



State Council on Developmental Disabilities:
Sacramento Regional Office
Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) MINUTES
December 14, 2021 (DRAFT)

Members Present: highlight if present

Abirami Duraiswamy (FA) Sacramento
Adam Ross (SA) Yolo (pending confirmation)
Benita Shaw (FA) Sacramento
Brandy Boyd (FA), At-large (Chair)
Christine Hickey (FA) Sutter
Diane Walker (FA) Nevada
Glenda Servantes (FA) Yuba
Jesana Tran (FA) Colusa/Alpine/Sierra
Karen Mulvany (FA), El Dorado (Secretary)
Kidada Medina (FA) Sacramento
Nicole Mion (SA) Sacramento
Nikki Chand (FA) (pending confirmation)
Tyson Whitman (SA) Placer

Members Absent:

Nancy Esparza (SA) At-large (Vice-Chair)

Others Attending: (registered on Zoom as of 12/12/21)

Joyce McNair (FA) SCDD Council Member
Lisa Cooley (SA) SSAN Representative
John Decker, ACRC
Jennifer Bloom, ACRC
April Davila
Patricia Chu
Christina Share

Racheal Frederick-Jijay
Carl Argila
Rita Hay
John Reven
Kate
Margaux De Leon
Claire Ramaley
Janelle Lewis
Israel Hay
Susan Riggle
Paul Platner
Viri Salgado
Catrina Jackson-Lewis
Kelsey Handcock, Disability Rights CA
Bridget Kolakosky, SCDD Staff
Peter Mendoza, SCDD Staff
Sonya Bingaman, SCDD Staff

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Brandy Boyd

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

10:04 am

Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM, Karen Mulvany

11 of 12 members were present

Item 3. Inspirational Quote, Brandy Boyd

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is time for home." -Edith Sitwell

Item 4. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- RAC Members: Roll Call, state name and county affiliation and greatest hope for the new year (not Pandemic related)!
- Members of the Public introduced themselves in the Chat box.

Item 5. Approval of Agenda for December 14, 2021

First	Diane Walker
Second	Karen Mulvany
In favor	All
Opposed	None
Abstain	None

Item 6. Approval of Minutes for October 19, 2021

First	Karen Mulvany
Second	Diane Walker
In favor	All
Opposed	None
Abstain	None

Item 7. Sacramento Regional Office Updates

Sonya Bingaman, Regional Manager:

- Sonya provided a Powerpoint presentation on new State Plan Goals, and highlights of regional activities during 2021.
 - Goal 1: The Council will empower people with intellectual/developmental disabilities to become strong self-advocates, peer trainers and community leaders.
 - Goal 2: The Council will lead in partnership with family/self-advocates and others to protect and enhance civil rights and improve community-based systems to be more fully inclusive and supportive of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.
 - Goal 3: The Council will partner with and empower more people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, so they know their rights and can advocate for and receive supports and services.
- Thanks to all everyone’s support, patience, involvement, volunteering, input, feedback, partnerships in 2021!
- Continuing with collaboratives
 - HEALTH/RECREATION
 - MCDAC Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committees
 - Oral Health Workshop (October 27) attended by 75 people. Next workshop Spring 2022
 - Yolo Oral Health Collaborative
 - Sacramento Oral Health Collaborative
 - Anthem Blue Cross CAC (several counties)

