



## STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (SCDD)

Special Session of the BAY AREA REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)

MEETING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### NOTICE & AGENDA\*



**Date** Wednesday, August 21, 2024



**Time** 5:30pm – 7pm



**Locations** This is a hybrid meeting: In person with Zoom / teleconference options. Members of the public may participate in-person at the physical address below, or may participate telephonically, or by Zoom from any location.

#### Join In-Person:

H.W. Johnson State Office Building  
455 Golden Gate Ave, San Francisco, CA  
(To be held in a lower-level meeting room)

#### Or, Join by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82426088562?pwd=tVdXalfDrA3ooD3HCkMGEqlzSCaqlf.1>

#### Or, by Telephone, US Toll-free:

(877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499

**Meeting ID:** 824 2608 8562 **Passcode:** 329429

Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found at least 10 days prior to the meeting at: [www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/](http://www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/). This meeting will feature live captioning and Spanish-language interpretation, via Zoom.

This meeting complies with Government Code Sections 11123.1, 11123.2, and 11125(f). Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations. There may be members of the public body who are remotely participating in today's meeting that were granted a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact us at **510-286-0439** or **bayarea@scdd.ca.gov**, at least five business days prior to the meeting.



### **5:30p Call to Order**

**Introductions / Welcomes  
Establishment of Quorum**

**Grigsby**



### **5:35p Public Comment**

An invitation to provide the public an opportunity to comment and/or present information to the Committee on **any matter that is not on the agenda**. Each public member has up to 3 minutes to speak. Written requests will be considered first. The Committee will provide a public comment period not to exceed 5 minutes total for all public comments prior to action on any agenda item. Legislative office elected officials or staff may also introduce themselves or provide comment.

### **5:45p Review of Advocacy Issue Topics & Next Steps**

**Nicholau**



RAC members review the prioritized advocacy issue topics from the last two meetings: Health & Healthcare Equity Work, and San Mateo Co's Abuse Roundtable Group's Caregiver Abuse Registry. RAC members decide what advocacy / policy action to take next for these issues.

**6:20p Review of State Council Bay Area RAC  
Elections Process 2024**

**Grigsby & Nicholau**



RAC members review upcoming election process for a new RAC Chairperson in September 2024, as Chairperson Grigsby's second and final RAC term is almost complete. Q&A about the process and the Chairperson role.



**6:40p Planning for September RAC Meeting**

**Nicholau**

RAC members discuss planning needs for the September 2024, including welcoming State Councilmembers flying into the Bay Area to join this September RAC meeting.



**6:50p Other Announcements  
& Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

**Grigsby**

An opportunity of members of the community to bring up ideas, needs, issues and concerns.



**7:00p Meeting Adjourned**

**Grigsby**

**\*All times indicated, and the order of business are approximate and subject to change. Any agenda items have the potential to be brought for a vote.**



## Regional Advisory Committee Topic Areas for Exploration 2024, To-date

Among other roles, this RAC reviews and participates in systems change and capacity-building work, projects/policies/legislation implementation that impact the broader region.

The RAC selected two areas of focus to learn more about in 2024:

- Involvement and advocacy for our community with intersectional advocacy collaborations for **Health and Healthcare Equity**
- Collaborate with the San Mateo Commission on Disabilities on the **Statewide Caregiver Abuse Registry** (for CA adults looking for caregivers)

So far, RAC members heard from:

- [The WITH Foundation](#)
- [University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry](#)
- [San Mateo Health's Commission on Disabilities](#): Abuse Roundtable Group's Caregiver Abuse Registry project

## Summary of 2024 panel featuring The WITH Foundation and University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry:

Outcomes of equity work / how does this work reduce health and healthcare disparities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and other disabilities:

- Ryan Easterly:
  - The mission of WITH Foundation is to promote the establishment of comprehensive healthcare for adults with developmental disabilities that is designed to address their unique and fundamental needs. The Foundation focuses its support on organizations and projects that promote the establishment of comprehensive and accessible healthcare for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Currently, WITH has provided more than \$12 million (in total) in funding.
  - Self-Advocates will have opportunities to work with Foundation Staff and the Board of Directors to create an impact. Currently, the [Self-Advocate Advisory Committee](#) reviews the proposals that the Foundation receives and provides input on whether or not applicants should receive funding, and whether a proposal is designed well for people with disabilities.
  - The Transition Working Group at UCSF informs the strategic plan that the entire healthcare system is undertaking to better serve those transitioning people with disabilities. (Transition means people with disabilities between the ages of 14 and 26 that are still going to pediatric professionals and are looking to find adult health providers.)
- Dr. Timothy Verceles:
  - The Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry is a nationally renowned institution of higher learning, committed to providing a world-class dental education for our students and comprehensive, affordable patient care for adults and children. It is the only dental school in the

United States with a decades-long track record of offering a year-round, accelerated three-year DDS program. Nationally renowned for its humanistic model of education that respects the dignity of each individual and fosters limitless potential for growth.

