Statewide SDAC

Introduction and Request

Self Determination Advocate Leaders
The Self Determination Self Advocate Leadership Committee

• Kecia Weller
• Priyanka Nookala

• SDSALC (kw)
  • Includes self advocates and family members
  • Includes adults (over 18) interested in self determination
  • Meets monthly by Zoom on Second Mondays at 3:00
  • Invitations to join meeting sent to 191 stakeholders each month
  • Attendance between 8 to 20 participants per month.
  • Facilitated by David Grady, SCDD Central Coast staff.
The Mission Statement (pn)

• Based on the Five Principles of Self Determination: Freedom, Authority, Support, Responsibility, and Confirmation, the Self Determination Advocate Leadership Committee will work with other stakeholders and advocates to support service models that...

  • **Makes sure all people served by the regional center are fully informed about self-determination.**
  • Are easy, are available to everyone, and follow clear procedures necessary to get services.
  • Are always improving to be more effective, that guarantee communication and materials for self-determination are in plain language and accessible.
  • Makes sure decision makers at all levels gets rid of barriers to self-determination
  • When SD is provided, it’s timely, productive, and respectful of the advocates and their person-centered preferences.
Our Concern

• Not every person with a case open at Regional Center knows about Self Determination

  • Priyanka’s story

  • Kecia’s story
Our Research (dg)

- Emailed Local Advisory Committees and Participant Choices Specialists from 8 regional centers a survey requesting information about how people receiving services from regional center are notified about self determination.
Our Findings (pn)

• Answers back from only 4 Regional Centers

• Inform in a number of ways:
  • Social Media and RC Website
  • Informational Meetings
  • Mailed Letters
  • At annual IPP, with one RC beginning on 7/1/22, requiring material shared at IPP annual
  • Tracked in IPP
  • Reported in writing or verbally at Local Advisory Committee meetings
Our Findings (pn)

- Low Response Rate
- No Standard Practice
- Inconsistent messaging at IPP (stories of service coordinators dismissing self determination or speaking negatively)
- Individual receptivity based on particular need or timing ("information lost in paperwork")
- General marketing, information sharing, and awareness building difficulties throughout Regional Center system. Not everyone is receiving the social media message.
Our Findings (kw)

- 4 General Responses

  - Yes, have heard about Self Determination and have gone to orientation, and transitioning

  - Yes, have heard about Self Determination, but not for me.

  - Yes, have heard about Self Determination but have heard negative things about it, or was discouraged from participating?

  - No, have not heard about Self Determination.
SDA Leadership Request (pn, kw, dg)

- Require Self Determination model be discussed by service coordinator and planning team at all IPP meetings. (kw)

- Plain Language written fact sheet reviewed, discussed, and distributed at all IPPs. (pn)

- Discussion and material distribution documented in IPP and other database. (dg)

- Data on Self Determination discussions be shared at all local advisory committee meetings and reported at SSDAC meetings. (dg)

- Insure **objective** presentation of SD information by service coordinators. (pn)
SDA Leadership Request

• SD Advocate Leadership Committee willing to work with SSDAC and all LACs to make this request to DDS and all Regional Centers and help with implementation. (kw, pn)

• SD Advocate Leadership Committee willing to work SSDAC and LACs on other outreach projects. (dg)
  • Instagram or Tik Tok idea.
Indication of Success (kw)

• More and more people served by regional center report they have heard about self determination as one possible method to receive services and supports.

• Local Advisory Chairs can report back to SSDAC the information they receive from Regional Centers about SD notification at IPP’s from the advisory committee reports they receive.