State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Office
Community Outreach &
Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 28, 2021
Networking 6:15-6:30 PM    Meeting 6:30-9:00 PM
This is a Teleconference and Zoom meeting only.

Per Executive Order N-29-20, teleconferencing restrictions are waived during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the public may participate telephonically or by Zoom from any location. Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found at least 10 days prior to the meeting at: www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/.

Join by Zoom:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82573554978?pwd=MXpDYTFWUXdlC9NRi8vcWFKZm9jQT09
Meeting ID: 825 7355 4978    Passcode: 357993

Or by Telephone, US Toll-free: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499
Meeting ID: 825 7355 4978    Passcode: 357993

Collaboration is key! We invite members of the community to share input, issues and concerns. All are welcome. Featured this meeting: Updates and emerging issues within Special Education, RAC Member updates, and more!

Information: Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f) and Executive Order N-29-20. Individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact us at 510-286-0439 or bayarea@scdd.ca.gov, at least five business days prior to the meeting.
Consejo Estatal de Discapacidades del Desarrollo

Alcance Comunitario &

Reunión del Comité Asesor Regional

Miércoles, 28 de abril de 2021

Oportunidad de red 6:15-6:30PM Reunion 6:30PM a 9:00PM

Esta es solo una teleconferencia y una reunión de Zoom.

De acuerdo con la Orden Ejecutiva N-29-20, las restricciones de teleconferencia no se aplican durante la pandemia de COVID-19. Los miembros del público pueden participar por teléfono o Zoom desde cualquier lugar. Los formatos accesibles para toda la agenda y los materiales se pueden encontrar al menos 10 días antes de la reunión a: www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/.

ÚNETE POR ZOOM REUNIÓN:

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O

ÚNETE POR TELECONFERENCIA: (SOLO VOZ)
Llamar al número: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499
ID de la reunión: 825 7355 4978 Contraseña: 357993

¡La colaboración es clave! Invitamos a los miembros de la comunidad a compartir opiniones, problemas e inquietudes. Todos son bienvenidos. En esta reunión: Actualizaciones y problemas emergentes dentro de la educación especial, actualizaciones de miembros del RAC, ¡y más!

Información: En cumplimiento de las secciones 11123.1 y 11125(f) del Código de Gobierno y la Orden Ejecutiva N-29-20 las personas con discapacidades que requieran formatos alternativos accesibles de la agenda y materiales relacionados de la reunión y / o ayudas / servicios auxiliares para participar en esta reunión deben comunicarse al 510-286-0439 o bayarea@scdd.ca.gov al menos 5 días hábiles antes de la reunión.
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (SCDD)
BAY AREA REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) MEETING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NOTICE & AGENDA*

Date  Wednesday, April 28, 2021

Time  Networking 6:15pm – 6:30p, Meeting 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Locations  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. Regional Advisory Committee members are not required to list their remote locations. Members of the public may participate telephonically or by Zoom from any location.

Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found at least 10 days prior to the meeting at www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/. This meeting will be live captioned.

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For more information, contact the State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Regional Office, 510-286-0439 or bayarea@scdd.ca.gov.

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f) and Executive Order N-29-20 (Executive Order can be found 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 510-286-0439 or email bayarea@scdd.ca.gov, at least 5 (five) business days prior to the meeting.
6:30p Call to Order
Introductions / Establishment of Quorum Garcia

6:35p Approval of the February 2021 Meeting Minutes Garcia

6:40p Public Comment

An invitation to provide the public an opportunity to comment and/or present information to the Committee on any matter that is not on the agenda. Each public member has up to 3 minutes to speak. Written requests will be considered first. The Committee will provide a public comment period not to exceed 5 minutes total for all public comments prior to action on any agenda item.

6:55p Presentation and Discussion:
Education During and After the COVID-19 Crisis Theis

Hear a presentation and engage in a discussion about Special Education rights and considerations for students in California during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, with Cheryl A. Theis, Education Advocate with Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF).
7:40p Additional Legislative Office and/or
RAC Member Comments on Emerging Issues     Nicholau

An invitation for legislative offices in attendance to provide brief statements, comments or updates, and/or for additional updates or information from the SCDD Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee Members.

