



# San Bernardino Regional Office

## Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)

Minutes

02/08/2022

**Location:** *Virtual Meeting via ZOOM*

Posted on <https://scdd.ca.gov/sanbernardino/>

### **Members Present**

Eric Aguilar  
Dustlyne Beavers  
Christina Christenson-Rockwell, **Vice Chair**  
Cindy Cox  
Reginald Davis  
Carmela Garnica  
Maia Pawooskar, **Secretary**  
Kimberley Risser  
Ernie Saldana

### **Members Absent**

Ronald Allan  
Violet Arellano, **Member-At-Large**  
Lanette Hollowell  
Farah Mohamed  
Cathy Rosas

### **Guest Speakers**

Amanda McGurie, CPP & Affordable Housing Specialist, RDTU IRC  
Kristin Martin, Executive Director of HOPE  
Daniel ,California Housing Foundation and member of the Lanterman Housing Coalition

### **SCDD Staff**

Patricia Herrera, Staff Services Manger II (SSMII)  
Alejandra Rivera, Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA)  
Carol Nakamura-Robinson, Community Program Specialist II (CPS II)  
Valarie Macias, Office Technician, Typing (OT)

## Meeting called to order at 4:01 p.m.

Quorum established

## Approval of Minutes



Voting on the minutes – 02/08/2022 minutes. Dustlyne Beavers Motions to Approve the minutes, Kimberly Risser 2<sup>nd</sup>'s Motion. Minutes approved.

## Affordable Housing Coachella Project Presentation

- **Amanda McGuire, CPP & Affordable Housing Specialist, RDTU Inland Regional Center**
  - Pueblo Viejo Villas – 36 New units are being developed in Coachella. The Brand new Affordable Multifamily Community will include one, two, and three-bedroom apartments.
  - Units Must be Filled by May 31, 2022.
  - Eligibility Requirements
    - Must Meet Riverside County Annual Income Requirements per Household – 30% AMI (Non-CPP Unit 50% AMI)
    - No Previous Evictions
    - Minimum Credit Score 399
      - Applicants with no credit score their application is reviewed by property manager. After review and consideration and they are good candidate they will be approved.
    - No Criminal Convictions in the Last 10 Years
  - Selection Process will include
    - Internal Pre-Screening Process
    - Online Application
    - Interview with Property Manager
  - DDS Funds up to 25% of the cost of the numbers of units for construction cost only.
  - Monthly Cost – The take individuals annual income, split into 12-months, rent is 30% of monthly income.

## RAC Nominations and Vote

- Nominees
  - Christina Christenson-Rockwell for Chair
  - Eric Aguilar for Vice Chair
- Motion to approve nominates Christina Christenson-Rockwell for Chair and Eric Aguilar for Vice-Chair Carmela Garnica, Ernie Saldana 2<sup>nd</sup>'s
  - Cindy Cox – Yes
  - Maia Pawooskar – Yes
  - Reggie Davis – Yes
  - Christina Christenson-Rockwell – Yes
- Approved Christina Christenson-Rockwell for Chair and Eric Aguilar for Vice-Chair.



- Suggests meeting time change 4:00pm – 6:00pm to accommodation working individuals, doctors' appointments, or other daily activities.
- Cindy Cox Motions to move RAC meeting date/time to 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every other month from 4:00pm – 6:00pm, Dustlyne Beavers 2<sup>nd</sup>'s Motion. RAC Meeting date/time change passes.

## Report from Regional Manager

- **The San Bernardino Regional Office (SBRO) Goals**
  - Develop a Self-Advocacy Advisory Council (SAC)
    - SBRO will like to invite RAC Self-Advocates to help promote and advertise to other Self-Advocates to join.
  - Continue presenting the Emergency Preparedness Training – American Red Cross Backpack with Self-Advocate Eric Aguilar.
    - Working with community partners to connect with additional Self-Advocates that can benefit from this training.
  - Reconnect with Community Organizations
    - SBRO has 175 Community Organizations in our cover region. SBRO staff will be reaching out to these organizations to reconnect and engage working together on future events and trainings.
  - Community Conversations Meetings
    - Senate Bill 639 which ends the use of subminimum wages in CA.
      - There is a 3-year phase out that will be informed by SCDD's four stakeholder workgroup meetings, which start this month.
      - Community Conversation English Session will be held on zoom Friday, March 18, 2022 from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
      - Community Conversation Spanish Session will be held on zoom Tuesday, April 12, 2022 from 10:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
  - SBRO has High Priority Focuses on Self-Determination, Housing, and Employment.
  - PPE Distribution
    - Federal Branch met with SCDD in an Emergency Meeting to discuss and request help in distributing COVID-19 Take-At-Home Tests to the community.
- **Guest Speaker – On Affordable Housing**
  - Kristin Martin, Executive Director of HOPE for 10 years.
    - Housing plays such a foundational role in the services that support our population we serve. We work with Regional

