This is a teleconference and zoom meeting only. There is no physical location being made available to the public per Government Code Section 11133. Therefore, Committee members are not required to list their remote locations and members of the public may participate telephonically or by Zoom from any location. Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at [www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov).

**ZOOM LINK:**

**TELECONFERENCE:**
(669) 900-9128

**MEETING ID:** 881 5751 9794
**MEETING ID:** 881 5751 9794

**MEETING PASSWORD:** 815608
**MEETING PASSWORD:** 815608

Check out [Zoom Download Instructions](http://www.scdd.ca.gov) and [Tips on how to use Zoom](http://www.scdd.ca.gov) to learn the basics about the Zoom platform.

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**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**POSTED AT:** [www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov)

**DATE:** September 19, 2022

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR:** Nicole Adler

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**Item 1.** CALL TO ORDER

**Item 2.** ESTABLISH QUORUM

**Item 3.** WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Item 4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

This item is for members of the public only to provide comments and/or present information to the Committee on matters not on the agenda. Each person will be afforded up to 3 minutes to speak.

Additionally, there will be up to 5 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.

Item 5. **CHAIR REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Chair Report

B. Meeting Ground rules

Item 6. **APPROVAL OF July 25, 2022 MINUTES**

Page 7

Item 7. **REVIEW OF COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Page 13

Presented by: SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers and SCDD Staff

A. SCDD Agency Update

B. Review of Council Agenda

C. Vaccine Project Updates

D. Developmental Center Updates

ITEMS RELATED TO COUNCIL BUSINESS ARE INCLUDED IN THE COUNCIL PACKET

Item 8. **PROVIDING SAAC RECOMMENDATIONS TO SCDD**

Page 15

Item 9. **FEEDBACK ON SCDD SELF-ADVOCACY DEAP TRAINING**

Page 17

Presented by: Deana Hernandez, Manager North Valley Hills Office

Peter Mendoza, Community Program Specialist II
Item 10. MEMBER UPDATES

A. Updates/Concerns from Regional Advisory Committees
B. Emerging Issues or Barriers to Self-Advocacy
C. Community self-advocacy projects/activities
D. SCDD Committee Updates

Item 11. STATEWIDE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK (SSAN) REPORT

Item 12. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: November 28, 2022

Accessibility

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), Individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact Riana Hardin at (916) 263-8196 or Riana.Hardin@scdd.ca.gov. Please provide at least 3 business days prior to the meeting to allow adequate time to respond to all requests.

All times indicated and the order of business are approximate and subject to change.
Chair Report and Announcements

Committee Chair Nicole Adler will provide an update and SCDD staff will provide Committee members with an overview of ground rules for online meetings.
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022
AGENDA ITEM 6
ACTION ITEM

SELF–ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Approval of July 25, 2022 Minutes

Action Recommended

Approve the July 25, 2022 SAAC Minutes

Attachments

- July 25, 2022 SAAC Minutes
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SELF–ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 25, 2022

**Members Present**

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<tr>
<td>Nicole Adler</td>
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<td>Jeana Eriksen</td>
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<td>Julio Garnica</td>
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<td>Maria Marquez</td>
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<td>Kara Ponton</td>
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<td>Alex Reyes</td>
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<td>Rosanna Ryan</td>
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<td>Wesley Witherspoon</td>
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<td>Eric Ybarra</td>
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**Others Attending**

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<tr>
<td>Rihana Ahmad</td>
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<td>Aaron Carruthers</td>
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<td>Ken DeRosa</td>
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<td>Tamica Foots-Rachal</td>
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<td>Riana Hardin</td>
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<td>Beth Hurn</td>
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<td>Charles Nguyen</td>
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<td>Tina Reszler</td>
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<td>Victoria Schlussler</td>
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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   
   Committee Chair Nicole Adler called the meeting to order at 1:34 P.M.

2. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
   
   Committee members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

3. **ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**
   
   A quorum was established.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   
   There was no Public Comment.
5. CHAIR REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Nicole Adler recognized that a lot is going on in the world right now and thanked people for taking the time to attend the meeting. SAAC Chair Adler encouraged members to be patient and kind to each other.

6. APPROVAL OF MAY 23, 2022 MINUTES

Members reviewed the minutes from the May 23rd, 2022 meeting. The minutes can be found starting on page 7 of the July 2022 SAAC packet.

ACTION 1

It was moved/seconded (Witherspoon [SA]/ Marquez [SA]) and carried to approve the March 23rd minutes as presented. Motion Passed without objection.

7. DDS STATEWIDE TRAINING UPDATE

SCDD Self-Determination Program Manager Joseph Hernandez provided an update on the status of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Statewide Self-Determination Trainings. DDS released the Self-Determination Orientation module on July 14th. Other training modules are still being developed and will cover Person Centered Planning, spending plans, planning the individual budget, and working with others. Members viewed the newly constructed SCDD Self-Determination webpages, which will house information on available trainings and how to register for future trainings. Trainings are offered in English and Spanish. SCDD has provided 13 Orientation trainings this month, reaching 169 people.
8. REVIEW OF COUNCIL BUSINESS
SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided members with an overview of the July Council meeting agenda. The Council will receive reports from the Council Chair and Executive Director, along with Committee and Executive Staff. Executive Director Carruthers and Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations will provide the Council with an update on the Council’s Year of Optimization. Committee members asked questions about the Executive Director Evaluation process and received guidance on how to complete the evaluation survey.

9. FEEDBACK ON SCDD WEBSITE
Rihana Ahmad, State Plan and Self Advocacy Manager presented the SCDD Website and requested SAAC member’s feedback on how to improve each section of the site. Members recommended changes to the home page, noting that there should be less print and that the graphics and images should be spread throughout the page instead of concentrated near the bottom. Members reviewed and gave feedback on draft changes to the SCDD Meetings Calendar and requested that meeting times and Zoom links be shared on each committee’s individual pages. SCDD staff will continue to seek feedback from SAAC members as we begin to make changes and updates to the website.

10. REFLECTING ON THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE NEXT STEPS
In honor of the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), SAAC members discussed what the ADA means to them and how it has changed their lives. Members shared that the passage of the ADA has allowed them to enjoy greater freedom and access to the supports and services they need to live the lives of their choosing. Members reflected on ways that SCDD could continue to support people with disabilities and address service issues and barriers. For more information on this discussion see the SAAC Reflections on the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act in the July 2022 Council Handouts.
11. MEMBER UPDATES
Members shared updates on self-advocacy barriers and issues in their communities, self-advocacy projects they are working on, committee updates and the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network Report. Highlights from their updates included: transitioning back to in-person meetings when appropriate, the importance of being included in graduation ceremonies, and the continued need for affordable housing.

12. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 P.M.
State Council on Developmental Disabilities Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will review Council Business with the committee. This item may include:

A. SCDD Agency Updates  
B. Review of Council Agenda items  
C. Vaccine Project Updates  
D. Developmental Center Updates

Items related to this agenda item can be found in the Council Packet.
SELF ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Providing SAAC Recommendations to SCDD

The Self-Advocates Advisory Committee exists to advise the Council on issues of concern to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout California.

This agenda item is intended to provide the committee an opportunity to discuss recommendations to the Council on issues of concern to Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Recommendations can include items up for a vote on the Council agenda, as well as general recommendations to the Council.

**Recommended Action:**

None

**Attachments:**

None
In order to carry out the 2022-2026 State Plan, SCDD has created groups called Disability Expert Advisory Panels (DEAPs) which consist of staff interested in focusing on specific subjects within the agency’s work.

Each DEAP is in the process of reviewing and updating existing training materials and curriculum in order to create content for SCDD’s on-demand training platform and to determine if there are any gaps that need to be filled in order to meet the needs of self-advocates, family advocates and community members throughout California.

