are Covered By The Alternative Services Directive?

This Directive applies to many non-residential services, including services provided by day programs, early intervention, and transportation, etc. Because of state and local health rules, these providers may not be able to provide the same services they did before COVID-19. The Directive provides information about how to provide alternative services to meet consumer's current needs.

The Directive does not apply when a provider can provide the same services, which meet the consumer's needs, either in the way they were provided before COVID-19 or in an alternative location or via remote delivery. For example, a day program that provides the same services virtually and these virtual services meet a consumer's needs, is not providing alternative services. Similarly, individual therapy services which can be provided in a clinic that follows required safety protocols are not alternative services.

2. When Can Alternative Services Begin?

In the month of September 2020, the provider shall engage the consumer about his or her need for and interest in Alternative Services as an option. If the consumer is interested in using alternative services, the provider must notify the regional center. The consumer must also receive a copy of a new or revised service plan.

3. What Must Providers Do If They Are Providing Alternative Services?

Before a provider can provide a consumer with alternative services, they must do the following:

- Make sure the alternative services meet a consumer's current needs.

- Engage with consumers and families about their service needs and the use of alternative services.
- Follow state and local health orders and licensing requirements.
- Train their staff and consumers on safe delivery of in-person services, if in-person services are provided.
- Be creative, resourceful, and make modifications to how services are provided.

4. How Will Providers Be Expected To Engage Consumers and Families About Their Service Needs?

Providers are expected to facilitate an inclusive and individualized implementation of the Alternative Services Directive.

- The provider must engage with each consumer to find out if he or she needs and is interested in alternative services. You can decide if these services will help you and if you want to participate.
- The provider should give consumers and families information so they can understand the flexible and creative alternative services options.
- The provider should ask consumers and families about their needs and ideas about options that work best for them. If you are not asked, you should talk about your needs and offer any ideas you have.
- If the consumer or authorized representative gives permission, the provider can work with other providers that also have service authorizations for the same consumer to best support the consumer's needs.

After meeting with you, the provider will do the following:

- Document the conversation with the consumer including the date, who participated in the conversation, and a description of the consumer's and family's input.
- Notify your regional center that you are interested in receiving alternative services.
- If you agree that you want alternative services, the provider must give you a new or updated service plan with details about the type and amount of alternative services that will be provided. The service plan may involve services provided in collaboration with other service providers, including residential service providers.
- The new or update service plan will usually be provided in October 2020.

The provider must also tell consumers the specific steps they can take if they disagree with the alternative services offered by the provider. For example, the consumer or family may disagree with the proposed services because they are not offered at a convenient time, are not offered frequently enough, or will not meet other needs.

5. What Are Examples of Alternative Services?

Alternative services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Supports to minimize the exposure to or impact of COVID-19 on a consumer;

- Completion of an individual assessment of skills, preferences, and service needs for a consumer;
- Completion of a service plan to provide needed services for a consumer;
- Delivery of supplies or other items to the consumer's home needed to provide services or supports;
- Use of self-guided training and educational materials supplied to the consumer by the provider intended to support the consumer's service;
- Skills training to individuals within the consumer's household who are specifically designated to support the consumer;
- Supports for transition to the Self-Determination Program; and
- Other modifications to nonresidential services that are approved by the consumer that further or achieve his or her service needs.

Alternative services can be provided in different ways. For example, alternative services may be delivered to the consumer via telephone, video or other electronic communication. Alternative services also may be provided in-person at the consumer's home, in a community setting, or at a provider's facility, that complies with the most protective state or local COVID-19 safety guidelines in effect when the service is to be delivered and by staff trained in safety protocols.

6. What Is the Regional Center's Role With Alternative Services?

- Your service coordinator can help you identify service options or different providers if your current provider is unable to meet your needs or provide the necessary support services. Since your service needs may have changed because of COVID 19, you can also discuss the need for different or more services with your service coordinator.
- Within 30 days of learning about a consumer's interest in alternative services from the provider, the regional center will send you a letter, in your preferred language, confirming the request for alternative services. The letter will include contact information for the consumer's service coordinator and their supervisor. If you have questions after receiving this letter you should contact your service coordinator or their supervisor.