7:50p Member Reports: SCDD Bay Area Regional Advisory
Committee (RAC) & SCDD Councilmembers     Garcia

Hear updates from RAC members and Councilmembers on their regional and statewide advocacy work, and their priorities.

8:25p Reports     Garcia

- Regional Center Reports
- County Developmental Disabilities Councils Reports
- People First Report

8:50p Other Announcements
& Agenda Items for Future Meetings     Garcia

An opportunity of members of the community to bring up ideas, needs, issues and concerns.
9:00p Meeting Adjourned

*All times indicated, and the order of business are approximate and subject to change. Any agenda items have the potential to be brought for a vote.*
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting
February 24, 2021 Minutes DRAFT

Main Location: Due to Shelter-In-Place order this meeting was done through Zoom (video call or call-in only)
Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82573554978?pwd=MXpDYTFWUXdlcC9NRi8vcWFKZm9jQT09
Meeting ID: 825 7355 4978
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Committee Members Attending through Zoom: Sascha Bittner, Francisco Garcia, Elizabeth Grigsby, John Marble, Dianne Millner, Pam Perls, Kate Rauch, and Marla Silversmith

State Council Members Attending through Zoom: Nicole Adler

Committee Members Absent: Regina Woodliff

SCDD Staff: Sheraden Nicholau, Janet Fernandez, and Valerie Buell

Accessibility Assistance: Captioner Laura, Captioner Cindy, Spanish Interpreter Robert Uceda, Spanish Interpreter Braulio J.

Legislative Office Representation: Assemblymember Tim Grayson, Alejandra Sanchez Ezidro (from Assemblymember Tim Grayson’s Office), Assemblymember Jim Frazier, Jen Quallick (from Assemblymember Jim Frazier’s Office), Senator Josh Becker, Nicole Fernandez (from Senator Josh Becker’s Office), Karishma Khatri (from Assemblymember Bill Quirk’s Office), Joan Lubamersky (from Assemblymember Marc Levine’s Office), Leslie Bulbuk (from Assemblymember Marc Berman’s Office), Uche Uwahemmu (from Assemblymember Buffy Wicks’ Office), Susanna Meyer (from Senator Steve Glazer’s Office), Gabby Skarka (from Representative Jared Huffman’s Office), Tara Kopp (from Representative Mark DeSaulnier’s Office), Dominic Faria (from Senator Dianne Feinstein’s Office)

Guests Attending through Zoom: Lisa Kleinbub from Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB), Eric Zigman from Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC), Vi Ibarra from Contra Costa Developmental Disabilities Council, Will Sanford, Emily Witkin, Sara Desumala, Patrick McKay, Angel Ng, Andy Stahl, Jerry Grace, Debra Adler, Beatrice Rauch, Rajeev Ramanath, Lindsay Reynolds, Eddie Lopez, Charles Dulac, Ann Lindsay Dahl, Liza, Karen Webber, Tara Cutaran, Yuridia Aponolion, Angel Picon, Mary, PJ.

6:30p Call to order/Introductions
• Sheraden Nicholau gave the housekeeping information.
Valerie Buell conducted the voice roll call and invited guests to introduce themselves using the Chat function.

6:35p Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 2, 2020:
   Moved: Elizabeth Grigsby
   Seconded: Pam Perls
   Roll Call Vote: All aye

6:40p Public Comments:
Legislators and Staff spoke to constituents first and included contact information in the chat for anyone who would like to reach out to their offices. All offices invited constituents to reach out to them with any needs or concerns.

