

# SCDD Report to SSDAC

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Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director  
State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
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# Overview

- ▶ SDP Data Collection
- ▶ Update on Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)
- ▶ Update on Self-Determination Evaluation

# SDP Data Collection

- Sources:

- Law

- WIC 4519.5; WIC 4685.8(x)

- Contract

- WIC 4519.5

- Practice

- More

- Welfare & Institutions Code 4519.5: [Law section \(ca.gov\)](#)

- Welfare & Institutions Code 4586(x): [Law section \(ca.gov\)](#)

# SDP Data Collection

## WIC 4519.5

The department and the regional centers shall annually collaborate to compile and report, consistent with applicable federal and state privacy laws, data, including deidentified data in accordance with subdivision (m), in a uniform manner relating to purchase of service authorization, utilization, and expenditure by each regional center with respect to all of the following:

- ▶ (1) The age of the consumer, categorized by the following:
  - (A) Birth to two years of age, inclusive.
  - (B) Three to 21 years of age, inclusive.
  - (C) Twenty-two years of age and older.
- ▶ (2) Race or ethnicity of the consumer.
- ▶ (3) Preferred language spoken by the consumer, and other related details, as feasible.
- ▶ (4) Disability detail, in accordance with the categories established by subdivision (a) of Section 4512, and, if applicable, a category specifying that the disability is unknown.
- ▶ (5) Residence type, subcategorized by age, race or ethnicity, and preferred language.

# SDP Data Collection

## WIC 4685.8 (x)

The department shall annually provide the following information to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature:

- 1) Number and characteristics of participants, by regional center, including the number of participants who entered the program upon movement from a developmental center.
- 2) Types and amount of services and supports purchased under the SDP, by regional center.
- 3) Range and average of individual budgets, by regional center, including adjustments to the budget to address the adjustments permitted.
- 4) Number & outcome of appeals concerning individual budgets, by regional center.
- 5) Number & outcome of fair hearing appeals, by regional center.
- 6) Number of participants who voluntarily withdraw from the SDP and a summary of the reasons why, by regional center.
- 7) Number of participants who are subsequently determined to no longer be eligible for the SDP and a summary of the reasons why, by regional center.

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- ▶ 14 Month Update (July 2022 - August 2023)
  - 156\* training sessions
    - 100 English
    - 52 Spanish
    - 3 Vietnamese
    - 1 Chinese (Mandarin)
    - 1 Korean
    - 1 Tagalog

\*some sessions offered multiple languages

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- ▶ 14 Month Update (July 2022 - August 2023)
  - 2,993 participants
    - 2,568 English
    - 363 Spanish
    - 27 Vietnamese
    - 21 Korean
    - 7 Chinese (Mandarin)
    - 7 Tagalog

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- ▶ Who's Attending\*?
  - 78% Family Members
  - 11% Consumers
  - 11% Professionals
  
  - Ethnicity\*\*
    - 18% Hispanic/Latino/Latinx
    - 30% White
    - 12% Asian Pacific Islander
    - 8% Black/African American
    - 11% Other
    - 22% Decline to answer

\*Data summary from July & August 2023

\*\*% rounded to nearest whole number



# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- ▶ What are they saying\*?
  - 90% find information useful
  - Do you plan on enrolling in SDP?
    - 73% yes
    - 21% undecided
    - 3% no
    - 3% already enrolled in SDP
- ▶ Upcoming Enhancements
  - Armenian, Chinese, ASL, Farsi, Arabic and Hmong Orientations
- ▶ If you would like to collaborate on a dedicated training in any of these languages, please reach out to Christine Tolbert at [christine.tolbert@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:christine.tolbert@scdd.ca.gov)

\*Data summary from July & August 2023

# Self-Determination Program (SDP) Evaluation

June 2023

## Our Report

California's SDP law requires us to report on:

- SDP users' experiences,
- How well SDP is meeting its original goals, and
- Changes that would make SDP better.