- CA Health and Wellness/HealthNet
 - Yolo County Health Collaborative (Yolo Family Strengthening)
 - Marc Laver, Jonnie & Friends Inclusive Playground. Southside Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. We-Go-Round opening.
 - Continuing to distribute PPE to individuals, programs, events. No plans for a drive-through event. Contact Sonya or Peter if you need PPE. You can also contact the Regional Center directly at ppe@altaregional.org to request PPE.
 - Covid Testing Kits pilot project. 50 families at a time. 2 tests per week for 6 weeks. Upload results to Color.
 - Halloween Drive Through event at UCD Mind Institute. 200 dental kits, PPE with mini oral health trainings.
 - Sac Police Department Recruit Training (48 officers from around Northern CA) 5 ½ hour LD37 training – Mental Illness and People with Disabilities.
- HOUSING
 - AbleLight Cornerstone Housing
 - ACRC Coordinated Future Planning Task Force. SCDD is participating on this Task Force (Housing Options subcommittee). Curriculum is being developed and trainings will begin with Service Coordinators in 2022.
- EDUCATION
 - CACs (Nevada, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Yuba/Sutter/Colusa)
- ADVOCACY
 - Sacramento County DD Council (hosting and recording meetings)
 - ADRCs – Aging and Disability Resource Connections in Placer, Nevada, and Yolo counties. Newly emerging Sacramento ADRC.
 - Lunch and Learn (Future for our Kids) Parent Group for Transition Aged Youth
 - SANKOFA – African-American Parent Support Group. Presentation on SCDD 11.17.21
 - Spanish Families Support Group
 - People First Chapters (various counties)
 - Technical Assistance. Families seeking guidance and information on a variety of topics, particularly accessing IEP and IPP supports.

Transition aged young adults. Housing issues. Self-Determination Program. Accessing dental services.

- Self-Determination. SDAC and SSDAC meetings.
- SCDD \$20,000 GRANT RFP 2022-2023
 - Submitted preliminary topics: Self-Advocacy Leadership Training or Self-advocate/Family member & First Responder events.
- List of recorded trainings is posted on SCDD's Sacramento Regional Office webpage. <https://scdd.ca.gov/sacramento/>

Peter Mendoza, Community Program Specialist:

- **Collaborating with Bethesda/Ablelight Cornerstone Village Project.**

This is a proposed 84-unit multifamily housing project in the city of Elk Grove. The Elk Grove City Council approved the allocation of \$2.9 million dollars in support of this project. This is an Inclusive project. 9 apartments are for adults who experience homelessness. 21 are for individuals with ID/DD. 54% of the affordable housing units are for folks earning 20-30% below median income.

There are 42 1-bedroom units, 21 2-bedroom units, 23 3-bedroom units. A variety of inclusive activities are planned for on-site. There is a service and support component. The complex will have Smart technology to increase individual independence. 25% of units will be allocated for people with ID/DD. 842 ACRC clients live in Elk Grove. It is estimated 62% of people served by ACRC live with their families. This is a \$54 million-dollar project.

SCDD Sacramento Regional Office supported and advocated for the project to move forward. SCDD also wrote a letter of support and together with members of the community testified to the Elk Grove City Council on 12/08/21.

- **City of Sacramento Disability Advisory Commission:** Peter presented at the invitation of the City of Sacramento Disability Advisory Commission on the role of SCDD. Peter provided an overview of SCDD programs and activities and how they impact people with ID/DD and their families on a statewide and local level. Some of the topics Peter touched on included: the collaboration between SCDD Sacramento Regional Office and the Sacramento Police Department. For background, Sonya Bingaman, Manager of the Sacramento

Regional office has been a key presenter in their Critical Incidents Training. The curriculum covers a variety of topics including best practices in supporting people with a variety of disabilities including people with ID/DD interacting with law enforcement, the rights of people with disabilities, as well as an overview of disability law and policy. Peter also shared about SCDD Sacramento Regional Office's disaster preparedness workshop and the disaster go-kit distribution project which is a collaboration between SCDD Sacramento Regional Office and the American Red Cross. The City of Sacramento Disability Advisory Commission is Chaired by our own Brandy Tuzon Boyd who is the current chair of the Sacramento Regional Advisory Committee.

- **Disaster Preparedness Trainings and Go-kit distribution project:** SCDD Sacramento Regional Office has been hosting a series of Disaster Preparedness trainings in collaboration with the American Red Cross. This month we hosted the last of our series of Disaster Preparedness Trainings. Each person with ID/DD who attends receives a Red Cross Go-kit Backpack full of supplies. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic it was difficult to partner with agencies and stakeholders for locations for the people who attended the training to pick up their go-kits. Peter was able to find a workaround.

