

State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Office

Community Outreach & Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Networking 5:15-5:30 PM Meeting 5:30-8:00 PM

This is a hybrid meeting: In-Person with Zoom / Teleconference options.

Join In-Person:

Hosted by Las Trampas School, Inc.
3460 Lana Ln, Lafayette, CA 94549

Or Join by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83654335330?pwd=JGlxkFbadg3ZH41EpELYX9IS8Tojz9.1>

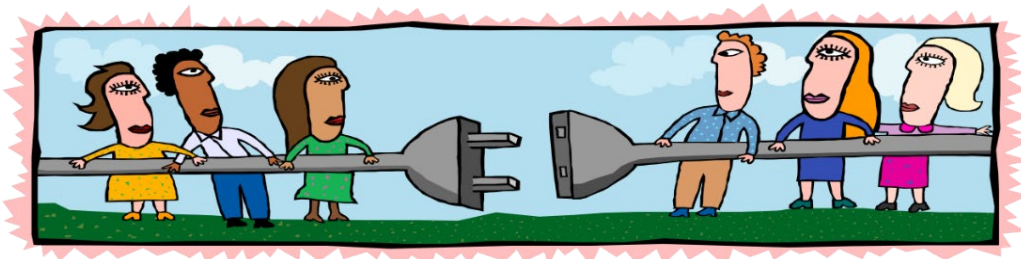
Meeting ID: 836 5433 5330 Passcode: 674558

Or by Telephone, U.S. Toll-free: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499

Collaboration is key! We invite members of the community to share input, issues and concerns. **All are welcome.** Featured: Intergenerational Trauma in Autistic Families workgroup update; State Council's 'There Should Be a Law' Contest; RAC member & Councilmember updates; community partner updates, and more.

This meeting will feature live English captioning. Individuals who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and/or language interpretation (in Spanish or other languages) 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. 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.



Alcance Comunitario Y Reunión del Comité Asesor Regional

Miércoles, 3 de diciembre de 2025

Oportunidad de red 5:15-5:30 PM Reunión 5:30-8:00 PM

**Esta es una reunión híbrida: Presencial con opciones de
Zoom/Teleconferencia.**

Únase en persona:

Organizado por Las Trampas School, Inc.
3460 Lana Ln, Lafayette, CA 94549

Únase por Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83654335330?pwd=JGlXkFbadg3ZH41EpELYX9lS8Tojz9.1>

O por teléfono, número gratuito de EE. UU.:

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

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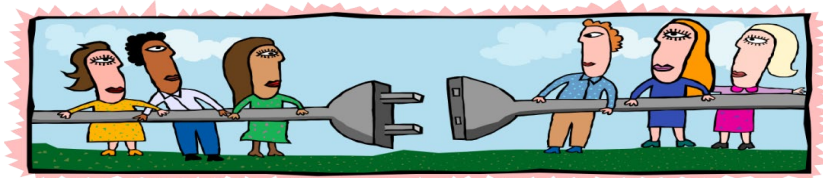
La colaboración es clave! Invitamos a los miembros de la comunidad a compartir sus opiniones, problemas e inquietudes. **Todos son bienvenidos.**

Destacado: Actualización del grupo de trabajo sobre el trauma intergeneracional en las familias autistas; Concurso 'Debería haber una ley' del Consejo de Estado; Actualizaciones de los miembros del RAC y del Concejal; Actualizaciones de los socios comunitarios, y más.

Esta reunión tendrá subtítulos en vivo e interpretación en español.

Esta reunión cumple con las Secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11125(f) del Código de Gobierno. Los miembros pueden estar físicamente presentes en uno o más lugares de teleconferencia. Es posible que haya miembros del público que participen de forma remota en la reunión de hoy a quienes se les concedió una adaptación razonable según la

Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades. Las personas con discapacidades que requieran formatos alternativos accesibles de la agenda y materiales relacionados y/o ayudas/servicios auxiliares para participar en esta reunión deben contactarnos al **(510) 286-0439** o **bayarea@scdd.ca.gov**, al menos cinco días hábiles antes de la reunión.





STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (SCDD)

BAY AREA REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC) MEETING & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NOTICE & AGENDA*

**Date**

Wednesday, December 03, 2025

**Time**

Networking 5:15pm – 5:30p, Meeting 5:30pm – 8:00pm

**Locations**

This is a hybrid meeting: In-Person with Zoom / Teleconference options. Members of the public may participate telephonically, or by Zoom from any location. This meeting will feature live captioning, via Zoom.

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5:30p Call to Order

Introductions / Welcomes

Establishment of Quorum

Witkin



5:35p Approval of the September 2025 Meeting Minutes

Witkin



5:40p 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.



5:50p Member Reports

SCDD Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)

& SCDD Councilmembers

Witkin

Hear updates from RAC members and Councilmembers on their regional and statewide advocacy work, trends / needs in their county, and priorities.



6:10p Community Reports

Witkin

- People First Report
- Regional Center Reports
- County Developmental Disabilities Councils Reports
- Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN)
- National Council on Disability (NCD)



6:50p BREAK (10 mins)



7p Legislative Office Comments

Witkin

An invitation for legislative offices in attendance to provide brief statements, comments on emerging issues, or updates impacting their constituents from disability communities.



7:10p Update on the Intergenerational Trauma in Autistic Families Workgroup

Sellergren and Witkin

Hear a brief update on the developments with this workgroup, including literature review, community feedback methods identified, and draft flyers. Learn how you can help with outreach.



7:25p Output & Outcome reporting:

- 'There Should Be a Law' 2025
- CA's State Plan Survey for 2027 – 2031
- Overview of SCDD's outputs in 2025

Nicholau



**7:50p Other Announcements
& Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Witkin

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



8:00p Meeting Adjourned

Witkin

***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.**



**State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)
Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting
September 24, 2025, Notes **DRAFT****

This meeting was hybrid--held in person, and through Zoom (video call or call-in)

Location: Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Oakland City Hall, 3rd floor Council Chamber, Oakland, CA 94612

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84895929628?pwd=XA24pQb8xd6i5Yt4820Vp9Lw9wQ7Ug.1>

Meeting ID: 848 9592 9628 **Passcode:** 347573

Committee Members attending in-person: Kevin Mintz, Sana Shooshtari, Marla Silversmith, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong

Committee Members attending on Zoom: Terri Carol, Evan Milburn, Kerry Rich, Bird Sellergren

Council Members attending in-person: Alex Reyes, Bob Twomey

Council Members attending on Zoom: Nicole Adler

SCDD Staff: Sheraden Nicholau, Ron Usac, Valerie Buell

Accessibility Assistance: Captioner Carilyn, Captioner Savannah, ASL Guthrie, ASL Kimberly

Legislative office representation in-person: Salvator Harkins from Senator Jesse Arreguin's office

Legislative office representation on Zoom: Senator Aisha Wahab, Elizabeth Vacca from Senator Aisha Wahab's office, Nicholas Hargis from Congressman Sam Liccardo's office, Nicole Cuellar-Nelson from Senator Christopher Cabaldon's office, Ho-Yin Mo (Mo) from Assemblymember Catherine Stefani's Office, Erika Cuevas from Senator Jerry McNerney's Office, Gélser Zavala from Representative Lateefah Simon's office, Dina Sanchez from Senator Tim Grayson's office, Jacob Francisco from Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson's office

Community Partners attending in-person: Jerry Grace, Dr. Rebecca Nanyonjo, Sara Desumala

Community Partners attending on Zoom: Eric Zigman, Sabreena Sahota, Patrick McKay, Vi Ibarra

Guests attending in-person: Zachary Unger, Zachary John Taylor, Jeff Ames

Guests attending on Zoom: Debra Adler, Jamie Faurot, Amelia Ott, Jennifer Walsh

5:30p Chair Emily Witkin called the meeting to order. Valerie Buell took roll call of RAC members and confirmed there was a quorum.

