

Dear Robin,

Please find below my Statement of Interest for the Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee Co-Chair position:

1-Why do you want to serve as Co-Chair?

I have a special interest in advocating passionately for the developmental disability community - with many years of experience working on a range of disability-related issues. I am also a parent of a young adult with disabilities who is a Self Determination client. As Co-Chair, I would make sure that everyone is heard and that important issues - such as disparity of services - are addressed fairly. Most of the outreach and education I have done has been on behalf of the Latino disability community.

I would encourage greater participation directly from the disability community in committee meetings.

2-What are your experiences in leadership and/or the Self-Determination Program and meeting facilitation skills?

I have several years of leadership experience on the boards of several non -profit organizations that advocate for the disability community. Locally - I am on the Board of Directors of the San Andreas Regional Center, where I chair the Public Policy and Developmental Committees. I have also been on the board of the San Francisco Autism Society and chair its Information & Referral Committee. I am now the chair (previously Vice-Chair) of a local Self Determination Advisory Committee. I also previously served as the Chair, Physically Challenged Board of Appeals for the City of Gilroy. At the national level, I am on the board of the National Rehabilitation Association. Internationally, I am on the board of the Disability Council International.

I pride myself on my ability to keep my board colleagues focused on priority agenda items - allowing diverse viewpoints while staying on schedule. My strong professional background in teaching and counseling has helped me develop my strong listening and meeting facilitation skills.

3- What is your time availability to serve as Co-Chair

I can make myself available for meetings at a variety of times given sufficient notice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martha Johanson