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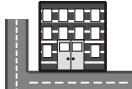
**STATEWIDE SELF ADVOCACY NETWORK MEETING INFORMATION**



**DATE:** Wednesday, December 4 and Thursday, December 5, 2019



**TIME:** Wednesday, March 4, 2020 10:00am – 5:00pm  
Thursday, March 5, 2020 9:30am – 3:00pm



**WHERE:** Crowne Plaza Sacramento Northeast  
5321 Date Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95841  
(916) 338-5800

**TELECONFERENCE SITE: See Last Page**

**Toll-Free Call-in Number: 1-800-839-9416  
Participant Code 8703085**

**Sites NOT listed as a Teleconference Site: The Public May Listen In ONLY**

*Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in the meeting, should contact Riana Hardin at State Council on Developmental Disabilities 3831 N. Freeway Blvd, Suite 125, Sacramento, CA 95834 or by phone: 916-263-8196 or*

*Email: [riana.hardin@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:riana.hardin@scdd.ca.gov)*

*Requests must be received by 5 pm, on  
Monday, February 24, 2020*



## **AGENDA FOR DAY 1**

**March 4, 2020  
10:00 am – 5:00 pm**

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### **1. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions**

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



### **2. Review and Approval of Agenda**

Presented by: Desiree Boykin, Vice-Chairperson  
**ACTION**



### **3. SCDD Update and MOU**

Presented by: Cindy Smith, SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs

**ACTION**



### **4. Legislative Update**

Presented by: Cindy Smith, SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs

**ACTION**



### **5. Public Transportation Projects and People with Disabilities Panel**

Presented by: California Department of Transportation  
**Information**



**Lunch** – 90 minutes. On your own –



### **6. Review and Approval of Minutes December 4 & 5, 2019**

Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson  
**ACTION**



## **7. Public Comment**

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



## **8. Updates from the SSAN Chair**

Presented by: Nicole Patterson, Chairperson  
**Information**

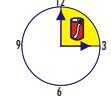


## **9. Workgroups**

Presented by: ALL  
**Information**



**BREAK**



## **10. Member Action Reports**

Presented by: ALL  
**Information**



## **11. 5:00pm Adjourn**





## AGENDA FOR DAY 2

March 5, 2020

9:30 am – 3:00 pm

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### **1. Call to Order**

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



### **2. Public Comment**

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



### **3. Cyber Security**

Presented by: Wesley Witherspoon  
**Information**



### **4. Youth and Disability**

Presented by: YO! Disabled and Proud  
**Information**



**Lunch** – 90 minutes. On Your Own

### **5. March Newsletter Approval & Ideas for next edition**

Presented by: Robert Levy – Newsletter Chair  
**ACTION**



### **6. Input for next SSAN Meeting & Complete Meeting Evaluations**

**ALL**



### **7. Adjourn**

**TELECONFERENCE SITE(S):**

Office of Clients Rights Advocacy  
17215 Studebaker Rd., Suite 195  
Cerritos, California 90703

SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office  
411 N. Central Avenue, Suite 620  
Glendale, CA 91203

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



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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 3  
ACTION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**SCDD UPDATE and MOU**

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SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Cindy Smith will provide SSAN with an update on SCDD activity since the December 2019 SSAN meeting. At the February 19<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities meeting held in San Bernardino, the committee reviewed SSAN's suggested updates to the MOU between SSAN and SCDD. The Executive Committee voted to adopt the SSAN MOU with suggested changes, pending SSAN approval at their March meeting. The Executive Committee feels their suggestions would strengthen the language of the MOU, however, the Executive committee approves the MOU regardless of whether or not SSAN chooses to adopt their suggestions. Suggestions made by the SCDD Executive Committee are highlighted in blue.

SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Cindy Smith will review the suggested changes with SSAN members and ask for a final motion to approve the updates to the MOU between SSAN and SCDD.

***Attachments***

- January Council Meeting Summary
- MOU between SSAN and SCDD with suggested updates from 2/19/2019 Executive Committee Meeting

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Ensure that Californians with developmental disabilities are guaranteed the same full and equal opportunities for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as all Americans.

## January 28, 2020 State Council Meeting Summary

### **SIGNIFICANT ITEMS**

- On January 28, 2020, the Council kicked off its first meeting of the year at the Hilton Arden Hotel in Sacramento. Councilmembers heard from several panelists in anticipation of a collaborative start to the new year. Members also held a moment of silence to honor Liz McKenney, the first person to pilot the Self-Determination Program.
- Councilmember Brian Winfield of the Department of Developmental Services presented the Council with [highlights from the 2020-2021 Governor's proposed budget](#). Notable items included an increase in funds for regional center operations and an increase in the general fund to account for the higher minimum wage which took effect on January 1, 2020.
- Members engaged in robust discussion about the proposed 2020 Council legislative policy priorities. They agreed on the priorities of housing, employment, safety, and education.
- Staff members from the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) presented the fundamentals of the 2020 Census to the Council. They discussed the importance of participating in the Census and showed Councilmembers different ways that they can do so when it begins in March.
- Executive Director Carruthers presented updates on housing legislation with Micaela Connery, founder and CEO of [The Kelsey](#), an organization that advocates for housing that

is inclusive for people with and without disabilities. Ms. Connery discussed ways that the Council can become more involved in the housing process and will continue to partner with SCDD in the future. Executive Director Carruthers announced Senator Hurtado's interest in authoring legislation to support housing for people with disabilities.

- Members also heard a presentation from Councilmember Joseph Rodrigues, state long term care ombudsman with the California Department of Aging. Councilmember Rodrigues shared important information on the Master Plan on Aging and took questions from the Council.
- Two Self-Advocate members of the Council, Rosie Ryan of the North State Region and Wesley Witherspoon representing California at-large, along with SCDD staff members, attended the Assembly Select hearing that afternoon to testify on behalf of the IDD community.

### **SUMMARY OF COUNCIL ACTIONS**

The Council:

- Approved the November 2019 Council meeting minutes
- Adopted the 2020 SCDD Policy Goals with amendments

### **FUTURE MEETING DATE**

- March 17, 2020 at the Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815

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**Memorandum of Understanding***Between***The Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN)***and***The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD).**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) defines the relationship between the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD). The purpose of this MOU is to clarify the roles, responsibilities and expectations of both groups in order to facilitate a working relationship which benefits both parties.

**1. MOU Background**

- 1.1.** The following document is a reflection of efforts by both SSAN and SCDD to define their roles and responsibilities.
- 1.2.** SSAN established an MOU workgroup at their March 2015 meeting to express their ideas during the MOU process. Members of SSAN were identified to participate in the MOU drafting process in order to ensure that the voices of self-advocates were reflected in the MOU. This resulted in a SSAN DRAFT MOU presented at the June 2016 SSAN meeting and was given to SCDD for consideration.

**2. Mission of SCDD and SSAN****SCDD Mission**

- 2.1.** The mission of SCDD is to advocate, promote, and implement policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity and inclusion in

all aspects of community life for Californians with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families.

**2.1.1.** To carry out its mission regarding self-advocacy, SCDD has adopted Goal 1 of its State Plan, which states Californians with I/DD and their families reflecting the diversity of the state will have increased information and supports to advocate for civil and service rights to achieve self-determination, integration and inclusion in all areas of community life.