The Co-Chairs of the Self-Advocacy DEAP, Deana Hernandez, Manager of the North Valley Hills Regional Office and Peter Mendoza, Community Program Specialist for the Sacramento Regional Office will update SAAC on the DEAP’s efforts to develop a statewide self-advocacy training and would like SAAC members’ feedback on their draft training.

Attachment(s)

- DRAFT SCDD Self-Advocacy Training Curriculum
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SELF-ADVOCACY
California State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Training Overview

1. Introduction
   A. Training Overview
   B. What is SCDD?

2. What is Self-Advocacy?

3. Personal Advocacy vs Systems Advocacy

4. Pillars of Self-Advocacy

5. Relationships and Supports

6. Next Steps
What is SCDD?

• Independent State agency
• Supported by State and Federal Law
• Make sure people with I/DD have access to services and supports.
• Educate people with I/DD about their rights.
• Work with law makers to protect rights and services.
What is Self-Advocacy?
In Self-Advocacy we:

- Communicate our wants and needs
- Learn about our rights
- Support others
- Develop our leadership skills

Adapted from the PICA Welcome Handbook
Self-Advocacy Gives us Tools to:

- Organize our own meetings
- Make our own choices
- Learn about the political system
Self-Advocacy Helps us:

• Get involved in our neighborhoods
• Make friends
• Show respect and kindness for others
• Teach others what we know
Actions Are Louder Than Words

As Advocates we have the right to express what we want. Self-Advocacy is more than telling others what is important to us. It includes making decisions and being responsible for our actions.
Reflection Time

• What things are important to you?
• Why are they important to you?
• How do you tell others what is important to you?
To be a self-advocate we need to exercise our skills. Like athletes we need practice and training to develop our Advocacy "Muscles".
Self-Advocacy Happens Everywhere

- We need to learn to use our advocacy “muscles” in different places.

- Where do you use your advocacy muscles?
Personal Advocacy

When you need or want something, you let others know.

Examples are:

- Choosing where to live/work, or what to eat
- Telling a trusted person when someone or something is causing you a problem
System Advocacy

Is when you or a group of people make an effort to change policies and laws so that communities are inclusive and accessible to people that have disabilities.
Five Principles of Self-Advocacy

1. Make decisions for your life
2. Solve problems in your life
3. Know your rights and responsibilities
4. Build your community
5. Communicate your wants and needs
Make Decisions For Your Life

• Where do you want to live?
• Where do you want to work?
• What do you do to have fun?
Solve Problems in Your Life

Self-advocate learn what their options are by asking questions or talking to a trusted person when there is a problem with:

- Medical issues
- Financial issues
- Relationships issues
Understanding Circles of Support

- Service Contacts/Agencies
- Acquaintances
- Friends
- Family
What does Your Circle Look Like?
IDENTIFYING SUPPORT
Know Your Rights and Responsibilities

Understand your rights and responsibilities

• Medical
• Financial
• Relationships
Building Your Community

• Getting to know your neighbors
• Making friends
• Knowing your local events and resources
• Getting to know your neighbors

What can you do to make your community better?
Communicate Your Wants and Needs

- Know your abilities and strengths
- Know your wants and needs
- Tell people what you want
- Understand your rights and responsibilities
- Participate in solving problems

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS
PRACTICE BUILDS MUSCLES

• Become a strong advocate for yourself, your friends, and your community.
• Become a team member or leader and work on important projects to give back to the community.
• Educate yourself and others by developing public speaking skills.
• Strengthen social skills and develop good relationships.
• Have fun!
What did you Learn?

