



# NOTICE/AGENDA

## STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

This meeting is being held in person. Members of the public may participate in person, or telephonically. Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at [www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov).

**Physical Location:**

DoubleTree by Hilton,  
2001 Point West Way,  
Sacramento CA 95815

**TELECONFERENCE:** (669) 900-9128  
**MEETING ID:** 836 5717 1546  
**MEETING PASSWORD:** 75583

## STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

POSTED AT: [www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov)

**DATE:** May 20, 2024

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR:**

Eric Ybarra

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**Item 1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM**

**Item 3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Item 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

This item is for members of the public only to provide comments and/or present information to the Committee on matters not on the agenda. Each person will be afforded up to 3 minutes to speak.

Additionally, there will be up to 5 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.

**Item 5. APPROVAL OF MARCH 18, 2024 MINUTES Page 5**



**Item 6. REVIEW OF COUNCIL BUSINESS Page 11**

Presented by: SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers

- A. SCDD agency updates
- B. Statewide updates
- C. Nation updates

**ITEMS RELATED TO COUNCIL BUSINESS ARE INCLUDED IN THE COUNCIL PACKET**

**Item 7. EMERGING ISSUES AND CONCERNS Page 13**

- A. Updates/concerns from regional advisory committees
- B. Regional emerging issues or barriers to self-advocacy
- C. Recommendations for future meetings and projects

**Item 8. DISCUSSION: MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS, AVAILABLE SUPPORTS AND THE COUNCIL'S WORK** **Page 15**

Presented by: Lisa Hooks, SCDD Sacramento Regional Office Manager

**Item 9. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: July 15, 2024

**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 Riana Hardin at (916) 263-8196 or [Riana.Hardin@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:Riana.Hardin@scdd.ca.gov). Please provide at least 5 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.**

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**MAY 20, 2024**  
**AGENDA ITEM 5**  
**ACTION ITEM**

**SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAAC)**  
**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Approval of MARCH 18, 2024 Minutes***

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***Action Recommended***

Approve the March 18, 2024 SAAC Minutes

***Attachments***

- March 18, 2024 SAAC Minutes

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**SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAAC) MEETING  
MINUTES  
March 18, 2024**

**Members Present**

Nicole Adler (SA)  
Julie Gaona (SA)  
Julio Garnica (SA)  
Sonia Jones (SA)  
Nestor Nieves (SA)  
Kara Ponton (SA)  
Alex Reyes (SA)  
Rosanna Ryan (SA)  
Wesley Witherspoon (SA)  
Eric Ybarra (SA)

**Others Attending**

Rihana Ahmad  
Julie Beadle-Brown  
Riana Hardin  
Dena Hernandez  
Beth Hurn  
Stacey Martinez  
Mark Melason  
Charles Nguyen

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Eric Ybarra called the meeting to order at 1:34 P.M.

**2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

A quorum was established.

**3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Committee members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

# DRAFT

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

## 5. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 22, 2024 MINUTES

Members reviewed the minutes from the January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 meeting. The minutes can be found starting on page 7 of the March 2024 SAAC packet.

### ACTION 1

It was moved/seconded (Witherspoon [SA]/ Ryan [SA]) and carried to approve the January 22<sup>nd</sup> minutes as presented. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

## 6. MEMBER UPDATES

Members shared their concerns about the ongoing need to promote inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of community living. Members emphasized the importance of getting involved in issues that are important to them. Members continue to want to see a greater awareness of the work that SCDD does. The topics of Self-Determination, mental health, marriage and benefits, cuts to services and supports, employment, emergency preparedness, transportation, and voting access were brought up by Committee members. Members shared concerns about possible budget cuts and their impact on supports and services for people with I/DD.

## 7. STATEWIDE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK (SSAN) REPORT

SCDD SSAN Representative Alex Reyes provided a verbal report of the December SSAN Meeting.

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Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate

FA = Family Advocate

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## **DRAFT**

### **8. REVIEW OF COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SCDD Manager of State Plan and Self-Advocacy Rihana Ahmad asked for committee feedback on the plain language of three (3) Requests for Proposals (RFPs) under consideration by the Council. Members requested that the social isolation project also include an effort to help people who have restricted mobility and are unable to attend many in-person activities. Members shared concerns about connecting to advocates in both rural and urban settings.

### **9. PERSON-CENTERED ADVOCACY VISION EDUCATION (PAVE) PROJECT**

California Community Living Network (CCLN) Executive Officer Mark Melanson and Person-Centered Advocacy Vision Education (PAVE) Project Manager Dr. Julie Beadle Brown ask for Committee feedback on four (4) draft plain language resources under development related to four (4) regional center service codes: Supported Living, Independent Living, Respite, and Employment. Members shared concerns about how children with disabilities who have parents with disabilities would be able to access services and supports. Members were also concerned that the Employment resource did not include enough employment options.

### **10. DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH DISCUSSION**

This item was tabled due to time constraints.

### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 P.M.

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Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate

FA = Family Advocate

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**MAY 20, 2024**  
**AGENDA ITEM 6**  
**INFORMATION ITEM**

**SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Review of Council Business***

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State Council on Developmental Disabilities staff will review Council business with the Committee. This item may include:

- A. SCDD agency updates
- B. Statewide updates
- C. National updates

**Items related to this agenda item can be found in the Council packet.**

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**MAY 20, 2024**  
**AGENDA ITEM 7**  
**INFORMATION ITEM**

**SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Emerging Issues and Concerns***

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Each member will have a chance to give updates on local and regional concern(s) for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Updates may include:

- A. Updates/concerns from Regional Advisory Committees
- B. Regional emerging issues or barriers to self-advocacy
- C. Recommendations for future meetings and/or projects and activities

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**MAY 20, 2024**

**AGENDA ITEM 8  
INFORMATION ITEM**

**SELF-ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Discussion: Mental Health Awareness, Available Supports and the Council's Work***

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Since 1949, the month of May has been recognized as Mental Health Awareness month to highlight how important mental health is to a person's overall well being. The Council has collected data, received individual stories from people, and documented the trend of an increase awareness of mental health challenges, including feelings of isolation, and lack of access to services and supports, for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) during the current 5-year State Plan.

This agenda Item will include an overview of some of the Council's efforts to address the mental health needs of Californians with I/DD.

Following an overview of Council's efforts, members will have a chance to participate in a conversation about access to mental health supports and services. Members are encouraged to share ideas about opportunities to strengthen support for people with I/DD in California during this agenda item.

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**MAY 20, 2024**  
**AGENDA ITEM 11**  
**INFORMATION ITEM**

**SELF ADVOCATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAAC)**  
**STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Adjournment***

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The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2024.

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