- Senator Josh Becker shared he is the new California State Senator for District 13. He introduced Nicole Fernandez who is the District Director and gave an overview of Senate District 13.
- Assemblymember Tim Grayson intends to ensure that the Intellectual Developmental Disability (IDD) community is given the resources that are needed to ensure they have the support they deserve.
- Tara Kopp from Congressman Mark DeSaulnier’s Office introduced herself and gave an overview of Congressional District 11.
- Joan Lubamersky from Assemblymember Marc Levine’s Office in Assembly District 10 welcomed all.
- Leslie Bulbuk from Assemblymember Marc Berman’s office introduced herself and gave an overview of Assembly District 24.
- Susana Meyer from Senator Steve Glazer’s office representing Senate District 7 stated that she represents the Senator for nonprofit, social services, and seniors’ issues.
- Gabby Skarka from Congressman Jared Huffman’s Office Congressional District 2 is the field representative for Marin. Is interested in hearing what the priorities are for this community.
- Uche Uwahemum from Assemblymember Buffy Wicks’ Office introduced himself and gave an overview of Assembly District 15.
- Will Sanford thanked those who passed the California stimulus bill and asked the Federal representatives if that bill includes individuals who are Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment (SSI/SSP) recipients. Will this have an impact people’s SSI income or assets? Gabby Skarka invited him to reach out to her and she will investigate that question.
- Rajeev Ramanath spoke about his experience in airports and bore witness to how many people with accommodation needs are not served well. He founded Blueberry Technology to address the challenges he has seen and gave a brief overview of what his company has put together so far and he would like to get feedback from the community.
- Dominic Faria from U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein’s Office is the Constituent Services Representative. He invited constituents to reach out to their office with any needs or concerns.
6:58p Collecting Emerging Issues for 5-year State Plan
Janet Fernandez from SCDD State Plan Team gave an overview of the primary goals of the State Council and worked with attendees record their perspective on the emerging issues in Advocacy Efforts and Capacity Building.

After this overview, attendees were invited to share their thoughts, ideas, and experiences, send in any other thoughts they may have that were not addressed at this time to the Bay Area Office, or directly to Janet Fernandez who left her contact information in the chat.

7:40p Additional Legislative Office and/or RAC Member comments on Emerging Issues.
• Assemblymember Jim Frazier and his staff finalized his budget request. Included in the request is the following:
  o Requested by SCDD: Special Education Preschool Inclusive Practices and Early Intervention asks which reworks the Governor’s proposal.
  o From the Lanterman Coalition, requested to delete the suspension dates for the supplemental rate increases and uniform holiday schedule for IDD services.
  o Delete the suspension date for the IHSS rate restoration.
  o $6 million for Special Olympics to continue the work they are doing
  o $55 Million to improve the service coordinator case ratios.
  o Through California Disability Services Association (CDSA) incentivizing a paid internship program in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) seeking to increase from $5 million to $10 million per year.
  o The Special Education Pandemic Response, asking for $1 billion to supplement the education component.
  o Introduced legislation in California to fund IDD services per the rate study, to maintain that level of funding with an index or inflation index for cost of living growth rate.
  o Fairfield has 300 vacant townhouses just sitting empty for the last 10 years. There is a developer willing to invest $36 million into rehabilitating all the townhouses, DDS is also interested, and these homes will be for seniors, veterans, and the IDD population.
• Karishma Khatri from Assemblymember Bill Quirk’s Office shared the Assemblymember authored a bill for broadband permitting and co-authored on Assembly Bill 126 for special ed programs for the funding for Family Empowerment Centers.
• Susannah Meyer from Senator Steve Glazer’s Office shared one of his priorities is a mental health package.
  o Part of the package includes:
    ▪ Mental health license plates that could potentially be an ongoing source of funding for school programs for mental health;
    ▪ Mental health oversite to track the spending and outcomes of county mental health programs, and;
    ▪ Assisted outpatient treatment which allows counties to improve treatment to individuals with mental health diagnoses by allowing
those exiting or having recently exited conservatorships to be eligible to assisted outpatient treatment programs

- Started bi-monthly nonprofit conference calls that included nonprofits and other lawmakers to discuss what is going on with vulnerable communities. From those calls, new legislation was proposed:
  - Allow for emergency planning so county contract requirements would be adjusted to be more flexible.
  - Authorize the issuance of State and General Obligation Bonds to fund increased access to broadband services to rural, suburban, and tribal underserved communities.

8:01p Member Reports: RAC members and Councilmembers reported on their regional and statewide advocacy work and priorities. Some highlights were:

- **Francisco Garcia:**
  - Working with La Familia, hosting workshops through Zoom every Saturday and distributed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in Alameda County.

- **Pam Perls:**
  - Facilitating National Core Indicator surveys as an interviewer facilitator and have become active with the ACLU, working on a lot of equity committees & issues involving law enforcement.

