



NOTICE/AGENDA

**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
STATEWIDE SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
POSTED AT: www.scdd.ca.gov**

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, 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

MEETING DETAILS:

ZOOM WEBINAR LINK: <https://bit.ly/2023-June-SSDAC>
CONFERENCE CALL IN NUMBER: 1 669 900 9128
WEBINAR ID: 823 3216 0136
PASSCODE: 087805

DATE: June 14, 2023

TIME: 10:30 AM – 4:00 PM

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: Viviana Barnwell and Rick Wood


Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Item 3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Item 4. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2023 MINUTES 

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Item 9.	BEST PRACTICES PLATFORM UPDATES <i>Presented by: Viviana Barnwell and Rick Wood</i>	Page 15
Item 10.	SSDAC PRIORITY: DISPARITIES  <i>Presented by: Viviana Barnwell and Rick Wood</i>	Page 18
Item 11.	PUBLIC COMMENTS <i>This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.</i> <i>Additionally, there will be up to 10 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each Council agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.</i>	Page 19
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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 Robin Maitino-Erben at (916) 263-8193 or robin.maitino@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.

June 14, 2023

AGENDA ITEM 4.

ACTION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

Approval of February 9, 2023, Minutes

Committee members will review and approve the meeting minutes from the February 2023 meeting.

Action Recommended

Approve the February 9, 2023, meeting minutes.

Attachment

February 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes



DRAFT

**Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2023**

Attending Members

Betty Monterrey (SGPRC)
Carla Lehmann (WRC)
Carolyn Tellalian (CVRC)
Casey Taylor (TCRC)
Cathay Liu (ELARC)
Charles Nutt (FNRC)
Chris Miller (RCRC Designee)
Darlene Williams (TCRC)
Debby Hight (NBRC Co-Chair)
Doug Pascover for Martha Johanson (SARC)
Frank Van Curen (RCRC)
Irene Litherland (RCEB)
Jerry Corradi, (NBRC Co-Chair)
Jon Francis (NLACRC)
Joyce Clark (SDRC)
Laurie Walker (NLARC Co-Chair)

Attending Members

Lisa Cooley (ACRC)
Maia Pawoskar (IRC)
Mariela Ramos (VMRC)
Martha Johanson (HRC)
Pierre Landry (FDLRC)
Richard Dier (NLARC Co-Chair)
Rick Wood (KRC)
Robert Taylor (RCRC)
Rosalinda Garcia (HRC)
Sascha Bittner (GGRC)
Sherry Alvarez (SCLARC)
Tim Jin (RCOC)
Viviana Barnwell (Co-Chair)

Absent Members

Darlene Williams (TCRC)

Others Attending

Aaron Carruthers
Aminah Abdul-Hakim
Ana Ramirez
Beth Hurn
Chelsea Coffin
Chris Arroyo
Christian Nava
Chloe Hayes
Cindy Cox
Cindy Johnson
Crystal Chavez
Debbie Wechsler
Danielle Isola
Dena Hernandez
Dustlyne Beavers
Felicia Ford
Georgina Kier
Hima Suri
Jan Opsvig
Judy Mark
Julie LaRose
Karen Bonacci
Kate Brittain Duwe
Katie Gallagher
Katie Hornberger
Kay Medina
Lilia V.

Others Attending

Lisa Culley
Lisa Hooks
Martha Gradjeda
Mary Ellen Stives
Mary Nahidi
Melanie Waters
Michelle Smith
Renee Bauer
Robin Maitino-Erben
Rondale Holloway
Sandra McElwee
Sandra Von Scotter
Scarlett VonThenen
Sofia Cervantes
Suzy Requarth
Tamra Pauly
Theresa Scripps
Victoria Schlussler
Vicki Smith
Yaritza Sanchez
Yolanda Cruz

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Rick Wood (FA) called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Members and others in attendance introduced themselves as indicated.

4. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2022 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved/seconded (Bittner [SA]/Cooley [SA]) and carried to approve the December 2022 meeting minutes as corrected. (Motion passed unanimously. [see page 1 for a list of voting members], see corrections below).

- Remove John Francis from attendance list and replace with Lori Walker and Richard Dier

5. CO-CHAIR INTRODUCTION

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Caruthers introduced the newly appointed SSDAC Co-Chair, Viviana Barnwell. Co-Chair Barnwell is a family advocate and works as an independent facilitator and is committed to improving the SDP and working on the priorities that the SSDAC has identified. Viviana Barnwell stated that she is excited to join this committee and is looking forward to learning and sharing information and experiences.

6. CO-CHAIR REPORT TO SSDAC

Co-Chair Rick Wood informed members that due to the feedback that they provided on the SSDAC workgroup’s proposed disparity project, the SSDAC will revisit the disparity goal at a later date to revise and reimagine how best to approach reducing disparities in the SDP. Co-Chair Wood explained that the SSDAC workgroup has begun to move forward on creating and collecting content for the SSDAC’s Best Practices Platform and will be asking for members feedback on the work that has been done later in the meeting.

7. DDS AND OMBUDSPERSON UPDATE

Interim Ombudsperson Katie Hornberger provided a presentation to update members about the work of the Office of the Ombudsperson. Of the 533 inquiries that have been received by the office, 431 have been resolved and 102 remain open for monitoring purposes. The issue that consumers are reporting to the Office of the Ombudsperson most frequently is that there are long waiting lists for FMS providers, leaving consumers unable to begin receiving services under the SDP for weeks or months. The office of the Ombudsperson also continues to respond to inquiries regarding Regional Center issues, spending plans, budgets, Person Centered Planning, Orientation and other concerns.

Katie Hornberger discussed the partnerships between the Ombudsperson office, the HCBS and SDP team, the office of Community Operations, and the director of DDS. She discussed the importance of addressing barriers to SDP participants finding FMS. The office of the Ombudsperson has found DDS to be responsive to suggestions to improve SDP and have they have worked together to address issues with FMS payments and to eliminate gaps in participants budgets as they await approval between years. Committee members asked questions about the methods used to provide technical assistance to SDP participants and discussed the barriers that they're seeing at their RCs.

DDS representatives Vicki Smith and Suzy Requarth provided an update on the Self-Determination Program. The presentation included enrollment numbers, data on racial disparities, an update on recent DDS directives, and an overview of the issues that DDS are looking to prioritize in coming months. DDS presentation slides can be found at <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac/>.

The Committee asked questions and discussed a variety of issues. Conversation included questions about the SDP advisory group convened by DDS, which includes various stakeholders and is not a public group or subject to public meeting laws. The group discussed the requirement of family resource center representatives at LACs and asked for specific data about SDP withdraw reasons. Members discussed the difference in participation rates between people with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities and the need to simplify the program to increase access across disabilities as well as ethnicity. Suzy Requarth and Vicki Smith informed the committee that DDS is working with RCs to identify how to collect and extract more specific and meaningful data on the SDP and how to make modifications to billing systems to improve payment processes. The group also discussed increasing the capacity of FMS providers.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Karen Bonacci, LAC Co-Chair at VMRC expressed that people are unable to keep up with constant changes for FMS. She suggested that monthly budget reports include a column for RC expenses and called for RCs to be transparent in sharing information about how they're handling FMS issues. She suggested that DDS provide lump sum payments to RCs to help move payments forward faster and called for compatibility in software systems between DDS and RCs.

Mary Nahidi expressed that there needs to be a mechanism to ensure that services that are not provided through the traditional service delivery system are available to SDP participants.

Michelle Smith stated that FMS providers need to be able to bill code 099 to recuperate staff on-boarding costs.

Debra Adler thanked SSDAC members for their work to improve the SDP and asked what can be done to help train RC case managers so that they are better informed to help people transition to the SDP.