7. What Steps Can I Take To Make Sure That Alternative Services Meet My or My Family Member's Needs?

- Think about your or your family member's individual's goals, needs and services before you speak with your service provider. You may want to use the Family Engagement Guide to help you think about your current needs and the kinds of services that will meet these needs.
- If your provider is offering alternative services, look at the list of possible alternative services in question 4. Which services may be helpful to you and which service types may not help you? Are there other services or options that are not listed that

you want to discuss? Do you need training or supplies to access any of these services?

- Ask questions so you understand the flexible and creative options being offered.
- Think about ways service can be coordinated with other providers and share that information.
- Ask your service coordinator about other ways services can be provided. For example, under Participant-Directed Services, you can directly hire a person you choose, including a family member to provide some services. More information about participant directed services may be found [here](#)

Questions About Other Services

8. What Can I Do If My Provider Does Not Provide Services Under The Alternative Services Directive And I Have Questions About The Services I Or My Family Member Receive?

To ensure the health, welfare, and safety of regional center consumers during the COVID 19 Pandemic, DDS allowed many services to be provided in an alternate location or through remote electronic communications, including Skype, Facetime, video conference, or telephone conference. The flexibility to provide services in an alternate location or through remote means, should not have changed the frequency or duration of any IPP service absent the agreement of the consumer's IPP team. If the consumer requested or agreed to have services provided in an alternative location or through remote means, the provider notified the regional center and the regional center sent a letter, to the consumer in their preferred language, confirming this change. Information about these requirements may be found [here](#).

If you have concerns about the services you or your family member are receiving you should speak with your service provider and/or Service Coordinator. For example, you may have concerns about the amount of the service, the hours the services are provided or no longer think that remote services work for you or your family member. Your provider may be able to adjust you or your family members services. Your service coordinator may be able to identify other service providers or services that can better meet your need. You may also want to discuss using Participant Directed Services with your Service Coordinator. You may find it helpful to think about the areas listed in Question 7 or the Family Guide [\[add link\]](#) to prepare for your discussion with your service provider or service coordinator.

Family Member Engagement Guide

The Family Member Engagement Guide is a tool that families can use to discuss services and supports with service providers and their regional center (RC). This guide helps you know what questions to think about so that you can discuss your family member's RC service needs; flexibility and innovation of services while maintaining safety; and how to make choices that are best for them during the COVID-19 pandemic. You may use all or some of your answers when you talk with your RC and service provider.

Current Goals, Activities, and Services

1. Think about the goals in your family member's Individual Program Plan (IPP). Do any of these need to change because of COVID-19?
2. How does your family member currently spend their days?
3. What does your family member like about their days?
4. What does your family member dislike about their days?
5. How are RC services and supports currently provided?
6. What RC services and support works well?
7. What RC services and supports would you like to change?

Changes in Health Status, Changes in Family Member Work Status

1. Have there been changes to your family member's health? If so, does your family member need any support to address these health concerns?
2. Has your family member had any new or increased behavioral challenges?
3. Have you or your family member experienced any of the following while at home: stress; isolation; death of a family member, caregiver, or friend? Does your family member need support to address these concerns?
4. Have there been changes to your work or your source of income? If so, how do these changes impact the services you need from the RC?
5. Have you, another person in the family or caregiver had a serious illness related to COVID-19?

Safety Equipment and Safety Protocols

1. Do you and your family member have access to personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks, gloves, sanitizers? If not, do you need help getting PPE?
2. Do you or your family need training about how to use PPE?
3. Is your family member able to stay safe by wearing a mask, social distancing, not touching their face, hand washing, or temperature checks? If not, are there any disability-related reasons your family member cannot stay safe?
4. Have you tried other PPE that works better for your family member such as a clear face shield?

Service Needs and Options

Think about the services your family member received from the RC before and during the stay at home order. You may want some of those services to continue. You may want some of those services to be changed. You may want some different services.