### **SSAN Mission**

- 2.2.** The mission of SSAN, a project of SCDD, is to promote leadership and build bridges that strengthen advocacy among disability communities by focusing on policy change.
- 2.2.1.** SSAN exists to encourage people with disabilities to organize and create change for good. The goal is for SSAN members to further and strengthen their skills as advocates and to share their knowledge and skills with their communities and elected officials. As a cross-disability network, SSAN connects individual members with organizations and leaders across the state of California in order to advance the self-advocacy movement. It is the goal of SSAN to provide members with the resources, knowledge and tools that will empower them to become effective, informed leaders within their communities across the state, so that they may train others.
- 2.2.2.** SSAN is dedicated to demonstrating that Californians with disabilities are strong, independent and make

enhanced contributions to society. Through collaborating with other advocacy organizations and disability communities, SSAN wants to support, develop and strengthen self-advocacy throughout California and local regions.

- 2.2.3.** SSAN recognizes that in order to have the most impact in systems change advocacy, they will be a cross disability training network.

### **3. Guiding Principles**

- 3.1.** SCDD is committed to supporting policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity and inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with I/DD, other disabilities, and their families. SCDD supports the effort of SSAN members, helping them to advocate, promote and implement SSAN's work, as it aligns with Goal 1 and Objective 2 of the SCDD State Plan and the mission of the State Council.
- 3.2.** The SCDD supports the efforts of SSAN members and assists them in advocating, promoting and implementing their goals so long as they align with the SCDD State Plan (especially Goal 1) or the mission of the Council. SCDD and SSAN recognize the importance of the following principles:
- 3.3.** SCDD has open communication with SSAN and its members.
- 3.4.** SCDD respects all SSAN members as qualified individuals to consider all matters before the SSAN, including policy positions and discussions, decision making processes and SSAN actions.

- 3.5.** SSAN respects the SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator and in return, the Self-Advocacy Coordinator respects SSAN members.
- 3.6.** Goal 1 of the SCDD State Plan affirms SCDD's commitment to supporting self-advocacy.
- 3.7.** SCDD promotes self-advocates in leadership roles in SSAN by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and training necessary to train other self-advocates to become leaders in their communities and across the state.
- 3.8.** SSAN members will be leaders in their communities and advocate for people with disabilities.
- 3.9.** SSAN members will conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times, adhering to all laws and rules of the State of California.

#### **4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCDD AND SSAN**

##### **4.1. SCDD Responsibility Regarding SSAN Membership:**

- 4.1.1.** SCDD will recognize that SSAN membership has been established by the SSAN Bylaws and consists of (1) SCDD Regional Representatives and (2) representatives from organizations that serve and advocate for those within the disability community. As a cross-disability training network, SSAN leadership and no less than 50% of its members will be individuals with I/DD.
- 4.1.2.** SCDD will assist SSAN in the recruitment process of the SSAN SCDD Regional Representative. An SCDD Regional Representative to SSAN is defined as a self-advocate within one of the 12 SCDD regional

offices' geographic areas. Each of the SCDD Regional Offices will facilitate the selection process of one (1) Regional Representative from their local I/DD community within the Regional Office's area. While each SCDD Regional Office tailors a set selection criterion to address the specific needs of their area, successful candidates for SSAN membership will possess leadership skills and be actively involved in their community. SCDD Regional Offices will review their Regional Representative choice every four years and make a recommendation to SSAN leadership.

#### **4.2. SCDD General Responsibilities:**

- 4.2.1.** SCDD will work with SSAN in the following areas, but not limited to: to develop and give training to self-advocates and those who want to become trainers and/or leaders about: self-advocacy, self-determination, person-centered planning and/or leadership. SSAN members will train other self-advocates in California and report to SCDD on the number of trainings and presentations that were given and how many people attended. SCDD will work with SSAN on a pre/post-test and satisfaction survey for trainings.
- 4.2.2.** The SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator will act as the main contact person between SSAN and SCDD staff. The Self-Advocacy Coordinator will provide support<sup>1</sup> and guidance in order to help SSAN achieve their goals.

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<sup>1</sup> Support refers to giving help or assistance to self-advocates of SSAN as they seek to become better advocates.

- 4.2.3.** The SCDD Self Advocacy Coordinator will maintain communication with all SSAN members and work with SSAN leadership to review communication materials, including meeting agendas, meeting minutes, Chair updates, newsletter publications and quarterly meeting packets.
- 4.2.4.** The SCDD Executive Director will give final approval prior to the distribution and online posting of quarterly meeting packets. The Executive Director will also review any other materials that may have potential impact on SCDD. The Executive Director will provide feedback in a timely manner, allowing time for any changes to be made, if any.
- 4.2.5.** SCDD Regional Managers (or regional office CPSIIs) will provide support<sup>2</sup> to their Region's SSAN Representative upon request as long as the request is reasonable. There will be one (1) SCDD Staff who provides direct support<sup>3</sup> during SSAN quarterly meetings and assists in SSAN operations.
- 4.2.6.** At the request of SSAN, SCDD can provide training and support<sup>4</sup> to the SSAN as a whole and its individual members on topics relevant to the independent living movement, self-advocacy, and leadership skills; so long as it reflects the mission, vision and purpose of SCDD and the SSAN vision statement and financial support is available.

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<sup>2</sup> Support refers to providing SSAN members in their region with the tools and resources needed to be leaders in their community.

<sup>3</sup> Refers to the regional manager who is assigned to assist the Self-Advocacy Coordinator with overseeing SSAN. Regional managers may provide logistical and technical support such as note taking and recording minutes during SSAN meetings.

<sup>4</sup> Refers to resources and professional development.

**4.2.7.** SCDD will approve each SSAN quarterly meeting based on an agenda approved by the SSAN leadership. If the projected cost for an agenda item is beyond the SCDD budget limits, SCDD will inform SSAN leadership at least 14 days before the next SSAN meeting.

**4.2.7.1.** The SSAN leadership and members must submit any requests or changes to the SSAN meeting that may require additional funding at least 30 days before the next SSAN meeting.

**4.2.8.** SCDD will provide logistical support<sup>5</sup>, such as scheduling and teleconference lines for SSAN work groups and leadership meetings between SSAN's quarterly in person meetings.

**4.2.9.** SCDD reserves the right to set the budget for training and meeting expenses for SSAN.

**4.2.9.1.** SCDD will inform SSAN leadership of the SSAN budget.[\\_](#)

**4.2.9.2.** SCDD staff will meet with SSAN leadership once a year to review the SSAN budget.

**4.2.10.** SCDD will provide logistical and technical assistance<sup>6</sup> at no more than four (4) in person, two (2) day meetings. SCDD will take responsibility for arranging and coordinating SSAN meetings. SCDD

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<sup>5</sup> Refers to scheduling meetings, creating a calendar of all SSAN quarterly and workgroup meetings. Logistical support also includes opening and operating the conference line(s) for workgroup meetings.

