



**Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2022**

Attending Members

Betty Monterrey (SGPRC)
Carla Lehmann (WRC)
Charles Nutt (FNRC)
Harold Fujita (Co-Chair)
Irene Litherland (RCEB)
Lori Walker (NLACRC)
Joyce Clark (SDRC)
Judy Mark (WRC)
Lisa Cooley (ACRC)
Maia Pawooskar (IRC)
Mariela Ramos (VMRC)
Martha Johansen (SARC)
Michelle Smith (CVRC)
Pierre Landry (FDLRC)
Rick Wood (Co-Chair, KRC)
Rosalinda Garcia (HRC)
Sascha Bittner (GGRC)
Sherry Johnson (SCLARC)
Tim Jin (RCOC)

Others Attending

Aaron Carruthers
Alejandra Rivera
Aminah Abdul-Hakim
Andrea Davis
Anna Keller
Anne De Medeiros
Arianne Campbell
Beth Martinko
Bhumit Shah
Brian Weisel
Brian Winfield
Carola Camacho-Maranon
Chris Arroyo
Chris Miller
Christine Tolbert
Cindy Cox
Connie Lapin
Crystal Chavez
Danielle Isola
Dena Hernandez

Others Attending

Faviola Cruz
Fernando Gomez
Gabriella Ohmstede
Gilda Giron
Huyen Tran
Itzel Rodriguez
Jennifer Parsons
Julie LaRose
Karen Bonacci
Kathy Affeltranger
Kidada Medina
Lisa Hooks
Lori Walker
Lourdes Gomez
Mari Bel Trujillo
Mariela Ramos
Mary Ellen Stives
Michelle Burns
Miguel Lugo
Mozh Akbari

Others Attending

Naomi Hagel
Nicole Patterson
Patricia Herrera
Peter Mendoza
Robin Maitino-Erben
Riana Hardin
Richard Dier
Robert Dhondrup
Rosie Lasca
Sandra Van Scotter
Scarlett VonThenen
Sheila Keys
Sofia Cervantes
Sonni Charness
Suzy Requarth
Vi Ibarra
Vicki Smith
Victoria Schlussler
Yaritza Sanchez

Absent Members

Redwood Coast RC
Tri-Counties RC
East LA RC

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Rick Wood (FA) called the meeting to order at 10:34 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 JUNE 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved/seconded (Bittner/Cooley) and carried to approve the June 28, 2022, meeting minutes as corrected. (Motion passed unanimously by acclamation [see page 1 for a list of voting members], see corrections below).

Correction 1

Page 1 of the minutes, Martha Johanson's name is listed twice under "Attending Members" and misspelled. Correct spelling is "Johanson."

Correction 2

Correct the spelling of Mariela Ramos' name.

5. **CO-CHAIR REPORT TO SSDAC**

Co-Chair Rick Wood began his report by requesting, without objection, if the agenda order of the day could be changed to move the SCDD Update to after the 2022-23 Activity Priorities update and the Next Steps item to the end of the day.

Co-Chair Wood then provided members with an update on the work of the workgroup since the last meeting, including activities engaged in on the disparities project before segueing into updates on the work of the DDS SDP Workgroup, that included status of the FMS crisis, problems with service code 099, upcoming directives, what the current data is showing and more.

Co-Chair Wood concluded his report by stating that there is a vacancy on the SSDAC Workgroup. Members of the SSDAC that are interested in serving should email Robin Maitino-Erben at robin.maitino@scdd.ca.gov.

Public Comment

Members of the public expressed interest in serving on the workgroup. Co-Chair Wood reminded the public members that the SSDAC Workgroup is made up of chairs of the Local SDAC.

A family member from the North Bay Regional Center expressed concern about the FMS crisis. Debby Hight, NBRC SDP Local Advisory Committee Chair provided her email address in the comments to assist this family member.

6. **DDS AND OMBUDSPERSON UPDATE**

Vicki Smith, Suzy Requarth, Brian Winfield, Cynthia Soloman-Ponce and Jennifer Parsons from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) provided members with an update on a variety of SDP-related topics including the number of individuals enrolled in SDP and receiving services (922 people as of Oct 31, 2022).

Other updates included revisions that are being made to the directives on spending plans and pilot funds, and guidance that is being developed on purchasing goods and services. DDS' full report can be found at <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac/>.

