

# SCDD Report to SSDAC

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# Overview

- ▶ SDP Orientation Update
- ▶ Legislative Update
- ▶ Medicaid Update
- ▶ SCDD Coro Fellow Assignment

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- ▶ Total Project Update (July 2022 – December 2024)
  - 294 training sessions
    - 185 English
    - 92 Spanish
    - 4 Vietnamese
    - 3 Chinese
    - 2 Tagalog
    - 2 Korean
    - 2 ASL
    - 1 Each - Armenian, Arabic, Hmong, Farsi

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- ▶ Total Project Update (July 2022 – December 2024)
  - 7,466 participants
    - 6,358 English
    - 868 Spanish
    - 100 Chinese
    - 46 Korean
    - 32 Vietnamese
    - 21 Tagalog
    - 14 Arabic
    - 13 Armenian
    - 13 Farsi
    - 1 Hmong

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- Who's Attending?
  - 77% Family Members
  - 10% Self-Advocates
  - 13% Professionals
- Ethnicity
  - 24% Decline to answer
  - 28% White
  - 14% Asian Pacific Islander
  - 18% Hispanic/Latino/Latinx
  - 7% Black/African American
  - 9% Other

% rounded to nearest whole number

Note: Optional survey data

# Self-Determination Orientation Trainings (SCDD)

- What are they saying?
  - 92% find information very or extremely useful
- Do you plan on enrolling in SDP?
  - 81% yes
  - 16% undecided
  - 1% no
  - 1% already enrolled in SDP
- ▶ We are collecting optional feedback at 3 & 6-month post-orientation intervals. Let us know how things are going!
- ▶ Please reach out to Christine Tolbert at [christine.tolbert@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:christine.tolbert@scdd.ca.gov) to collaborate on a dedicated training.

% rounded to nearest whole number

Note: Optional survey data June – December 2024

# Legislative Update: Senate Bill 1281

## Title:

Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program Act

## Status:

Vetoed by Governor. The veto message stated that the Master Plan on Developmental Services should be the vehicle used to make changes to SDP.

# Medicaid Update: What Is Medicaid?

Medicaid is a program in the United States (U.S.) funded by Congress that helps people pay for healthcare and other services.

**Healthcare** is important for people with disabilities and seniors.

- Without access to the health care and services we need, people with disabilities and seniors will live worse lives.
- Healthcare costs a lot of money. So, many people need government programs to help us pay for healthcare and stay healthy.

Programs that help people pay for healthcare are called **health insurance** programs.

- Medicaid is a health insurance program by the U.S. government (federal government).
- The federal government and each state government work together to fund and run Medicaid.



# Medicaid Update:

## What Does Medicaid Mean to Me?

**In California, Medicaid funds many programs.**

Some programs funded by federal Medicaid dollars are:

- Regional center services and the Self-Determination Program (Home and Community Based Services)
- In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)
- Medi-Cal Health Insurance
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
- Senior nutrition programs, like Meals on Wheels
- School services for children on Medi-Cal
- Foster youth

# Medicaid Update:

## What Does Medicaid Mean to Me?

To pay for Medicaid programs, the federal government shares the cost with each state.

Without this **federal match** states would not have enough money for their Medicaid programs.

If they get less money, states would need to:

- raise taxes to pay for services
- have fewer people receive services
- or not have as many services.

# Medicaid Update: What Is Congress' Plan?

**Ideas to change Medicaid funding could happen soon:**

- The U.S. House in Congress released a plan to **cut \$1.5 to \$2 trillion** from the federal budget, which includes **\$880 billion from Medicaid.**
  - Work requirements (cut \$100 billion)
  - Per Capita Caps (cut \$588 billion to \$893 billion)
  - Block Grants (cut \$459 billion to \$742 billion)
  - Reduce matching rate for Covered CA (\$561 billion)
- Bottom line: These ideas mean states would get **much less money to pay for Medicaid** programs.
- Note: the Senate could have their own ideas
- Note: the ideas could change

# Medicaid Update: What We're Hearing

Community...

*"This won't happen.  
They'd never do this.  
This is fake news.  
This will happen to  
immigrants, not us."*

Answer...

This is happening.  
Congress put it in print.  
The cuts are so big that it  
will happen to everyone in  
these programs.

# Medicaid Update: What Is Congress' Plan?

## Both the House and Senate want to use the “Budget Reconciliation” process

- “Reconciliation” = A shortcut to bring federal spending, revenue, and the debt limit into alignment with the targets set in the budget resolution.
- It's quicker than the regular budget process: no hearings/briefings. Limited debate. Limited amendments.
- It's easier to pass: In the Senate, reconciliation bills can pass with a simple majority vote (51 votes). Not the 60-vote needed for the regular budget bill.
- Process for Reconciliation
  - Step 1) “Budget Resolution.” This sets goals and targets for spending cuts.
  - Step 2) “Budget Reconciliation” This bill has details on spending cuts. Note: The Reconciliation bill must meet the spending cut goals in the Resolution.

# Medicaid Update: What Is Congress' Plan?

**If the past is a lesson for now, Congress could move fast**

- Congress tried to cut Medicaid before in 2017.
- They used reconciliation.
- The bill took only two months to go through all the steps needed to become law.
- It was defeated by one vote.

# Medicaid Update: What Is Congress' Plan?

## How fast?

House and Senate announced a timeline for the resolution:



If passed, the Budget Reconciliation may be in April or May.  
But the Resolution sets the cuts.

**Now is the time to act.**

# Medicaid Update: What Can I Do?

## Tell your Medicaid Story

Connecting with your representative in Congress on Medicaid is always worth your time:

- Many representatives and their staff are new.
- Most do not know that Medicaid pays for services that are important to people with disabilities, developmental disabilities, and seniors.
- Most do not know all that Medicaid funds, like regional center services and IHSS.
- Most do not know that regional center services and IHSS make it possible for people with disabilities to live in the community instead of institutions.



# Medicaid Update: Telling Your Story

**Your Medicaid story is easy to tell, it's talking about your life**

“My name is \_\_\_\_.”

“I am your constituent and live in \_\_\_\_.” (city or county in their district)

“I am a \_\_\_\_.” (person with a disability, a senior, a family member, a care provider)

“Here's what my life is like now because of Medicaid programs”

(ex. I live in a home in the community, not in an institution. I work/volunteer/go to school)

“Medicaid programs make this possible”

(ex. I need people paid by Medicaid to get me out of bed, get to medications, to get to appointments, to help me go where I want to go, to live on my own)

“Cutting Medicaid funding will mean I can't live my life as I do now”

# SCDD CORO Fellow Assignment

SCDD Participates in the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs - this year we asked the Coro fellow to assist an SDP-focused project.

2023 SDP Evaluation found that administrative burdens are the largest challenge faced by SDP participants.

We asked for assistance with a project aimed at addressing the administrative burdens associated with budget development in the SDP.

# Thank you!

Questions? Comments?