<sup>6</sup> Refers to booking the hotel meeting rooms and working with hotel staff to set up the audio and visual aspects of the meeting (projector for the PowerPoint and captions).

will undertake the responsibility of booking and funding hotel meeting rooms, lodging and transportation for meeting attendance. Facilitation and attendant services are available upon request.

- 4.2.11.** SCDD will provide regular in person and written policy briefings and updates a) at quarterly SSAN in person meetings and b) between these meetings on legislation or issue positions taken by the SCDD council members or legislation and issues as requested by the SSAN leadership or its members, regardless of SCDD's position, as long as staff is allowed to work on the issue(s) under the State of California rules, such as the rules that apply to staff work on candidate or ballot measure matters. SCDD will endeavor to provide these policy briefings or updates, either in person or written, in plain language as requested by the SSAN and SCDD.
- 4.2.12.** SCDD will provide SSAN with the resources on advocacy and the legislative process. SCDD cannot advise SSAN in a way that is partisan.
- 4.2.13.** SCDD will work with SSAN to update a yearly work plan for Goal 1, Objective 2 in the State Plan.

### **4.3. SSAN Responsibilities**

- 4.3.1.** SSAN will develop trainings which relate back to Goal 1 of the SCDD State Plan and report back on the number of trainings and presentations that were conducted in between SSAN meetings.
  - 4.3.1.1.** SCDD shall approve any training materials SSAN develops prior to their use.

- 4.3.2.** SSAN members will report their activities and progress in the form of Member Action Reports.
- 4.3.3.** As a project of SCDD, SSAN may advocate legislative and policy positions taken by the Council. SSAN may provide input to SCDD on legislation that is of interest to SSAN. SSAN may provide input on legislation the Council is considering, including after the bill introduction deadline in February and before the Council meeting in March.
- 4.3.4.** Members of SSAN may not use SCDD resources to organize around a legislative issue that is not included in the SCDD Legislative Agenda. SSAN members may not support or oppose any candidate for office, political party, or ballot measure.
- 4.3.5.** SSAN members will distribute SCDD materials to their communities and inform their cross-disability networks about SCDD publications and handouts related to, but not limited to, self-determination and person-centered planning.
- 4.3.6.** SSAN will make sure that all member and community events associated with SSAN will relate to the missions of both SSAN and SCDD and be in accordance with Goal 1 of the SCDD State Plan and this Memorandum of Understanding.
- 4.3.7.** SSAN will collaborate with other organizations and train other members within their own communities and networks on how to advocate for the needs of people with disabilities.

- 4.3.8.** SSAN is responsible for getting the word out regarding SSAN activities to the I/DD communities regarding upcoming self-advocacy trainings and information related to self-determination, person centered planning and changes that may affect the disability community in members' region(s) and across the state.
- 4.3.9.** SSAN will request technical assistance and logistical help from SCDD to plan the quarterly in person SSAN meetings within a reasonable amount of time, so that the SCDD staff can make arrangements in compliance with state regulations, policies and practices.
- 4.3.10.** SSAN Officers will develop a list of agenda goals or priorities at each quarterly in person SSAN meeting. SSAN leadership agrees to inform SCDD support staff<sup>7</sup> of these agenda goals and priorities immediately so that they may begin to plan to support the SSAN.
- 4.3.11.** The SSAN leadership will request that SCDD present any policy or issue briefing or updates either in writing or in person at least 30 days before any meeting. This will apply to either a quarterly in person meeting or workgroup meeting.
- 4.3.12.** SSAN will conduct all meetings according to California's open meeting laws, using Robert's Rules of Order.

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<sup>7</sup> Self-Advocacy Coordinator and Regional Managers.

- 4.3.13.** SSAN will receive training on the Bagley-Keene Act every two (2) years and is expected to follow the Bagley-Keene Act.
- 4.3.14.** SSAN may create work groups to focus on issues of importance as they arise. SSAN work groups are expected to follow the rules set forth in this MOU and remain neutral and objective in their activities.

## 5. Reporting

- 5.1.** SSAN leadership agrees to report all of SSAN's activities and progress to the SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator and other concerned staff in a timely manner and respective of deadlines communicated by the SCDD staff. SCDD agrees to give SSAN three (3) months' notice of reports needed. SCDD will report on the SSAN's progress and activities to state and federal government agencies.
- 5.2.** SSAN is expected to produce a high quality, uniform quarterly newsletter, which highlights actions taken and issues of concern within the cross-disability community.
  - 5.2.1.** SCDD will work with SSAN in developing a report to collect information about training. Each year, this information must be given to the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD), the federal agency that provides funding to SCDD for its work. AIDD needs to know how many people were trained, if they were satisfied with the activity, and how much they believe they learned from each presentation. AIDD also wants to know if the people who attended were self-advocates, family

advocates or others who may be professionals or community members.

- 5.2.2.** Member action reports will be submitted at all SSAN meetings, in order to document the outcome of all community-based activities between meetings.
- 5.3.** Workgroups will also report progress at SSAN meetings, in the form of 5-minute updates.
- 5.4.** All of the above-mentioned items are to be included in the Annual Report, compiled by the Self-Advocacy Coordinator. The Self-Advocacy Coordinator will review the Annual Report with SSAN members at the end of each year.

## **6. SCDD Support**

- 6.1.** SSAN is a project of SCDD, and SCDD recognizes the importance of supporting this project. However, this MOU does not guarantee that the SCDD will continue to fund SSAN. SSAN and its members should not expect funding from SCDD because of this document. The budget for SSAN is decided by SCDD. By agreeing to this MOU, SSAN and its members acknowledge this fact.

## **7. Termination and Review**

- 7.1.** This MOU can end when either SSAN or SCDD decides to end it by providing 30 days advance notice. SSAN must have a majority vote in order to terminate. Termination must also be approved by SCDD.
- 7.2.** If this MOU is not approved by both SSAN members and SCDD then this agreement will not become active.

- 7.3.** This agreement will be reviewed every three (3) years by both SSAN and SCDD. Every three years it must be approved by majority vote of SSAN members and SCDD Council members in order to stay in effect.
- 7.4.** If SCDD Council members decide to offer a grant to a non-SCDD entity to carry out Goal 1 activities and a grant is awarded, this agreement will end. SSAN will receive at least a six month notice between SCDD's intention to award a grant and ending this agreement.
- 7.5.** If SSAN decides by majority vote of its members to establish itself as an entity separate from the State of California, SSAN must find its own funding, and this MOU will no longer be effective. If SCDD decides not fund SSAN anymore, this agreement will end and SSAN members may decide to form a new group.

## **8. CHANGES TO THE MOU**

- 8.1.** Any proposed changes to the MOU must be submitted to both SCDD and SSAN for consideration. Any proposed changes must be approved by a majority of SSAN members and SCDD.