Judy Mark with Disability Voices United expressed concern about the Office of the Ombudsperson's ability to operate independently, expressed that many SDP participants are experiencing racism at their RCs, and urged the SSDAC to change the meeting format to make it more inclusive of members of the public.

8. **SCDD UPDATES**

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided an update on SCDD's SDP activities. SCDD provided feedback on the UCLA SDP evaluation survey in December 2022. As of January 2023, SCDD has held a total of 105 SDP Orientation trainings, reaching 1,528 people. Feedback from Orientation Training participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with 93% of respondents stating that they were satisfied with the training. This presentation can be found at <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac/>.

Members made comments and asked questions about how to simply describe the SDP to people who don't know about the program. They discussed generic examples and stories to help people new to the program understand how SDP can meet their needs. The group discussed the ways that the framework of traditional services is being applied to the SDP in ways that limit participants freedom to be creative with the services and supports they use to meet the goals of their PCPs.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Richard Dier commented that he felt energized by an email he received from his RC about requiring SDP providers to provide reports that they would have had to provide if they had been vendored by the RC. He stated that he wanted to validate the concern about allowing flexibility and creativity within the program.

Judy Mark with Disability Voices United stated that DVU has not received any updates from SCDD or UCLA regarding the UCLA survey. She stated that DVU is hearing the same concerns as SCDD regarding the RC expecting a linear connection between services from budget to spending plan. She asked that SCDD staff speak up about these issues at LAC meetings.

Melissa Ardon, an Independent Facilitator, asked for advice to deal with a client who cannot find an FMS who will provide service. Melissa stated that she believes changes that are coming from DDS directives will make her job more difficult and create more obstacles for her and her clients.

Stella, the parent of a child with autism said that they joined SDP to access a specific service that has been denied everywhere, and that it is still being denied although it has been approved for others at different RCs. She expressed concern about service coordinators' lack of understanding of SDP and the differences in how it is implemented between RCs.

Mary Munoz-Rosales stated that SDP is supposed to allow the greater freedom, but that some Regional Centers micromanage the spending plans and attempt to maintain power over the consumer.

Theresa Scripps stated that SDP needs to be simplified at all levels to increase participation.

Georgina Kier expressed concern that RCs tell participants that the programs authorized under traditional services must be used in SDP.

Jan Opsvig entered a comment in the chat stating that vendors are doubling the rate that they usually charge in traditional services and that the Regional Centers are not transparent with the rate that is charged. She said that vendors are fearful because they don't understand Self-Determination and are concerned about getting paid.

Michelle Smith entered a comment in the chat stating that some RC service coordinators are under the impression that SDP takes away from traditional services, leaving participants under traditional services with less access.

Kristianna Moralls suggested that SCDD or DDS provide trainings for Participant Choice Specialists to inform them that there is no direct link between budget and spending plan.

9. **BEST PRACTICES PROJECT**

Co-Chair Rick Wood introduced SCDD Committee Specialist Robin Maitino-Erben, who provided an overview of the original timeline for the SSDAC Best Practices platform, along with a demonstration of the work that has been done on the SSDAC Best Practices Submission Form and webpage. Committee members and members of the public participated in a Jamboard exercise to provide feedback on the draft webpage and submission form.

The Committee discussed the differences between best and promising practices and how the platform will be used to improve the SDP. Members discussed how involved they would like the full committee to be in the development of these tools, and how much should be done by either the workgroup, SCDD staff or the Co-chairs.

10. **WRAP UP AND NEXT STEPS**

Co-Chair Rick Wood informed the committee that feedback will be analyzed by staff and co-chairs and will be implemented where appropriate. The SSDAC workgroup and staff will finalize the form and platform come back to the full committee for approval.

11. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Debra Adler thanked everyone who is working to make the SDP successful. She stated that the program has changed hers and her daughter's lives and that she is excited about the positive impact of the program.

