



NOTICE/AGENDA

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL MEETING

POSTED AT: www.scdd.ca.gov

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

JOIN ZOOM MEETING: <http://bit.ly/SCDDCouncilJuly2021>

MEETING ID: **937 3963 2320**

OR

JOIN BY TELECONFERENCE: (VOICE ONLY)

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

MEETING ID and PASSCODE: **937 3963 2320 and code 956500**

DATE: July 27, 2021

TIME: 10:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAIR: Wesley Witherspoon

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Item 3. SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCILMEMBERS

Item 4. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Item 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This item is for members of the public only to provide comments and/or present information to the Committee on matters not on the agenda. Each person will be afforded up to three minutes to speak.

Item 6. APPROVAL OF MAY 2021 MINUTES

All



Item 7. MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Nicole Adler and Joyce McNair

Item 8. CHAIR REPORT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Wesley Witherspoon, Council Chair

- A. Executive Committee
 - B. Legislative and Public Policy Committee
 - C. Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (handout)
 - D. Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC)
-

Item 9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT AND STAFF REPORTS

Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director

- A. Deputy Director of Administration Report
 - B. Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Report
 - C. Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations Report
 - D. CRA/VAS Report
 - E. QA Project Update Report
-

Item 10. STATEWIDE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK (SSAN) REPORT

SCDD SSAN Representative Matthew Lagrand

Item 11. CYCLE 44 GRANTS PRESENTATION

Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director



Item 12. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: September 14, 2021

Accessibility:

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f) and Executive Order N-29-20 (this Executive Order can be found by clicking the link on page one of the agenda or 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 Charlotte Endres at (916) 263-8184 or charlotte.endres@scdd.ca.gov. *Please provide at least 3 business days prior to the meeting to allow adequate time to respond to all requests.*

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

JULY 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM 3
INFORMATION ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Swearing In of New Councilmembers

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will swear in newly appointed Councilmembers. This is a ceremonial tradition for the Council.

JULY 27, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 6

ACTION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Approval of May 2021 Minutes

The draft minutes from the May 2021 Council meeting have been included in the packet for review. Councilmembers will vote on whether to approve the minutes.

Attachment

May 25, 2021 Council meeting minutes

Action Recommended

Approve the May 2021 Minutes.



Draft Council Meeting Minutes May 23, 2021

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>Others Attending</u>
Aubyn Stahmer Brian Winfield Cindy Chiu David Pegos (F.A.) Francis Lau (F.A.) Jeana Eriksen (S.A.) Jonathan Nelson (F.A.) Joyce McNair (F.A.) Julie Austin (F.A.) Julio Garnica (S.A.) Kara Ponton (S.A.) Kilolo Brodie (F.A.) Kim Rothschild (F.A.) Larry Yin Lee Bycel (F.A.) Maria Marquez (S.A.) Mark Beckley Matthew Lagrand (S.A.) Nicole Adler (S.A.) Olivia Raynor Richard Nelson Rosie Ryan (S.A.) Sandra Aldana (S.A.) Sandra Smith Wesley Witherspoon (S.A.)	Julie Neward Karen Millender Marko Mijic Nick Wavrin <u>Others Attending</u> Aaron Carruthers Amy Westling Annette Kunsman Austin Dove Beth Hurn Brian Weisel Bridget Kolakosky Charles Nguyen Charlotte Endres Christofer Arroyo David Grady Dena Hernandez Douglas Sale Elizabeth Barrios Gomez Gail Forrest Judi Muirhead Judy Mark Julie Eby-McKenzie Kelly Headrick Lea Park-Kim	(Continued) Lisa Hooks Mary Agnes Nolan Mary Ellen Stives Matt Traverso Nancy Bargmann Nicole Patterson Riana Hardin Rick Wood Rihana Ahmad Robin Maitino-Erben Robin Puccio Ross Long Ryan Duncanwood Sarah May Scarlett von Thenen Sheraden Nicholau Sidney Jackson Sonya Bingaman Tania Morawiec Viviana Barnwell Yolanda Cruz

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Council Chair Wesley Witherspoon called the meeting to order at 10:38 A.M.

The Council held a moment of silence to honor the one-year anniversary of the death of George Floyd.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

Page 1 of 7

2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councilmembers and others in attendance introduced themselves.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. APPROVAL OF MARCH 2021 MINUTES

Action 1

It was moved/seconded (Bycel [F.A.]/McNair [F.A.]) and carried to approve the March 2021 Council meeting minutes by unanimous acclimation. (See last page of minutes for the voting record of members present.)

6. CHAIR REPORT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Wesley Witherspoon welcomed the Council to the May meeting and reminded members that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. He emphasized the need to increase awareness around mental health issues, reduce the stigma about mental health treatment and increase access to treatment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. May is also Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Chair Witherspoon extended his and the Council's support for the AAPI community.

In Legislative update announcements, this month the Council supported three more bills. The bills will improve regional center services, help self-advocates become community leaders, and increase inclusion in California schools (bill numbers AB 813, SB 291 and SB 692).

Committee reports were provided in the meeting packet. Chair Witherspoon asked that members read through these reports when they are able.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT AND STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers presented an oral report on recent Council activities and goals. The report included details about the following topics.

State Plan activities and trainings reached about 217,000 people throughout March and April. Reporting data for the month of May will be available soon.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

Page 2 of 7

COVID-19 infection rates have dropped since last winter but there are disparities in who is being infected or dying from the disease. The Latinx community has been hit the hardest, though the Asian-American and African-American communities in California have also been disproportionately affected. California currently has a 31-day inventory of vaccine doses and will continue to distribute them. California has now reached the milestone of having 50% of the population vaccinated. SCDD continues to look for partnerships in the community and ways to make vaccine appointments more accessible.

SCDD has been involved in several activities as a result of the shooting of Isaias Cervantes, a 25-year-old man with autism in the Los Angeles area. SCDD staff has met with the Sheriff of Los Angeles and the Sheriff's Department's training officer to address the ongoing need for crisis intervention and de-escalation training.

There will be new funding and opportunities for the Council this year. SCDD has been allocated \$445,000 in funding from the Administration on Community Living (ACL) to assist with work around vaccine efforts. SCDD also received \$365,000 from the California Community Foundation for additional Go-Kits to provide with wildfire preparation training.

Recently Executive Director Carruthers met with Congressional Appropriators to discuss the work SCDD does in their districts (Representatives Roybal-Allard, Lee and Harder). He also participated in a White House Forum on Breaking Down Barriers for people who have challenges accessing the COVID vaccine. Additionally, SCDD sponsored legislation remains active and strong. Most notably, SB 639 (which will end subminimum wage in California) passed off the Senate floor and heads to the Assembly next; and AB 1578 extends the LEAP supported internship program to 2023.

8. **SSAN REPORT**

SCDD SSAN representative Matthew Lagrand provided Councilmembers with an update from the most recent SSAN meeting in March. The SSAN has been collaborating in many different workgroups together over the past few months. The next SSAN meetings will be held on September 7th and 8th, 2021.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

Page 3 of 7

9. MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Councilmembers Sandra Aldana (S.A.) and Francis Lau (F.A.) were recognized for this month's Member Spotlight. Ms. Aldana and Mr. Lau have served on the Council for the past six years and have made many contributions to the SCDD. Chair Witherspoon and other Councilmembers expressed appreciation and gratitude for their service and commitment.

10. SCDD 2021-22 BUDGET

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers presented the 2021-2022 SCDD budget. There were some proposed changes since the Council last met in March. SCDD's Executive Committee recommended that the Council's estimated unspent \$445,000 be added to Cycle 45 for a "Post-COVID moving ahead" grant. The State Plan Committee would develop the guidelines for this grant, and the full Council would then vote to approve those guidelines.

The Council received an additional \$51,000 increase to the Basic State Grant, and \$701,000 to the Quality Assessment Project. Also, the Council was granted \$457,557 from the Administration on Community Living to expand access to COVID vaccines for people with disabilities and older adults, and \$365,000 from the California Community Foundation to support disaster response training for people in California with developmental disabilities.

Action 2

It was moved/seconded (Pegos [F.A.]/Smith) and carried to approve the 2021-2022 SCDD budget as presented. (See last page of minutes for a voting record of members present.)

Following the vote, Councilmember Brian Winfield (Department of Developmental Services) presented the Governor's May Revise budget update for the new fiscal year. Proposals for the May revision fall into four broad categories: system capacity and enhancements, service access and equity, broadening California's safety net, and public health crisis response.

