

**September 9, 2021**

**AGENDA ITEM 12**

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**SELF ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Report from the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network**



**Recent Activity:** The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) held their third meeting of 2021 on September 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 using Zoom.

**Focus of Meeting:**

Due to ongoing COVID—19 concerns, the September 2021 SSAN meeting was held over two days using Zoom. SSAN opened Day 1 of the meeting with a discussion on civility. The discussion highlighted the importance of listening to and being respectful of people who disagree with you.

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided SSAN members with an update on SCDD activity since the June SSAN meeting. Executive Director Carruthers talked about the challenges of responding to the ongoing public health crisis of COVID—19 and keeping everyone safe. SCDD continues 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 Senate Bill 639](#) and SCDD’s efforts to advocate for competitive integrated employment (CIE) and end the practice of paying people with I/DD subminimum wage.

Representatives from [The Kelsey](#) provided SSAN members with information about disability-forward housing solutions and building knowledge and power. The presentation covered California’s history of racist and ableist housing policies and practices. In order to make meaningful impact on California’s housing system, it is important to draw on the connection between building communities, changing systems, and promoting affordable, accessible and disability-inclusive housing models.

On Day 2 of the SSAN meeting, representatives from CFILC and DRC talked about the upcoming California Recall Election and the importance of the disability vote. A panel of people with different disabilities spoke about their jobs. The Arc of California presented on social justice, discrimination and police interactions.

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The SSAN workgroups met to discuss current and potential projects.

**Actions Taken:**

- Approved the Minutes from the June 2021 SSAN Meeting
- Approved the September 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 December 8–9 2021 over Zoom. Please visit the [SSAN Page](#) on the SCDD website for more information.