## Contact Information

State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Executive Committee  
Secretary  
Address  
Telephone  
Fax  
E-mail

Statewide Self Advocacy Network  
Leadership  
Secretary  
Address  
Telephone  
Fax  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:  
(Partner signature)  
(Partner name, organization, position)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date:  
(Partner signature)  
(Partner name, organization, position)

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 4  
ACTION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

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SCDD Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs, Cindy Smith will provide SSAN with an update on SCDD legislative priorities for the 2020 Legislative Cycle. Deputy Director Smith will also provide SSAN members with a preliminary list of bills that the Legislative and Public Policy Committee (LPPC) will be discussing at their meeting scheduled for March 12<sup>th</sup> and potentially recommending the State Council take a position on. LPPC welcomes any recommendations that SSAN may have on legislation under consideration by the Committee. All legislation under consideration aligns with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities 2020 Policy Priorities:

- Protecting and Enhancing Civil Rights
- Guaranteeing Access to Education and Employment
- Promoting Access to Quality Supports in the Community
- Ensuring Safety in the Community
- Improving Housing and Community Living

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 5  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



***PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PEOPLE WITH  
DISABILITIES***

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Representatives from the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) will be providing SSAN members with an overview of current public transportation improvement projects taking place at the CalTrans and will inform SSAN Members with options on how people with disabilities can provide feedback and recommendations on transportation projects.

**Panelists**

- Mark Barry, Branch Chief of FTA Section 5310 Program, Division of Rail and Mass Transportation at CalTrans
- Kathy Pongratz, Chief, FTA Section 5311 and Intercity Bus Branch at CalTrans
- Momoko Tamaoki, Office Chief of Assets and Equipment, Division of Rail and Mass Transportation at CalTrans

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 6  
ACTION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2019 MINUTES**

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***Attachments***

December 2019 Minutes

***Recommended Action***

Approve the Decembers 2019 SSAN Meeting Minutes.

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# DRAFT

## Statewide Self Advocacy Network Meeting Minutes December 4-5, 2019 Crowne Plaza, Sacramento

### **SCDD Regional Members Present**

Nathan Florez – North Coast  
Teresa Moshier – North State  
Lisa Cooley – Sacramento  
Robert Balderama – North Valley Hills  
David Forderer – Central Coast  
(Day One Only)  
Rebecca Donabed – Sequoia  
Julie Gaona – Los Angeles  
(teleconference)  
Sean Sullivan – Orange County  
Paul Mansell – San Diego–Imperial

### **Agency Members Present**

Desiree Boykin – ARCA  
Robert Levy – UCD MIND Institute  
Wesley Witherspoon – USC CHLA  
(SCDD Representative)  
Scott Barron – DRC  
(teleconference)  
Nicole Patterson – DDS  
Renee Wooten – CFILC

### **Members Not Present**

Chen Curtiss – North Bay  
Regina Woodliff – Bay Area  
Daniel Fouste – San Bernardino  
Kecia Weller – UCLA Tarjan Center

### **SCDD Staff in Attendance**

Dena Hernandez –  
SCDD North Valley Hills  
Mary Agnes Nolan –  
SCDD North State  
Riana Hardin – SCDD HQ  
Rihana Ahmad – SCDD HQ  
Aaron Carruthers – SCDD HQ

### **Non-SCDD Facilitators**

Angela Lewis  
Jana Chapman-Plon – DDS  
Robert Constantine  
Wayne Glusker  
Briana Vigoa

### **Presenters**

Allie Cannington – CFILC  
Kyla Aquino Irving - CFILC

### **Others Present**

David Moshier



# DRAFT

## **SSAN DAY 1 Minutes**

### **1. Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions**

SSAN Chairperson Nicole Patterson, Representative from DDS, called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

SSAN Secretary, Lisa Cooley, Sacramento Regional Representative, did an attendance roll call for members present. Members introduced themselves, and the region or agency that they represented.

### **2. 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 Desiree Boykin / Seconded by Wesley Witherspoon. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See vote log on page 9.**

### **3. Review and Approval of Minutes September 4 – 5, 2019**

The members reviewed the minutes from September 4–5, 2019. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 7–16 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

**ACTION: Motion #2 to approve the September 2019 minutes was made by Rebecca Donabed/ Seconded by Wesley Witherspoon. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See vote log on page 9.**

### **4. Public Comment**

Allie Cannington, Statewide Community Organizer at the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC), spoke to SSAN members about the Disability Action Coalition (DAC), which is primarily supported by CFILC, and is responsible for organizing the Disability Capitol Action Day. DAC is looking to expand their membership and hoping to bring new people and organizations to the table in the hopes of strengthening the coalition as cross-disability. DAC would like one or two members from SSAN to be a part of the coalition. The next meeting is scheduled for December 20<sup>th</sup> from 1–2. Meetings typically happen on the third Wednesday of each month. 2020 is a big year and it is important to have a successful and strong Disability Capitol Action Day. The 2020 Disability Capitol Action Day is scheduled for June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.



# DRAFT

## 5. Active Shooter Guidance Training Overview

Rihana Ahmad, SCDD Manager – State Plan and Self–Advocacy provided SSAN members with an overview presentation on the development of a training based on the 2016 CalOES Active Shooter Awareness Guidance. The training includes a certification at the end, allowing participants to train others. Ms. Ahmad encouraged members to reach out to their State Council Regional Offices to find out how to participate in the training. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 17–18 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

## 6. Update from the Chair

The Chair provided a brief update.

## 7. SSAN Workgroup Discussion

Members expressed frustration over the lack of participation in the work groups. Some members attend day programs that have restrictions on the amount of time that someone can be on the phone. Members discussed how to integrate the SSAN priorities into the work of SSAN. The Chair asked that every SSAN member attend a few local transportation board meeting and report back at the March meeting. SSAN will have the following workgroups:

- The Employment Workgroup will meet every other month and continue to work on developing a webinar on work and benefits.
- The Legislative workgroup is going to switch to meeting every other month.
- The Self-Determination Workgroup is going to switch to meeting as needed.
- The Newsletter/ Communications Workgroup will continue to meet as needed.
- The Youth Workgroup will meet as needed and work on developing a survey to help identify the best way to reach youth, and any trainings that youth might be interested in. They will consider reaching out to parent groups as well.

The SSAN Chair appointed Desiree Boykin as the Chair of the Membership Workgroup and will be announcing the other members soon. Materials for



# DRAFT

this agenda item can be found on pages 21–22 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

## 8. My Educational Journey

SSAN Secretary, Lisa Cooley, Sacramento SSAN Representative, shared the experiences and challenges she experienced throughout her educational career. Currently Ms. Cooley is working on a Legal Assistant Certificate and utilizing accommodations to help her in classes.

## 9. Voters Choice Act Explained

Scott Barron and Gabriel Taylor from Disability Rights California provided an overview of the California Voters' Choice Act (VCA), a piece of legislation that aims to make the voting process in California more accessible to voters with disabilities. The VCA will increase the number of days of the election from 1 to 11, as well as reduce the number of in person polling places for a person can vote. Instead, there will be drop boxes for people to drop off their ballot. The VCA also allows a person to register to vote the day of the election.

Not all counties have opted to adopt the VCA yet, so you will want to check with your local county's election office to see if the VCA applies to you.

The following resources were shared with the members:

- [California Voter's Choice](#)
- [California's Voter's Edge](#)
- [Disability Rights California Voting Publications](#)
- [League of Women's Easy Voter Guide](#)
- Disability Rights California Voter Hotline: 1-888-755-7569.