11. SPOTLIGHT FOCUS DISCUSSION: SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The Council hosted a panel of guest speakers to discuss the implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP). Panelists included Amy Westling from the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA), Judy Mark from Disability Voices United (DVU), and Rick Wood and Maria Marquez, Co-

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

Page 4 of 7

Chairs of the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC). Nancy Bargmann, Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), also joined the meeting and presented information about the Self-Determination Program (SDP). Statewide implementation of the SDP begins on July 1st, 2021. Ms. Bargmann discussed how we can continue to remove barriers and improve individuals' experience in the program. There will be key areas to address as the program expands: improving access and awareness with a standard approach to statewide orientation (to be available in plain language and multiple languages); supporting access and service equity and support for early transition into the SDP; and setting targets and benchmarks for Regional Centers and better tracking practices overall.

Maria Marquez talked about her experience as a pilot participant in the SDP. She remains a strong advocate for the program and believes that anyone can be successful in it if they stick with it. In her view, the biggest barrier to the program's implementation is that many people have opted out due to the long trainings and becoming overwhelmed with everything that must be done. She remains hopeful that people will renew interest in the program and that it will gain momentum soon.

Amy Westling addressed what is working well and what needs improvement in the SDP from the Regional Center perspective. What works well about the program is that it helps to fill in gaps in service delivery, and it makes a difference in people's lives when they have the opportunity to purchase a good person-centered plan. Things that need to work better include making the process less complicated for consumers, ensuring sustainability of the program going forward, learning how to calculate budgets most effectively, and providing additional clarity on program rules and unmet needs.

Rick Wood shared his personal experience with Regional Centers and the role of the Local Advisory Committees (LACs). He also discussed the August 2020 barriers report in which barriers to the SDP were identified by the SSDAC as well as a detailed list of specific recommendations to overcome those barriers. He reported that some regional centers have performed better than others, and there is a need to improve the relationship between local advisory committees and regional center staff. Furthermore, trainings and orientations should be offered that are shorter, simpler, standardized and straightforward.

Judy Mark went over the SSDAC's recommendations to eliminate the barriers

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

Page 5 of 7

to SDP. She noted that in the Governor's trailer bill language, there are concerns about the cost effectiveness of the Program. The traditional service system has not been working for many people. SDP can meet peoples' needs in a way they haven't been met before and provides them the ability to achieve their goals. Further information, education and outreach should continue to be provided for people with disabilities and their families.

Following the panel presentation, Councilmembers offered commentary and discussion with panelists before voting to approve the interim SDP report.

Action 3

It was moved/seconded (Rothschild [F.A.]/McNair [F.A.]) and carried to direct Council staff to finalize recommendations and submit the Self-Determination Program interim report to the Legislature. (See last page of minutes for a voting record of members present.)

12. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

The next Council meeting will be held on July 27th, 2021. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 P.M.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

Council Meeting Voting Log May 25, 2021			
Name	Action 1	Action 2	Action 3
Adler, Nicole	For	For	For
Aldana, Sandra	For	For	For
Austin, Julie	For	For	For
Beckley, Mark	For	For	For
Brodie, Kilolo	For	For	For
Bycel, Lee	For	For	For
Chiu, Cindy	For	For	N/A
Eriksen, Jeana	For	For	For
Garnica, Julio	For	For	For
Smith, Sandra	For	For	N/A
Lagrand, Matthew	For	For	For
Lau, Francis	For	For	For
Marquez, Maria	For	For	For
McNair, Joyce	For	For	For
Nelson, Jonathan	For	For	For
Nelson, Richard	For	For	N/A
Pegos, David	For	For	N/A
Ponton, Kara	For	For	For
Raynor, Olivia	For	For	N/A
Rothschild, Kim Levy	For	For	For
Ryan, Rosie	For	N/A	For
Stahmer, Aubyn	For	For	For
Winfield, Brian	For	N/A	N/A
Witherspoon, Wesley	For	For	For
Yin, Larry	For	For	N/A

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate

DNP = Did Not Participate/Not Present
N/A = Not Available

JULY 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM 7
INFORMATION ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Member Spotlight: Nicole Adler and Joyce McNair

Councilmembers Nicole Adler and Joyce McNair will provide brief presentations as part of the 2021 “Member Spotlight” series.

Attachments

None

JULY 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM 8
INFORMATION ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Chair Report and Committee Reports

Council Chair Wesley Witherspoon will provide Councilmembers with an oral report about his recent activities and current priorities for the Council.

SCDD Committee reports have been provided for informational purposes.

Attachments

A) The Executive Committee met on 6/24/21. The meeting summary is attached.

B) The Legislative and Public Policy Committee met on 6/3/21. The meeting summary is attached.

C) The Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC) will meet on 7/26/21. The meeting summary will be provided as a handout.

D) The Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) met on 6/22/21. The meeting summary is attached.

AGENDA ITEM 8A.**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

Date of Meeting

June 24, 2021

Meeting's Focus

The Executive Committee met on June 24th, 2021. The meeting's focus centered on several action items as well as a focused discussion about successes, challenges and opportunities emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic. The June SCDD Staff Member Spotlight highlighted the Assistant to the Executive Director, Charlotte Endres. Council Chair Wesley Witherspoon and SCDD Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations Tania Morawiec presented the 2020 Employment First Committee (EFC) Annual Report. Materials and a timeline for this year's Executive Director Evaluation were presented to Committee members for review. Executive Director Aaron Carruthers also provided Committee members with a report on recent Council activities, and Deputy Director of Administration Doug Sale gave an update on the SCDD budget.

Items Acted Upon

The Committee acted on the following items:

- The April 2021 meeting minutes were approved.
- The Sponsorship request from the Special Needs Resource Foundation of San Diego was approved in the amount of \$1,500 to support costs associated with materials for their fourth annual All-Inclusive Day of Play and Resource Fair.
- A conflict of interest waiver request was approved for Diane Larson of the Redwood Coast Regional Center.
- The 2020 EFC Annual Report was approved.
- The 2021 Executive Director Evaluation timeline and process were approved.

Future Meeting Dates

August 17, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 8B.**LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE SUMMARY**

Date of Meeting

June 3, 2021

Meeting's Focus

The Legislative and Public Policy Committee met on June 3, 2021. The meeting's focus was largely on updates and to review the status of introduced bills affecting the I/DD community. Members were also provided updates on new legislative and regulatory issues that required the use of the Council Chair's delegated authority. Committee and public members were afforded the opportunity to provide comments on items listed for action.

Items Acted Upon

The Committee acted to approve the March 2021 meeting minutes.

Future Meeting Dates

September 9, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 8D.**STATEWIDE SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(SSDAC) SUMMARY**

Date of Meeting

June 22, 2021

Meeting's Focus

The Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) met on June 22, 2021 and hosted three topic-focused panels made up of subject experts in Regional Center Operations, Financial Management Services (FMS), and Independent Facilitation (IF). Panel members included Regional Center Executive Directors, FMS and IF providers. Each panel was asked a series of questions that were focused things such as streamlining the enrollment process, establishing best practices and sharing what is and is not working. The purpose of the targeted panel discussions is to gather information and prepare for the July 1st statewide rollout. The information collected during these discussions will be used to help with the development and sharing of best practices and training materials.

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) was also asked to attend. Regrettably, they were unable to attend due to the meeting's timing with the budget process. Therefore, the SSDAC Co-Chairs requested that each Committee member submit one question for DDS into the chat that would then be transcribed and forwarded to DDS for response.

Item's Acted Upon

- Approval of February 2021 minutes

Future Meeting Dates

TBD

JULY 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM 9
INFORMATION ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Executive Director Report and Staff Reports

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will provide Councilmembers with an oral report regarding recent Council activities. Additionally, SCDD Staff reports have been included in the packet for informational purposes.

Attachments

- A) Deputy Director of Administration Report
- B) Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Report
- C) Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations Report
- D) C.R.A./V.A.S. Update Report
- E) QA Project Update Report

State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Deputy Director of Administration Report
July 27, 2021

The Deputy Director of Administration exercises broad policy-making authority over the SCDD's administrative functions including personnel, fiscal, contracts, information technology and customer services to fulfill the strategic goals of the SCDD. This report summarizes the activities the Administration team performed since the May 25, 2021 meeting.