- Partnership with Highland Hospital creates metrics to see how many patients with special needs and disabilities they're able to see at their campus and their ability to treat in the operating room for those who need hospital dentistry. Also measuring how many providers have the ability to see people with disabilities in their dental offices or in patient homes (private homes or care homes or skilled nursing facilities.)

How people with disabilities are currently involved in the panelists' work:

- Ryan Easterly:
  - People with disabilities are involved in all aspects of operations – within the board, staff, vendors that are select as grantees. One of our core values is the leadership and expertise of the most impacted. Whenever possible the Foundation prefers to support disability led projects. When that is not possible, they have established a compensation criterion for disability advisers.
- Dr. Timothy Verceles:
  - Interacts with patient advocates, caregivers, and family members daily. Preventative work with patients.

How people can get involved; what else can allies and advocates do to improve equity in the Bay Area and beyond:

- Ryan Easterly:

- If you are interested in serving on the advisory committee, please apply. Spread the word about the work and let us know about good work happening in the Bay Area.
- Dr. Timothy Verceles:
  - Support our efforts for expansion by donations to the dental school. The dental school is a private entity but with the mission of expanding access to care. The dean really believes in the mission to increase access to care and make that a cornerstone part of our education for our students.
  - Advocacy is needed needs for improved reimbursement rates in the insurance sector for dentists to be able to spend the time and care needed for patients with specific needs.

**Summary of presentation featuring San Mateo Health's Commission on Disabilities: Abuse Roundtable Group's Caregiver Abuse Registry project:**

Florence Wong, State Council Bay Area RAC member and Commissioner for San Mateo Co Commission on Disabilities presented:

- Individuals with disabilities are at greater risk of being abused than nondisabled individuals. Individuals who perpetrate the abuse are often caregivers. Abusers are not likely to get caught or prosecuted. In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) requires the recipient to hire their caregiver, and some chose Participant Directed Services to leverage their regional center spending for service providers they select themselves.
- Risks of violent victimization are four times higher than compared to nondisabled people, and persons with IDD are the highest risk group.
- There are registries in 26 other states, as of 2018.
- The abuse must be substantiated by an entity that did the investigation before it can be placed on a registry. Placement on the registry does not mean jail time. Placement on the registry does not mean financial liability. Placement on the registry lowers probability of employment as a caregiver

specifically; individuals can work in non-caregiver jobs. Expands opportunity for recipients to screen for potential abusers at no or minimal cost. Employment agencies can potentially reduce liability with additional screening tool.

- National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) published a report in 2018. Some recommendations for state registries included adequate funding, dedicated staff, employment restrictions, and the scope of abusers included in the registry.
- Definition of a registry: Definition: *“a system for maintaining the identity of individuals who are found, only as a result of an APS investigation, to have abused, neglected or exploited seniors or adults (18 and older) with disabilities living in the community or in a facility.”* The purpose of such a registry is to make this information available to individuals, agencies or employers who are authorized to receive such information. Goal for registries most often cited: *“Reducing access of abusers to vulnerable adults and improving hiring practices . . . ”*
- Abuse Roundtable Group (ARG) established in 2019. ARG workgroup on Caregiver Abuse Registry established December of 2021. Compared aspects of other states’ registries. Discussed scope of registry, criteria for placement, appeals process, who can access, mandating use of registry or not. Created survey to assess community opinion.
- Attempts to establish a registry in CA:
  - AB 1192 Approved by legislature but vetoed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger 2007-08.
  - California’s Attorney General, Rob Bonta, issued a press release August 1, 2023, that shines a light on this abuse and vows to prosecute abusers.
  - AB 1544 unanimously passed Assembly, stalled in Senate Public Safety Committee, and appears to be dead.
  - Child Abuse Central Index (CACI) exists already in CA and has procedures and due process in place. CACI may be the model for getting one in CA since it is already here. This is under the CA Department of Justice.



- What is next for this work: The Caregiver Abuse Registry workgroup welcomes support and involvement.

**Next Steps for RAC:**

- Would the RAC like additional presentations and educational sessions on different projects in health and healthcare equity work?
- Would the RAC like additional presentations and educational sessions on abuse registries?
- Would the RAC like to move forward with advocacy action items based on what they have learned so far?
  - If so, what motion would the RAC like to consider?