Peter and his PCA, Sarah, delivered the go-kits throughout our region to those who attended the training. This activity was extremely successful and was highly in demand. As a team they delivered 100 backpacks. SCDD Sacramento office would like to express our deep appreciation to Motherlode Rehabilitation Enterprise. MORE served as an essential partner offering their facilities for storing the backpacks for distribution. SCDD is working to obtain more go-kits for future disaster preparedness presentations. More to come.

- **Self-Determination Program Provider Training:** Peter is supporting the roll out of Self-Determination on various committees including the SDAC and Provider Ad Hoc Committee. The committee developed three orientation trainings that were offered to Service Providers who are vendors of Alta California Regional Center (ACRC). It is anticipated many of these providers will be providing services to ACRC clients enrolled in the self-determination program (SDP). One of the things that makes the self-determination program different from traditional regional center service delivery ACRC clients enrolled in SDP

may, for the first time, utilize service providers not vendorized by the regional center system.

- Peter is participating on two **SCDD Disability Expert Advisory Panels (DEAPs)**: Employment and Self-Advocacy. DEAP's are internal committees made up of staff from regional offices and headquarters. For background, in response to California Governor Gavin Newsom signing SB639 into law to phase out subminimum wage in California and promote Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). The employment DEAP is putting together a series of workshops to educate people with ID/DD, family advocates, policy makers, and other stakeholders about CIE.

Currently the Employment DEAP is putting together a series of workshops called "Let's Work" focusing on advancing the employment of people with ID/DD and Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). This series is a collaboration between the California Department of Rehabilitation, Far Northern Regional Center, Alta California Regional Center, and the North State and Sacramento Regional Offices of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. The first workshop will be held January 20, 2022 4-5:15pm **Register at:** <https://tinyurl.com/mrxbvcxf>.

Learn about the Department of Rehabilitation and available services to help you prepare for and secure a job! Workshops will be offered in English with simultaneous Spanish, ASL translation and Closed Captioning. If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend this event (such as a sign language interpreter, captioning, or materials in braille, large print, etc.) please contact Peter Mendoza by email at Peter.Mendoza@scdd.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 670-0470. Reasonable accommodation requests are due ten days prior, although we will attempt to provide accommodations requested after that time, it is not guaranteed.

- Staff is beginning to participate in in-person activities:
 - Peter attended a **Coffee with the Cops** event on December 4th, 2021 at Fly Brave Emporium. "Fly Brave serves individuals with develop-

mental disabilities through employment training, social and life skills workshops, and fitness programs. We believe in catering to opportunities that meet the talents and career passions of our clients. We are building a bridge between aging out of school and finding gainful employment with an emphasis on community involvement and social connections.” <https://www.flybrave.org/home.html>

It was great seeing so many people from our communities and family members join in some holiday fun with members of the Sacramento Police Department...doing everything from sitting in the front seat of a patrol car, posing for pictures, sharing experiences, and asking questions about safety. The event was complete with BBQ'd burgers with all the fixings. The Sacramento Regional office would like to recognize our RAC Chair Brandy Tuzon Boyd and the entire team who were instrumental in putting together this fabulous event.

- **Warmline Trunk or Treat:** Holiday Movie Village Drive Thru @ WarmLine Office Sat, Dec. 11, 2021 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
2424 Castro Way, Sacramento, 95818. This was an opportunity to join WarmLine for a wonderful/movie themed socially distanced Stocking Stuffer event! Participants had the opportunity to stay inside their cars and listen to holiday music while they drove through the "Holiday Movie Village" at the WarmLine office.

Santa's helpers greeted attendees to fill their stockings at multiple "Trunk Stops" with treats, craft kits and more! Of course, Santa was there too. Hat's off to Marc Laver! Cars were decorated in holiday movie themes. SCDD Sacramento Office's movie theme was "Superman". We shared resources, holiday cheer, and passed out dental kits and PPE. Approximately 200 cars drove through the event.

- **Healthy Sacramento at Cal Expo:** Sacramento Covered hosts its free health event to bring no-cost health services directly to thousands of area residents. On Saturday, October 23, 2021, Healthy Sacramento held their **21st Annual Healthy Sacramento Day** in partnership with Sacramento Republic FC at their home stadium, Heart Health Park.