Beginning in March 2020, the COVID-19 stay at home order significantly changed the way SCDD staff perform their work. SCDD implemented an Emergency Telework Program (ETP) in March 2020 which remains in effect. While all SCDD offices have remained open for essential activities, SCDD staff are continuing to work from home to the greatest extent while still being able to perform mission critical functions. With the statewide reopening of the economy on June 16, 2021, the Government Operation Agency (GovOps) and Department of Human Resources (CalHR) have asked state departments to begin to plan for implementing a "Hybrid Workforce Model," which will include a formal telework policy that allows staff to work remotely to the extent that allows them to continue to satisfactorily perform their essential job functions. The Hybrid Workforce Model recognizes the health and wellness benefits to the employees and the climate by working remotely utilizing technology to work effectively. All state managers and supervisors have been mandated to complete Hybrid Workforce Training in July 2021. Also, in July, SCDD surveyed all employees regarding returning to work/telework and is utilizing the results to develop a formal telework policy consistent with the Hybrid Workforce Model.

In my May report I stated my plan to retire at the end of August. I have delayed my retirement until the end of September to help ensure a smooth transition to the new chief deputy. The September Council meeting will be my last as Deputy Director of Administration.

The Human Resources team (HR) continues processing several recruitments such as the Chief Deputy, Director's Assistant, Regional Office Manager for San Bernardino and several other field and administrative support positions.

Thanks to the foresight of the Council in approving a 5-year computer replacement schedule in 2018 and data line upgrades for all offices in 2020, the staff have the information technology resources to be able work remotely. If not for the Council's approval of these infrastructure improvements, staff would not be able to work remotely, and it would be much more difficult to implement a Hybrid Workforce Model that includes a formal telework program. SCDD plans to deploy 20 new laptops and accessories and replace 6 regional office copiers as part of year 4 of the 5-year computer replacement schedule.

Since May 2020, SCDD has distributed 107.8 million items of personal protective equipment (PPE) from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to hundreds of community organizations and to our consumers and their families. The Administration team continues to work with CalOES and the Regional Office Managers to submit these PPE requests.

SCDD received a \$365,000 grant from the California Community Foundation to purchase and distribute approximately 4,500 Red Cross disaster backpacks along with disaster preparedness training to consumers and their families in fire prone areas throughout California. We have initiated the process to purchase, train and distribute these backpacks by December 2021.

The Deputy Director began work with the Executive Committee on the FY 2020/21 Executive Director Evaluation process and timeline.

The Budget Officer continues to track our current year expenditures and provided the latest expenditure and projections report to the Executive Committee on June 24th. We are expecting to close out Fiscal Year 2020/21 under budget.

The Quality Assessment Project is continuing to conduct the in-person surveys using Zoom and successfully negotiated a new 3-year contract with the Department of Developmental Services.

The Client Rights Advocate/Volunteer Advocate Service programs at Porterville Developmental Center and Canyon Springs Community Facility requested to begin negotiations on a new contract with the Department of Developmental Services.

Report from Deputy Director, Policy and Public Affairs and Staff, Policy and Public Affairs

The Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs is the lead person responsible for fulfilling the department's federal and state mission for advocacy. The Deputy Director directs the department's policy, advocacy, communication and committee activities.

NEWSWORTHY!

We are excited to announce the launch of SCDD's first ever newsletter in August. This will be a monthly newsletter about the good work getting done by SCDD around the state and at the federal level, as well as important events and success stories in our communities.

Stay tuned for the release date!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- ✓ Sponsored bill SB 639 update:

Current status: Assembly Appropriations Committee. This bill will have an initial hearing date in this committee, then it will go to the committee's "suspense file" where it will be assessed based on the cost to the state. The suspense file hearing will be at the end of August.

We are in ongoing discussions with stakeholders, committees, legislators and the Governor's office to ensure the proposed transition out of the 14c program is smooth and does not result in lost opportunities. Meetings will continue through August.

- ✓ LEAP (Limited Examination and Appointment Program): AB 1578 extends the LEAP program another year by adding language to the Assembly Judiciary committee's annual bill.

Current status: Senate Appropriations committee.

- ✓ Continued the ongoing work of tracking legislation that SCDD is supporting, submitting support letters to the committees and providing “me too” testimony.

Many of the bills that we are supporting have been moved to “2-year bill” status. This means that they will not be voted on in a committee hearing this year. They may resume moving through the legislation process next year.

Below are the bills that are still moving through the legislation process this year:

AB 1007 Forced Sterilization Compensation Program
Current status: Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 323 Long Term Care Facilities
Current status: Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 118 CRISES Act
Current status: Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 813 Regional Centers – evaluating and improving services
Current status: Senate Appropriations Committee

AB 313 LEAP
Current status: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 692 Education and Inclusion
Current status: Assembly Appropriations Committee

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

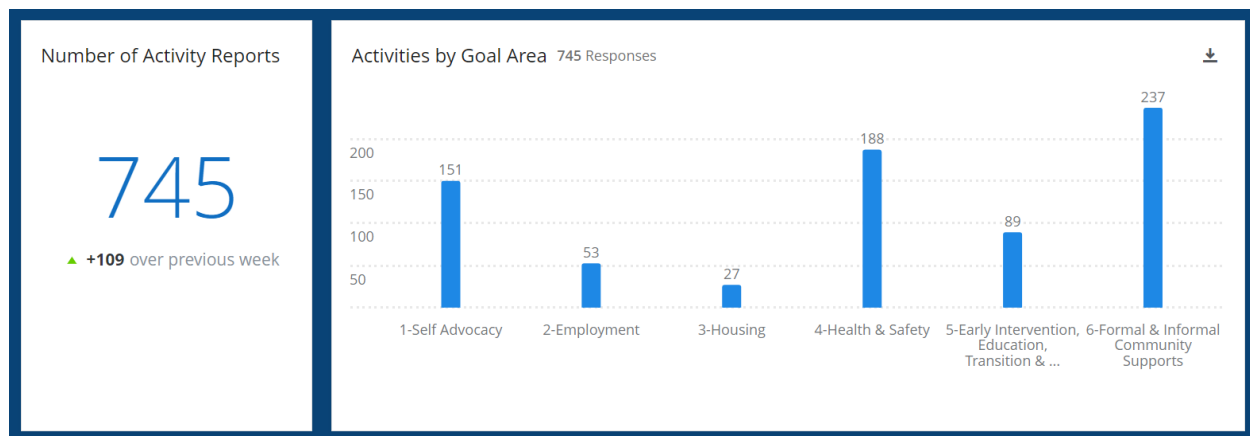
- ✓ Researched and conducted meetings with seven communications and public relations firms to discuss a potential partnership that would boost SCDD’s presence in the public and legislature.

- ✓ Attended portions of the "Building Back Better For Diversity, Equity And Inclusion" summit to highlight SCDD's participation in real time on social media.
- ✓ Led discussion between SCDD and Disability Thrive Initiative regarding data collection and website analysis. Communications Manager continues to work with stakeholders to update the Disability Thrive Initiative webpages in English and Spanish.
- ✓ Created document designs for the Employment First Committee report, Self-Determination Program Introduction sheet, and the Self-Determination Program Interim Report cover sheet.
- ✓ Communications Manager assisted Regional Offices and other units that requested help with designing graphics for events, creating social media posts, uploading documents on the website, editing webinar videos, or making accessible documents and presentations.
- ✓ Gave a virtual presentation on the 2021 legislative update at the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network meeting on behalf of Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs.

REPORT FROM: TANIA MORAWIEC

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PLANNING & REGIONAL OFFICE OPERATIONS

REPORT RANGE 5/12/21-7/8/21



Over 745 state plan activities were completed during this reporting period. SCDD staff continue to consult on best practices in state training efforts tied to self-determination and the Health & Safety category related to disability awareness and first responder training. One example from this reporting period includes suggestions shared with the Little Hoover Commission. SCDD staff, members of the law enforcement community, academics, and reform advocates recently joined Little Hoover to discuss the current state of police training in California and how the state can incorporate evidence-based standards into training curriculum. SCDD staff discussed their roles in CIT training and POST training and made suggestions specific to engaging with individuals who have I/DD.

Much positive community feedback comes to SCDD from training participants and TA recipients. Examples from this reporting period include:

- "Gracias por su tiempo e información brindada en esta reunión" "Muchas gracias por este taller, excelente información!" "Gracias por la información"
- "Hi Sonya, Just sending you a quick note to thank you for the various topics offered by your office. Always important and much needed subject matters, we make sure to forward the information to our families. The great advantage is that you don't have to live in the Sacramento area to log on. Have a good week. Grace Miranda Huerta, Early Start Family Resource Specialist, Co-Founder, Exceptional Family Center, Bakersfield, CA"
- "This training was more informative than other IF trainings I received. I really like the different approaches given. This allows you to pick your style and master it."