1. If your family member received remote services, such as through Zoom, were these remote services helpful? Do you want these remote services to continue? Do you have ideas of how to make them better?
2. If your family member received individual therapies such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services, speech or early intervention services, did those services stop? If so, do you want those services to start again in your home, once your local Department of Public Health allows it?
3. Are you comfortable with your family member participating in programs outside of your home or outdoors when safety protocols are followed? If so, what type of activities are you comfortable with? Are there types of activities you don't want your family member to do?
4. Do you want to learn about other kinds of services your family member can receive at home? For example, through "participant directed services," you can hire a person you choose, including someone in your family. This person can provide respite, day care, transportation, services provided by a licensed nurse, day services, personal assistance, independent living skills and supported employment services. You can find more information about participant directed services on the [DDS website](#) to discuss with your RC.

Communication with Service Providers, RC Service Coordinators and Staff

Think about how you and your family member communicated with RC staff and service providers during the stay at home order. It may have been by phone, by email or technology like Zoom.

1. Which of these communication methods worked best for you?
2. What ways would you like regional center staff or service providers to communicate with you in the future?
3. Did you or your family member have any problems using technology to communicate with service providers or regional center staff?
4. Is there technology you need to better communicate with regional center staff or service providers or to receive remote services?
5. Do you or your family member need training in using technology?

Training Needs

1. Do you or your family member need training about how to use a mask, hand washing, social distancing or other safety guidelines?
2. Have you asked your provider for social story or communication boards to help your family member learn how to use PPE or follow other safety guidelines?
3. Do you or your family member need training to better use technology? Does your family member need adaptive equipment to be able to use technology?
4. Would you like training about different types of services, the different ways that services can be provided, and any changes that can be made when services resume?

DECEMBER 8, 2020
SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 11
INFORMATION ITEM



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

SSAN OFFICERS NOMINATIONS

SSAN leadership includes the roles of Chair, Vice—Chair, and Secretary. The SSAN Bylaws state that SSAN Officers may serve for 1 term of 2 years and that SSAN members will hold elections every 2 years to pick a new leadership team. On Day One of the meeting, members are nominated. Members cannot nominate themselves for leadership roles and have the right to refuse a nomination. On Day Two of the meeting, candidates for leadership roles will give speeches. A role call vote will be taken for each office and the results will take effect the day of the election.

Attachments

- SSAN Chair Description
- SSAN Vice-Chair Description
- SSAN Secretary Description

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



Duties of Chair and Election of Officers (From Amended SSAN By-Laws 3/26/2019)

Officers

SSAN officers will be Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

Section 1. Eligibility

All SSAN members may run for the position of Vice-Chair or Secretary. A SSAN member must be a member of SSAN for at least one (1) year before they can run for the position of SSAN Chair.

Section 2. Terms

A SSAN Officer's term will be two years. An officer stays in their position until they term out, they are elected to a new office, or they resign. An officer is limited to serving one (1) term per officer position, but may run again for that officer position after sitting out for one term. Members are free to run for any other officer position during that two-year waiting period.

Requirements of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

1. Attends SSAN meetings regularly.
2. Serve as a mentor for new members
3. Know SSAN By-Laws and meeting procedures.

Section 3. Vacancies

The Chair can fill any officer vacancies on a temporary basis until the next meeting. If an officer cannot complete a term, another member will be elected by the SSAN at the next regularly scheduled meeting. That newly elected officer shall serve the remainder of that term, and will be allowed to run for that position for a full term at the next officer election.

Section 4. Duties of Officers:

General Expectations:

1. Attend all SSAN meetings
2. Attend SSAN officer meetings
3. Serve as a mentor for new members
4. Know SSAN bylaws and meeting procedures
5. Help support workgroups

Section 4a Duties of the SSAN Chair:

1. Work with the Vice Chair, Secretary, SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator, and other support staff to prepare meeting agendas.
2. Represent SSAN in the community.
3. Work with SSAN members to follow up on issues brought up at meetings.
4. Work with SSAN support staff in between meetings.
5. Communicate as needed with SSAN members in between meetings while following the Bagley-Keene Act.
6. Know and implement the SSAN bylaws.



Duties of Chair and Election of Officers **(From Amended SSAN By-Laws 3/26/2019)**

Officers

SSAN officers will be Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

Section 1. Eligibility

All SSAN members may run for the position of Vice-Chair or Secretary. A SSAN member must be a member of SSAN for at least one (1) year before they can run for the position of SSAN Chair.