Attendees were invited to introduce themselves and/or put their names in the chat if they wanted to do so.

- Zach Unger, Councilmember for the city of Oakland, introduced himself and was glad we were able to use this space. He asked that we let him know if there is any way he can help with our work.
- Zachary John Taylor introduced himself and expressed his interest in engaging with the RAC and sharing his thoughts this evening.

5:33p Approval of meeting minutes for April 30, 2025, and for June 25, 2025:

Moved: Florence Wong Seconded: Sana Shooshtari

Roll Call Vote for April 30, 2025:

Ayes: Terri Carol, Kerry Rich, Bird Sellergren, Sana Shooshtari, Marla Silversmith, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong

Abstain: Evan Milburn, Kevin Mintz,

Roll Call Vote for June 25, 2025:

Ayes: Kerry Rich, Bird Sellergren, Sana Shooshtari, Marla Silversmith, Emily Witkin, Florence Wong

Abstain: Terri Carol, Evan Milburn, Kevin Mintz

Public Comments: Emily Witkin asked for public comments. Highlights included:

- Zachary John Taylor shared his concerns about general government procedures, elections, and executive orders.
- Sal Harkins from State Senator Jesse Arreguín's office shared:
 - The senator is focused on health equity and immigrant rights.
 - Senate Bill (SB) 81, authored by the senator, was signed by the Governor. This bill requires hospitals and clinics to establish safe spaces for patient care and dignity.
 - The senator authored Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 3 urging Congress to protect and expand SNAP benefits.
 - The 2025 Budget Act Assembly Bill (AB) 143 included significant changes to developmental services in June that were administration-driven cost saving measures, as the state faces a difficult fiscal situation. The senator welcomes any feedback from this community that he can take back to Sacramento.
- Elizabeth Vacca from Senator Aisha Wahab's office shared:
 - This office has participated in and collaborated with Preparing Resources & Alliances Galvanizing Neurodiversity Acculturation (PRAGNA), an organization

that supports the neurodiverse community through community integration programs academic online programs and social experiential programs.

- With the support of the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA), the senator worked to pass SB 258 and worked with Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF) to address concerns.
- The senator authored SB 1316 which would have required state special schools to align their pay to be comparable to those of similarly qualified personnel in encompassing school districts.
- She was able to secure \$500 million in funding with \$120 million for the multifamily housing program, and additional funds for the low-income tax credit and expanding the renters tax credit.
- Nicole Cuellar-Nelson from Senator Christopher Cabaldon's office shared, directly and in email:
 - The senator has nine bills sitting on the governor's desk; there are two of interest.
 - SB371 Transportation Network Companies: Currently, Uber and Lyft drivers are required to have \$1m in uninsured driver insurance. This has been shown to be an excessive amount and contributes to higher fares. SB 371 would reduce rideshare companies' Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist (UIM) coverage from \$1 million per incident to \$60,000 per person/\$300,000 per accident, which could lower costs for companies and potentially lead to reduced fares for riders. This legislation also opens up the opportunity for these workers to unionize.
 - SB 351 Health Facilities: This bill aims to provide protection from private equity compromising the quality of health care. It would codify the Medical Board of California's guidance on corporate practice of medicine to explicitly prohibit private equity groups or hedge funds doing business in California from interfering with the professional judgment of physicians or dentists. SB 351 authorizes the Attorney General (AG) to seek injunctive relief for violations of these provisions and makes the provisions severable.
- Jacob Francisco from Assemblymember Lori D. Wilson's office shared:
 - AB 1249, on early voting, seeks to address the gap by ensuring that voters in non-voter choice act counties have access to early voting locations on the Saturday before the statewide election.
 - The assemblymember has focused on a wide range of bills strengthening transportation safety, improving farmland conservation, and clearing the way for new housing.
 - As co-chair of the Delta Caucus, she is happy to report the proposed delta trailer bills did not move forward, because the Delta Conveyance Project posed a serious threat to our ecosystem and economy.

- They are hosting two accessible transportation town halls; December 9th in Solano County, and on December 10th in Contra Costa County, and welcome this community to share their lived experience on transportation and disability.
- Debra Adler acknowledged Sheraden Nicholau and her dedication to serving the IDD community as the SCDD Bay Area Regional Manager and congratulated her on her new position as SCDD Deputy Director of Regional Office Operations.
- Nicholas Hargis from Representative Sam Liccardo's office shared:
 - Representative Liccardo shares the community's frustration with the federal cuts passed by the current administration and is here to help with constituent case work when folks have issues with federal agencies like Social Security, the Department of Education, the IRS, etc. .
- Gélser Zavala from Representative Lateefah Simon's office shared:
 - Representative Simon is the first member of Congress who is congenitally blind. She has made disability access the central point to her legislation. She is working to use legislation to think differently about the Disability Employment Act, and she introduced a mobile eye clinic for a K-12 partnership with the Department of Education to fund eyewear access.
- Dina Sanchez from Senator Tim Grayson's office shared:
 - The Governor now has until October 12th to sign bills that could potentially become law. The state budget has been severely impacted, and a focus is to preserve as much access to quality healthcare as possible. Senator Grayson has worked to pass bills intended to help affordability, especially at the gas pump. SB237, recently signed by the Governor, is largely focused on preserving California's leading environmental regulation while also making fuel supplies stable to keep gas prices from extreme spikes.

Member Reports: RAC Members and Councilmembers reported on their regional and statewide advocacy work and priorities.

Highlights included:

- **Terri Carol:**
 - Attended the San Mateo County Commission on Disability's meeting and was impressed on all the grants the committee is working on, and heard the presentation given by Sheraden Nicholau and Ben McMillian on Disability Etiquette.
 - Currently working with people from Special Olympics and Best Buddies to talk about programs they are working on, possibly presenting to the RAC.
- **Evan Milburn:**
 - October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), and San Mateo County is hosting the art showcase they do every October. Residents of San Mateo County are welcome to submit their artwork.