- **Dianne Millner:**
  - Continuing to work on the local Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) in the East Bay.

- **Kate Rauch:**
  - Doing a lot of vaccine outreach and related projects for high-impacted communities.

- **Nicole Adler:**
  - Was interviewed by ABC news about her experience with COVID. ABC promoted her tagline, “I stopped my life because of COVID”.

- **Marla Silversmith:**
  - Working in San Mateo County on having students return to school safely and making sure kids are getting their Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and all their services in preparation for in person instruction.

- **Elizabeth Grigsby:**
  - Holding a self-advocacy class on Wednesdays around technology asking questions like “What do you want to know about technology during the pandemic?”

SCDD Report:

- Sheraden Nicholau gave report on SCDD working with both county departments and has reviewed the state and federal government’s mass/mega vaccination sites and mobile clinics:
  - Mega sites are in Los Angeles County and Alameda County.
  - The reviews from members of the public indicate that these mega sites are meeting access and functional needs, so far.
The state is putting aside blocks of appointments each day to ensure access and equity specifically for people with disabilities and for people within black communities, indigenous communities, and communities of color within roughly 50 miles of these mass vaccination sites.

8:30p Reports:

- **Regional Center Reports:** Highlights
  - Eric Zigman gave the report for GGRC:
    - Just finished a three-day vaccine clinic in partnership with Safeway Pharmacies at the San Mateo Offices in the parking lot. 1133 people were given vaccines. AbilityPath and GGRC Bilingual social workers helped with the turnout.
    - DDS reports they are seeing a reduction in the number of COVID positive cases, especially in the licensed facilities.
    - GGRC Board meeting was last week, with a focus on cultural diversity, the work GGRC has done, and the training the Board Members received around cultural sensitivity.
    - Holding Purchase of Service forums in March on the 10th and 17th.
  - Lisa Kleinbub gave the report for RCEB:
    - Holding Purchase of Service Equity Meetings in conjunction with community-based organizations in multiple languages. All meetings are posted on the RCEB website.

- **Developmental Disability (DD) Councils:** Highlights
  - Vi Ibarra gave a report for Contra Costa County DD Council:
    - There is an online form on the County website. You can indicate if you need transportation to get to your vaccination clinic.
    - Open House Center was highlighted as having best practices for vaccinating people with access and functional needs.
    - The Autism Star Conference is on April 24th
    - The Disability and Access & Functional Needs Forum is on March 31st.
    - Next Council and Board meeting is March 24th.
  - Sheraden Nicholau read the report from Ben Chen for Alameda County DD Council:
    - Case rates for COVID-19 in Alameda County have been dropping since the spike in January.
    - Alameda County has given over 330,000 total vaccines so far (both first and second doses).
    - Links were put in the chat including a step by step guide for family members as caregivers or people who are caring for others and are looking to get a vaccination in Alameda County. This guide is available in several languages.
    - 2021 Virtual Transition Fair on March 13th and 18th.

- **People First:** Highlights
  - Elizabeth Grigsby gave the Northern Alameda People First report. They met earlier today and voted to have meetings return to Saturdays. Next
meeting: March 13th 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. They are planning on elections for the new president of the chapter.

- Membership meetings for People First of San Francisco are on the second Friday of each month from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

8:56p Other Announcements:
- Jerry Grace shared concerns about Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). There have been high winds lately and he would like people to be aware.
- Sara Desumala wants Regional Advisory Committee meeting reminders sent to People First members because some members don’t know how to save links.
- Elizabeth Grigsby wanted to thank the legislator who said he had a sibling with a developmental disability for all the work he does for this community.

9:02p Meeting Adjourned
Advocating for Students with Disabilities During the COVID-19 Crisis
• Unique alliance of people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities.
• National law and policy center dedicated to protecting and advancing disability civil and human rights.
• Disability rights are civil rights.

• **VISION:** a just world where all people live full and independent lives free of discrimination.
• Educate legislators and policy makers on issues (such as IDEA, ADA) affecting rights of people with disabilities.