Spotlight Activities on

1. Health and Safety, 188 Activities

SCDD Staff continue to put together a September Symposium on Intellectual/Developmental Disability and Behavioral Health and held its biweekly planning committee meeting. At the meeting staff firmed up the agenda, reviewed marketing practices and other activities associated with putting the Symposium together.

The Sequoia office along with San Bernardino office collaborated on a 3-hour training on I/DD which provided information specifically on Lanterman Act, IDD, Autism and fifth category to 60 field training officers in the San Bernardino county area.

2. Self-Advocacy, 151 Activities

On 6.16.21 SCDD RO 12 held a self-determination parent group discussion and training. SD overview training was followed by a parent group discussion. Parent Independent facilitators also participated in the discussion by sharing tips and information. Autism Society Inland Empire assisted with marketing efforts and sharing our event flyer.

SDP IF Self-Paced Training - In the month of June, 57 people participated in the SDP Independent Facilitator Self-Paced training in English and Spanish. This seven-module training covers the following aspects of SDP: Overview of SDP, Budget and Spending Plan, Role of IF, Knowledge and Skills, Person Centered Planning, and the Business of Facilitation. This training is web-based, includes audio, transcription for those with hearing impairments, and handouts available on a Google Drive.

3. Early Intervention, Education, Transition & Post-Secondary Education, 89 Activities

Help Me Grow Advocacy Clinic June 2021 –

SCDD Orange County staff collaborated with Help Me Grow Orange County to meet the needs of Orange County families and connect them to developmental services and resources to enhance the development, behavior, and learning of children birth through five years. Throughout June 2021, SCDD Orange County staff met with five families who are new to navigating the service delivery system to help them with IEP and public benefits questions and help to make sense of the California service delivery system and what agency service/supports their child may be entitled to receive. This monthly advocacy clinic entitled "Special Education and Regional Center Advocacy Clinic - Ask an Advocate" served 5 family advocates who, verbally reported as a result of this activity, have more advocacy skills and abilities, are better able to say what is important to them and are satisfied with this project.

4. Employment, 53 Activities

Cornell WIP-C Certification Series - SCDD OCRO staff completed Cornell University's Work Incentives Planning and Utilization For Benefit Practitioners Certificate Series (with Credentialing as a Benefits and Work Incentives Practitioner) class. This coursework offers staff credentialing to counsel individuals with the interplay between Social Security work incentives and employment (all public benefits programs typically provide incentives for recipients with disabilities to return to work). Throughout the month of June, in order to finish the Cornell case/file review, SCDD OCRO met with a self-advocate and his

mother/conservator multiple times in June to gather information so that staff can assist with a thorough benefits summary and analysis of the interplay between work and employment. SCDD OCRO staff has been providing benefits counseling/training through technical assistance and training; however, credentialing allows us to do any or some of the following: (1) to be established as SME's in the interplay between benefits and employment and possibly, provide more "expert" technical policy feedback, suggestions when SSA proposes new regs or changes. We know the needs of the community, and as a CWIC, we understand the role of benefits and employment, and can bridge the two and provide testimony, policy suggestion that align with the needs of the community; (2) collaborate with PSE, community college DSPS offices to make sure each student has the right resources and tools to work through PSE, availing themselves of work incentives such as SEIE, and effectively helping to flip the narrative and provide students the resources and tools to pick employment first, versus the current path of long-term SSI benefits and not working for fear of reducing the SSI benefits that were difficult to attain. Additionally, staff will continue to offer Technical Assistance, trainings, and follow-up clinics.

5. Formal and Informal Community Supports, 237 Activities

SCDD staff participated in the monthly Racial Disparities and Justice Group which has met for almost 1 year to discuss disparity issues related to racial groups having access to regional center services, healthcare, and other services in the community. Several members shared they were asked by ACRC to help to write a Grant that would help address racial disparities through DDS by targeting the African American community and increasing the flexibility of ABA and respite hours being provided. The group also discussed the need for an English/Spanish lexicon of commonly used words and phrases for special needs families. SCDD staff shared about the need for more participation on Anthem Blue Cross and CA Health and Wellness CACs, especially from rural counties.

Staff assisted the Regional Manager in her coordination and implementation of the newly developed Shasta County Inclusion Task Force (SCITF) by assisting with note taking as she facilitated the meeting. The purpose of this newly formed committee includes knowledge & resource sharing to benefit people with developmental disabilities, their families and service providers. It also promotes opportunities for people with disabilities to be valued members in our community. Attendees were educated on the history of the Shasta County Coordinating Council that is no longer in existence and discussed the importance of these collaborative meetings that have robust conversations, leading to action and systems change. An example provided during this meeting included advocacy work related to inclusion of individuals with developmental disabilities at the Shasta Community College. Without the actions and community organizing efforts of the prior Coordinating Council, it may have been many years later that acceptance and supports for individuals with disabilities would have been implemented at this rural Shasta Community College. This was the first monthly meeting for this new Task Force. The Key Roles are: Advocate, Identify, Provide, Support, and Recognize. ADVOCATE for people with disabilities, IDENTIFY needs, PROVIDE a forum for public discussion of those needs, SUPPORT the new services and resources, and RECOGNIZE community members at an annual Recognition Celebration event.

6. Housing, 27 Activities

The Housing Action Team met to discuss future goals for the group. The group discussed the new Housing for I/DD at Orr Creek Brush St. Ukiah creating 39 units of which 10 units are set aside for

Regional Center clients and the second phase which will create 10 more units. The newly renovated hotel, Live Oak apartments, has filled most of the 36 units and includes housing for I/DD, Veterans, seniors and families using Homekey funds. SCDD represents I/DD on this committee to make sure that I/DD housing needs and concerns are addressed and represented. There was 1 SA, 4 FA's and 6 others in attendance.

CRA / VAS

Clients' Rights Advocacy and Volunteer Advocacy Services

SCDD AT WORK INSIDE CALIFORNIA DDS STATE OPERATED FACILITIES

Developmental Center/Community Facility/STAR Unit Census as of July 1, 2021

Total Population: 253

Porterville DC **196**

Central STAR **3**

Southern STAR **5**

Canyon Springs CF **39**

Desert STAR **10**

Program Activity for May and June 2021

COVID-19 Update

CRA/VAS team ended telework protocols and returned to facility-based offices in person on March 1st, 2021. DDS offered COVID vaccinations to our SCDD on-site team. All DDS and CRA/VAS staff working on grounds are screened daily, provided a mask, and tested if there is a known positive in the facility. The DDS facility I/DD surge bed units at Porterville and Fairview DCs are in warm shut-down mode. CRA/VAS team continues to assist SCDD Regional Offices to distribute emergency backpacks in the local regional areas.

Canyon Springs Community Facility and Desert STAR Unit

CRA reviewed 4 denials of rights; 4 IPPs; 2 human rights/behavioral meetings, 5 transition meetings, facilitated 4 self-advocacy meetings, attended 8 Emerging Risk Notification; assisted with 1 request for release, assisted 4 clients with court communication, provided 4 rights and other trainings staff. VAS attended 10 IPPs, 23 transition meetings, 2 court hearings, 2 emergency kits were distributed. VAS Coordinator attended 5 meetings and/or trainings. Advocates worked with teams for clients scheduled to transition to community but were delayed due to lack of staffing in the community homes. Regular COVID-19 testing continues. Protocols continue to stop the spread of the virus. VAS advocated for a client while in the hospital; connected a client with a free cell phone service; voiced concerns re care in community homes; facilitated family connections for clients.

A beloved VAS Advocate, Pastor Bill Godwin, passed away. He volunteered his time and energy to the clients at CS through his weekly meetings and individual advocacy. His encouraging voice and giving spirit will be missed by clients and staff alike.

Southern STAR Unit

CRA attended the following meetings for Southern STAR residents: 10 special/IPP, 2 STAR transition meetings, and 5 admission meetings. CRA is collaborating with STAR staff and Orange County Department of Education on educational services for four adolescents. The service needs will require both in person and remote due to the needs and safety of the individuals. STAR unit to move to community in Fall 2021.