Judy Mark announced that Disability Voices United has finished a new edition of their "Think Outside the Box" manual, which can be accessed at <https://disabilityvoicesunited.org/resources/publications/>. This publication will also be available in Spanish. DVU has hired staff to work on SDP and is looking to hire an SDP Project Director. Judy asked that anyone who is interested visit the DVU website at <https://disabilityvoicesunited.org/>

Richard Dier voiced concerns about SCDD's proposed unprofessional conduct policy for local SDAC members. He stated that he is concerned about a system where there are different standards applied to members of the same body.

12. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 3:40 P.M. The next meeting will be announced in late April or the first week of May 2023.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 5.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

Co-Chairs Report to the SSDAC

Co-Chairs Viviana Barnwell and Rick Wood will provide an update on SSDAC-related activities that have taken place since the February 9th meeting, including updates on the committee's priorities, the work the DDS SDP Workgroup, and more.

Attachment

None – may be handouts the day of the meeting.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 6.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

SSDAC Reporting Tool

Co-Chair Rick Wood along with SCDD staff, will introduce a new reporting tool that will assist the SSDAC with collecting data and tracking trends.

Members will receive a live demonstration before the Co-Chairs hear feedback from members.

Attachment(s)

None – there will be an online demonstration the day of the meeting.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 7.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

SCDD Updates

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers will provide members with an update on SDP-related activities the Council is participating in, including status of the SDP Evaluation, and more.

Attachment

None – may be handouts the day of the meeting.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 8.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

DDS and Ombudsperson Update

DDS will provide members with an update on SDP-related activities including any relevant updates on recent directives, and more.

In addition, the Ombudsperson will give an update on trends, including any new updates on the state of the FMS' serving clients.

Attachments

None – may be handouts the day of the meeting.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 9.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

Best Practice Platform Updates

In February 2022, the Committee identified and subsequently adopted three targeted priorities One of which is developing a mechanism to share best practices. In February 2023, the Committee provided feedback on the proposed platform. In April 2023, the submission form was widely distributed.

At this meeting, members will be given an update on submissions and asked to share the platform link and submission announcement with their networks.

Attachment(s)

Best/Promising Practices Submission Flier (English)
Best/Promising Practices Submission Flier (Spanish)

Handout(s)

There may be additional handouts the day of the meeting.

ANNOUNCING THE STATEWIDE SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S (SSDAC) BEST PRACTICES PLATFORM.

**Do you have a Self-Determination Program promising or best practice
you would like to share?**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**The SSDAC is currently accepting submissions for its SDP Best
Practices Platform.**

What is the SDP Best Practices Platform (BPP)?

A public platform hosted on the SCDD website for consumers, families, and professionals with resources and proven practices to increase SDP enrollment and improve the effectiveness of the Self-Determination Program.

What is a Promising/Best Practice?

A **promising practice** is something that has been implemented to meet a need and/or address a barrier to SDP.

A **best practice** is a promising practice that has been successfully used repeatedly and is now used by consumers, family members, regional centers and/or community organizations.

Who Can Submit a Promising/Best Practice?

Any member or chair of the Local SDP Advisory Committee, SCDD Disability Expert Advisory Panel, or a Regional Center Participant Choice Specialist.

How Can I Submit a Promising/Best Practice?

Complete a submission form by clicking this link: [SDP BPP Submission Form](#)

Tips for Submissions

Gather all information beforehand such as proof or examples of how your BPP has worked in your area(s), how it's been implemented or plans for implementation and what improved outcomes you have seen because of this BPP.

What is the Process is Used to Determine a BPP?

- Step 1. Complete submission form.
- Step 2. SCDD ensures all information is complete.
- Step 3. SSDAC co-chairs review.
- Step 4. SSDAC Workgroup conducts final review.
- Step 5. Approved submissions posted on website.

What Else Do I Need to Know?