# DRAFT

## 10. Member Reports

Members reported on their self-advocacy and SSAN related activity since the September 2019 SSAN meeting. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 27–30 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

## 11. Adjourn:

SSAN Chair Nicole Patterson thanked members for their participation during the first day of the SSAN meeting and reminded members that day two of the December SSAN meeting would start at 9:30 AM.

**Day 1 of the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM for networking.**



# DRAFT

## **SSAN DAY 2 Minutes**

### **12. Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions**

SSAN Chairperson, Nicole Patterson, Representative from DDS, called the meeting to order at 9:39 AM.

SSAN Secretary, Lisa Cooley, Sacramento Regional Representative, did an attendance roll call for members present.

### **13. Public Comment**

Wesley Witherspoon, SSAN Representative from USC Children's Hospital, provided members with the November Self-Advocates Advisory Committee Report. Topics covered at the meeting included the Census and the Public Safety Power Shutoffs. SAAC would like to see utility companies produce more user friendly, plain language public safety announcements.

### **14. SSAN Annual Report**

In the interest of time, the SSAN Chair requested to go out of order of the agenda and have the SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator present the SSAN Annual Report before the SSAN and SCDD MOU. SCDD Self-Advocacy Coordinator, Riana Hardin, reviewed the updated layout for the SSAN Annual Report. The purpose of the report is to highlight the work of SSAN throughout the 2018-2019 Federal Fiscal Year. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 67–82 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

**ACTION:** Motion #3: to approve the DRAFT 2018 – 2019 SSAN Annual Report was made by Lisa Cooley/ Seconded by Wesley Witherspoon. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See page 9 for vote log.

### **15. SCDD Update and MOU**

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers reviewed the updates to the MOU between SSAN and SCDD that were discussed at the September SSAN meeting. Executive Director Aaron Carruthers explained that once SSAN approves the updates to the MOU, it will be presented to the Council Executive Committee for approval and be signed by the SSAN Chair and the SCDD Executive Director. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 31–48 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.



# DRAFT

**ACTION:** Motion #4: to approve the updates to the MOU between SSAN and SCDD, including any changes made by the Executive Committee was made by Robert Balderama/ Seconded by Rebecca Donabed. A roll call vote was taken. Motion Passed. See page 9 for vote log.

## 16. People with Disabilities and the Census

Allie Cannington, CFILC Statewide Community Organizer, Kyla Aquino Irving, CFILC Communications and Marketing Manager, and Renee Wooten, CFILC SSAN Representative provided members with a presentation about the importance of including people with disabilities in the 2020 Census outreach efforts. An accurate Census count is important, as funding for social programs is tied to Census data. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 49 – 54 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

## 17. Approval of the December Newsletter

SSAN Newsletter Workgroup Chair Robert Levy presented members with a draft of the December edition of the SSAN newsletter. The following corrections were made: Remove mention of Lisa Cooley's article on Work and Benefits from the front page, and change the font to be at least 14 pt. font size and use the same font throughout the document, and add "By Wesley Witherspoon" to the article on page 8 of newsletter (Page 64 of December Packet). Members discussed ideas for the March 2020 edition of the newsletter. Submission Deadline for the March Newsletter is February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Materials for this agenda item can be found on pages 55 – 66 of the December 2019 SSAN Meeting Packet.

**ACTION:** Motion #5 to approve the 19<sup>th</sup> Volume of the Voices of SSAN Newsletter with the suggested changes, was made by Wesley Witherspoon/ seconded by Nathaniel Florez. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed. See the vote log on page 9.



# DRAFT

## 18. Input for Next SSAN Meeting

SSAN members would like the following items to be discussed at the March 2020 meeting:

- Cyber Security
- Conflict Resolution
- Transportation
- How to protect ourselves from human trafficking
- How to mentally deal with adversity
- How I got my job at Target

The Next SSAN meeting will be on March 4-5 at the Crowne Plaza in Sacramento.

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:41 PM**



# DRAFT

## ROLL CALL VOTE RESULTS

Name	Region	Roll Call	Motion 1	Motion 2	Roll Call	Motion 3	Motion 4	Motion 5
Wesley Witherspoon	SCDD	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below	See Below
Nathaniel Florez	North Coast	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Teresa Moshier	North State	Present	Not Present	For	Present	For	For	For
Lisa Cooley	Sacramento	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Chen Curtiss	North Bay	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
Robert Balderama	North Valley Hills	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	Not Present
Regina Woodliff	Bay Area	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
David Forderer	Central Coast	Present	Not Present	For	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
Rebecca Donabed	Sequoia	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Julie Gaona	Los Angeles	Conference Line	Not Present	For	Conference Line	For	For	For
Sean Sullivan	Orange County	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Daniel Fouste	San Bernardino	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
Paul Mansell	San Diego	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Desiree Boykin	ARCA	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Nicole Patterson	DDS	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Robert Levy	Mind Institute	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Wesley Witherspoon	USC – CHLA	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Kecia Weller	Trajan Center	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present	Not Present
Renee Wooten	CFILC	Present	For	For	Present	For	For	For
Scott Barron	DRC	Conference Line	For	For	Conference Line	For	For	For



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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 7  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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The purpose of this agenda item is to allow members of the public the opportunity to provide comment on items that are not on the agenda. Comments on agenda items will be taken as they are discussed.

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 8  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**UPDATES FROM THE SSAN CHAIR**

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

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 9  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**SSAN WORKGROUPS**

---

SSAN workgroups will meet to discuss current and ongoing projects. Currently, there are 7 SSAN workgroups, they are:

- Officers
  - Chair: Nicole Patterson
- Membership
  - Chair: Desiree Boykin
- Employment
  - Chair: Rebecca Donabed
- Legislative
  - Chair: Paul Mansell
- Self-Determination
  - Chair: Nicole Patterson
- Newsletter
  - Chair: Robert Levy
- Youth
  - Chair: Nicole Patterson

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY ONE AGENDA ITEM 10  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**MEMBER ACTION REPORTS**

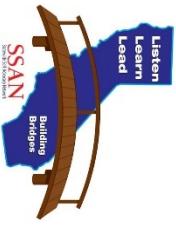
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Members will have the opportunity to update SSAN on their activities related to SSAN and self-advocacy since the December 2019 meeting.

***Attachments***

SSAN Member Action Reports

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# MEMBER REPORT

**KEY:** **S**A-Self Advocate **F**A- Family Advocate **O**- Other (not SA or FA)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
TELL US IF YOU...

**PRESENTED** (or spoke) at a Meeting, Conference or Training Event in your role as a SSAN member:

DATE	Title or Topic of Meeting, Conference or Event and Relevance to SSAN Goals	WHERE it was held	How many SA	How many FA	How many Others

**ATTENDED** a meeting, training or conference in your role as a SSAN member:

DATE	Title or Topic of Meeting, Conference or Event and Relevance to SSAN Goals	WHERE it was held	How many SA	How many FA	How many Others

**RESOURCES** you would like to share with SSAN

X	Title or Topic of Resource	Internet Link / address	Will bring a copy of resource

Are there any **BARRIERS** that have kept you from participating in advocacy related activities?


Is there anything that your local self-advocacy group would like SSAN to work on?


