

State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Executive Director Report

September 19, 2023

Aaron Carruthers





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**HISPANIC
HERITAGE
MONTH**

Inclusion really is not about just who's in or who's out. Inclusion is about understanding the diversity of all of our lifestyles and all of our preferences.”

DR. VICTOR PINEDA

Social Development Scholar a
Disability Rights Advocate

Overview

- State Plan Update: Wrapping up the federal year
- Statewide Self Advocate Network (SSAN): Setting strategic goals
- Labor Union Agreement: Supporting SCDD employees
- White House: Invitation to a conversation about California

State Plan Update: wrapping up the federal year

- The State Plan is SCDD's contract with the federal Administration on Community Living (ACL) for federal funding
 - The plan reflects the Council's values and how it will bring change in California
- The State Plan is a 5-year plan (2022-2026)
 - Each year begins October 1 and ends September 30 (same as a federal year)
- We are wrapping up the work from this past year (second out of five years)
- Highlights:
 - In only 2 years, finished 4 out of 11 objectives
 - Revised to increase the goals for those objectives
 - More than 50% done on 2 more objectives

State Plan Update: wrapping up the federal year

- Next Steps:
 - State Plan staff begin preparing the Program Performance Report (PPR)
 - PPR is report to ACL on work done last year
 - PPR includes data and stories of work and impact
 - Will include update on progress for all goals
 - Last week ACL approved SCDD's workplans for 2024, 2025, 2026
 - Workplans accomplish rest of the objectives
 - Reminder: Cycle 45 grants end September 30, Cycle 46 grants begin Oct 1
 - Cycle 45: Acorns to Oak Trees, Jazz Hands for Autism, Adaptive Parent Project, The Kelsey
 - Cycle 46: The Arc of SF, BuildAbility, PESA

Statewide Self Advocate Network (SSAN): Setting strategic goals

- Statewide Self Advocate Network (SSAN) is a Council self-advocacy project
 - Representatives from throughout the state, from federal partners
 - Councilmember Alex Reys is the Council's delegate to SSAN
- Met in person in September 2023



Statewide Self Advocate Network (SSAN): Setting strategic goals

- SSAN September 2023 focus:
 - Ways to be more effective in their work, both individually and collectively as a self-advocacy network
 - Brainstorm ideas for projects/activities members can do at the regional level in each goal area: Self-Advocacy, Systems Change, and Capacity-Building
 - Restructured workgroups to focus on 4 short-term projects in the area of employment.
 - 1. Employment (NDEAM) Webinar - October 30th
 - 2. Employment tip-sheets
 - 3. Success Stories
 - 4. Disability Awareness Training

Labor Union Agreement: Supporting SCDD employees

- September 12, 2023, Service International Employees Union (SEIU) member ratified a contract with the state.
 - Includes 3% for employees beginning July 1, 2023
 - Includes 7% for one particular employee classification (Office Technician)
 - Ensures entry level state job pays \$25/hr
 - Important and needed raise to support employees for their hard work and to keep up with inflation
 - Next step:
 - Modify the budget display adopted by Council for 2023-2024 and bring to the Executive Committee to pay for the raise

White House: Invitation to a conversation about California

- Invitation to the White House for Communities in Action: Building a Better California
- October 5, 2023
- Community leaders working on behalf of their communities to create opportunities and improve people's everyday lives



White House: Invitation to a conversation about California

- Biden-Harris administration to share impact in California
- Small group, approx. 40

- Question for Council:

What one message or ask would you like me to carry forward to the White House for issues that matter most to people with IDD and their families?



THANK YOU!