*DREDF is working hard to protect and support the civil rights of people with disabilities during this pandemic--visit our website for more information in a variety of areas:  [www.dredf.org](http://www.dredf.org)*
DREDF is a federally funded Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) (Serving Regions 4 and 5 that include 30 counties in Northern CA!).

There is a PTI center in every state and territory. Please call us and we will direct you to yours or check here: Find Your Parent Center

What we do: PTI’s:

● **Work** with families of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, birth-26
● **Help** parents participate effectively in their children’s education and development
● **Partner** with professionals and policy makers to improve outcomes for all children with disabilities

● Children with disabilities who have consistent, knowledgeable advocates are most likely to receive appropriate services & supports.
“Some parents I know have been told that their child’s I.E.P. simply can’t be fully met while distance learning persists — that they will receive not only less instruction than usual but also far less of the individualized support that makes that instruction meaningful. “I think most families are being reasonable, but students’ rights don’t change during a pandemic,” says Julia Bascom, executive director of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Denise Stile Marshall, the chief executive of the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, emphasizes that there have been no waivers to schools’ obligations to disabled students. “You can amend the I.E.P. with mutual consent of parent and district, and you can create an addendum based on what’s feasible given the current conditions,” Marshall says, “but parents and administrators need to remember that ‘doing the best you can’ is not the legal standard.”

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/10/magazine/special-education-covid.html?fbclid=IwAR3TR1QMvJW_8jYt1hJv594knAsMNyJQI46Q2pT3l5mfR3TRnwGks-5Zq6c
Federal Laws that Protect Students with Disabilities

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504)

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

You do NOT have to know everything about the law, but knowing basics matters!

Note: States have their own laws and regulations but these cannot be less protective than federal law.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

• Federal Civil Rights Anti-Discrimination Law.
• Protects ALL PEOPLE with a disability that impairs one or more major life activities (learning, moving, focusing…) in programs receiving federal money.
• In education, “504 Plan” removes barriers to learning and provides equal opportunities for student to participate.
• Applies during COVID-19 closures. Accommodations and supports may need adjusting. ALL Students need ACCESS.
• Parents have important information to share--especially during distance learning.
• Eligibility: A medical diagnosis is not required but can be helpful (especially now if evaluation is delayed by school).
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA): Special Education

• A Federal **Education** Law / 1975.
• Students must fit at least 1 of 13 categories of disability (not medical).
• **And** students **also** need **specialized** support and instruction to benefit from education.

• Provides an “**IEP**”:
  - Individualized **Education** Program.
  - specialized instruction.
  - supportive related services.
  - **Individualized** to meet unique needs.

• During distance learning, services may be provided **DIFFERENTLY but to extent “REASONABLY POSSIBLE”**.
Do Youth with Disabilities Lose Their Rights During COVID-19?

• NO. Services may be delivered DIFFERENTLY (by computer or at home or by phone, for example), but are still required and children must be able to access education and benefit from it and make meaningful progress toward INDIVIDUALIZED goals.

• Youth with disabilities may have extra challenges or needs during distance learning, and schools need to help manage these so students can participate like other students, make progress and continue working toward your goals.

• For transition age youth, part of FAPE is PROGRESS toward transition goals!

• All important laws remain in effect:
  • FERPA (Student Privacy)--think HIPAA for education
  • IDEA (Special Education/IEP)
  • Section 504 and the ADA (non-discrimination/equal access)

But you may need to SHOW the school what the challenges and problems with distance learning. Examples, data, evidence.

Are Special Education Services Required in the Time of COVID-19?
COVID-19 and Distance Learning

Current challenges:

• Assessment and records delays (CDE guidance/Sac City)
• Delays in Transitioning from Early Intervention (Regional Centers) to School District Services (Age 3)
• Inclusion time: Is student still included with typical peers? How? May seem different in online class but student still needs access in least restrictive environment
• Related services and telemedicine: Support may be given differently/delivery model different. How often and how much may need adjusting WITH Parent Consent
• Goal monitoring--is student making progress?
COVID-19 and Distance Learning

Significant challenges:

• Some students CANNOT access distance learning at all.
• Regression (loss of skills) puts child further behind
• Compensatory Education (services needed to make up for losses/services not delivered)
• Parents need training, consultation, support and help!
• Parent and child stress, overwhelm, changes in routine/social opportunities
Options for Addressing Distance Learning Challenges