## Evaluation Partners

- State Council on Developmental Disabilities (*lead*)
- UCLA Tarjan Center
- USC University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (*data collection & evaluation*)
- Disability Rights California (*collaborator*)

## Our Findings

- SDP promotes self-determination
- SDP users say they like the program and would recommend SDP to others
- Users support SDP goals but want some things to change. They find SDP hard to sign up for, get information about, understand, and navigate.

# Program Evaluation Phases

N = 604

## Phase 1 (P1)

### Quantitative Survey

- December 2022
- 242 respondents

## Phase 2 (P2)

### Zoom Focus Groups

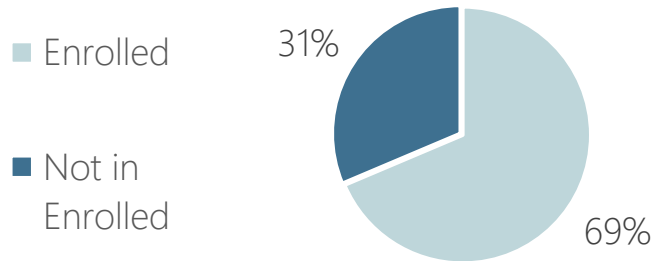
- April 2023
- 97 participants

## Phase 3 (P3)

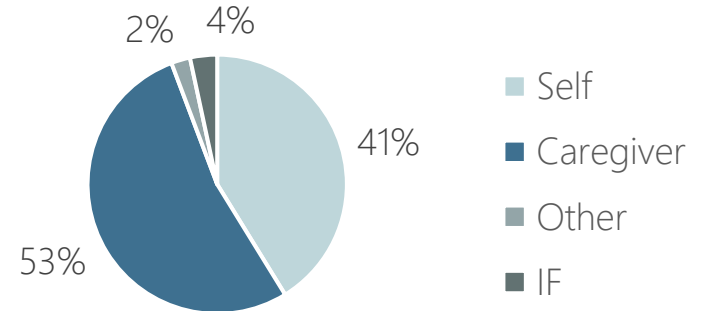
### Qualitative Survey

- May 2023
- 265 respondents

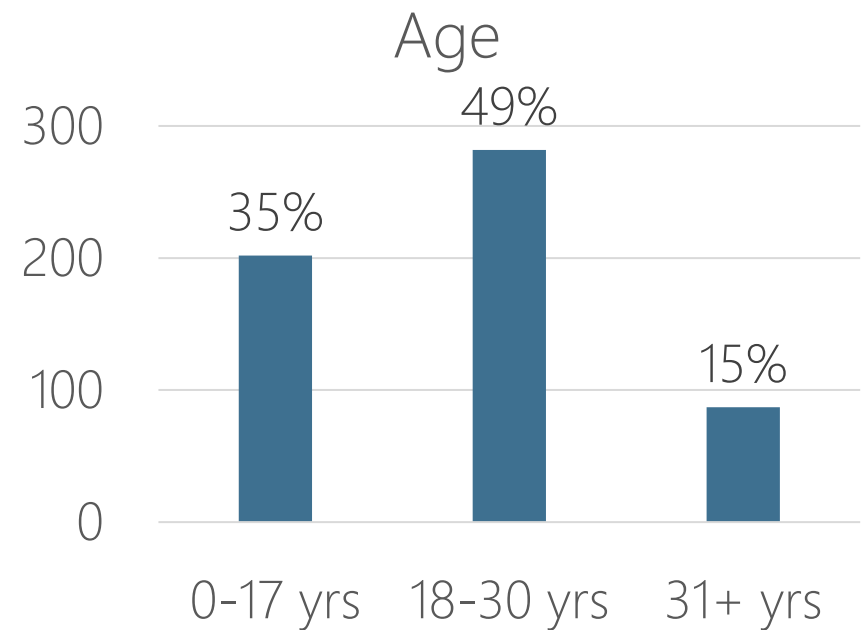
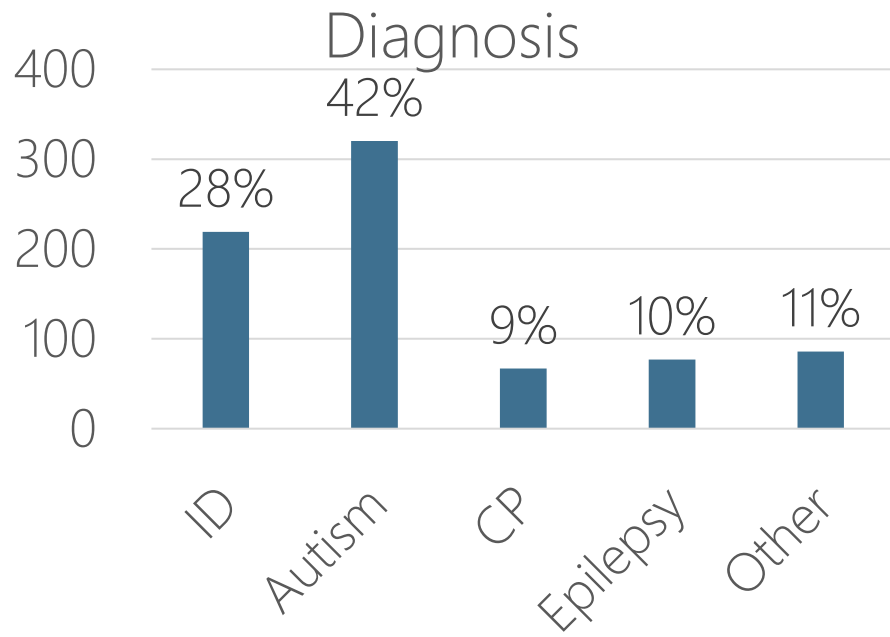
Enrollment Status