There were over 1,200 people in attendance, and Healthy Sacramento gave away nearly 7,000 lbs of fresh fruits and vegetables. Attendees also accessed a variety of free services, including:

Flu shots

COVID-19 vaccines

Health and dental screenings

Haircuts

Health coverage enrollment

Health navigation

Important community resources

And interactive activities to benefit their health

- **We-go-round Dedication at Southside Park:** Peter and Sonya together with people living with ID/DD, and their families joined representatives from the City of Sacramento in attending the dedication of the Wee-go-round at Southside Park in Sacramento on November 24th at 11am. The We-go-round is an accessible merry go-round. It was amazing seeing kids from our community ride the wee-go-round with kids without disabilities. A truly inclusionary event.

Various Sacramento City Officials, including our own RAC chair Brandy Tuzon Boyd in her capacity as Chair of the City of Sacramento Disability Advisory Commission, talked about the importance of increasing recreational opportunities for people with disabilities including those with ID/DD. The accessible playground at Southside Park originally opened in 2005. Marc Laver's son Jonnie attended the grand opening at 7 years old. Jonnie truly enjoyed the accessible playground. Jonnie had multiple disabilities and used a wheelchair for mobility. He sadly passed away at the age of 20. However, Jonnie's legacy lives on.

Marc, his family, and now an entire team in partnership with the City of Sacramento are revitalizing the accessible playground with the goal of making it even more accessible, fully inclusive, and fun for all.

SCDD Sacramento Regional office has been providing technical assistance for this accessibility renewal activity.

- Staff is participating on the **Business Advisory Council (BAC)**, planning the next employment fair for March 2022. The Sacramento Regional office participated in a very successful job fair a few months ago

Business partners are recruited to share their insight and expertise specific to their company and the industry sector they represent and allow programs that are providing supported employment services to people with developmental disabilities to learn from business experts. Businesses provide professional expertise and guidance in the following areas:

- Guidance with Labor Market information
 - Establishing strategic practices to hiring
 - Identification of application and interview process “best practices”
 - Development of training programs
 - Viewpoints on implementing accommodation requests
- **Sacramento Regional Office continues to help other agencies make their training materials digitally accessible.**
 - **Save the Date:** The Supported Life conference is happening on February 3rd 2022 at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento. This year’s conference will be both in-person plus virtual. This year’s presenters will be: Diana Pastora-Carson, Joe Macbeth, John Raffaele, Katie Hornberger, Nicolas Wavrin and SCDD Sacramento Regional office’s own Peter Mendoza.

Item 8. State Council on Developmental Disabilities – Council. Joyce McNair (FA Sacramento) and/or Harold Ashe (FA Placer):

Report from Joyce McNair:

The Highlights from the November 30th State Council on Developmental Disabilities meeting are as follows:

Six new Councilmembers were sworn in. They are Harold Ashe (formerly of the Sacramento Regional Advisory Committee) Viviana Barnwell, Michael Ellis, Harold Fujita, and Cathay Liu. Each spoke briefly about themselves.

Other highlights: there are now 922 enrollees in the Self-Determination Program as of November 2021, up from 673 in June 2021.

The Department of Developmental Services has requested that the SCDD prepare Statewide Self-Determination orientation materials for the use of all regional centers.

Item 9. Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN). Lisa Cooley (submitted in writing and read by Brandy Boyd, Chair)

On the first day of the December the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) met. The State Council Executive Director, Aaron Carruthers, provided an update regarding the coronavirus and the Omicron variant and vaccines. The State Council still doesn't know when in person meetings can resume due to not knowing what the virus will do. A presenter from Southern California spoke about Special Olympics and the sports that they do which are track and field and many other sports as well as leadership activities. We saw a little video called "How the World was Built" which talked about life before the Americans with Disabilities Act and before physical building access was a part of everyday life. We also got together with our committee workgroups to discuss our future committee activities.