- **Kevin Mintz:**
 - Kevin Mintz is an instructor in the Department of Pediatrics at Stanford School of Medicine, and lives in San Francisco. He hopes to work on access for everyone focusing on transportation and public facilities around San Francisco. He will be joining the Bay Area RAC workgroup on intergenerational trauma.
- **Kerry Rich:**
 - Kerry Rich and his wife attended the Urban League on Saturday at their annual gala and heard Representative Simon speak. They also attended, and hosted a table for Joshua's Gift, at the Friends of Children with Special Needs (FCSN) resource fair in Fremont.
 - Joshua's Gift has launched "CODE Joshua" program, including training first responders and law enforcement on how to interact with a person on the spectrum or a person with IDD in a crisis situation.
- **Bird Sellergren:**
 - Bird is seeing that autistic adults are seeking spaces to build connections with each other and are trying to facilitate some of those connections in their online meetings. There is a need for more physical spaces that could benefit the community.
 - They have also been in talks with some autism researchers working in biology research who have expressed a desire to start fostering mutual understanding between autism researchers and the autistic community; currently working on a workshop to bring these groups together in mid-October.
 - They have also been talking to other autism researchers working in genomics and the social sciences and have identified an urgency to conduct more research that disputes messaging from the current administration, specifically around the causes of autism.
 - They are looking for in-person meeting spaces in the North Bay and all the areas that this RAC covers for those attending the virtual meetings who may want a more local space for them.
- **Sana Shooshtari:**
 - There are challenges with repairs and replacement of Durable Medical Equipment (DME); vendors who are responsible for supporting these repairs do not recognize that malfunctions can be seen as an emergency. When equipment fails and repairs are not done immediately, this affects the quality of life for individuals who depend on DME. There must be a way to have 24/7 access to support, and she would like to see this as a future agenda topic.
 - Evan Milburn asked about Independent Living Centers have been any help. Sana answered she has not had experience with them and has worked more with Medicare and Alameda Alliance for Health.
 - There is a free Supported Decision-Making conference for diverse communities at Laney College in Oakland on October 25th from 8-5pm.

- **Marla Silversmith:**
 - This is her last meeting as a RAC member, and she reflected on the past six years of service and will continue to be available as a contact.
 - Recently, has been engaged with a lot of work around rightful presence in schools to make sure that our students deserve the right to be in classrooms and in schools.
 - Echoed Sana's concerns about DME, and that schools also need engineers to come out and fix equipment for the students, who lack access to their education when the equipment isn't working.
- **Emily Witkin:**
 - Echoed what Bird said about needing spaces for autistic people to meet in-person and shared that Contra Costa County needs this too.
- **Florence Wong:**
 - The Commission on Disabilities hosted their Inclusion Festival on July 30th and SCDD had a table there. Former Councilmember Alex Reyes was the DJ. This was the first time the county flew the Disability Pride flag.
 - The Disability Arts Showcase will be held at 800 Main Street in Redwood City, the location for the new center for creativity in Redwood City. Artists with disabilities who live or work in San Mateo County are encouraged to apply to showcase their art. There will be a reception on October 18th from 1-3pm and then a workshop on October 25th from 1-3pm.
 - On October 7th there will be a presentation from the Commission on Disabilities to the Board of Supervisors. They expect to have a proclamation for Disabilities Awareness Month.
- **Alex Reyes:**
 - Congratulated Bob Twomey for his newly appointed role as the new Bay Area Councilmember of the State Council.
 - Congratulated Sheraden Nicholau on her new role.
 - Offered condolences to Councilmember Eric Ybarra who passed away in August 2025.
- **Bob Twomey:**
 - Reflected on his sister, Elizabeth, and how she is a huge part of his life and how he can represent her.
 - Listened to the reports given at this meeting and, as an investigator, thought "what state agency investigates this?"
 - Hope to be of service to the RAC as a SCDD Councilmember.
- **Nicole Adler:**
 - The State Council is working on developing their 5-year state plan; that will be discussed later in the evening.
 - Asked that everyone take a moment to reflect on Councilmember Eric Ybarra's life and legacy.

Community Reports:

Family Resource Navigators (FRN)

- Amelia Ott, the Supported Decision-Making program manager for FRN, gave a slide presentation about the work they do and about Supported Decision-Making.
 - The presentation reviewed who they are, what they do, resources for Supported Decision-Making, the types of trainings they provide, community partners they collaborate with, and their goals.

Regional Center Reports Highlights:

- Eric Zigman gave the report for Golden Gate Regional Center (GGRC):
 - GGRC has had three community events funded through their language access and cultural competency programs.
 - GGRC is rolling out their new website that will be easier to navigate and have more clarity around eligibility, in plain language.
 - The Deaf Plus conference was held in Fremont recently and had about 300 registrants.
 - GGRC had a Self-Determination Resource Fair in San Francisco at the Pomeroy Center.
 - There is a Request for Proposal (RFP) on their website to do a roommate matching service for people served.
- Dr. Becky Nanyonjo gave the report for Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB):
 - Bleu Moon Living, LLC, a first home in California designed to be fully accessible for people who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deaf+ has been completed in the East Bay. The grand opening just took place in June, in Newark.
 - RCEB has launched community listening sessions conducting outreach for affinity groups of community they would like to hear from. The next is on Saturday September 27th at the San Leandro Offices. There will be a virtual session on Tuesday September 30th from 6p to 8p.
 - Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) hosted an executive retreat and committee meeting in Irvine California for regional center executive directors, attended by both Dr. Nanyonjo and Eric Zigman.

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Councils Report Highlights:

- Vi Ibarra gave the report for the Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council.
 - They held their annual planning meeting in June and voted in new board members: Eric Estrada from Mt. Diablo Adult Education and Matt Bow from Special Olympics in Northern California.
 - They started their new series of meetings on September 24th and will be meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

- Sabreena Sahota gave the report for the Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council (ACDDC).
 - They had their planning meeting in July and identified key priorities to increase engagement, collaboration, and elevating community voices. Their meetings will be on the second Wednesday of the month, and the next meeting will be October 9, 2025. They encourage input from the community on their needs and priorities.
 - They are planning their 2026 conference, and the first planning meetings are in October on the first and third Thursday of each month from 3p to 4:45p

Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN):

- Sara Desumala read the report:
 - The SSAN meeting was on September 3rd and 4th on Zoom. They learned about medical advocacy, the Systemic Advocacy Leadership Academy (SALA), emergency planning for wildfires and floods, and updates on the Developmental Services Master Plan.
 - They welcome the public to attend all SSAN meetings and learn about leadership and advocacy.

7:08p Break

Legislative Office Comments:

- Senator Aisha Wahab
 - Her focus has been on most vulnerable community members. She has a doctorate in social work, and her chief of staff is a licensed marriage and family therapist.
 - The senator has collaborated with the CA School of the Deaf and CA School for the Blind to ensure that the faculty and staff get an increase in their pay. Many staff are on the verge of homelessness.
 - There has been misrepresentation of many of the bills put forth to protect the vulnerable. SB 258, which ends the spousal rape loophole, affirms consent as a right for people with disabilities and aims to close the last loophole. It is on the Governor's desk to sign.
 - The senator is trying to establish standards for ADA compliance as the natural standard in housing development. There is a home in San Jose that was built with best practices. Unfortunately, the bill for this did not make it through the legislature.
 - The senator also authored a bill about wage theft, currently on the Governor's desk, that highlights if a worker was not paid fully, the employer is fined additionally.