Section 2. Terms

A SSAN Officer's term will be two years. An officer stays in their position until they term out, they are elected to a new office, or they resign. An officer is limited to serving one (1) term per officer position, but may run again for that officer position after sitting out for one term. Members are free to run for any other officer position during that two-year waiting period.

Requirements of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

1. Attends SSAN meetings regularly.
2. Serve as a mentor for new members
3. Know SSAN By-Laws and meeting procedures.

Section 3. Vacancies

The Chair can fill any officer vacancies on a temporary basis until the next meeting. If an officer cannot complete a term, another member will be elected by the SSAN at the next regularly scheduled meeting. That newly elected officer shall serve the remainder of that term, and will be allowed to run for that position for a full term at the next officer election.

Section 4. Duties of Officers:

General Expectations:

1. Attend all SSAN meetings
2. Attend SSAN officer meetings
3. Serve as a mentor for new members
4. Know SSAN bylaws and meeting procedures
5. Help support workgroups

Section 4b. Duties of the Vice-Chair:

1. Work with the Chair, Secretary, SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator, and other support staff to prepare meeting agendas.
2. Perform all duties of Chair in absence of Chair.
3. Have ongoing communication with the Chair before each meeting while following the Bagley-Keene Act.
4. Assist Chair to follow up on issues brought up at meetings.
5. Act as timekeeper



Duties of Chair and Election of Officers (From Amended SSAN By-Laws 3/26/2019)

Officers

SSAN officers will be Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.

Section 1. Eligibility

All SSAN members may run for the position of Vice-Chair or Secretary. A SSAN member must be a member of SSAN for at least one (1) year before they can run for the position of SSAN Chair.

Section 2. Terms

A SSAN Officer's term will be two years. An officer stays in their position until they term out, they are elected to a new office, or they resign. An officer is limited to serving one (1) term per officer position, but may run again for that officer position after sitting out for one term. Members are free to run for any other officer position during that two-year waiting period.

Requirements of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

1. Attends SSAN meetings regularly.
2. Serve as a mentor for new members
3. Know SSAN By-Laws and meeting procedures.

Section 3. Vacancies

The Chair can fill any officer vacancies on a temporary basis until the next meeting. If an officer cannot complete a term, another member will be elected by the SSAN at the next regularly scheduled meeting. That newly elected officer shall serve the remainder of that term, and will be allowed to run for that position for a full term at the next officer election.

Section 4. Duties of Officers:

General Expectations:

1. Attend all SSAN meetings
2. Attend SSAN officer meetings
3. Serve as a mentor for new members
4. Know SSAN bylaws and meeting procedures
5. Help support workgroups

Section 4c. Expectation Duties of Secretary

1. Work with the Chair, Vice Chair, SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator, and other support staff to prepare meeting agendas.
2. Perform all duties of Vice Chair in their absence.
3. Perform all duties of the Chair in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair.
4. Take roll call to establish quorum.
5. Works with support staff to prepare and distribute minutes of meetings.
6. Keep track of motions, votes and actions at meetings.
7. Act as parliamentarian.

DECEMBER 8, 2020

SSAN MEETING AGENDA ITEM 12
Information Item

Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

PLANNING FOR MARCH 2021



The SSAN Chair will lead the group in a discussion about ideas for the March 2021 meeting and members will have the opportunity to complete meeting evaluations for the December 2020 meeting.

Attachments

None

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

DECEMBER 10, 2020

**SSAN DAY 2 AGENDA ITEM 4
ACTION ITEM**



Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

SSAN OFFICER ELECTIONS

On the day two of the December 2020 SSAN Meeting, candidates who have chosen to accept nominations for a SSAN leadership role will be given time to tell SSAN why they would like to be in a leadership role on SSAN. The SCDD Self—Advocacy Coordinator will facilitate a roll call vote for the positions of SSAN Chair, SSAN Vice—Chair, and SSAN Secretary. Runoff votes will be held if no candidate for a position gets a majority of the votes.

Attachments

None

Recommended Action

Elect a new leadership team for SSAN to serve from December 2020—December 2022

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK