

Dear SSAN,

I am writing to recommend Sonya Force for membership in the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network. Sonya is a dedicated advocate for herself and her communities who was key in Redwood Coast Regional Center's success on Grassroots Day this year. I have also seen her take on a leadership role in committee work within our client leadership team (where self-advocates make decisions about grant funding) called RISE. She is excellent at supporting peers to make meaningful choices on complicated topics.

Sonya is a very thoughtful and collaborative person who has a wide vision. I believe Sonya has a rare combination of skills and perspective, and that she would make a valuable contribution to the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network and help improve the lives of people with disabilities throughout California.

Thank you for considering Sonya, and my recommendation.

Warmly,

Elizabeth Hassler (she/her)

Client Advocate -- Humboldt and Del Norte Counties

Redwood Coast Regional Center

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Dear SSAN,

This email is to recommend Sonya Force as the North Coast representative to the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network. Sonya is a member of the North Coast Regional Advisory Committee. She came to us through a local self-advocacy group known as RISE. RISE has been tasked with ensuring that the HCBS rules are understood and put into practice by local service providers. Sonya has been a key player in this, having been selected through an application and interview process for this purpose.

While I have known Sonya for a short while, her participation in the RAC has been insightful and has added a strong self-advocate's voice to its deliberations and conversations. It is my expectation that she will do the same for SSAN.

Sincerely,

Julie Eby-McKenzie | Regional Manager, North Coast Region

State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, Del Norte Counties

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Located on Pomo Tribal Territory

www.scdd.ca.gov

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