Sheraden Nicholau gave a presentation on the Real Input Real Impact California State Plan Survey: Highlights include:

- Every five years, the California State Council works with Californians to identify priorities that become part of a 5-year state plan.
- Past feedback included areas of emergency preparedness and response, public safety, self-advocacy and employment.
- We, SCDD, are asking you and your networks to complete the current survey. October 15th is the deadline.
- Additionally, SCDD hosts town halls up and down the state. One in the Bay Area will be on October 9th from 1:30 to 3p, at the Oakland State Building.
- If needed, SCDD can help you with the survey. You can give us verbal responses that we can type for you, or we can give you a hard copy that you can return to us.

Celebrating Outgoing Leaders: Highlights include:

- Sheraden Nicholau presented the certificates to each of the outgoing members of the RAC and State Council that were sent by their district representatives.
 - Outgoing Councilmember Nicole Adler started as a Bay Area RAC member before being appointed to SCDD by the Governor. She was given a certificate of recognition from Senator John Becker, from Assemblymember Diane Papan, and from Congressman Kevin Mullin. Nicole shared she will continue with her advocacy and is excited to see what is next.
 - Outgoing Councilmember Alex Reyes was a Bay Area representative on SSAN before becoming a councilmember. He values contact with media and journalists, making sure community needs are elevated and represented in mainstream media. He was given a certificate of recognition from Assemblymember Alex Lee and from Senator Aisha Wahab. He dedicated these to his family and friends, Fremont Unified School District, and to the State Council.
 - Outgoing SCDD Bay Area RAC Vice Chair and Member Marla Silversmith began on the RAC as a member and became Vice Chair. She connected the SCDD Bay Area Regional Office with Supporting Innovative Practice (SIP), which led to an inclusive panel at their 2025 statewide conference, comprised of panelists with lived experience. She was given a certificate of recognition from Senator Jerry McNerney and from Assemblymember Liz Ortega. Marla is excited to continue the work and continue being a connector.

Other Announcements (highlights):

- Jerry Grace encouraged people to attend upcoming RCEB Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings, and look into the ARC in San Francisco for workshops they may be interested in.
- Bob Twomey thanked Nicole Adler for their friendship over the years and the impact she has had on him. She has been a great mentor and leader for so many people.

- Zachary John Taylor continued his public comment on general government procedures, elections, and executive orders.
- The next RAC meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2025, in Contra Costa County.

8:14p Meeting Adjourned.

Policy Areas for the Legislative Cycle Ahead

There Should Be a Law

- Fifth Annual Contest, **'There Should Be a Law'** – the unfiltered voice of the community. Encourages everyone to give legislative ideas to improve daily life for people with disabilities!
- Bill ideas will be shared with legislators and we will advocate for it if a legislator champions it

Background

- Predictive! Conservatorship reform, fair hearing reform, more mental health supports, and much, much more
- Ideas were submitted by self- and family-advocates, professionals, and others
- A crystal ball and the coming session



This Year

- 151 ideas received!
- Ideas for topics such as civil rights, education, employment, human services, health, mental health, housing, safety, transportation, miscellaneous, and federal
- Topics with the most ideas: human services, education, health, and civil rights

Policy Ideas

- Clarify the authorized representative process
- Plain language materials from government agencies
- Protected, paid leave for sibling bonding
- Chronic absenteeism in schools
- Fingerprinting of personnel at off-campus school worksites



Policy Priorities 2025–2026

Protecting and Enhancing Civil Rights

A Every person with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) has the right to self-determination, equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency, no matter their disability.

The Council will work to ensure civil rights, including identification and reduction of racial and ethnic inequalities and disparities are protected and enhanced and full implementation of state and federal policies, including but not limited to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Home and Community-Based Services Settings Rule, Every Student Succeeds Act and Achieving Better Life Experience Act.

Guaranteeing Access to Education and Employment

Every student with I/DD has the right to a quality inclusive education with their peers that prepares them for post-secondary education and/or competitive integrated employment (CIE). Students with disabilities must be provided the same learning opportunities, in the classroom and online, as students without disabilities.

Every person with I/DD should have the opportunity to be employed in CIE. Individuals must have access to information, benefits counseling, transition planning, job training, career exploration and information and support for inclusive post-secondary education. New or expanded pathways to CIE must be developed and supported, including apprenticeships and internships.

The Council will work to ensure the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Every Student Succeeds Act, and other federal and state policies to ensure that students with disabilities are provided the services and supports needed to receive quality inclusive education.

The Council will work to ensure the full and robust implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and California's Employment First Law, that policies and practices improve opportunities for and incentivize CIE, to create hiring incentives and supports for all employers and contractors and make the state a model employer.

Identifying & Prioritizing Emerging Issues in the I/DD Community

Every person with a developmental disability should not have to deal with problems that arise due to the emergence of inequality issues in the community. Events in our everyday lives, both due to policy changes and unforeseen events, have the ability to cause unintended consequences for the I/DD community. These issues must be identified and acted upon swiftly to ensure as little harm as possible is inflicted.

The Council will work to ensure any and all emerging issues, including but not limited to dealing with disparity across all I/DD issues, barriers to participating in a community setting, and roadblocks to access for people with I/DD, are dealt with through policy changes.

The Council will work to ensure the Self-Determination Ombudsperson program at the Department of Developmental Services uses its authority to ensure people with I/DD become successful participants in the Self-Determination Program.

Promoting Access to Quality Supports in the Community

Every person with I/DD should be able to fully participate in their communities. The ability to receive quality, individualized services, is the cornerstone for people with I/DD to be safe, healthy, and to promote self-determination, interdependence, and inclusion.

Community-based services/supports require adequate wages for providers; therefore, the state must restore rates. Disparities in access, outcomes, and quality of services and supports must be addressed, and complexities in the service delivery systems must be reduced.

The Council will work to continue to restore the Department of Developmental Services programs cut in 2009, to make meaningful improvements to the service delivery system to reduce disparities, increase transparency and accountability, and increase quality outcomes, support efforts to provide adequate wages to providers for inclusive and quality supports, and work to ensure successful implementation of the Self-Determination Program.

Ensuring Safety in the Community

Every person with I/DD has a right to be safe and must receive emergency preparedness training and training in personal safety. Law enforcement personnel, first responders, emergency medical professionals, and the judicial system must be trained in how to work with people with I/DD (including those who are suspects, victims or witnesses of crimes).

The Council will work to ensure people with I/DD are safe, free from abuse and neglect and have access to services and supports in their communities during all types of disasters or emergencies and an adequate safety net for people in crisis and access to adequate crisis intervention services.

Improving Housing and Community Living

Every person with I/DD should have the opportunity to live in the community. Permanent, affordable, accessible, safe, and sustained housing options must be continually developed. Statewide inclusive living options for individuals with I/DD must be increased and enhanced through access to housing and subsidies, paired promptly, with needed services and supports.

The Council will work to implement the policy recommendations in the Statewide Strategic Framework for Housing and create a dedicated housing fund to support integrated community housing for people with I/DD.

For more information contact: Policy@scdd.ca.gov | (916) 263-7919

What is the State Plan?

