

**November 29, 2021**

**AGENDA ITEM 7 E.  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY***

***Date of Meeting***

November 29, 2021

***Meeting's Focus***

The Self-Advocates Advisory Committee met on November 29, 2021 over Zoom. The Committee reviewed Council business relating to self-advocacy and discussed ongoing challenges of meeting the needs of people with I/DD during an ongoing public health crisis.

In preparation for the November Council meeting, SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided members with an overview of the agenda for the Council meeting and an update on the logistics for the Zoom meeting. Executive Director Carruthers, along with the Council Chair and other leaders in the I/DD community will be meeting with Governor Newsom to discuss the needs and concerns of Californians with I/DD. Council staff continues to educate communities across California about resources and supports available to them.

Christopher Arroyo, SCDD Los Angeles Regional Manager reviewed a draft of the SCDD Self-Determination Overview training and asked for feedback on the language of the materials. Feedback included: increasing the font size, typing out words that are included in images to ensure clarity, replacing the word "authority" with the word "power" when appropriate, clarifying the different FMS service models, explaining the fair hearing process, and making sure that the focus is on the individual receiving services.

Members talked about their ongoing concerns about the amount of support being given to the self-determination program, the need for better authentic media representation of people with disabilities, concerns about rent increases and the lack of affordable housing options, the need for more investment in mental health services and the increase of natural disasters and the need for better emergency response and communication to people with disabilities.

***Items Acted Upon***

- Approved the September 13, 2021 meeting minutes.
- Recommend Council appoint Councilmember Maria Marquez to serve as the SCDD Representative to SSAN.

***Future Meeting Dates***

The Committee is meeting on January 24, 2022.