**Anything else** you would like to REPORT or any questions or Training ideas you would like to share with SSAN?


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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY TWO AGENDA ITEM 3  
ACTION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**CYBER SECURITY**

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SSAN member Wesley Witherspoon will provide members with a training on the importance of cyber security and share some best practices for ensuring your safety online.

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY TWO AGENDA ITEM 4  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**YOUTH AND DISABILITY**

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Representatives from the California Foundation for Independent Living (CFILC) will provide SSAN with an overview of the YO! Disabled and Proud program supported by CFILC.

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**  
**DAY TWO AGENDA ITEM 5**  
**ACTION ITEM**



**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**

**MARCH 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 March Newsletter and ask members for any changes or additions. Robert will then lead a discussion about ideas for the June Newsletter.

***Attachments***

- DRAFT MARCH Voices of SSAN Newsletter

***Recommended Action***

Approve the DRAFT MARCH Voices of SSAN Newsletter

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# VOICES of SSAN

March 2020

Volume 20

## In this Edition:

**Article 1:** Recap of 2019 AUCD Conference

**Article 2:** Using Public Transportation for Work  
**Article 3:** Personal Growth  
**Article 4:** Educational Journey

**Article 5:** Progressive Employment Concepts Inclusion Celebration

**Article 6:** People First of San Diego Conference

**Article 7:** 20 Years at Target

**Article 8:** Kudos Corner

**Editor:** Robert Levy

## Contributors:

- Wesley Witherspoon
- Robert Levy
- Teresa Moshier
- Paul Mansell
- Lisa Cooley
- Desiree Boykin
- Nicole Patterson

## Recap of 2019 AUCD Conference

By **Wesley Witherspoon**, USC Children's Hospital  
**Robert Levy**, UC Davis MIND Institute



On November 16, 2019 Robert Levy, Kecia Weller and I represented our UCEDDs at the AUCD Conference in Washington D.C. This was our second year presenting at the AUCD Conference. Our Presentation was titled: "How the California UCEDDs Contribute to the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN)". Our title fit well with this year's Conference title: "Leading Change Together". Our session talked about the importance of collaboration and networking as a part of advocating for people with disabilities. We encouraged other UCEDDs to participate in cross-disability networks in their states.

The Conference was attended by both professionals and self-advocates. Washington D.C. has very different weather than California, so it was cool to see the fall foliage.

Wesley's thoughts on his experience: "I once had a tour guide in high school tell me that Washington D.C. was like the Las Vegas of politics. You are surrounded by some of the smartest people in the country. (**Continue on Page 2: "2019 AUCD Conference"**)



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(Continued from Page 1: “2019 AUCD Conference”)

Even though Washington D.C. is only 10 miles long: there are a lot of transportation options available, making it very accessible for people who do not drive. My favorite part of the conference was the closing panel of a bipartisan group of Senators and U.S. Representatives. The panel was called: “Leading Change Together! Engaging with Congress on Pressing Issues Facing the Disability Community”.

Many of the panelists were family members of people with disabilities. One of the panelists talked about the importance of having a Cabinet level position with the US Government focusing on disability issues. I thought it was cool to hear about the continued work of Congress on disability awareness since the ADA was passed in 1990!”

Robert Levy’s thoughts on his experience: “I enjoyed attending the 2019 AUCD Conference and presenting with Wesley. About 12 people came to our session. There were people representing UCEDDs from all 50 states and US territories. It took a lot of hard work to get ready for the conference and I appreciated our support staff that helped us to get ready for the conference. Unfortunately, Kecia wasn’t able to make it to the conference, so Wesley was able to tell people about what she does for the UCLA Tarjan Center.

I enjoyed having the opportunity to testify on Capitol Hill. Conference attendees split up into different groups to talk to the legislators. My group went to the offices of Senator Harris, Senator Feinstein, and Congressman McClintock. We talked about bills related to employment, on issues like getting rid of subminimum wage, increasing the qualifying age from 26 to 46 on Cal ABLE Accounts and the importance of school safety. Having a CalABLE Account would help people with disabilities to have a good life. An ABLE account lets people with disabilities save more money to spend on disability related expenses later. We also talked about promoting safety for people with disabilities at their schools, along with other important issues.”

Unfortunately, the 2020 AUCD Conference is scheduled for December 6–9, 2020 and that is about the same time as the December SSAN meeting. Normally the AUCD Conference happens in November, but every four years, when there is a national election, they move the conference to December. We hope to be able to attend the 2021 AUCD Conference that will be held on November 14–17, 2021 and have the opportunity to present and take part in the visits on Capitol Hill again.



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## Using Public Transportation for Work

By Teresa Moshier, North State Regional SSAN Representative

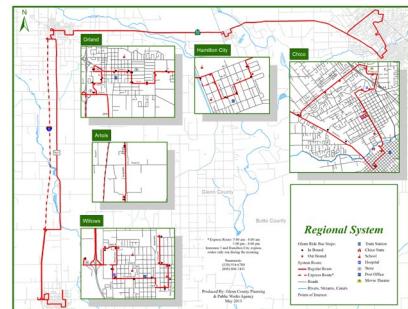
My day starts at 7:30 am. I get up and get ready for work. I catch the Glenn Ride at the Villa St bus stop. The bus comes at 8:58 am, it has stops in Artois and the Blue Gum also Orland, and Hamilton City. The Glenn Ride also has bus stops in Chico too. I take the bus to Chico Transit Center and from there, I take B-line bus #3 to work. I work at Amjamb Call Connection 4 days a week. The Glenn Ride has seven trips Mon. thru Fri and on Sat three trips. Trip 1 and 7, on weekdays, are express trips. Trips 2 thru 6, on the weekdays are regular trips. Trips on Saturdays are at 8 AM, 12 PM and 4 PM. Some of the holidays use the Sat schedule. Because of the Campfire that happened on Nov 8, 2018, Butte County Transit has limited service to Magalia and Paradise.

There are many different fare options. You can buy a single ride pass, a two-ride pass, a 10-ride pass, an all-day pass, or a 30-day pass. The All-day pass is \$5.00. All Day Passes can be purchased directly from the driver for unlimited access to the entire system for the day. Be sure to tell the driver the type of pass you want BEFORE putting your money in the farebox.

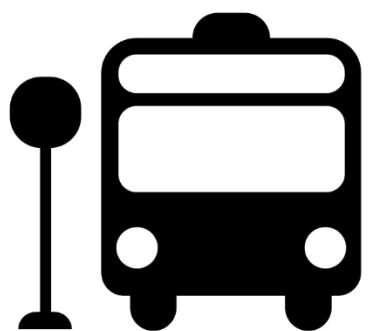
Most of the drivers for the Glenn Ride are nice. One driver will not use the lift at some of the stops. Far Northern Regional Center helps pay the fares for many different routes, which helps.

It is very important that I have transportation to get to work and home. I currently live in Willows due to the Campfire. The Glenn Ride and Butte Regional Transit are my only transportation to work. I really love my job. So, transportation is my only way around.