- A multi-million-dollar contract (with measurable outcomes) between SCDD and the federal Administration on Community Living (ACL)
- A 5-year strategic plan with goals and objectives that guide the projects and activities of the Council throughout the state

Statewide Survey: Data Analysis

- SCDD received a total of 4,197 survey responses
- People with intellectual/developmental disabilities consistently reported barriers and challenges in the following areas:
 - Housing
 - Health/Safety
 - Employment
- Overall responses also identified regional centers, community-building and inclusion as primary area of concerns, all of which were then integrated into objective language

**According to
the federal
DD Act, the
work of the
Council must
include:**

Self-Advocacy

Systems Change

Capacity-Building

State Plan Structure

There are three (3) goals and six (6) SMART objectives in the State Plan

There is an additional contingency objective available in case of unexpected circumstances in the state

SMART Objectives

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Realistic

Time-phased

Measurable: Projected Number of People Reached

The number of people that the Council is planning to reach through its activities for each objective is based on:

1. Analysis of work completed over the past five (5) years, including the number of people reached;
2. Council staff capacity and available resources; and,
3. Development and implementation of the Council's annual work plan.

Measurable Projections

The numbers provided in each of the draft State Plan objectives will be spread out over five (5) years of the next (2027-2031) State Plan period.

2027 – 2031

Draft State Plan

2027-2031 State Plan

Goal 1: Self-Advocacy

By 2031, the Council will increase the number of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities to become effective self-advocates, peer trainers, and/or community leaders.

Objectives

1.1

By 2031, the Council will reach 10,000 self-advocates with community-building activities, training, events, projects and resources that build their capacity for self-governance and to become effective, active leaders, peer trainers and mentors.

1.2

By 2031, the Council will reach 5,000 self-advocates, representing California's population, to be active in cross-disability and peer networks and groups by providing support and peer advocacy/leadership opportunities.

1.3

In the event of unexpected project opportunities, emerging needs, and/or community, cross-regional or statewide requests, the Council may engage in additional activities with and/or on behalf of family and self-advocates and those who support and serve them.

Goal 2: Systems Change/Advocacy

By 2031, the Council will lead, in partnership with family/self-advocates and others, to protect and enhance civil rights and improve statewide and community-based systems to be fully inclusive and supportive of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.

Objectives

2.1

By 2031, the Council will develop, improve and/or change 40 practices, 25 policies, and 15 regulations (or guidance) and/or laws in the systems of regional centers, community-based services, education, and government entities. This work will include the areas of health/safety, employment, housing, and/ or emerging issues in ways that will benefit people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and protect their civil rights, promote full inclusion, and/or provide additional supports and services.

2.2

By 2031, the Council will support 50,000 people (family/self-advocates and others) by engaging in 20 Statewide/Cross-regional/regional systems change efforts/projects/events in the areas of health/safety, employment, housing, self-determination, and/or emerging issues to:

1. Provide them information, skills and/or supports to increase their abilities to become effective advocates;
2. Engage in professional training and/or other efforts to implement systems, demonstrate or support systems change; and/or,
3. Increase services and/or improve supports for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.

Goal 3: Capacity-Building/Advocacy

By 2031, the Council will increase partnerships with and support more people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, so they know their rights and can advocate for and receive personalized services.

Objectives

3.1

By 2031, the Council will increase the capacity of 50,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with assistance and resources to identify and obtain the supports and services they need, by:

1. Providing (staff-led, peer-led and/or collaborative) training,
2. Providing technical assistance (TA)/advocacy clinics and/or resources, and
3. Establishing and/or collaborating with and supporting family-advocate groups/networks

3.2

By 2031, the Council will engage in projects and events in the areas of health/safety, housing, employment, education, and/or emerging issues, reaching 35,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with opportunities for community inclusion and family peer support networks that increase their knowledge and capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.

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State Plan Committee Recommendation

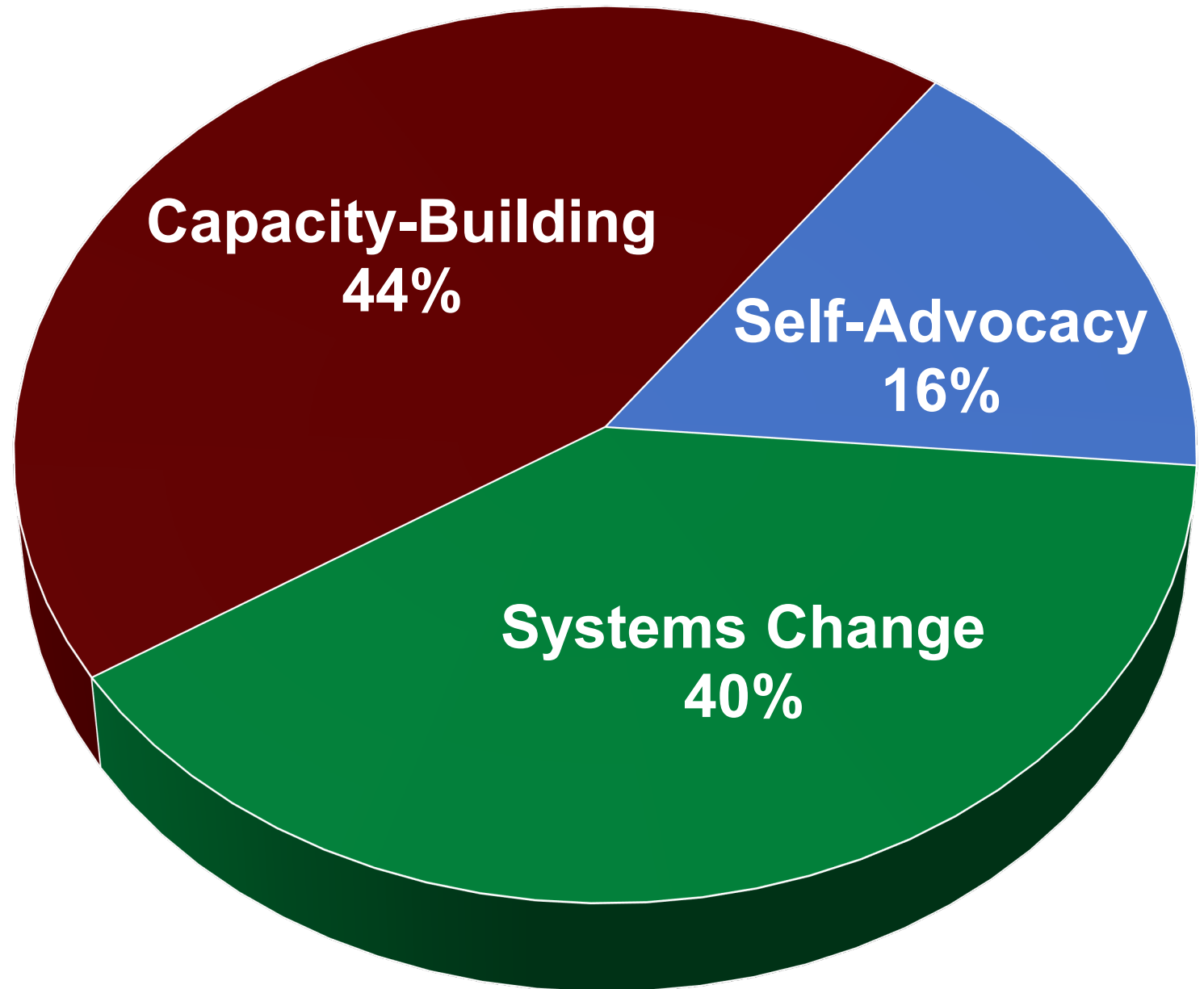
The State Plan Committee is recommending that the Council adopt the 2027-2031 State Plan, as presented, and open the 45-day Public Comment period.

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2025 PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT (PPR)

2025
Activities by
Goal Area
(not including TA)



GOAL 1

SELF-ADVOCACY

Council's Self-Advocacy Efforts



9 Statewide &
32 Regional
Self-Advocacy Chats



1 Statewide &
14 Regional
Self-Advocacy Groups



75 Trainings &
502 Peer Leaders
Prepped



8 Self-Advocacy Projects
4 Events
3 Cycle Grant Projects

GOAL 2

SYSTEMS CHANGE

& ADVOCACY

Council's Systems Change Efforts



**Monitored 239
Systems/Entities**



1,250 Meetings



**156 Trainings &
2,772 Professionals
trained**



**3 Statewide Projects
12 Regional Projects**

Systems Change Initiatives: Policy Work

Supported 18 bills

Monitored 84 bills

Professional Capacity- Building

74 trainings in 32 counties

- Education/ Childcare (3)
- Employment (7)
- Health (2)
- Safety/First Responders (46)
- Disaster Response (2)
- Housing (4)
- Formal/Informal service providers (9)
- Policymakers (1)

GOAL 3

CAPACITY-BUILDING & ADVOCACY

Council's Capacity-Building Efforts



1,095 Collaborative Meetings



Provided TA to 9,090 People



478 Trainings & 248 Peer Leaders Prepped



27 Capacity-Building Projects & 121 Events

Disparity Outreach

Activities Serving Diverse Populations

- **85** Mental illness
- **128** African-American
- **63** Asian
- **287** Cross-disabilities
- **97** Elders
- **61** Native/Tribal/Alaskan Native
- **30** Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander
- **790** Hispanic/Spanish-speaking
- **60** Homeless/Unhoused
- **67** Rural/Frontier
- **36** LGBTQIA+
- **16** Veterans
- **20** Refugee
- **92** Other

Disparity Outreach

Activities Inclusive of non-English Languages

- 1 Arabic
- 1 Armenian
- 38 Chinese
- 1 Farsi
- 1 Hmong
- 7 Indigenous Languages
- 24 Japanese
- 37 Korean
- 1 Pashto/Dari
- 2 Russian
- 91 Sign Language
- 1,224 Spanish
- 24 Tagalog
- 3 Thai
- 59 Vietnamese