• What is Self-Advocacy? (select all that apply)
• Why is it important?
• Who helps you to make decisions about your life?
Consider

• Taking More SCDD Trainings on:
  – Self-Determination
  – Supported Decision Making
• Attending regional/statewide SCDD meetings
• Joining a Self-Advocacy Chapter/group
• Getting involved in your community on an issue you care about
• Sharing your Self-Advocacy Story
• Connecting with SCDD on Social Media
Contact Your Local SCDD Office

- Local Self-Advocacy Groups
- Upcoming meetings
- Self-Advocacy Chats
- Resources
- Link to Regional office list
- Thank you for your participation!
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SELF ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Member Updates

Each member will have five minutes to provide the committee with updates on local and regional concern(s) for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Updates may include:

A. Updates/Concerns from the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC)
B. Emerging issues or barriers to self-advocacy
C. Community self-advocacy projects/activities
D. SCDD Committee Updates
Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Report

The SSAN met on September 7th & 8th over Zoom. The committee will be provided an update on SSAN activity since the last meeting.

The next SSAN meeting is scheduled to take place on December 14th & 15th 2022. Stay tuned for details on how to attend.

Attachment

- September 2022 SSAN Report
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AGENDA ITEM 11.
INFORMATION ITEM

SELF ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Report from the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

Recent Activity: The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) met on September 7th & 8th, 2022 over Zoom.

Focus of Meeting:

The September 2022 SSAN meeting was held over the course of two days on Zoom. SSAN members introduced themselves and shared one self-advocacy related project that they have been working on and tips on how to volunteer or get paid work.

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided SSAN members with an update on SCDD activities since the June SSAN meeting. This included a brief overview of the Council’s legislative work, and efforts to distribute COVID-19 test kits and increase access to vaccines and vaccine-related information. SSAN members shared concerns related to regional center services, Self-Determination and the limitations of day programs in helping people with disabilities reach their goals.

SSAN Members provided feedback on sections of the SCDD website, including the Home Page, the Calendar of Meetings and Events, and the SSAN Page. Members suggested that there be less information on the main page and more navigation buttons and that Self-Determination be its own tab/page. Members thought that information about the SSAN mission statement, vision statement, officer roles, workgroups and bios of officers would be good things to have on the SSAN Page.

Members also suggested that there be greater differentiation between tabs (like different colors or lines).

Suzy Requarth, the newly appointed Self-Determination Ombudsperson and Katie Hornberger, the former Acting Self-Determination Ombudsperson provided members with information on the Office of the Self-Determination Ombudsperson and their role of facilitating solutions to disagreements between regional centers, individuals, and families.

Day one ended with a comprehensive overview presentation from CalABLE Executive Director Dante Allen on California’s Achieving Better Life Experience (CalABLE) program.
AGENDA ITEM 11.
INFORMATION ITEM

SELF ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Report from the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

On day 2 of the meeting, SSAN Members shared their thoughts on what elected officials should know about people with disabilities. UC Davis MIND Institute provided SSAN with an update on their PAIR Grant Project to help medical professionals and researchers learn how to improve research practices to be more inclusive and accessible. CFILC came to present on how to Choose Your Advocacy Style. Members talked about the importance of voting and civic participation. Disability Rights California finished off the day with a presentation on the importance of sharing your individual story within the Disability Rights Movement.

Members talked about upcoming advocacy events and projects and the SSAN Workgroup Chairs updated members on their meeting times and ongoing projects.

**Actions Taken:**

- Approved the Minutes from the June 2022 SSAN Meeting
- Approved the September 2022 Edition of SSAN Newsletter

**2020—2022 SSAN Leadership:**

**Chair:** Desiree Boykin, ARCA Representative  
**Vice-Chair:** Paul Mansell, SCDD San Diego Regional Representative  
**Secretary:** Robert Levy, UC Davis MIND Institute UCEDD Representative

**SSAN Workgroups:**

- Operations (formerly Officers, Bylaws, and Membership)  
- Self-Determination  
- Employment  
- Legislative and Civic Engagement  
- Newsletter and Communications  
- Youth Engagement

The next SSAN Meeting is scheduled for September 7–8 2022 over Zoom. Please visit the [SSAN Page](#) on the SCDD website for more information.
The next committee meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2022.