SCDD VAS program at FDC ended on January 31, 2021, after serving individuals for 12 months after transition to the community.

Porterville Developmental Center and Central STAR Unit

CRA attended 9 human rights meetings, 9 IPPs, 19 transition meetings, 8 escort reviews, 9 denials of rights reviews, provided conducted 1 staff training, submitted 1 incident report, 8 committee meetings and trainings. VAS serves 55 people at PDC and in the community. The program attended: 19 IPPs, 24 transition meetings, 1 RAC meeting, and 2 self-determination committee meetings. SCDD staff worked extensively with PDC Program 8 management to develop a system to promote increased activity participation that protected client's rights. Every VAS individual who transitioned from PDC to the community has received their COVID vaccination.



Quality Assessment Project (QAP) Report

July 2021

Cycle: In-Person Survey (IPS)

The IPS contract cycle began July 2020. However, the actual implementation could not begin until late December 2020. As such, DDS has extended the IPS cycle through August 30, 2021. To date, **7,674 surveys statewide** have been completed by approximately 200 independent contractors and SCDD QA Coordinators (QAC). General goals for 8 regional centers have been reached. Many are not far behind. The target for all 21 regional centers remains 400 each for a statewide goal of 8400 surveys. **See Figure 1 and Table 1** for Regional Center breakdown.

Surveys are conducted with individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and/or proxies who have been identified as knowing the individual well. Proxies can include family members, friends and service providers. Those eligible to participate in the survey are adults who receive at least one regional center funded service in addition to case management. Participation in these surveys remain voluntary.

In response to the pandemic and the precautions necessary to ensure the safety of everyone involved in the survey process, surveys continue to be conducted remotely using Zoom Healthcare, a HIPPA compliant video conferencing platform.

QA Coordinators continue to support contractors through shadowing surveyors and providing technical assistance. Additional online resources are available through the QAP Interviewer Portal that allows access to training videos, manuals, FAQ, forms and survey tools and other resources.

Progress by Race/Ethnicity:

DDS has historically sought to collect a random sample of 400 individuals from each of the 21 RCs in the state. A sample of 400 from each RC yields a valid sample which allows for a statistical comparison between RCs. For the 2020-2021 cycle, DDS has chosen to enhance data collection with a focus on obtaining a sample from each RC that has proportionate representation from five ethnoracial groups (i.e., African American/Black, Asian, Hispanic, White, and Other).

To ensure balanced representation of individuals who are receiving services from all 21 RCs is obtained, the RC sample of 400 was divided among the five ethnoracial categories based on the percentage of the RCs population that is identified as a member of that group. See **Figure 2** for progress by Race/Ethnicity.

Figure 1: Completed Surveys by Regional Center

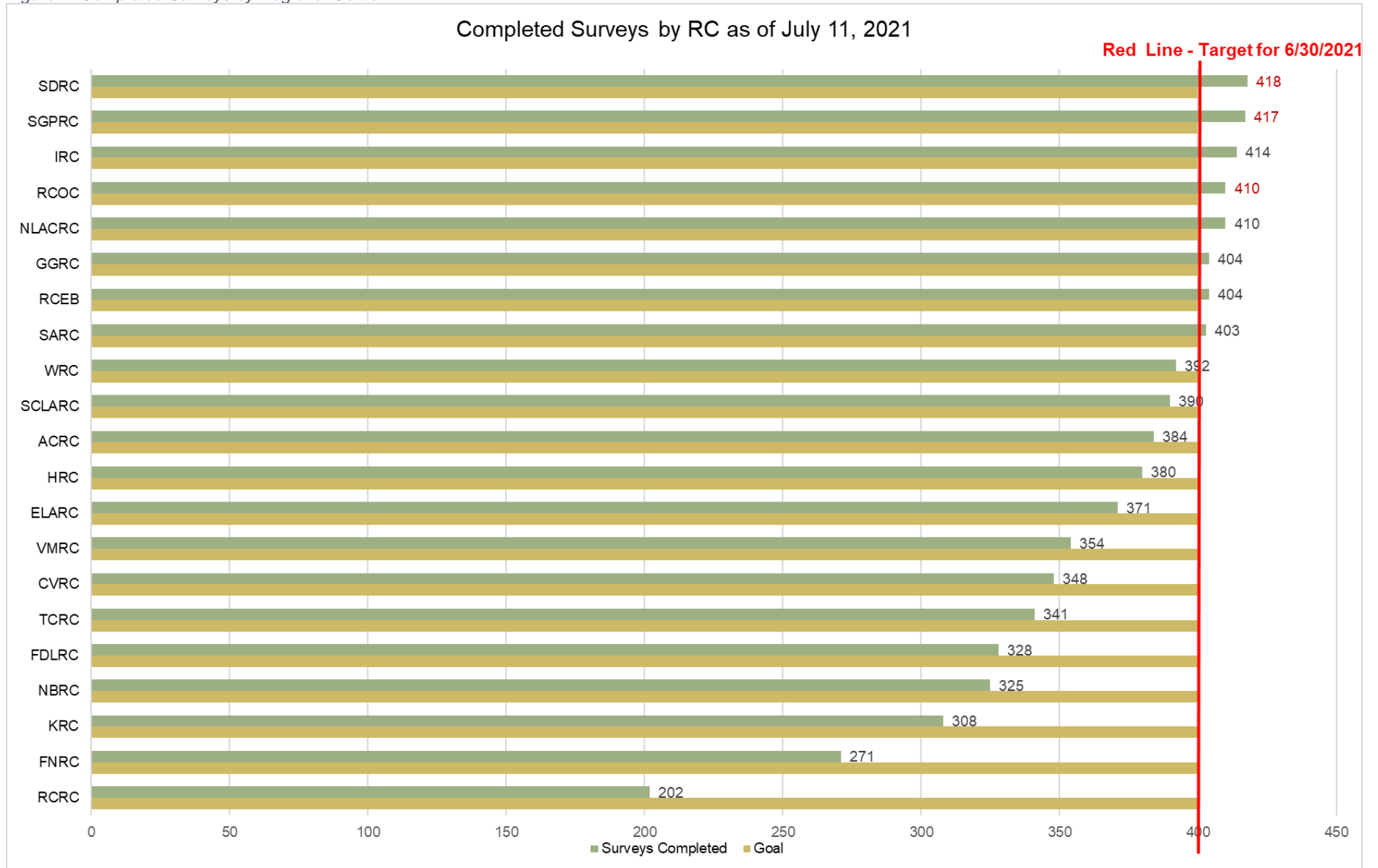


Table 2: Completed Surveys by Regional Center

RC	Goal	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	YTD Complete	% Toward Goal
RCRC	400	2	34	37	16	16	20	54	23	202	51%
NBRC	400	11	51	43	90	24	36	43	27	325	81%
FNRC	400	4	29	32	48	36	39	47	36	271	68%
GGRC	400	11	61	69	80	59	85	39	0	404	101%
RCEB	400	0	19	22	89	75	84	97	18	404	101%
SARC	400	0	29	48	80	43	94	96	13	403	101%
SDRC	400	0	67	83	107	108	37	16	0	418	105%
ACRC	400	0	26	55	66	78	48	92	19	384	96%
VMRC	400	0	35	62	54	71	51	67	14	354	89%
CVRC	400	0	34	71	73	63	51	47	9	348	87%
ELARC	400	1	26	32	67	54	26	95	70	371	93%
FDLRC	400	3	28	38	32	72	72	60	23	328	82%
HRC	400	2	22	67	64	80	19	46	80	380	95%
NLACRC	400	1	18	33	54	65	32	170	37	410	103%
SGPRC	400	1	26	102	80	77	63	66	2	417	104%
SCLARC	400	0	13	52	49	51	66	119	40	390	98%
TCRC	400	0	3	46	71	61	50	90	20	341	85%
WRC	400	2	40	67	55	75	25	121	7	392	98%
IRC	400	0	18	113	70	78	49	76	10	414	104%
KRC	400	0	5	51	79	50	47	58	18	308	77%
RCOC	400	2	62	64	65	87	95	35	0	410	103%
Statewide	8400	40	646	1187	1389	1323	1089	1534	466	7674	91%

For Statewide and Regional Center Reports regarding past completed survey cycles, please go to: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/nci/>

