



San Bernardino Regional Office

Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)

Minutes

June 11, 2024

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Members Present

Dustlyne Beavers, **Chair**

Eric Aguilar, **Vice-Chair**

Kelli Guillory

Kimberly Risser

Lisa Williams

Ryan Nelson

Members Absent

Cathy Rosas (Excused on vacation)

Elizabeth Felix Discussion (Excused)

Reginald Davis

Sandra Diaz

Sofia Benitez

SCDD SBRO Staff

Patricia Herrera, MS, Staff Services Manager II (SSMII)

Alondra Castillo, Associate Governmental Program Analyst

Jose Valle, Office Technician

Guest Speakers

- Yenifer Gallegos-Mejia, MSW, Program Director of the California START Program of the Central Valley

Public Attendees

N/A

English/Spanish Language Interpreter

N/A

Meeting called to order at 4:05 PM

Quorum Established. Welcome from Dustlyne Beavers, Chair.

Approval of Minutes

Kelli Guillory motioned to approve minutes of the 04/09/2024 meeting. Motioned seconded by Lisa Williams. Unanimously minutes were approved.

Presentation: Yenifer Gallegos-Mejia, MSW, Program Director of the California START Central Valley

Topic: Overview of the California START Program of Central Valley

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM: Patricia Herrera introduced Yenifer Gallegos, MSW, Program Director California START Central Valley. Yenifer shared the Systematic, Therapeutic, Assessment, Resources and Treatment Program (START) Model a crisis prevention and intervention program for people with developmental disabilities with complex behavioral need. Program focused on crisis planning and response, education, consultation, and coaching. The START Model Program was development by the University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability and it is funded by the California Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS) at local Regional Centers through a Request for Proposal (RFP) Process. The START Program is available in 15 out of the 21 Regional Centers in California.

Here is a link to DDS and the START Program:

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/services/crisis-safety-net-services/start-program/>

The START Program can provide:

- Engagement of systems around crisis intervention, prevention, and stabilization. An external vendor will be selected via a Regional Center Request for Proposal process with expertise on mental health with a biopsychosocial perspective for personas with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

- Collaboration with providers in the community, service coordinators, mobile crisis teams, inpatient crisis, hospitals and prescribers.
- Crisis prevention and intervention plan driven by stakeholders
- Experts in mental health, ABA clinical professionals that can conduct biopsychosocial assessments.
- Therapeutic strategies and supports provided in community settings.
- 24-hour crisis response for the system of care for personas enrolled in the START program.

Yenifer emphasized the program's person-centered, strength-based approach and its commitment to improving participants' well-being by focusing on their strengths rather than just challenges.

Dustlyne stressed the need for San Bernardino, Riverside, Inyo, and Mono Counties to have accessible, timely and effective crisis intervention services. Dustlyne supported by Kelly Guillory and Kim Risser suggested that the SCDD San Bernardino Regional Office bring together crisis intervention stakeholders to learn about the California START program.

Report from Regional Manager – Patricia Herrera, 5:00 PM – 5:45 PM

- Patricia introduced Alondra Castillo, new AGPA CPS II and team member for the SCDD San Bernardino Regional Office. Alondra shared experience working in the field of developmental disabilities in prior work as an ABA Specialist, as a Case Manager with IRC respite vendor and in the last three years with Disability Rights California as an Outreach Specialist for the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (OCRA).
- Patricia introduced Kim Risser, RAC Self-Advocate member who presented a review of SCDD supported bills that included, AB 1977 Health Care Coverage Re-certification SB 1384 Power Wheelchair Repair, SB 1281 Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program and other bills moving through the legislature.
- Patricia continued her report and highlights of the Policy Priorities for SCDD: 1. Protecting and enhancing Civil Rights. 2. Guaranteeing access to education and employment. 3. Identifying and prioritizing

emerging issues in the I/DD community. 4. Promoting access to quality support in the community. 5. Ensuring safety in the community. 6. Improving housing and community living.

- Patricia shared information on the **Inland Empire Employment Awareness RoundTable** being organized and facilitated by the SCDD San Bernardino Regional Office with support from Phenix Technology and Vistem Solutions, Inc with a focus on increasing access to employment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. SCDD San Bernardino Office has also formed a partnership with **Making Housing and Community Happen Congregational Land Project** providing training sessions on how faith-based institutions can lease unused land for the development of affordable housing.
- SCDD is partnered with the San Bernardino County Behavioral Health Department and is a member of the Law Enforcement Crisis Intervention Team training for the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department on intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Public Comments on Matters Not on the Agenda 5:50 PM

N/A

Meeting Adjourned

- Dustlyne Beavers motions to adjourn meeting. Motion approved by RAC members. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.