Date of Meeting
March 21, 2022

Meeting’s Focus

The Self-Advocates Advisory Committee met on March 21, 2022 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.

A member of the public asked for SAAC members to provide feedback about the types of situations that require filing special incident reports (SIR) and provided contact information for follow-up.

Sarah May, Regional Manager–North State, spoke about increasing SCDD staff collaboration with SAAC. The SCDD Self-Advocacy Disability Expert Advisory Panel (DEAP) would like to invite members of SAAC to their upcoming meeting scheduled for March 30th at 8:30 AM and looks forward to presenting to SAAC at future meetings.

Members raised concerns about the need for more mental health supports, the availability of affordable housing, support for service providers, and how world events can be overwhelming and affect someone’s wellbeing. There is a need to include the disability community in planning for and responding to natural disasters and global incidents.

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided members with an overview of the March Council meeting and an update on the logistics for the Zoom meeting. Executive Director Carruthers has been working with several utility companies to figure out a way to improve services and supports to customers with disabilities during public safety power shutoffs. Council staff continues to work with legislative staff to introduce state legislation aligned with SCDD goals and priorities. SCDD Staff continue to educate communities across California about resources and supports available to them.

Items Acted Upon

• Approved the January 24, 2022 meeting minutes.

Future Meeting Dates
The Committee is meeting on May 23, 2022.