**Item 10. Brief Reports from RAC Members on Issues in their counties
Abirami Duraiswamy (FA) Sacramento:**

There is an increase in families looking for advocacy for education supports. This is a struggle for most families. There is also a challenge with access to Respite care vendored through the Regional Center. There are more than 8 vendors on ACRC's website but only 3 agencies are recommended to families. Some families who have a child diagnosed last year haven't yet met their Service Coordinator in person. Families have found Warmline, DREDF, or Matrix to be helpful. Parent support groups have been the most helpful, including social media sites such as FaceBook Parent Groups. Many families are still struggling to access services.

Adam Ross (SA) Yolo (pending confirmation): He is seeing new accessible ramps in Davis.

Benita Shaw (FA) Sacramento:

- SANKOFA (UCD Mind Institute) is an African American (or parents of color) parent group for families with a child with a disability. They meet one Wednesday a month. Find more information at:
https://health.ucdavis.edu/mindinstitute/events/event_pdf/sankofa-2021.pdf
- There is an upcoming Sibling Group at UCD Mind Institute.
<https://health.ucdavis.edu/mindinstitute/>
- Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF) – looking for families who have experienced struggles with obtaining education services during the Pandemic. Looking for families who have been asked by schools to sign Individual Education Plans without sufficient or mandated services.
<https://dredf.org/>

Brandy Boyd (FA), At-large (Chair):

- Attended the dedication of the new We-Go-Round at Southside Park that Marc Lever helped to fundraise and coordinate in memory of his son who had Cerebral Palsy and passed away a few years ago.
- Coordinated Coffee and Cops event at Fly Brave Foundation last weekend. It provided an opportunity for Sacramento Police Officers and people with developmental disabilities to interact informally. She is hoping to replicate this event in Elk Grove and elsewhere.
- She is the Chair of the City of Sac Disability Advisory Commission (DAC). One of their guests in January will be Department of Rehabilitation. Meetings are now virtual and they continue to work on making the platform fully accessible. They will launch an Award Recognition Program to honor those who serve the disability community, named after DAC member who passed away at the beginning of the pandemic. The following people will be recognized: Cid van Koersel, Mark Laver, Vanessa Beeker, Russell Rawlings, Philip Sinclair, and Meena Kalyanasundaram.
- The CA Foundation for Independent Living Council (CFILC) is looking for community partners for Capital Action Day 2022. Contact them if you'd like to partner with them. <https://www.cfilc.org/>

- January 23rd is Ed Roberts Day
- She is working with Officer Jason Meier, Sacramento Police Department - Mental Health Unit to offer workshops for parents of children with ID/DD to navigate police systems. A small group will meet in January at SCDD in North Sacramento.

Christine Hickey (FA) Sutter:

- She works at FamilySoup (<https://www.familysoup.org/>) serving families. They host various activities and groups. This Winter a scrapbooking class has been very popular; scheduled for Jan 19 6-7 pm. See website for more details. Sensory play group will meet January 6th (Sutter County families 0-5 children). They are coordinating with Cinemark Movie Theater for sensory friendly movie showings, 12/29th at 10am. Cinemark is in Yuba City, 1410 Whyler Road December 29, 2021. The lights will be up, the sound will be down, there will be no advertisements, and the event will be before the theater opens. The PALS playgroup meets this Friday (Yuba, Sutter children 0-5) with a Christmas theme. FamilySoup Family Resource Center has observed it is taking more time for families to get connected to resources and get Early Start services going. There is also a slower intake process at Alta California Regional Center.

Diane Walker (FA) Nevada:

- She is part of the Nevada County Association of Developmentally Disabled which was planning to revamp its membership list and restart activities prior to the new COVID surge.. They are working to develop social and recreational activities that are safe and fun during the Pandemic. In Nevada county there is no respite, Supported Living Services and few day programs, there are very minimal services.
- She is working on transitioning her family member to the Self-Determination Program. She voiced concern that the Financial Management Service must be paid from the individual's budget.

Glenda Servantes (FA) Yuba:

- Nothing new, things are opening up, such as the Christmas Stroll in Yuba City and Marysville. Some programs are back in place. Her son is going to his job site.