- Centers, Cities, and Counties to work to find funding to bring projects to bare.
- Problems we are facing is there is not a lot of specific funding for individuals with Intellectual or developmental disabilities.
  - SCDD is a great collaborative partner as they work directly with advocates, clients and family members. As Developers we are on the other side working with cities and contractors.
  - To help us succeed we need the community help by speaking to Regional Centers, rallying local congress people, and talking to elected officials. About the important need for funding in our state specific for our population.
- Daniel Schenkel, California Housing Foundation based in Redlands and Board President of the Lanterman Housing Alliance (LHA).
    - Lanterman Housing Alliance has been working with SCDD on the Statewide Level to provide numbers to show the growing need of affordable housing for individuals with Intellectual or developmental disabilities.
    - Legislators are building the budget for funding for Housing, LHA is actively engaging with local Legislators and State Legislators to year mark funding for our population.
    - Developers are looking funding tied to populations and if there is funding tied to a specific population that's the population that has housing set aside.
    - The State needs to know, DDS needs funding for housing. Specific for individuals with Intellectual or developmental disabilities. Not only on the State Level but on the Federal Level.
    - Federal Government is looking how to address the housing issue but the need for housing services. The advocacy we as a community is making sure that all the lists of people, they are looking to provide for they do not forget individuals with Intellectual or developmental disabilities.

### **BSG/QA/CRA/VAS Projects Update**

- QA Update
  - QA Update – NCI survey will be coming soon; participants are randomly selected from the different Regional Centers.
  - Survey is Mail-in, however there is an option to complete the survey online.

- If bilingual survey is needed, please reach out to our office for assistance.
- NCI Surveys mailed out as a reminder are;
  - Child Family Survey
  - Family Guardian Survey
  - Adult Family Survey
- BSG Report
  - SBRO is providing training both in English and Spanish on Person Center Planning (PCP). Looking to add additional training with community partners in the future.
  - Connect with Support Groups of monolingual Spanish speaking families within the community and setup trainings this month on IPP's & Appeals and Self-Determination.
  - IF Brainstorming Session was a week ago and a Regional Center Directors and two Program Managers attended and were available to answer questions to Independent Facilitators who attended. They have agreed to attend on a quarterly basis.
  - February 18, 2022 Emergency Disaster Preparedness (EDP) Training presented by Self-Advocate Eric Aguilar.
    - In the Future would like to provide a train-the-trainer session for interested Self-Advocates on EDP.

### **Public Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda**

- Ernie Saldana, represents Riverside County
  - Reached out to State Senators and Congressman can we refer them to Daniel Schenkel or Kristin Martin regarding the need for affordable housing for individuals with Intellectual or developmental disabilities?
    - Daniel Schenkel, the biggest part is that you contacted them, and provided the need for housing for individuals with Intellectual or developmental disabilities. The greatest misconception is that local representatives received thousands of calls a day with issues. This is simple not so. You can reach out to SCDD or Lanterman Housing Alliance to voice your concerns or help direct elected officials.
- Christina Christenson-Rockwell, represents Inyo County
  - There is a building that formally housed Independent Living for Seniors. Most current ADA building in the area. Closed abruptly 1-1½ year ago. Have been unsuccessful in obtaining the status of the moving forward plan for the building.
  - Second largest land space County for the entire State of California and only 3% of that land is allowed for private

ownership. Making it difficult to purchase land for development for needs such as housing.

- Due to limitations the supply and demand prices are high, impacting housing rates if you can locate one.
- Inyo has an interested Family Resource and Fair Housing coordinator out of the Bishop office.
  - Daniel Schenkel, in conversations with Regional Center resource development team member they are trying to work with DDS to look at the possibility of Inland Regional Center receiving additional funding CRDP Funding. The department finally decided they would use some of the housing funds to purchase “Set asides.”
  - These set aside funded projects have gain more popularity, but the amount of funding has not grown. Meaning some projects have been turned down due to lack of funding.
  - Found out how own the property and see if that group would take funding to make modifications to reopen building. Work with a developer to work on a plan to buy it from the owner and reopen it.
    - Real estate that closes abruptly is never good. May have had a problem due to poor money management.

### **Meeting adjourns**

- Dustlyne Beavers motion to adjourn meeting, Ernie Saldana 2<sup>nd</sup>'s, Meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

### **Next Meeting**

- Tuesday, June 14, 2022 from 4:00pm – 6:00pm