2025 Collaborative Partners

Federal Partners

DRC

UCD Mind Institute

UCLA Tarjan Center

USC Children's Hospital

State Agencies/Depts

Cal Able

CDPH

Cal OES

CHHS

Caltrans

DDS

CDA

DOJ

CDE

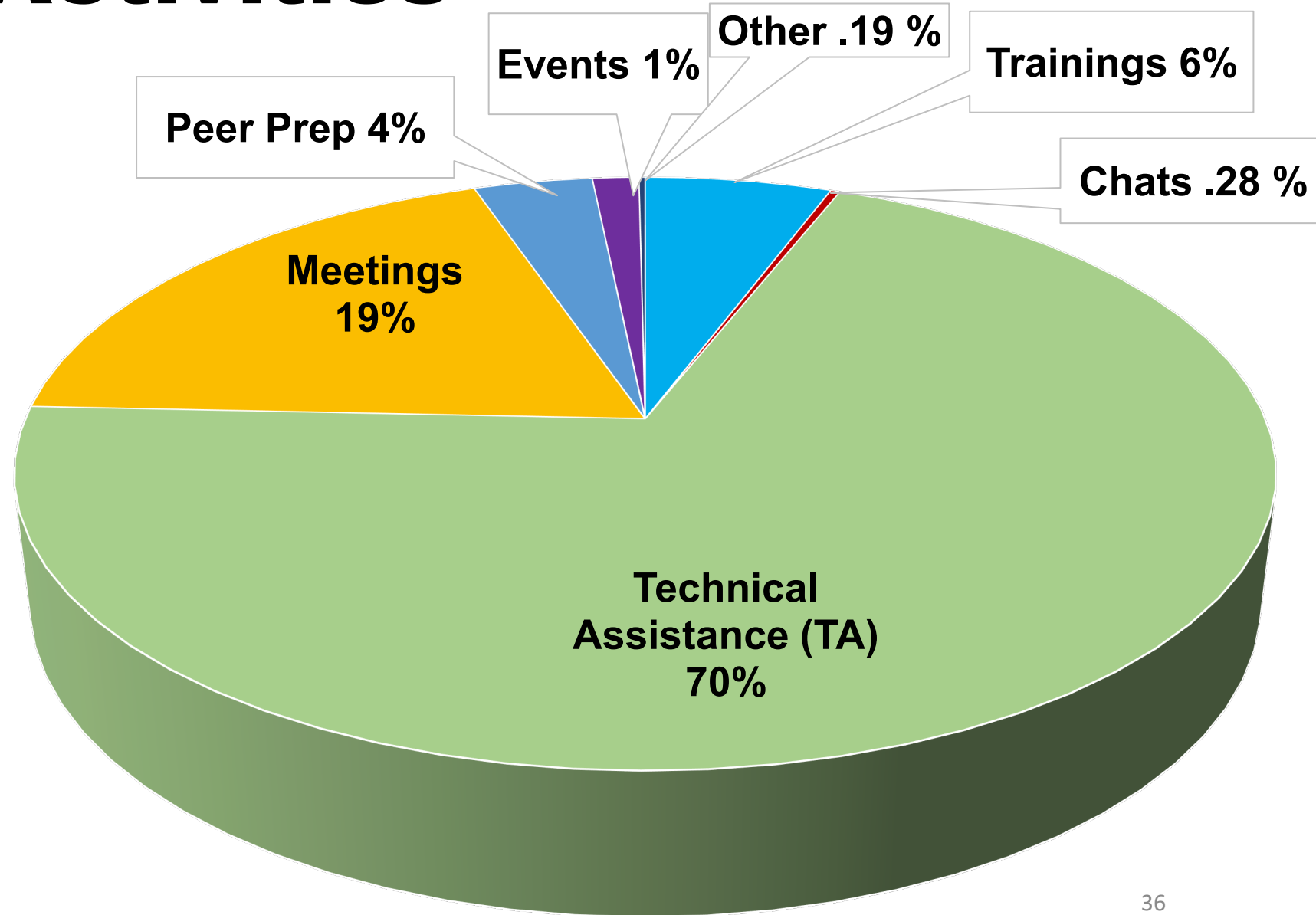
DOR

Other State & Local Collaborative Partners

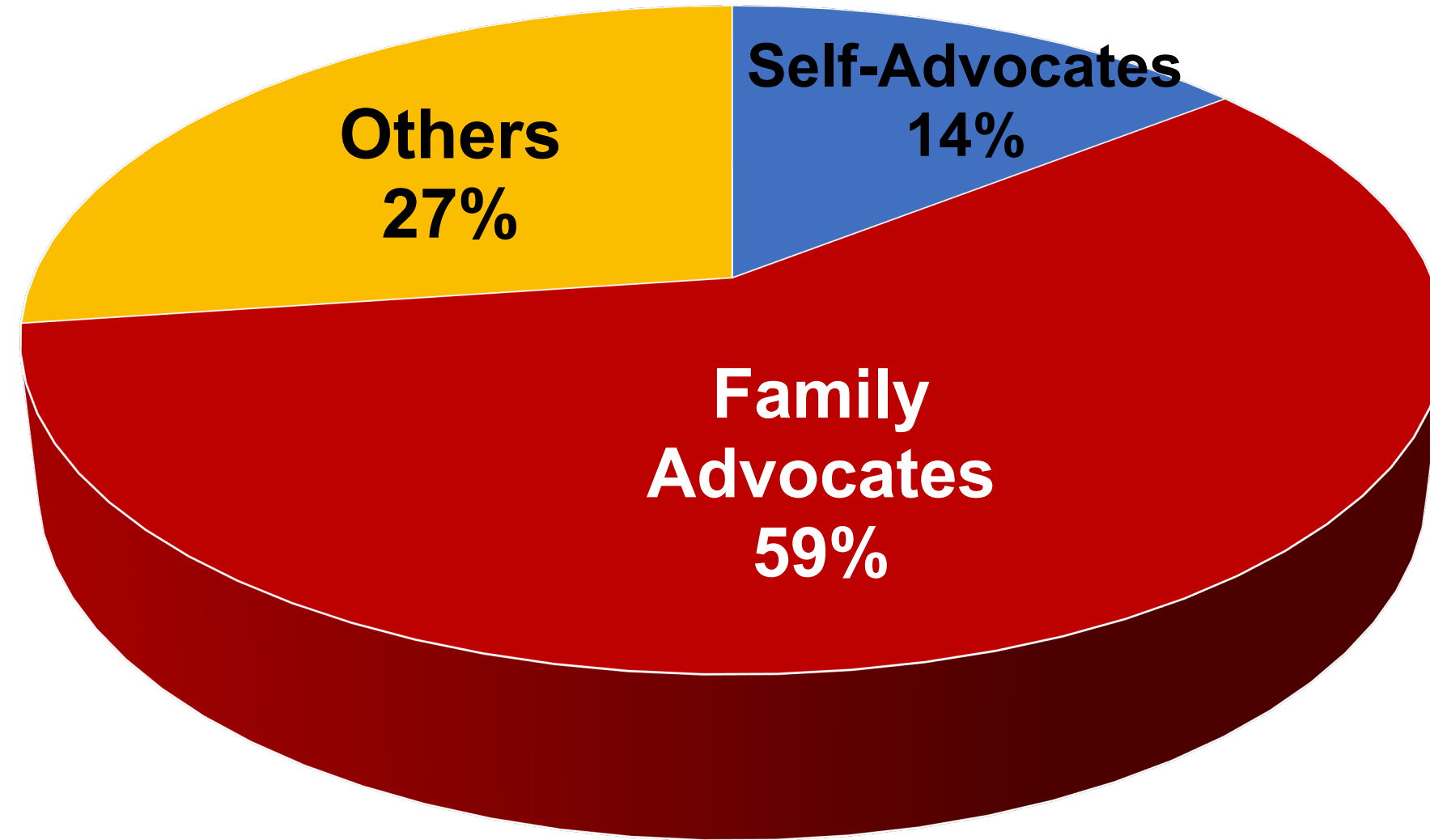
- **Over 938 entities throughout the state**
(e.g. regional centers, school districts, community-based organizations, etc.)

2025 Major Activities

**Total # of
Activities:
14,170**



2025: Total People Trained (all Goals)