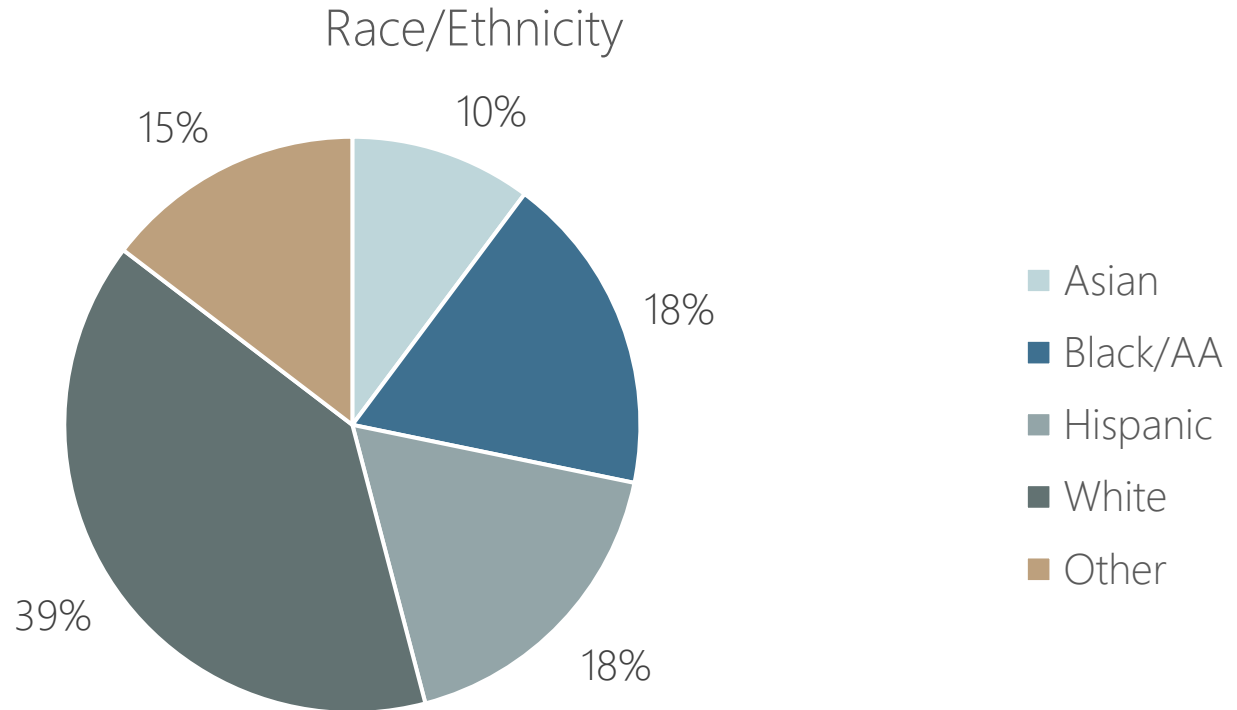
Participant Type



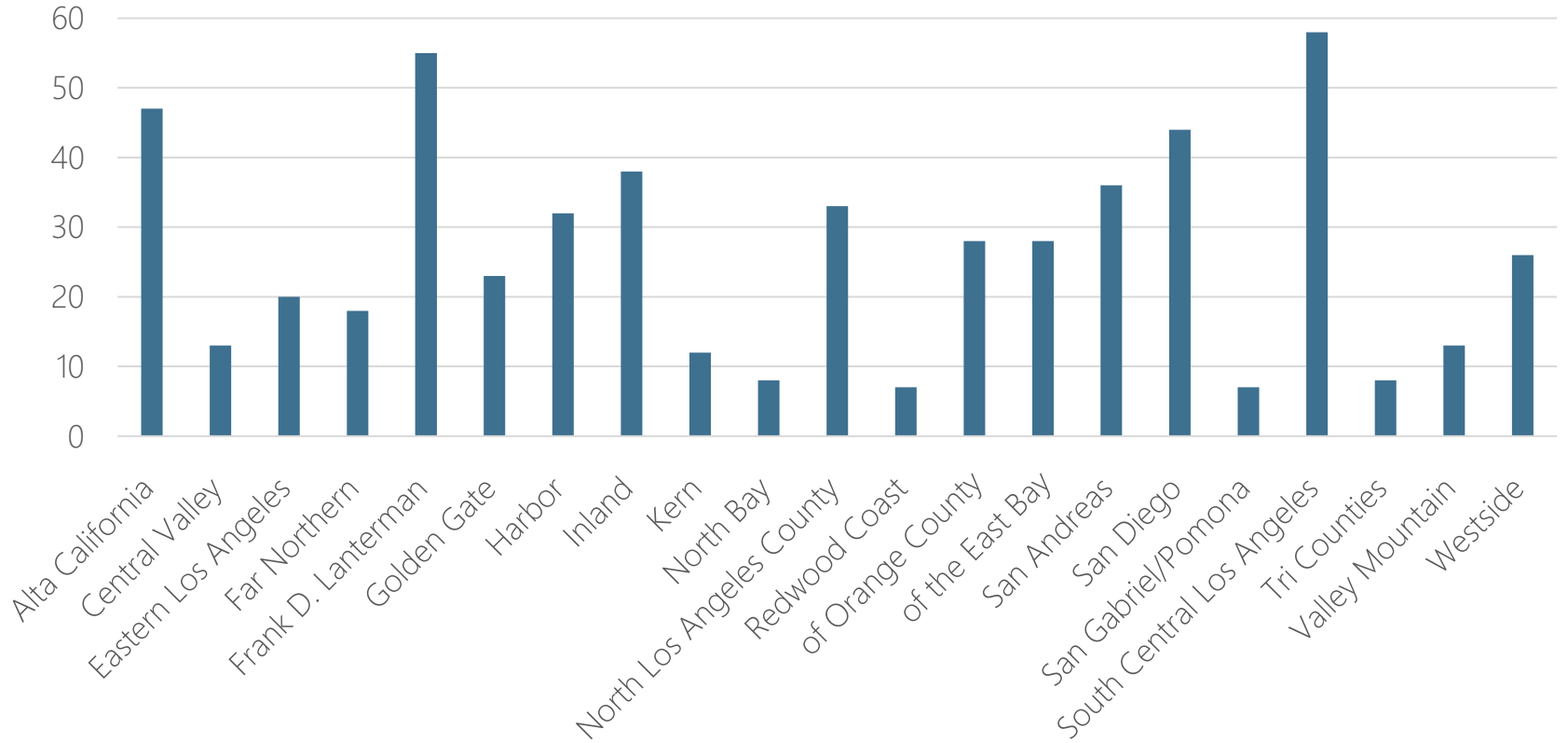
## Participant Diagnosis and Age



# Participant Race/Ethnicity



# Participants from each Regional Center



# Key Findings

- **Users Agree with SDP Goals and Values** (P2, P3)

Most agreed that people with disabilities and their families should:

- Have more freedom and control over their lives, and
- Be empowered to choose their providers and supports.

SDP goals and values inspire hope, and participants want the program to succeed.

- **SDP Helps Promote Self-Determination** (P1, P2, P3)

SDP improves the quality of life of SDP participants, and supports a system where users have more freedom, power, and support to participate in and approve their own plans and decisions.

# Key Findings

- **Participants Like the SDP** (P1, P2, P3)

Most are:

- Happy with the program and would recommend it to others,
- Thankful to be in the Self-Determination Program; say it is “life-changing,” and
- Believe it is the right choice for them.

- **Participants Want SDP to be Easier, with More Support** (P2, P3)

They say:

- Signing up for SDP and getting information about the program is hard,
- Navigating the program takes a lot of time and effort, and
- They want more information, better trained staff, and more support.

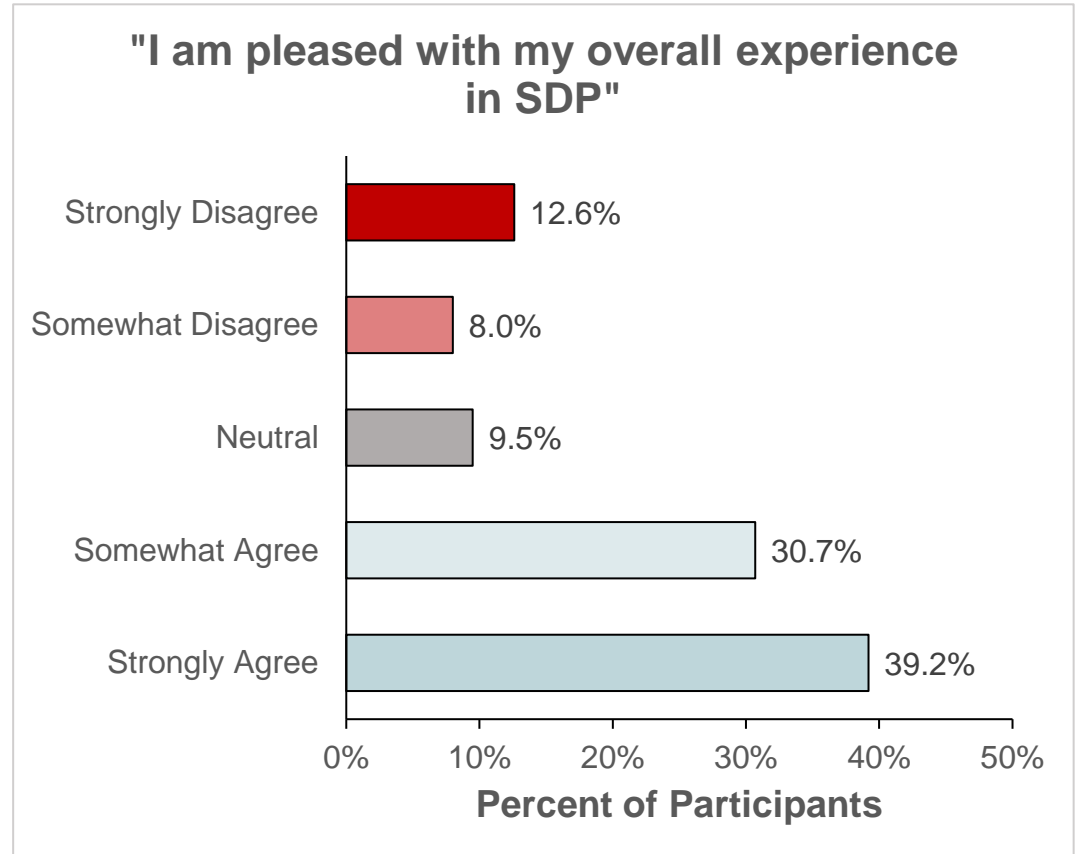


# Key Findings

- **Some Parts of SDP Are Not Fair** (P1, P2, P3)
  - Users described differences in budgets, providers, and services based on their race, Regional Center, disability, social background, primary language, and where they live (P2, P3)
  - BIPOC participants get less support, are less satisfied, but more likely to report positive outcomes (P1, P3)
  - SDP is harder for younger participants (P1, P3)
  - SDP is harder for participants with autism (P1, P3)

# Most users agreed with the statement:

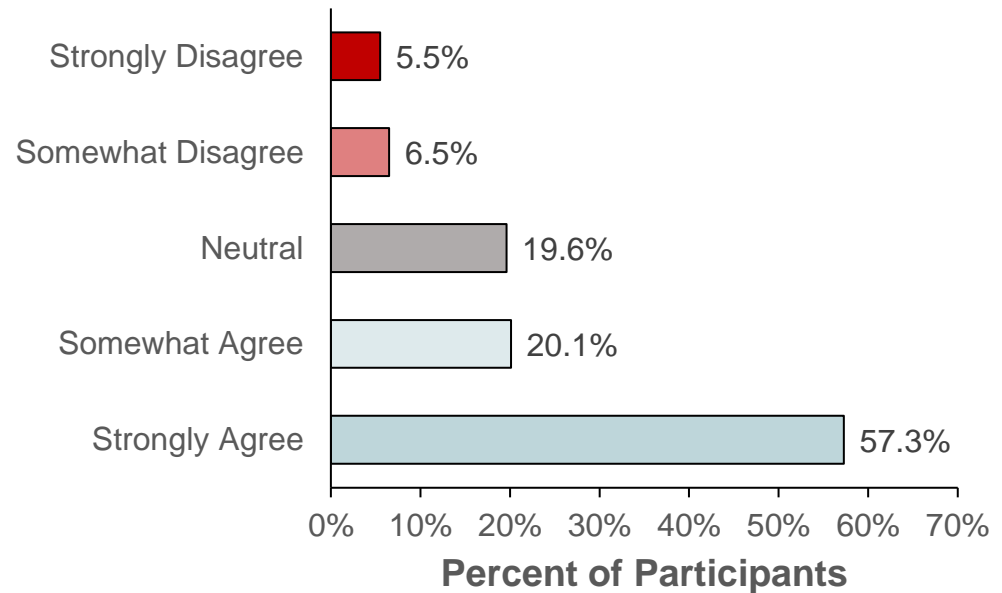
*“I am pleased with my overall experience in the Self-Determination Program.”*



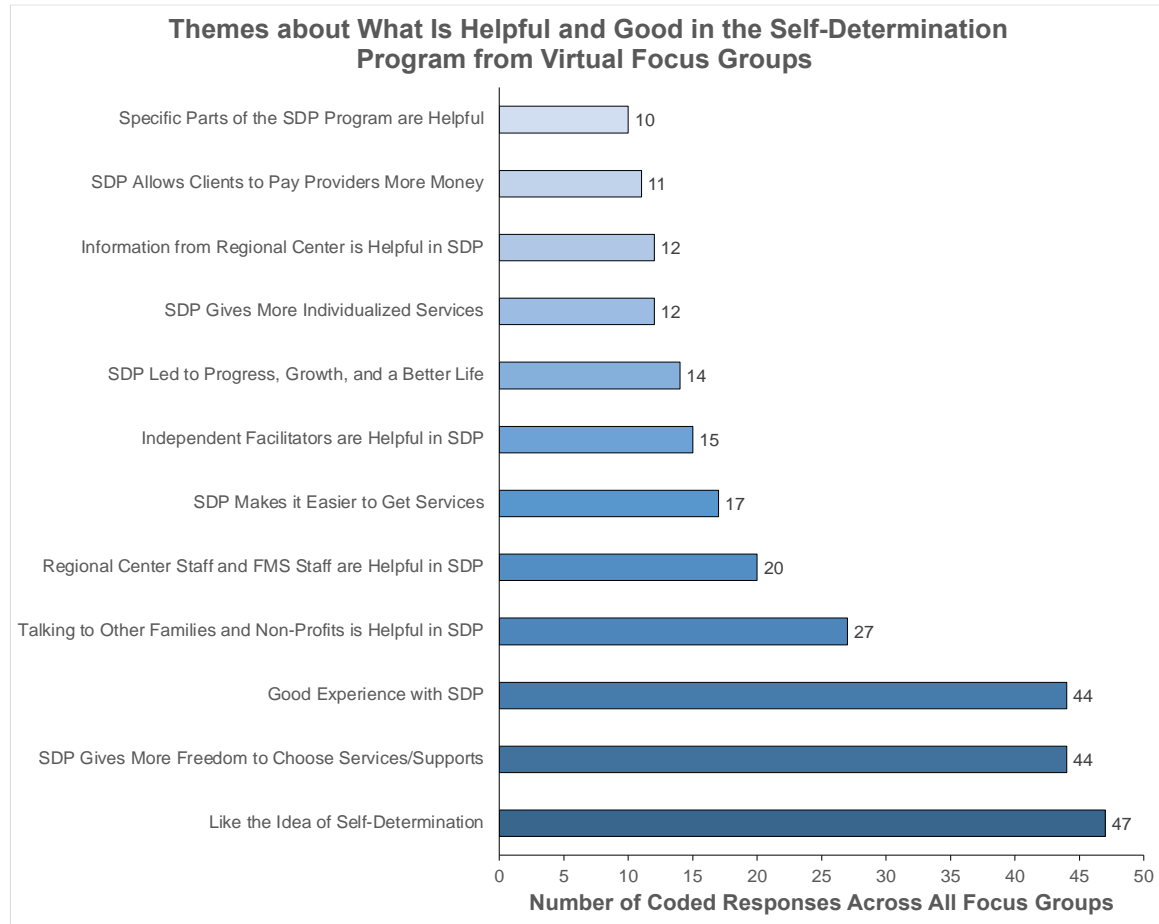
Most users would **recommend SDP**, and agree with this statement:

*“I would recommend the Self-Determination Program.”*

**“I would recommend the Self-Determination Program”**

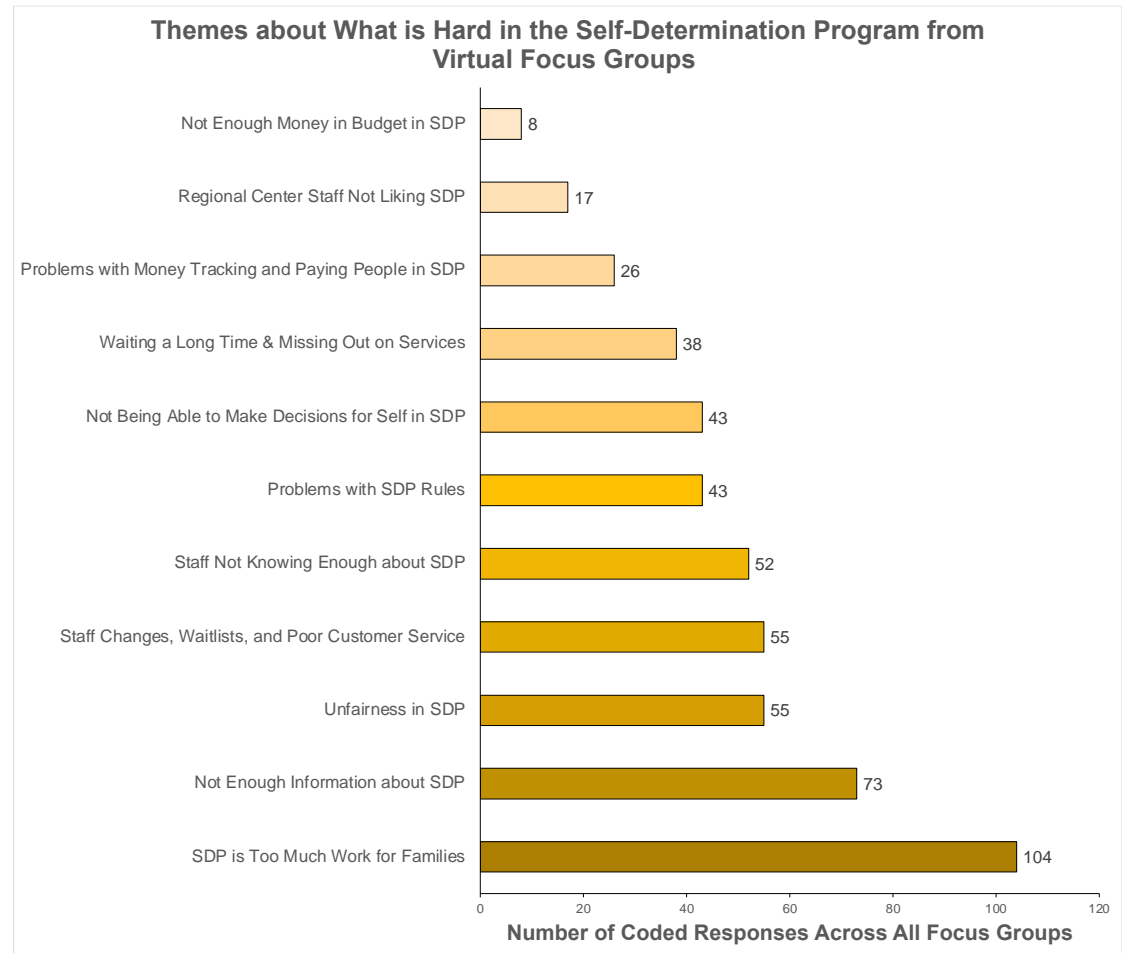


# Key Findings: What users like about SDP



# Key Findings:

Users identified these problems and challenges



# Recommendations

## By Stage: Interested:

- Improve access to information
- Require RCs to share information about SDP
- Enhance outreach and awareness
- Improve peer counseling
- Develop clear and accessible guidance

SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) EVALUATION

# Recommendations

## By Stage: Enrollment:

- Streamline entry process

## By Stage: Budget:

- Standardize for efficiency and consistency

## By Stage: FMS:

- Increase FMS rates (May 2023)

SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) EVALUATION

# Recommendations

## By Stage: Getting Services:

- Provide more guidance on spending plans
- Establish publicly available service provider director or virtual resource binder
- Clarify and support the roles of system navigators

SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) EVALUATION



# Recommendations

## System Level: Workforce

- Leverage SDP to improve workforce recruitment, hiring, and retention

## System Level: Independent Facilitators

- Improve compensation and capacity
- Allow IF pay to be allocated as a line item in SDP budget
- Ensure adequate network of IFs

SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) EVALUATION

# Recommendations

## Ensure a more equitable system

- Tailor supports to underserved communities

SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) EVALUATION

# Thank you!

Questions? – Comments?

SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) EVALUATION