• Call or continue a (virtual) IEP/504 meeting.
• Document and monitor, collect work samples, video, etc. to share. IEP/504 Plan Service Tracking Log from DRC
• Request more/new evaluation or Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE).
• Use parent rights/safeguards
• Contact your PTI to learn/review options.
• Don’t Get Mad--Get DATA! Tell your child and family’s story.
Advocacy Essentials: Important Problem Solving Tips

• Write it, don’t say it! Keep records of what YOU write and how school RESPONDS
• Use Sample letters for common situations (see: Sample Letters and Forms - Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund)
• Get proof of delivery (confirm email, call to check if no response)
• Set deadlines /expectations and insist on answers in writing
• Keep work samples, logs, videos, photos
• How can you SHOW/ EXPLAIN the problem?
Can you explain what isn’t working for your student or yourself?

- **Not enough services** (time decreased without your consent)
- **How services are being provided** (telemedicine, online para, online instruction, packets) don’t work for student
- **Technology barriers** (internet, computer, training to use)
- **Family situation** (working parent, multiple children, etc.)
- Online learning is not appropriate for your child
- Instruction “live” won’t work--need recorded lessons to listen to in small parts or when parents are available to help.
Problem Solving Steps:

Options: If site staff aren’t responding, or situation not getting resolved, you can move beyond the school site team:

- Contact the Program Specialist/Special Ed Director for your school district/charter or District 504 Explain problems IN WRITING. Give examples!
- Request IEP or 504 meeting Requesting An IEP Meeting During COVID-19 Remote Learning Periods (DOCX) April 2020
- Create IEP or 504 meeting agenda (your concerns, what you want to discuss). For exp:
  - More help for you (consultation, training)
  - More assessment/observation to understand child’s needs
  - More direct help for child
  - Different ways to provide help that work better
Remember: IEP and 504 Plans are LEGAL documents!

- Before CONSENTING (SIGNING) the IEP or 504 Plan, take the time you need to understand and REVIEW CAREFULLY.

- Request explanation, clarification, translation etc, and/or contact your PTI for help!

- ASK YOURSELF: “Would I sign any other legal document without adequate time for a thorough review?”
  Don’t agree to changes without understanding:
  - What changes are
  - What alternatives are
  - Does this make sense for your child? Your opinion matters!

- KNOW THAT: Parents/Guardians/Adult Students can:
  - Agree to “parts” of an IEP so they can be started
  - Attach “Exceptions to the IEP” outlining disagreements.
    See DREDF Exceptions to the IEP sample letter

**TIP:** An efficient way to sign during distance learning is: to print, sign or take a picture of a document, and email back
THE PLAN IS FINALIZED - NEXT STEPS

• **Monitor the plan** — is it working? Does it need changing? Are there implementation problems?
• **Gather data** — how can we know if plan is working without information?
• **Focus on self advocacy in all we do** — student led, student centered
• **Advocacy matters** — how **WILL** we teach student these skills? IEP goals?
• **Adjust** as student changes/grows
What about REGRESSION (Student losing skills/going backwards)

Ideas for addressing:

– Documenting what’s changed (what services, supports CHANGED that can explain this?)
– Document/Show areas of regression. For Example:
  • motor skills
  • coping skills/mental health
  • communication
  • behavior
  • academics (reading, writing, math, earning credits…)

– Understand your rights/options--Compensatory Education?

• Example: Before distance learning, Student was able to participate in education and calm down when stressed without dysregulating 90% of time, but now cannot stay focused in class more than 15 minutes and meltdowns have increased by 50%
Compensatory Education

What is it?

● An form of reimbursement when a school district does not provide a free and appropriate public education ("FAPE") by not following law or the IEP

● Can be in the form of reimbursement for out-of-pocket educational expenses, additional future services or supports, or even a more supportive educational setting.

● Goal: To place the student in a position that they would have been if there had been no violations.