Figure 2 – Progress by Race/Ethnicity as of 7/11/2021

	Goal	Complete	% Goal
Alta California		384	
Asian	30	28	93%
Black	57	58	102%
Hispanic	55	50	91%
Other	25	23	92%
White	233	225	97%
Central Valley		348	
Asian	25	14	56%
Black	30	23	77%
Hispanic	188	135	72%
Other	10	9	90%
White	147	167	114%
East Bay		404	
Asian	61	63	103%
Black	90	91	101%
Hispanic	68	71	104%
Other	20	21	105%
White	161	158	98%
Eastern LA		371	
Asian	55	40	73%
Black	7	7	100%
Hispanic	272	254	93%
Other	9	8	89%
White	58	62	107%
Far Northern		270	
Asian	8	8	100%
Black	10	7	70%
Hispanic	32	29	91%
Other	17	17	100%
White	334	209	63%
Frank D. Lanterman		327	
Asian	55	43	78%
Black	35	28	80%
Hispanic	153	122	80%
Other	10	9	90%
White	146	125	86%
Golden Gate		404	
Asian	105	105	100%
Black	41	43	105%
Hispanic	67	67	100%
Other	21	21	100%
White	167	168	101%

Continued on next page

Figure 2 – Progress by Race/Ethnicity as of 7/11/2021 (continued)

Harbor		380	
Asian	54	43	80%
Black	55	50	91%
Hispanic	138	146	106%
Other	30	29	97%
White	123	112	91%
Inland		414	
Asian	16	17	106%
Black	57	58	102%
Hispanic	165	170	103%
Other	15	20	133%
White	147	149	101%
Kern		308	
Asian	11	11	100%
Black	44	27	61%
Hispanic	154	133	86%
Other	15	14	93%
White	175	123	70%
North Bay		324	
Asian	24	25	104%
Black	47	34	72%
Hispanic	67	53	79%
Other	24	19	79%
White	239	193	81%
North LA County		410	
Asian	26	28	108%
Black	49	49	100%
Hispanic	146	148	101%
Other	9	11	122%
White	170	174	102%
Orange County		410	
Asian	57	57	100%
Black	10	10	100%
Hispanic	108	112	104%
Other	34	36	106%
White	191	195	102%
Redwood Coast		201	
Asian	5	4	80%
Black	9	5	56%
Hispanic	35	28	80%
Other	23	10	43%
White	328	154	47%

Continued on next page

Figure 2 – Progress by Race/Ethnicity as of 7/11/2021 (continued)

San Andreas		403	
Asian	76	80	105%
Black	14	14	100%
Hispanic	131	130	99%
Other	21	21	100%
White	158	158	100%
San Diego		418	
Asian	30	32	107%
Black	32	33	103%
Hispanic	138	138	100%
Other	21	21	100%
White	180	194	108%
San Gabriel/Pomona		417	
Asian	45	46	102%
Black	32	41	128%
Hispanic	192	192	100%
Other	18	23	128%
White	114	115	101%
South Central LA		390	
Asian	5	9	180%
Black	137	136	99%
Hispanic	228	215	94%
Other	9	8	89%
White	20	22	110%
Tri-Counties		341	
Asian	14	12	86%
Black	12	6	50%
Hispanic	134	110	82%
Other	13	6	46%
White	226	207	92%
Valley Mountain		354	
Asian	31	23	74%
Black	40	34	85%
Hispanic	114	85	75%
Other	18	16	89%
White	197	196	99%
Westside		392	
Asian	20	17	85%
Black	117	110	94%
Hispanic	119	118	99%
Other	28	23	82%
White	117	124	106%
	Goal	Complete	% Goal
Report Totals	8403	7670	91%
Asian	753	705	94%
Black	925	864	93%
Hispanic	2704	2506	93%
Other	390	365	94%
White	3631	3230	89%

Mover Longitudinal Study (MLS) Update

Since the resumption of the Mover Longitudinal study in late March, 62 additional surveys have been completed.

MLS cohorts are now being surveyed only up to two years post of moving into the community.

Table 3: MLS In-Person Surveys of active consumers* completed to date.

Regional Center	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	4 year	Total
Alta California	55	51	48	40	7	0	201
Central Valley	53	49	42	38	15	6	203
East Bay	82	81	83	54	11	3	314
Eastern LA	5	5	5	2	2	1	20
Far Northern	10	10	10	8	4	0	42
Frank D. Lanterman	4	4	3	4	1	0	16
Golden Gate	66	66	67	45	12	3	259
Harbor	10	9	10	6	4	1	40
Inland	4	4	4	1	1	0	14
Kern	25	20	18	13	7	0	83
North Bay	74	72	71	35	14	0	266
North LA County	11	11	10	10	6	1	49
Orange County	59	55	30	33	8	1	186
Redwood Coast	3	3	3	3	2	0	14
San Andreas	6	6	6	4	0	0	22
San Diego	38	24	22	17	7	1	109
San Gabriel/Pomona	5	5	4	3	3	0	20
South Central LA	18	17	16	10	2	1	64
Tri-Counties	10	9	5	4	1	0	29
Valley Mountain	3	3	4	1	1	0	12
Westside	8	7	7	6	0	0	28
Grand Total	549	511	468	337	108	18	1991

**Anyone with status changed to inactive are no longer reflected in this table.*

About National Core Indicators

National Core Indicators™ (NCI) strives to provide states with valid and reliable tools to help improve system performance and better serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Through a contract with Department of Developmental Services (DDS), State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), using the NCI Survey tools, collects quantitative data on consumer satisfaction, provision of services, and personal outcomes. Data collection is completed through face to face interviews with consumers as well as mail-in surveys from families.

This data collection effort will enable DDS to evaluate the quality and performance of California's developmental disability service delivery system and among all the 21 regional centers over time.

For results of past surveys go to:

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/nci/reports/>

For more information about the NCI go to:

<https://www.nationalcoreindicators.org/>

Scan QR code below to go to QA Project Webpage
scdd.ca.gov/qap



QAP Regional Center Assignments

Vacant QAC

Support Staff: Michele Sloane

Far Northern

North Bay

Redwood Coast

Ron Usac ▪ Angel Wiley

Support Staff: Valerie Buell

East Bay

Golden Gate

San Andreas

San Diego

George Lewis

Support Staff: Marigene Tacan-Regan

Alta California

Central Valley

Valley Mountain

Vacant QAC ▪ Brianna Reynoso ▪

Jenny Villanueva

Support Staff: Marina Bchtkian

East Los Angeles

Frank D. Lanterman

Harbor

North Los Angeles

San Gabriel Pomona

South Central Los Angeles

Westside

Nicholas Bui

Support Staff: Steven Dieu

Orange County

Carol Nakamura-Robinson

Support Staff: Valarie Macias

Inland

Kern

Tri-Counties

JULY 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM 10
INFORMATION ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Report

The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN), which is a project of the Council, provides a Summary Report of their recent activities. SCDD SSAN Representative Matthew Lagrand will provide Councilmembers with a short presentation on the SSAN report.

Attachment

June 2021 SSAN Update Report

July 15, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 10

INFORMATION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Report from the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network



Recent Activity: The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) held their second meeting of 2021 on June 9th & 10th, 2021 using Zoom.

Focus of Meeting:

Due to ongoing COVID—19 concerns, the June 2021 SSAN meeting was held over two days using Zoom. SSAN opened Day 1 of the meeting with a discussion on social justice by sharing their thoughts on different issues and sharing their stories.

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided SSAN members with an update on SCDD activity since the March SSAN meeting. Executive Director Carruthers talked about SCDD's continued efforts to address vaccine hesitancy among Californians with I/DD and their communities by providing timely, up to date and easy to understand information about the different types of COVID—19 vaccines. Executive Director Carruthers provided SSAN with an update on [California's Budget](#) and SCDD's efforts to distribute emergency preparedness kits or "GO Kits" to Californian's with I/DD and provide them with emergency preparedness training.

Members of the [SCDD Disability Advisory Committee \(DAC\)](#) provided SSAN with an overview of DAC, and their efforts to promote inclusion and accessibility within SCDD. The SCDD DAC is interested in developing a series of training videos for current and future SCDD employees and would like to collaborate with SSAN on the project.

Rick Wood, Co-Chair of the [Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee](#) provided SSAN with an update on California's Self-Determination Rollout. Starting July 2021, Self-Determination will be an option for all Regional Center Clients who are interested. Contact your regional center for more information.

