

North Bay Regional Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting of January 23, 2023

Posted at: scdd.ca.gov/northbay



I. Call to Order

- a. Meeting called to order at 11:05 am.

II. Welcome & Introductions

RAC Member Attendance (mark if present)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chen Curtiss | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoe Bartholomew |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellen Sweigert | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna Martinez |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maria Avina | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bobby Craig |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Angela Zamora | <input type="checkbox"/> Holly Armijo |

Members of the Public

Cecily Akwari

SCDD Staff Attendance (mark if present)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Hooks | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tobias Weare |
|--|--|

III. Establish Quorum

- a. Quorum not present. No action can be taken. Meeting for informational purposes only.

IV. Public Comments

- a. More families at the Moving Forward Towards Independence program are choosing to take part in the Self-Determination Program's (SDP) census. So far 39 families have participated in the census and 13 families have chosen to join the North Bay Regional Center's (NBRC) SDP.

V. North Bay Office Report

- a. We are still recruiting for the local Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) and the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). We are specifically looking for members who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual or Queer (LGTBQ) and members of the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. We especially need more representatives from Sonoma County. We will review our recruitment efforts and reach out to stakeholders to discuss how we can increase participation.

- b. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday is coming up.
- c. January is National Birth Defects month and that is a great reason to help increase awareness of [Early Start Programs](#). Such programs can aid in identifying birth defects and help provide support.

VI. Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) Update

- a. At the December SSAN meeting new officers were elected and a SSAN newsletter was presented. There are still openings on the SSAN and if you're interested you can contact Riana Hardin (riana.hardin@scdd.ca.gov). The next 2-day SSAN meeting will be held in March 2023. Here is additional information about the SSAN:
 - i. [SSAN Member Description](#)
 - ii. [Membership Application Process and Checklist](#)
 - iii. [Membership Application](#)

VII. Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) Update

- a. Four prospective candidates for the local SDAC are going through the SCDD membership committee, and the North Bay Regional Center has hired a Participant Choice Coordinator to help participants with services and supports in the Self-Determination Program (SDP). SCDD is now facilitating SDP orientations on the web on a regular basis. NBRC is also adding Independent Facilitators (Ifs) to their staff to help SDP participants. The SDAC will provide more training and outreach to better navigate the SDP.
- b. For more information on the local SDAC of the NBRC, please use this link: [Self-Determination Advisory Committee](#)

VIII. North Bay Office Report Part Two

- a. Future RAC meetings will need to be hybrid meetings that are available both in-person and virtually to meet the public meeting regulations in California.
- b. We have seen an increase in calls from individuals and families reporting denials for regional center services. We have been aiding them in filing appeals, advocating, training and providing resources to help them bridge the gap in services and supports available.
- c. If there are requests for accommodations (like materials or training in another language) for trainings or activities, they should be sent to Tobias (tobias.weare@scdd.ca.gov).
- d. We are awaiting our emergency go bags that will be for attendees who participate in the Emergency Preparation Trainings and current RAC members.

- e. We are working with organizations to adapt emergency shelters to be more accommodating for people with I/DD, seniors, and individuals with mental/behavioral health needs.

IX. Regional Advisory Committee Member Reports

- a. There is an upcoming event in Napa Valley called “The Better Together Ball” on Saturday, February 18th in the Dining Hall at Justin-Siena (4026 Maher St.) from 6 – 8 pm. It will include a Red-Carpet entrance, snacks & desserts, photographers, and dancing with the band “Wonderbread 5”!

X. Adjournment

- a. The RAC meeting adjourned at 1:28 pm.

The next RAC meeting will be:

March 27, 2023

11:30 AM to 1:30 PM