● Act now to avoid regression- better for student, better for district.
New CA Requirement: Emergency Section in the IEP

SB 98:

- Newly IDEA eligible students must have IEPs that include emergency section.
- Existing IEPs must have an emergency section added no later than next regular IEP meeting.
- Should be developed together with families/youth and individualized.
- Plans must be implemented anytime schools closed more than 10 days in an emergency.
- See DREDF July's Special Edition.
- NOT the same as a Distance Learning Plan specific to COVID-19 only. PART of IEP for ALL eligible students
Returning to School: Guidance and Options

- Parents have powerful rights in terms of INDIVIDUAL needs of their child. YOU can help document!
- New resource to help families make these important decisions from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

See: Making Decisions about Children Attending In-person School During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Information for Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers

Information is available in many languages, and is designed to help parents, caregivers, and guardians weigh the risks and benefits of available educational options when deciding to whether or not to send their child back to school. It is organized to provide parents with:

- Information on COVID-19 and why safely reopening schools is so critical.
- Tools to:
  - Help parents assess child’s and family’s risk of COVID-19;
  - Consider factors that will help parents make a choice, if offered, of instructional format (e.g. virtual, in person, or a hybrid option); and
  - Prepare for school participation, regardless of whether that is through in person or through online/distance learning.

Includes this tool: Decision Making Checklist for Virtual or At-Home Learning

- DREDF Special EDition: Making Sure Your Child's Needs are Met as Schools Return to In-Person Learning
Parent Training and Information Centers

● To find a PTI visit the Center for Parent Information Resources.

● PTI are places where families can get help to understand their child with a disability education rights and learn to use them effectively.

● PTIs offer free training for parent and youth with disabilities.

● No family is ever turned away.

● They are required by the Department of Education.
Family Participation: Get involved! Be a Leader!

• NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US!
• Join your Community Advisory Committee (CACs).

A Community Advisory Committee on Special Education is a legally mandated group formed to focus and advise on issues which affect our children in special education. The members are primarily parents of children with disabilities.

Check your school district/charter school website or contact your Special Education Administrator to find how to join the CAC!
Time for Q&A

Please take some time to fill out the poll while we answer your questions.
DREDF COVID-19 Resources

- Special Education During COVID-19 School Closures
- Youth with Disabilities During Covid-19: You can make a Difference!
- Dispute Resolution During Covid-19
- New CA Law Requires Emergency Plans for Special Education Students
- IEP/504 Plan Service Tracking Log from Disability Rights CA
- Making Sure Your Child’s Needs are Met as Schools Return to In-Person Learning
- Special Education Guidance for COVID-19 - Health Services & School Nursing (CA Dept of Education)

DREDF Sample Letters and Forms

- virtual-iep-meeting-tipsheets.pdf
- virtual-iep-mtg-checklist.pdf

COVID-19 Parent Resources - NCLD

- Parent Advocacy Toolkit
DREDF Resource Links

● Special Education Rights and Responsibilities (SERR)  
  https://serr.disabilityrightsca.org/

● DOWNLOAD DREDF Training Materials & Publications!  
  www.dredf.org/special_education/trainings.shtml  
  www.dredf.org/publications/publications.shtml  
  www.dredf.org/special_education/special_ed_resources.shtml


● DREDF:  www.dredf.org  
● CDE Special Education:  www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se  
● CDE/PENT (Behavior):  www.pent.ca.gov  
● Disability Rights CA (DRC):  www.disabilityrightsca.org  
● NICHCY:  www.nichcy.org/  
● OSEP:  www.osepideasthatwork.org  
● OCR:  https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/504faq.html  
● Wrightsla:  rightscl
DREDF provides information and training to parents/guardians of school-age children with disabilities (up to age 26), and professionals who serve these students and their families.

Call to ask for an “Education Advocate”!

**Phone:** 510.644.2555 ext. 5227  
**Toll Free:** 800.348.4232  
**Fax/TTY:** 510.841.8645  
**Email:** iephelp@dredf.org  
**Website:** www.dredf.org  
**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/dredf.org
The State Council on Developmental Disabilities’ Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is taking applications for membership!

RACs represent the communities they represent, including geographically and ethnically. The Bay Area RAC is currently seeking applicants from Marin County and San Mateo County who identify as Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, Native Hawaiian or Alaska Native.

Thank you for your continued efforts in being a voice for the community!