On Day 2 of the SSAN meeting, members discussed their hopes and dreams for SSAN. Self-Advocates for Emergency Education (Project SAFEE) presented on addressing vaccine hesitancy among people with I/DD. SCDD Communications Manager, Lea Park-Kim, provided members with an overview of the legislative process and the role that advocacy has in the process. Stories from advocates help legislators understand the impact an issue has on individuals and their communities.

July 15, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 10

INFORMATION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Report from the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network



The SSAN workgroups met to discuss current and potential projects.

Actions Taken:

- Approved the Minutes from the March 2021 SSAN Meeting
- Approved the June 2021 Edition of SSAN Newsletter

2020—2022 SSAN Leadership:

Chair: Desiree Boykin, ARCA Representative

Vice-Chair: Paul Mansell, SCDD San Diego Regional Representative

Secretary: Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute UCEDD Representative

SSAN Workgroups:

- Officers
- Bylaws
- Membership
- Self-Determination
- Employment
- Legislative and Civic Engagement
- Newsletter and Communications
- Youth Engagement

The next SSAN Meeting is scheduled for September 8 – 9 2021 over Zoom. Please visit the [SSAN Page](#) on the SCDD website for more information.

JULY 27, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 11

ACTION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Cycle 44 Grants Presentation

One of the many ways the Council carries out the work of its State Plan is by awarding program development grants, also known as Cycle Grants, to community-based organizations to research, develop and/or implement innovative programs and promising or best practices throughout the state and its local communities.

In January, the Council approved the areas of emphasis, timeline and Request for Proposal (RFP) package for the year's Grant Cycle (44). In February, the RFPs were released with a submission due date of May 15th. This deadline provided time for the scoring team to read the proposals before they met on May 22nd. The State Plan Committee then met on June 30th and was presented with the scoring team's findings and subsequent recommendations. At this meeting Councilmembers were presented with the State Plan Committee's Grant Cycle 44 funding recommendations and asked to take action to approve the recommended project for funding and direct the Executive Director to administer the contract process.

Action Recommended

Approve of the State Plan Committee's Cycle 44 Grant funding recommendations and direct the Executive Director to administer the contract process.

Attachments

Cycle 44 Grant Summaries

Handouts

Grant Presentation to the Council

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT CYCLE 44 PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING

Proposal Number:	SCC4406
Recommended Funding:	\$41,902
Project Area:	Health and Safety
Number of People Served:	63 staff and individuals with I/DD

Proposal Summary: The goal of the pilot project is to effectively combine two best-practices to establish robust upstream mental health supports for people with I/DD. Individuals with I/DD and their families will benefit from reduced stigma and increased mental health resources. The long-term impact will be for people with I/DD to have the skills they need to live the life they choose. The pilot will apply two evidence-based, complimentary mental health interventions: Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) and Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills (DBT Skills), to two cohorts of people with I/DD. MHFA builds awareness of mental health issues and addresses stigma. DBT Skills builds emotional regulation skills that help individuals cope with symptoms and interact effectively with peers, family, and employers. They will share the results of the pilot statewide, with guidance on how to effectively support and address mental wellness for people with I/DD.

Once the pilot is complete, the agency will support individuals and families statewide by helping other providers implement the evidence-based practices. The statewide implementation will result in systemic changes in the way the I/DD service industry supports people with co-occurring disorders.

Proposal Outcome/Output: The goal of the project is to establish robust mental health support for people with I/DD by implementing two, complementary evidence-based practices.

Outputs:

- 13 staff complete the DBT Skills Instructor training
- 50 people complete the DBT Skills course
- 63 staff and people supported complete MHFA training
- 10 presentations statewide about the results and lessons learned

Short-Term Outcomes:

- At least 90% of staff increase their confidence in supporting individuals with behavioral challenges by learning to teach DBT Skills
- At least 90% of people will increase their ability to label and identify emotions
- At least 90% of people will increase their ability to cope with mental health symptoms using mindfulness
- At least 90% of staff and people supported increase their confidence and likelihood to help an individual in distress and/or help themselves through stressful situations
- At least 90% of service providers increase their knowledge about how to support people with I/DD and mental health challenges

Long-Term Outcomes (system-wide impact):

- Reduced stigma around mental health
- Increased awareness of behavioral health symptoms, coping skills, and resources
- Higher employment retention for individuals with I/DD and behavioral challenges
- Increased housing stability for individuals with I/DD and behavioral challenges
- Increased ability for people with IDD to live the life they choose

Agency Description: This organization is a non-profit organization supporting people in living the life they choose. They partner with people with disabilities, people with mental health diagnoses, and young adults to pursue their hopes and dreams through strengthening workplace abilities, building life skills, and developing meaningful relationships. They have 57 years of experience providing I/DD services and 40 years of experience providing Behavioral Health Services. Currently the organization offers 70+ contracted services for people with I/DD and/or mental health diagnoses.

Proposal Number:	SCC4408
Recommended Funding:	\$57,808
Project Area:	Health and Safety
Number of People Served:	24 individuals;128 family members

Proposal Summary: This project will address the mental health needs among people with I/DD who are transitioning to adulthood and their families through support and information to increase their knowledge and skills and decrease their anxiety. The project components are sessions presented in Spanish on topics relating to transition to adulthood and planning for the future, support group sessions led by a Spanish-speaking mental health professional, and production of five culturally competent videos in Spanish on mental health.

The project proposes to alleviate the anxiety, distress and despair experienced by parents of youth with I/DD entering adulthood by providing parent training and mental health support. Access to information in Spanish would educate the Hispanic community, relieve their uncertainty and fear, help them build confidence, and empower them to make informed decisions about their child's future. A robust support group of Spanish speaking parents with a singular focus on transition to adulthood will further serve to strengthen families.

The project proposes to address the mental health needs among people with I/DD and/or their families through a four-component project.

The components are:

1. Virtual Parent Cafe sessions - presented in Spanish on topics relating to transition to adulthood and planning for the future
2. Virtual Support group sessions led by a Spanish-speaking mental health professional
3. A library of culturally competent videos developed in Spanish on mental health topics. (These videos will also be posted on the SCDD website/online training platform)
4. Expansion of the current program for adults with I/DD that encourages friendships and reduces feelings of depression and isolation. The program will be expanded to provide Spanish language support and culturally relevant topics.

Proposal Outcome/Output: Surveys will be administered following the Parent Cafes, the mental health groups, and the six-week series (Components 1, 2 and 4) to evaluate the project activities. Staff will collect and analyze the data from the evaluations to be included in the bi-monthly reports. The analysis will assess the project participant's satisfaction with the information presented, the increase in their knowledge about the topics, and whether they plan to act as a result. Staff will also make modifications to the program delivery, based on the feedback. The number of views of the Spanish language videos will be tracked and reported.

Components 1, 2 and 4 will have slots available for 24 individuals with I/DD and 128 family members to participate. Many will attend more than one session or meeting in order to increase their knowledge and enhance their mental health through ongoing education and support. The activities will continue after the grant if sufficient funding can be secured for Components 1, 2 and 4 from other sources. Component 3, the Spanish language videos, will continue to be available to anyone with an internet connection.

Outcomes/Outputs:

- 128 family members will participate in Parent Cafe and mental health groups and 500 people will view the Spanish language videos.
- 90% of participants completing a survey after attending a Parent Cafe will agree that the information was useful.
- 90% of participants completing a survey after attending a Parent Cafe will agree that they feel more confident to make decisions regarding their child's transition to Adulthood
- 90% of participants completing a survey after attending a Mental Health series will agree that the support and information provided increased their emotional well-being
- 90% of participants (or participant's caregiver) attending a six-week series will report that they feel less lonely and happier because of this project.
- Three promising practices will be created with this funding.

Agency Description: This agency was founded in 1976 by several mothers of children with I/DD. Their mission is to help children and adults with special needs receive support and services they need to reach their full potential by providing information, training, and resources to build strong families and improve systems of care. With 40+ years of supporting families, their experienced staff members have a national reputation for being a trusted source of information for helping parents, caregivers, and children with special needs.

They have specialists in the areas of community resources, special education, and assistive technology. The culturally diverse staff members speak many different languages, including English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Over 90% of the program staff are also parents of children with special needs who shifted their career path to help others. These experienced staff members have a national reputation for being a trusted source of information and for helping parents and children with special needs.