Check out the website for Glenn Ride for more information:  
<https://www.countyofglenn.net/Glenn-Tehama-schedule.pdf>



- What are the transportation options in your area?
- Check with your Regional Center if they can help with transportation



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# VOICES of SSAN

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## Personal Growth

**By Paul Mansell, San Diego Regional Representative**

Spring is the time of sprouting new growth. Nature fresh, and green, illustrates the promise and potential that comes with new beginnings. In the air, there is a sense of hope renewed, people, and animals are energized; the days are growing longer as the chill and darkness of winter fades: yielding new life and promises. Growth is a part of life. Growth does not differentiate between the youth but affects people of all ages. It may seem that when we enter adult life with all the demands of work and family personal growth is not possible. All that is possible is living a routine, 9-5 existence full of responsibilities, obligations, deadlines, and to-do lists. Yet there is hope with life there is always the opportunity for growth and happiness.

How does this growth happen? First, you must be open to it and truly want it, for it to happen. Yet as in all-natural things, growth happens in its own time or season. It is my experience growth is active and not passive, I had to be motivated and really want it, to make it occur. People can grow in various directions, but what is important is to grow in positive, worthwhile, and loving directions. Growth that occurs through other means can be harmful and insincere.

Having a firm foundation for growth is a big help. For me my foundation is my faith, my friends, and my peers. This is not a fixed list. Others may have additional or different elements that make up their foundation, such as family.

Growing pains are a part of the process of achieving personal growth. Some people are intimidated by the pain and uncertainty that comes with personal growth and stay the same. I confess growth at times is uncomfortable and hurts, even stings, at time. At the first sign of adversity: my mental determination is tested. It takes courage, fortitude, and persistence to grow, and a commitment to the growth process because it is less an event but rather an on-going process.

In order to allow personal growth. When I was a youth, this meant buying new clothes, or going to high school or college. I must admit entering the workforce was a huge growing experience for me. I had to learn new skills, values, and attitudes. (**Continue on Page 5: "Personal Growth"**)



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(Continued from Page 4: "Personal Growth")

It took more than a decade of trial and error to find a career that was right for me and I it. I had to deal with a lot of failure and setbacks, but I did my best to learn from all my jobs, even those that I was not well suited for. This takes persistence, discipline, a positive attitude, and hope. Hope is one of my most powerful motivating forces. It looks past the present difficulties and focuses in on a better, brighter future where I realize my dreams.

Personal growth is more than an internal activity. It can be facilitated and nurtured by friends, family, teachers, supports, colleagues, and peers. I admit I have a deep loyalty, gratitude, and affection for those who helped me grow into the person I am. I must confess that I didn't see all the growth that was happening in my life, but only after I pause and reflect upon my life: the change becomes noticeable. So, I say yes to life and to growth. I invite you to do the same.



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## My Educational Journey

**By Lisa Cooley, Sacramento Regional Representative**

I started school at three years old in Oakland California. I was in special education classes from preschool to fourth grade. I was mainstreamed (which is another word for inclusion) because my parents believed that I could do regular schoolwork and advocated for me to be in regular classes. I was in regular classes from fifth grade through high school and in special education classes for math because I have a learning disability that makes learning math concepts difficult. My special education math class also helped me keep up with my other classes because I could go into the class when I didn't have my math class and do other schoolwork or take tests in a quiet place.

In college I received help from the disabled student's program and services at American River college. The college helped me take college classes because I was given access to services such as note taking because my disability causes me to have slow handwriting that is difficult to read without concentrating. I also received extended time on exams for class exams. I used the computer lab for students who have disabilities on campus to complete class in my college classes. I was so successful using the disability services that I eventually received a college degree in liberal arts and a career certificate in human services from American River college.

### SSAN Members

- Nathaniel Florez – North Coast
- Teresa Moshier – North State
- Lisa Cooley – Sacramento
- Chen Curtiss – 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



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## Progressive Employment Concepts: Inclusion Celebration

By Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute Representative

On Friday October 18, 2019 PEC/CES hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Inclusion Celebration. There were about almost 300 attendees at the WAL (Warehouse Artists and Lofts) here in Sacramento. There were numerous displays from clients either at PEC/CES clients or Micro Enterprise businesses like for myself and my dad and PEC Staff CDS Georgina Keir. We had our own display of homemade wine and store-bought whiskey. There was also some other store-bought wine too.

There were numerous businesses organizations and the community members that were a part of sponsoring the event by donating money and time to organize and fundraise for the 4th annual event. UCD MIND Institute UCEDD Staff member Steve Ruder was one of the people that got recognized at the event, and was the only UCD MIND Institute UCEDD, staff to get an Inclusion award. Carol Watilo and many other PEC/ CES staff members took part in organizing that event and I want to thank them for their hard work and taking time out of their busy schedules to work on planning this event.

PEC staff is currently working on a big project to redesign the PEC website and make it easier to use. David Nissan, PEC, Director of Personnel Rob Watilo, and Director of Development Rachel Palmer are all currently in charge of the website project to have new information for the community to see and check it out. Soon, I will be contributing to PEC's social media, by posting on twitter and writing the stories from the PEC/CES clients spotlight articles. (**Continue on Page 8: "Inclusion Celebration"**)

### 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](http://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**



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(Continued from Page 7: "Inclusion Celebration")

PEC created a series called "What's Inclusive Sacramento". You can check them out on the [PEC YouTube page](#). In episode 6, I interviewed PEC Community Development Specialist Georgina Keir on her job. Take a look at the [PEC Facebook](#) to learn more about other PEC projects and find out more about the Inclusion Celebration and the impact PEC has on the Sacramento Community.



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## People First of San Diego Conference

By Desiree Boykin, ARCA SSAN Representative  
and Paul Mansell, San Diego SSAN Representative

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual San Diego People First Conference was held on at the Crowne Plaza in Mission Valley. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of Creative Support Alternatives, Interwork Institute, and San Diego State Research Foundation, this year's "Blast to Our Future" conference had over 300 people in attendance.

The conference had a Keynote presentation featuring TedTalk self-advocate Jillian Parramore, who inspired attendees to define what they want, set goals, and achieve them on their terms. The conference included a display called "the Voter Experience" with the San Diego Registrar of Voters, Options for All Film & Media Documentary Screening, dancing with DJ Ned & Friends, adaptive yoga with Victoria Border, 11 workshops, and the Conference Street Fair. It was a memorable experience for all!

Paul Mansell and I had a session on "Strengthening the Statewide Self–Advocacy Network". We both talked about our roles on the SSAN as members. We also talked about how long you get to be a part of the SSAN. We both talked about our role as advocates for the regional centers. All who attended found this presentation very informative.

A huge thank you to all who made this year's conference a big success: we couldn't have done it without you! The next People First Conference of San Diego will be in December of 2021.

## Learn About SSAN Partners

- [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, Tarjan 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.



# VOICES of SSAN

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## 20 Years at Target

By Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute SSAN Representative

This year marks 20 years of employment at Target. I started at Target on January 19, 2000 which was on a Wednesday. I never thought I would be working over for that long. In the past I had numerous jobs that didn't work out because they never gave me enough support to help me learn the job. An example of this is I had a grocery store job working at Ralphs in Folsom, CA. I was there for a short amount of time and they had to let me go. I have had many other jobs too that ended because I didn't have enough support. I got the job at Target 20 years ago, there was an opening for a job position in the security department to tag the merchandise. I tagged items like CD's, DVD's, clothing like men's, women's, boys, girls, infants and toddlers. I worked 5 days a week and 4 hours each day being 20 hours a week with another person who was a PEC client at that time. A PEC Staff member got me that job. She now works in Eureka and Crescent City as an Executive Director of an agency like PEC.