RAC members:
• Advise SCDD and its Regional Office on local issues and identify and provide input regarding local systemic needs within its communities;
• Provide public information programs for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, families, professional groups, and the general public to increase professional and public awareness of areas identified within the state plan;
• and more!

To apply: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepqt80u578ELHgcPJNzsjO71PPvxZ1txZn77P5Cm6iVbvBzg/viewform?c=0&w=1

Or contact us for more information: bayarea@scdd.ca.gov –or– (510) 286-0439
The State Council on Developmental Disabilities’ Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) está aceptando **solicitudes de membresía**!

Los RAC representan a las comunidades que representan, inclusión geográfica y étnicamente. El RAC del Área de la Bahía está buscando candidatos del condado de Marin y el condado de San Mateo que se identifiquen como asiáticos, isleños del Pacífico, indios americanos, nativos de Hawái o de Alaska.

¡Gracias por sus continuos esfuerzos para ser una voz para la comunidad!

Miembros del RAC:

- Asesorar al SCDD y su Oficina Regional sobre problemas locales e identificar y proporcionar información sobre las necesidades sistemáticas locales dentro de sus comunidades;
- Proporcionar programas de información pública para personas con IDD, familias, grupos profesionales y el público en general para aumentar la conciencia pública y profesional de las áreas identificadas dentro del plan estatal;
- ¡y más!

Aplicar:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepqt80u578ELHgcPJNzsjO71PPvxZ1txZn77P5Cm6iVbvBzg/viewform?c=0&w=1

O contáctenos para más información: bayarea@scdd.ca.gov –o– (510) 286-0439
To: Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Members & Interested Parties  
From: Bay Area Regional Office  
Re: 2020-2021 Schedule of Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee Meetings  

Date: August 2020

All Committee Meetings are open to the public. 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.

NEW: Networking session is from 6:15 pm to 6:30 pm and RAC Meeting is from 6:30 PM to 9:00 pm.

September 30, 2020 Community Outreach Meeting, via Zoom and call-in  
December 2, 2020 Community Outreach Meeting, via Zoom and call-in  
February 24, 2021 Community Outreach Meeting, via Zoom and call-in  
April 28, 2021 Community Outreach Meeting, via Zoom and call-in  
June 30, 2021 Community Outreach Meeting, via Zoom and call-in  
July & August No Meetings

Zoom link, call-in info and all meeting materials will be posted at bayarea@scdd.ca.gov 10 days before each meeting. All are welcome to attend and participate. Contact bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call 510.286.0439 for accommodation or access needs, at least 5 (five) days before a meeting.

Revised: 8/18/2020
A: Comité Asesor Regional (RAC) Miembros y partes interesadas
De: Oficina Regional del Área de la Bahía
Re: Calendario 2020-2021 de las reuniones del Comité Asesor Regional del Área de la Bahía

Date: August 2020

Todas las reuniones del comité están abiertas al público. No hay ninguna ubicación física disponible para el público. Por ORDEN EJECUTIVA N-29-20, Las restricciones de teleconferencia no se aplican durante la pandemia de COVID-19.

**NUEVO**: La sesión de networking es de 6:15 pm a 6:30 pm y la reunión del RAC es de 6:30 pm a 9:00 pm.

30 de Septiembre de 2020 Reunión de alcance comunitario, a través de Zoom y llamada
2 de Diciembre de 2020 Reunión de alcance comunitario, a través de Zoom y llamada
24 de Febrero de 2021 Reunión de alcance comunitario, a través de Zoom y llamada
28 de Abril de 2021 Reunión de alcance comunitario, a través de Zoom y llamada
30 de Junio de 2021 Reunión de alcance comunitario, a través de Zoom y llamada
Julio y Agosto No hay reuniones

El enlace Zoom, la información de llamadas y todos los materiales de la reunión se publicarán en bayarea@scdd.ca.gov 10 días antes de cada reunión. Todos son bienvenidos a asistir y participar. Contacto bayarea@scdd.ca.gov o llamar 510.286.0439 para las necesidades de alojamiento o acceso, al menos 5 (cinco) días antes de una reunión.

Revised: 8/24/2020

“The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families.”