Proposal Number:	SCC4404
Recommended Funding:	\$55,030
Goal Area:	Health and Safety
Number of People Served:	300

Proposal Summary: In order to address the gap in mental health services for people with Down syndrome and their families, the agency is launching a new program the Mental Health and Wellness Alliance (MHWA). The goal of this Alliance is to create a collaborative approach between agencies that serve those with I/DD and the mental health community by offering access to training, tools, materials, communication systems, and ongoing support that will result in people of all ages with Down syndrome and other I/DD to better access and navigate high quality mental health services. To do this, they will provide training to mental health professionals in working with families with a child or adult with Down syndrome and other I/DD, as well as the communication supports and training families and clinicians need to effectively serve this population, along with an array of treatment modalities.

The MHWA program includes the following integrated components:

- Expert-provided training workshops for clinicians regarding the unique needs of individuals with Down syndrome and their parents/families.
- Referral to short-term licensed family therapy; individual therapy for people with Down syndrome (minimum of 12 sessions) and/or their parents/caregivers or siblings; as well as grief counseling. These services will be provided via telehealth until it is safe to provide them in person.
- Art, play, and drama therapy for their members with Down syndrome (may be offered when their members with Down syndrome or their siblings have a difficult time expressing themselves or in their program, where this type of therapy works well for group activities).
- Workshops and classes for their families on self-care, wellness, and navigating mental healthcare, featuring mental health providers and experts (currently provided via videoconference).
- Training by mental health providers for staff in facilitating therapeutic support groups.
- Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) support and access to training and a comprehensive lending library of materials (such as tailored low-tech communication boards) for therapists working with individuals with complex communication needs.

Proposal Outcome/Output: One of the goals of this pilot program is to collect data to determine how training and support to the mental health community will help to increase access to mental healthcare among people with I/DD and their families, and to develop a promising practice that can be replicated.

Outcomes/Outputs:

- Create a pilot program that will test a new promising practice to bring a currently fragmented approach to mental health services in the Bay Area for people with I/DD into one coordinated, replicable system of care that is tailored toward people with I/DD and communication difficulties.
- Train a minimum of 50 mental health providers in working with the Down syndrome population and others with I/DD and communication difficulties and their families.
- Educate a minimum of 200 additional professionals in the field of mental health and/or services to people with I/DD through dissemination of the results of the pilot year of the program.
- Provide increased access to mental health services for an estimated 50 individuals with Down syndrome in the pilot year and their families (a total of 250 people receiving mental health counseling services or workshops).
- A minimum of 80% of workshop participants will indicate that their knowledge of mental health supports and services, and their ability to navigate and access those services, have increased as a result of the program.
- A minimum of 80% of program participants will rate their satisfaction with the program as good or excellent on a five-point scale following service delivery. A minimum of 70% of individuals with Down syndrome referred for short-term therapy will report an increase in coping tools and skills to improve their mood and functioning.
- A minimum of 70% of families referred for short-term marriage and family therapy will report an increase in coping tools and skills to improve family functioning and decrease stress.

Products to be delivered to the SCDD include a report on the initial results of the program, which can be shared with other grantees and stakeholders throughout the state and beyond. In addition, all the materials, tools, and supports that are developed for this program will be shared with SCDD.

Agency Description: This agency was founded in 1998 and is passionate and dedicated to encouraging the unlimited potential in children and adults with Down syndrome. Their mission is to empower, inspire and support people with Down syndrome, their families and the community that serves them, while fostering awareness and acceptance in all areas of life.

They pride themselves on developing services that are in line with their members' needs and continuously breaking down barriers to success by providing resources, technology and education through direct services, public policy outreach, education advocacy, new parent outreach, support groups and more to reflect the diverse needs of their members.

Their staff of more than two dozen includes experts in developmental disabilities, education and special education, social work, speech language pathology, AAC, I/DD and aging, dual diagnoses of Down syndrome and autism spectrum disorder, music therapy, and bilingual (English and Spanish) support. They also benefit from an 18-member technical advisory board that includes clinical psychologists, occupational therapists, behavior analysts, special educators, speech and language pathologists, and special needs attorneys.

Proposal Number:	SCC4414
Recommended Funding:	\$87,000
Goal Area:	Inclusive Education
Number of People Served:	A minimum of 55 students 100 family members 165 educators

Proposal Summary: The proposed project will refine inclusive education practices for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to ensure that self-determination and person-centered planning practices are strategically embedded within students' educational programs from preschool through 12th grade. The project will involve a combination of structural changes to the IEP process (preparation, meeting structure, and implementation), professional development and coaching for educators and other IEP team members implementing proposed practices, parent training, training of teacher candidates within an education specialist preparation program, and documentation of practices to support dissemination and training of additional organizations at the end of the grant period.

Adjustments to the IEP process - Prior to an IEP meeting, families will be invited to complete a short survey (in English, Spanish, Hebrew, and Amharic) focused on their child's strengths, interests, and goals.

Training for Educators and Families - Professional development for school-based IEP team members and paraprofessionals will include a series of trainings, paired with coaching sessions.

Parent Training - Parent training will include a series of facilitator-led presentations and conversations,

Embedded Instruction on Self-Determination Skills - Following training, educators will implement the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction to embed instruction on goal setting and practice of self-determination skills in the context of general education settings and routines. Mini-lessons consistent with this training will be provided to all students (with and without disabilities) in general education advisory classes in grades 6-12.

Pre-service Teacher Training - Training in the SDLMI, student-led IEPs, and the development of IEP goals aligned with self-determination in inclusive settings will be provided to candidates pursuing an education specialist teaching credential at CSU, Northridge.

Resources, trainings, and outcomes housed on the created website will be shared with families and educators statewide through conference presentations, webinars, and with assistance of statewide partners and materials available to partner organizations across the state.

Proposal Outcome/Output: Students will benefit from an increased emphasis on active participation in decision-making about their own supports and services, as well as opportunities for increased voice and control within typical daily routines at home and in inclusive educational settings. In addition to those students directly impacted, project materials and trainings will be shared across the state (and beyond), will result in a manuscript for publication, and project staff will make themselves available to school, district, and state partners seeking to replicate all or part of the project.

Products that will be developed include: training materials for educators and families; SDLMI student and teacher materials adapted for younger students; surveys, checklists, and tools for embedding person-centered planning within the IEP process; website to house resources and recorded trainings; evaluation materials (surveys for educators, families, and students; artifacts demonstrating tasks completed); and a manuscript for peer-reviewed publication.

Outcomes:

- At least 55 students with ID/DD will participate in project activities through participation in person-centered planning activities, participation in the IEP process, and through practice of self-determination skills.
- At least 50 family members of students with I/DD will participate in person-centered planning activities, participation in the IEP process, and determination of target skills related to self-determination for their child with I/DD.
- At least 100 family members will participate in at least one live/recorded training session.
- At least 165 educators will attend at least three training sessions and indicate satisfaction.
- At least 55 students with I/DD will demonstrate increases in self-determination skills.
- At least 85% of families of students with ID/DD will indicate they either "agree" or "strongly agree" with survey items re: satisfaction with project activities.

- At least 85% of students with ID/DD who participated in PCP and directing their IEP with indicate satisfaction with the process.
- Agency will change procedures to adopt and begin implementation of person-centered and student-led IEP practices.
- At least 85% of students with ID/DD will have at least one IEP goal aligned with self-determination by the end of the 2021-2022 academic year.
- At least 10 teachers in grades 6-12 will implement the Self-Determined Learning Model of Instruction in advisory classes.
- At least 200 educators beyond this project will access at least one project training, either live or recorded.
- At least 30 preservice teachers will receive training in implementation of the SDLMI.
- Schoolwide systems implemented will be studied by CSUN faculty, resulting in a manuscript prepared for publication and at least one conference presentation at a conference attended by education researchers.
- Systems developed, recorded trainings, and all materials will be available at no cost online, will be posted on the SCDD website/online training platform and will be disseminated by partners, e.g. LAUSD, Supporting Inclusive Practices, CSUN, Family Focus Resource Center, and Disability Voices United.

Agency Description - This agency is a nonprofit organization established in 1990. They are a national leader in the development and implementation of a unique model of inclusive education. Their mission is to alter the educational landscape so that all children, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, receive equal opportunity to thrive academically, socially, and physically.

This agency serves as a model for educators through its partnership with Cal State Northridge's Michael D. Eisner College of Education and the Los Angeles Unified School District. It facilitates research opportunities and regularly hosts visitors from surrounding districts and as far away as Japan and the United Kingdom who are interested in replicating these successes in their own schools and communities.

JULY 27, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM 12
INFORMATION ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The Council's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14th, 2021.