Jesana Tran (FA) Colusa/Alpine/Sierra: No report.

Karen Mulvany (FA), El Dorado (Secretary):

- Electronic Visit Verification (EVV): Effective January 1, 2021, certain Regional Center funded staff must comply with EVV federal regulations, including,
 - A. PCS (Personal care services):
 1. Respite: codes 465, 862, 864
 2. Supported Living Services: code 896
 3. Homemaker Services: code 858, 860
 4. Personal Assistance: code 062
 - B. HHCS (Home health care services):
 1. Nursing Care: codes 460, 742, 744
 2. Home Health Agency/Aide: codes 854, 856
 3. Speech Therapy: code 707
 4. Self-Determination Program: TBD — still unclear
 5. Occupational Therapy: code 773
 6. Physical Therapy: code 772
 - Staff that are exempt from EVV:
 - Live-in Caregivers are exempted from the EVV requirement:

“A caregiver is considered a ‘Live-in Caregiver’ if the caregiver regularly remains in the recipient’s home for more than 24 hours at a time, during which they are available to provide any of the authorized services.”
 - Self Determination Program (SDP) staff:

The DDS EVV Q&A (#6) at https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/EVV_FAQ_11102021.pdf states that EVV also applies for some Self Determination Program services including Personal Care Services or Home Health Care Services, and that DDS will provide a list of the impacted Self Determination Service

- codes (*still pending*). EVV online trainings for third party providers have been hosted by SanData, which is implementing the DDS EVV solution, but none are scheduled to date for SDP Participants or their staff.
- Staff who lack cellphone service at a client's location may need to make use of a client's landline, internet service, or cellphone, if the client has any of those.
- ADUs:
 - In November the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors approved a new ADU ordinance that brings the county code up to state standards and also includes special provisions to help regional center clients.
 - The county will permanently exempt special needs trusts, housing nonprofits and licensed community care facilities from owner occupancy requirements attached to ADU permits. It also allows ADUs up to 1600 square feet on a larger parcel, which is especially helpful for creating a residential facility. Also, in El Dorado County, any type of ADU (including a junior ADU) has the right to a separate physical address, which can be a requirement for certain regional center services such as SLS.
 - On Nov 5, Karen gave a presentation for Futures for Our Kids on Accessory Dwelling Units as a housing for a regional center client. Some families advised during the meeting that they had been told that they could not secure SLS in an ADU without a physical address that was separate from a parent's. She is being contacted by families interested in ADUs.
 - The Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) has a SDP Provider subcommittee that provided several trainings on the Self-Determination Program (SDP) to ACRC Service Providers in November. If someone is interested in Self Determination and wants to use their existing Service Provider, you can ask your provider to view the YouTube recorded training as a first step. Your Service Provider can go to the SDP page on ACRC's page, at <https://www.altaregional.org/self-determination-program>, and at the bottom there is a link to a provider SDP training on YouTube. For 2022,

the SDP Provider subcommittee expects to schedule lunch and learns on SDP topics requested by providers.

- There is a new Mask Mandate for all indoor locations effective Dec. 15th in California for at least a month. The purpose is to slow the spread of Covid-19. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>
- Medi-Cal Rx transition:
 - For Medi-Cal clients, starting Jan 1, 2021, pharmacy benefits under both Medi-Cal HMOs and fee for service Medi-Cal will transition to one statewide pharmacy benefits system called Medi-Cal Rx. This will make it easier to choose among Medi-Cal service provider options because the pharmacy benefits will be the same even if you change your managed medical provider.
 - Doctors may not be aware of this change. There is a 6 month transition period during which your existing prescriptions should automatically be honored, but afterwards you may need to switch to a similar drug, or your doctor may need to file additional paper work to obtain an authorization for your existing medication. Medi-Cal clients may want to check with their doctors if they have any concerns about their prescriptions.
 - Learn more at: <https://medi-calrx.dhcs.ca.gov/home/>

Kidada Medina (FA) Sacramento: No report at this time.