Now we get our paychecks, our time off request and we also do our trainings online versus then I picked up my paycheck stubs every two weeks when I came in to work. Now I only work every Tuesday for only 3 hours a week. I enjoy my job over there. As a PEC client I'm the longest employee over at the same store. There is another PEC client who works every Saturday for only 3 hours a week pushing the carts and does some of the cleaning too, who has worked at the same Target as me for over 16 years. He also gets some support from his job coach. Now I don't need as much support because I know how to do the job. In the past I had asked to work more hours but there no openings to work more hours so I currently have two other employment sites like the UCD MIND Institute UCEDD where I represent the Statewide Self Advocacy Network for almost 8 years now, and I also work for Progressive Employment Concepts where I'm also a client too. In the last 20 years I have seen a lot of co-workers come and go through the years however there have been other co-workers that range for almost 30 years being the longest ones to new hires now.

My co-workers at Target enjoy working with me because I also help out with the guests who are looking for where they need to go. I also Help by putting the carts where they need to go. Putting the security tags on the phone supplies and the health beauty supplies to prevent theft. **(Continue on Page 11: "20 Years")**



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I also work in the market department by taking expired snack food away once in a while. I also rearrange the snack food by putting the food with the latest expiration date in the back and the snack food with the earliest expiration date goes in the front, so that the guests can buy them. I just learned a new task by using a price scanner and that tell us where the merchandise needs to go back where they belong.

I just received some extra money added on my paycheck from my 20-year award. When I need to go on vacations with my family or when I need to Washington DC or business events, they are flexible about it and including for an example in the past when I had changed my work hours, they were also flexible about it too. I enjoy getting along with all my co-workers because they are nice people to work with and they know that I take my work seriously. I hope that I will continue to at Target for many more years to come until I do decide to leave Target.

In one of my past ISP IPP meetings, my service Coordinator at Progressive Employment Concepts thought that that I should look for another job just in case I do decide to leave Target someday in the future. But right now, it would be too hard to find another job because I enjoy working at Target for now. I don't know what the future is going to hold just yet.



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## Interview of Kecia Weller

By Wesley Witherspoon, USC Children's Hospital

On Monday January 13<sup>th</sup>, I had the chance to interview Kecia Weller about what it is like to be a national advocate for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Kecia was a keynote speaker at the 2019 Statewide Self–Advocacy Conference “Building Your Toolbox for Self-Advocacy” that took place May 3–4, 2019.

### **How do you feel about being a national advocate for people with disabilities?**

I feel that I am empowering other people with disabilities nationally to advocate for themselves. I love to help people with disabilities recognize abuse, report abuse, get help when victimized by an abuser, and start healing using Trauma Informed Care. I was appointed to the Arc’s National Center of Criminal Justice & Disability. Currently, I Co-Chair the National Peer Support Network with National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA).

### **How did you get started as an abuse advocate?**

In 2012, I was serving on California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) and was a member of the Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC). One meeting SAAC members talked about suspected abuse at one of the state’s developmental centers. The then Committee Chair, and I decided to work on the issue outside of the committee. Our first project together was a YouTube video: “Abuse of People with Disabilities: a Silent Epidemic”: <https://youtu.be/yhLsATwO0o4>. The video currently has 19,500 views on it. Since that video, I have collaborated with many different agencies and advocates on different projects focusing on abuse prevention and awareness.

### **What should people who are in school now think about?**

Future of our political system. Our healthcare, our housing, employment, always voting in all of our elections to voice your opinion, educational programs, learning how to be independent, being more informed about everyday life. Sex education, learn how to fill out employment applications, learn soft skills, keep literacy programs open for people who don’t know how to read, learn how to file income taxes.

**(Continue on Page 13: “Interview”)**



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## Tell me about your roles at the Tarjan Center and the Rehabilitation Council.

I have been employed by the UCLA Tarjan Center since August 2012. One of my primary responsibilities at the Tarjan Center is to be the staff liaison to the Tarjan Center Advisory Committee. I'm responsible for recruiting a diverse representation onto the Tarjan Center Advisory Committee. I also help to mentor new TAC members, prepare my SSAN and SRC reports for the Tarjan Center Advisory Committee members. I represent the UCLA Tarjan Center at State and Local business meetings as requested by Dr. Olivia Raynor. Some of the business groups I represent the UCLA Tarjan Center at are: California Statewide Self-Advocacy Network, Self-Advocacy Leadership Council of Los Angeles, USC UCEDD CAC, and California State Rehabilitation Council. For the State Rehabilitation Council, I discuss employment public policy that will enable the Department of Rehabilitation to get more people with disabilities employed throughout the State of California.

## Anything else you want people to know?

Think Plan Do originally came from the Department of Developmental Services - Consumer Advisory Committee ten years ago. Self-advocates on that committee wanted to find a way to take charge, be empowered and live – “my life, my way. That was their slogan. I agree with them and want to make sure I am not ignored. Think Plan Do empowered me to take charge. Here is what I mean:

**THINK:** Think about what the problem is you want to solve or sometimes thinking about things you want to achieve – like an important goal in your life.

**PLAN:** A really important step. Create your own plan with support. That means be specific about what steps or things you need to do to solve the problem or make your goal happen. Without a plan – your plan – things sometimes don't happen or get better.

**DO:** And finally, follow the plan to solve the problem. That's the DO step and sometimes the hardest one. Taking action needs support. I need support and patience to stay on track. There are people who will help you, especially if they know you are serious.

Think-Plan-Do is an extremely effective way to achieve anything important in your life and that's exactly why it holds the most important place in my Self-Advocacy Toolbox.



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## Kudos Corner

By Nicole Patterson, DDS SSAN Representative

Teresa Moshier represents SCDD North State Office on the SSAN. She is the kind of member that is always willing to step up to help in any way to support the SSAN during meetings. She understands the important of sharing information. Even when she was experiencing her own emergency with losing her home in Paradise due to the Camp Fire. Teresa continued to show her commitment to educating people through her experiences to increase awareness of the importance of emergency preparedness with the SSAN. Teresa, thank you for showing us what strength and dedication looks like. The SSAN would not be the same without you. Kudos to you!!

## SAVE THE DATES

### 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference

**Date:** May 8–9, 2020

**Location:** Sacramento, CA

**More Information:**

[Supported Life Institute](#)

### 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Supported Life Conference

**Date:** October 8-9, 2020

**Location:** Sacramento, CA

**Apply to be a Speaker:**

[Supported Life Institute](#)



**Contact your regional office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities for information on trainings happening in your area.**

Save the Date:

### California's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Developmental Disabilities Public Policy Conference



The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

April 27 - 28, 2020

Sacramento, CA

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**MARCH 4-5, 2020**

**DAY TWO AGENDA ITEM 6  
ACTION ITEM**

**Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**INPUT FOR NEXT MEETING & COMPLETE MEETING EVALUATIONS**

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

***Attachments***

None

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