If you have a recommendation for a BPP and are not one of the individuals identified under "Who Can Submit," please email Robin Maitino-Erben: robin.maitino@scdd.ca.gov.

ANUNCIANDO LA PLATAFORMA DE MEJORES PRÁCTICAS DEL COMITÉ ESTATAL DE ASESORÍA DEL PROGRAMA DE AUTODETERMINACIÓN.

¿Tiene usted una práctica mejor o prometedora del Programa de Autodeterminación (SDP, por sus siglas en inglés) que le gustaría compartir?

¡QUEREMOS ESCUCHAR DE USTED!

El Comité Estatal del Programa de Autodeterminación (SSDAC, por sus siglas en inglés) actualmente está aceptando entregas para su Plataforma de Mejores Prácticas de SDP.

¿Qué es la Plataforma de Mejores Prácticas (BPP, por sus siglas en inglés) de SDP?

Una plataforma pública encontrada en el sitio web de SCDD para consumidores, familias y profesionales con recursos y prácticas comprobadas para aumentar la inscripción en el Programa de Autodeterminación (SDP, por sus siglas en inglés) y mejorar la efectividad de SDP.

¿Que es una Práctica Prometedora/Mejor?

Una **práctica prometedora** es algo que se ha implementado para satisfacer una necesidad y/o abordar una barrera en el Programa de Autodeterminación (SDP).

Una **mejor practica** es una práctica prometedora que se ha utilizado con éxito repetidamente y ahora la utilizan los consumidores, los miembros de la familia, los centros regionales y/u las organizaciones comunitarias.

¿Quién puede entregar Practicas Mejores/Prometedoras?

Cualquier miembro o presidente del comité local de asesoría de SDP, el panel asesor de expertos en discapacidades de SCDD, o un especialista en la elección del participante del centro regional.

¿Como puedo entregar una práctica prometedora/mejor?

Completa un formulario de envío [haciendo clic aquí](#) y seleccionando 'Español' en el menú que se encuentra en la esquina derecha.

Consejos para las entregas

Reúna toda la información de antemano, como pruebas o ejemplos de cómo ha funcionado su práctica mejor/prometedora (BPP) en su(s) área(s), cómo se ha implementado o los planes para la implementación, y qué resultados mejorados ha visto gracias a esta práctica (BPP).

¿Cuál es el proceso que se usa para determinar una Practica Mejor/Prometedora (BPP)?

- Paso 1. Complete el formulario de entrega.
- Paso 2. SCDD asegura que toda la información este completa.
- Paso 3. Los vicepresidentes del SSDAC lo repasan.
- Paso 4. El grupo de trabajo de SSDAC lleva a cabo el repaso final.
- Paso 5. Las entregas aprobadas se publican en el sitio de web.

¿Qué más necesito saber?

Si tiene una recomendación para un BPP y no es una de las personas identificadas en "Quién puede entregar", envíe un correo electrónico a Robin Maitino-Erben: robin.maitino@scdd.ca.gov.

June 14, 2023

AGENDA ITEM 10.

POTENTIAL ACTION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

SSDAC Priority: Disparities

In February 2022, the Committee identified and subsequently adopted three targeted priorities, one of which was project that targeted disparities.

At the December 2022 meeting, members heard from a Disparities Panel intended to assist in creating an outline for a disparities project. Committee members were divided on an approach to address disparities and asked that the SSDAC Workgroup meet again to discuss next steps.

At the February 2023 meeting, members were given an update and advised that at this time the workgroup was focusing on launching the Best/Promising Practices Platform and would revisit this priority in the future.

At this meeting, the Co-Chairs will discuss possible approaches to address this priority.

Attachment(s)

None – may be handouts the day of the meeting.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 11.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

Public Comments

This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.

June 14, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM 12.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – SSDAC

Meeting Wrap-Up and Adjournment

Members will discuss next steps and provide direction to the SSDAC Workgroup before adjourning the meeting.