Nancy Esparza (SA) At-large (Vice-Chair): Absent

Nicole Mion (SA) Sacramento:

- Service Coordinators may be unaware of how to have a new person start in the Self-Determination Program. They are requiring an updated traditional Individual Program Plan first before proceeding with a referral to the Self-Determination Program.

Nikki Chand (FA) (pending confirmation): No report at this time.

Tyson Whitman (SA) Placer:

- The Supported Life Institute Conference will be held February 3rd, 2022 through Zoom. If interested visit www.supportedlife.org
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Item 11. PUBLIC COMMENT (Brandy Boyd, Chair)

Carl Argila is the parent of two children who have a developmental disability and are deaf. One child is in the Self-Determination Program. He applauded the work many are doing to promote SDP. He has a blog about his family's experiences and advocacy efforts at www.sgprc.net. He wanted the group to be aware of a Class Action Lawsuit against the Department of Developmental Services on behalf of his 2 children and 4,498 other developmentally disabled deaf clients of DDS. He believes that DDS and the Regional Centers retaliate against critics, and noted a similar finding by a State Board of Auditors report a number of years ago. DDS recently became the conservator of his son.

Item 13. Spotlight: GiGi's Playhouse, April Davila, Board Vice President

Presentation on Gigi's Playhouse Down Syndrome Achievement Centers. There are 55+ locations in the US and Mexico, with a center in the Sacramento region (Roseville) that was launched 3 years ago. They provide several educational and therapeutic services in their centers. Learn more at:

www.gigisplayhouse.org/sacramento/ or contact April Davila at:
adavila@gigisplayhouse.org (510) 915-0545

Item 14. Alta California Regional Center report, Jennifer Bloom, ACRC

- Hosted annual Santa Day last Friday as a COVID-friendly drive through event. They had good weather.
- Coordinated Future Planning subgroups have been meeting to help develop service coordinator training materials regarding caregiver succession and living option preferences. There is another larger group meeting this Thursday.
- Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Roadmap was put together by the Department of Developmental Services and the Department of Rehabilitation. ACRC is currently collaborating with Far Northern Regional Center, The State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and the

Department of Rehabilitation to offer workshops on CIE beginning January 20th.

- ACRC is recruiting to fill new staff positions: Disaster Coordinator, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist. Participant Choice Specialist for the Self Determination Program. Enhanced Caseload Service Coordinators (1:40 caseload).
- Social/Recreational/Camp services funding has been restored. ACRC is submitting its Purchase Of Service policy tomorrow to DDS.
- They are focused on employment options, working to increase housing options (Family Home Agencies, multifamily housing, residential options,) expansion of the Service Navigator Program to assist underserved communities, and equity and diversity grants.
- ACRC will launch a newsletter in January. Sign up on their website at www.altaregional.org
- Self-Determination Program update: As of now, 41 ACRC clients have “flipped the switch.”
- Pandemic update: ACRC Service Coordinators continue to reach out to track vaccinations for clients, now as young as 5. 97% of staff are vaccinated. Working on a “return to work” plan for Service Coordinators.
 - Since January 6th, 2021 they have tracked the Delta variant and its impact on the community and direct service providers. Updated statistics were provided which are reported to DDS daily. They include positive cases and deaths due to COVID.
- HCBS/Final Rule: All services provided/funded through SDP must be compliant with the Home and Community Based Services or Final Rule. All other traditional regional center services must be in compliance by March of 2023.

Presentation by AbleLight on its work to develop inclusive and affordable ID/D housing options. Visit <https://youtu.be/Ba5suG-SkJg> for a recording of this presentation.

Item 16. FUTURE RAC MEETING DATES

2022 RAC meeting dates are:

Tuesday, February 15, 10am-1pm

Tuesday, April 19, 10am-1pm

Tuesday, June 21, 10am-1pm

Tuesday, August 16, 10am-1pm

Tuesday, October 18, 10am-1pm

Tuesday, December 20, 10am-1pm

Meeting calendar can be found at www.scdd.ca.gov/sacramento.

To share suggestions for future Program Spotlights or Presentation, please email sacramento@scdd.ca.gov.

End of Notes