Following the presentation, DDS took questions from the members. Due to time constraints, members of the public were encouraged to email their questions to either Robin Maitino-Erben at robin.maitino@scdd.ca.gov to forward DDS or send them directly to DDS at sdp@dds.ca.gov.

7. **STATUS OF 2022-23 ACTIVITY PRIORITIES**

Co-Chair Wood provided an update on the three activity priorities the Committee adopted at the February 15, 2022, meeting. These activities included 1.) developing a platform to share best practices 2.) identifying trainings and/or providing feedback on trainings for Service Coordinators, and 3.) engaging in disparity outreach and/or developing an educational video targeted at ethnic disparities. The workplans for these activities are posted on the SCDD website and can be viewed by clicking this link: [Dec.16.22-Packet](#). The highlights from this update are as follows:

Best Practices Platform

The webpage has been built and is awaiting further action from the workgroup to establish a review and protocol process so we can begin collecting submissions and populating the platform.

Service Coordinator Training Recommendations

The work being done to collect best practices and conceptualize a disparity project will inform the recommendations made to DDS on trainings. Therefore, staff will continue to track the feedback received and use it to inform the recommendations that will be crafted at a later date.

8. **SCDD UPDATES**

SCDD Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided an update on Council SDP-related activities, beginning with the SDP Evaluation. UCLA recently

released a survey for Self-Determination Program participants. This was a collaboration with SCDD and DRC. The survey aligned with the mandates in statute. Initial feedback suggests that revisions need to be made. The comments received include:

- The survey is too long.
- The survey questions feel clinical.
- The terminology is national and not California-specific.
- The survey should ask questions to promote the benefits of SDP.

Executive Director Carruthers invited those who wished to provide comment on the survey to email them to tarjancenter@mednet.ucla.edu.

Executive Director Carruthers introduced SCDD's new SDP Manager, Christine Tolbert, to the members. Ms. Tolbert took over this position on October 17th.

Members reviewed an overview of the latest data on the Statewide Orientation. This data, along with the complete report can be found at <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac/>.

Executive Director Carruthers concluded his report by providing some best business practice reminders to members, stating that there have been some concerns raised by some members of the local advisory committees and members of the public surrounding transparency and conflicts of interest. He believes much of this can be addressed with initial and ongoing training.

Following the report, several members of the public had questions and concerns regarding the SDP Evaluation Survey. Executive Director Carruthers encouraged those individuals to email their comments to the email address provided.

9. **DVU: ADVANCING SELF-DETERMINATION**

DVU President, Judy Mark provided members with highlights from the December 2nd Breaking Through Barriers, Advancing Self-Determination Conference. The big take aways included the need address the continued barriers participants and family members face with FMS, Independent Facilitators and inequities among the Spanish speaking community.

Ms. Mark showed the following impactful video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b-eC6bOrKtK> that showed clips of various

conference breakouts and quotes from self-advocates that are in enrolled in the SDP.

10. **DISPARITY OUTREACH PROJECT**

Co-Chair Rick Wood introduced panel members Carla Lehmann, family and SSDAC member; Fernando Gomez, family and community organization member; Patricia Albeño, family member and Director of Projects & Outreach for Arc of California; Tim Jin, self-advocate and member of the Regional Center of Orange County local advisory committee; and Lisa Cooley, self-advocate and SSDAC member.

Panel members participated in a targeted discussion intended to assist in creating an outline for a disparities project, and were asked a series of questions ranging from why they thought that there has not been success in recruiting members of the Hispanic community into SDP to how regional centers can go about building trust in their communities, including communities of color.

The feedback received from this ethnically diverse panel was invaluable. However, the Committee and members of the public were divided on an approach and felt that the SSDAC should not take on a disparity project that focused on one ethnicity.

After hearing this feedback, Co-Chair Wood advised members that the SSDAC Workgroup would meet again to discuss next steps.

11. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was no public comment received for items not on the agenda.

12. **NEXT STEPS AND MEETING WRAP-UP**

Co-Chair Wood advised members that all the feedback received at the meeting would be taken back to the SSDAC Workgroup to determine whether to continue with a disparities project, and if so, how to address the concerns raised by both members of the committee and the public.

13. **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned without objection at 4:35 P.M. The next meeting will take place on February 9, 2023.