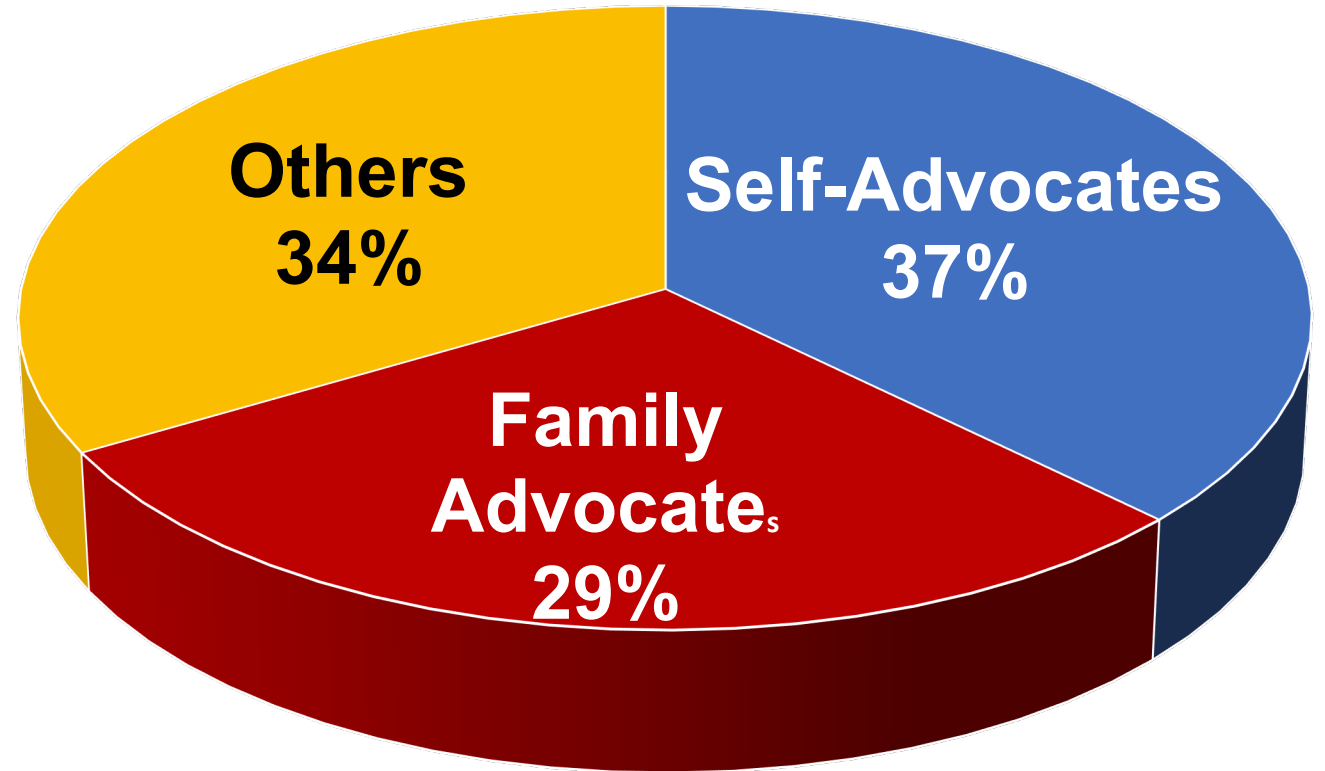


Total
trainings:
810

Total people
trained:
23,347

2025: Total Technical Assistance

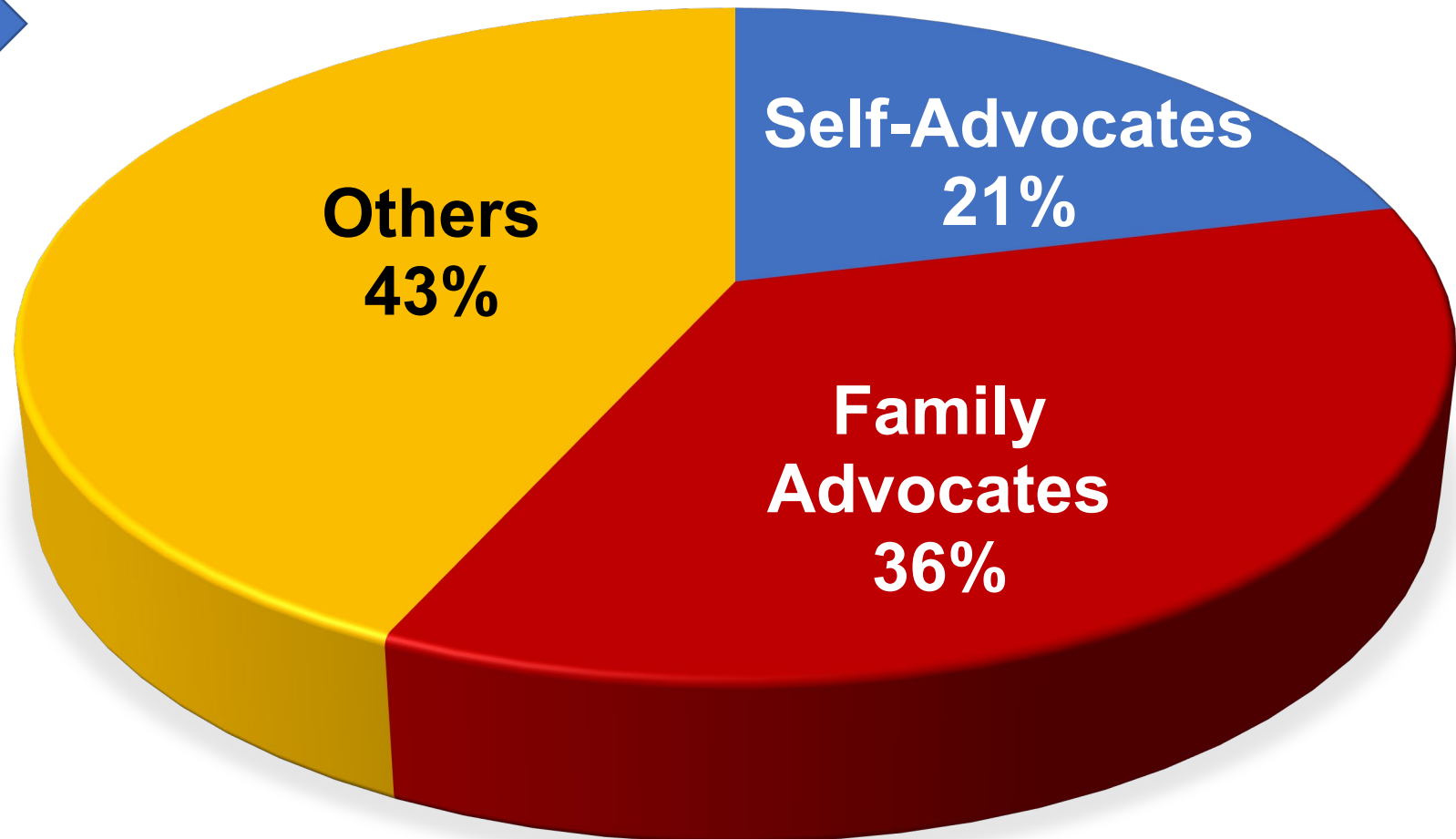
**Total People
reached
through TA:
13,450**



2025 Total People Reached

(through trainings, meetings, events & technical assistance)

**91,769
people**



Federal Performance Measures



93% SA & FA
increased advocacy as
result of the Council's
work



93% are better able to
say what they want or
what is important to
them



97% satisfaction
rate



Total number of Californians directly reached through SCDD activities and outreach efforts in 2025:

137,211



Total number of Californians impacted
through SCDD activities and outreach
efforts in 2025:

3,039,586



The State Council on Developmental Disabilities' (SCDD) Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) is taking *applications for membership!*

RACs represent the communities they represent, including geographically and ethnically. The Bay Area RAC is especially interested in meeting: **Applicants from Marin County**, identifying as a male or nonbinary; and /or identifying as a self-advocate; and/or identifying as Latino/a or Hispanic, Black, or African American.

Thank you for your continued efforts in being a voice for the community!

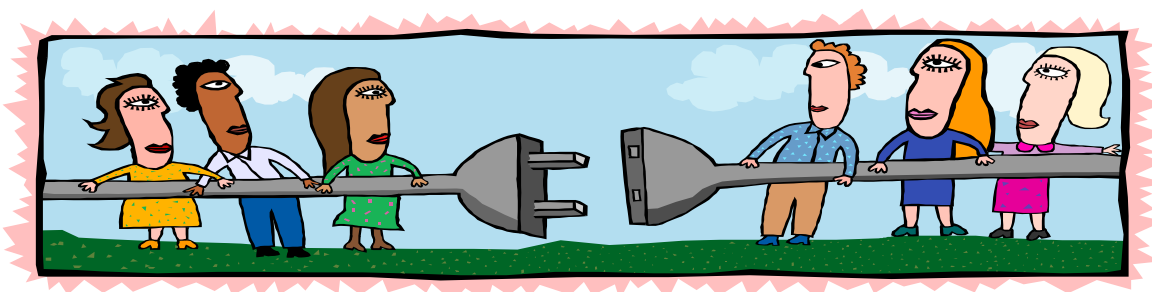
Appointed RAC members:

- Advise SCDD and its Regional Office on local issues in Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Alameda, and Contra Costa counties.
- Identify and provide input regarding local systemic needs within its communities.
- Provide public information programs /events for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, families, professional groups, and the general public to increase awareness of areas identified in the SCDD state plan; and more!

To apply online:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepqt80u578ELHgcPJNzsjO71PPvxZ1txZn77P5Cm6iVbvBzg/viewform?c=0&w=1>

Contact us for more information: bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call 510.286.0439





State Council on Developmental Disabilities



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Gavin Newsom, Governor

• website • www.scdd.ca.gov

• email • bayarea@scdd.ca.gov

1515 Clay Street, Suite 803

Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 286-0439

2025-2026 Schedule of State Council Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meetings (Hybrid meetings)

Members of the public are welcomed and encouraged to participate in these Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meetings, in-person or over teleconference.

These meetings comply with Government Code Sections 11123.1, 11123.2, and 11125(f). Specific meeting details and accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found at least 10 days prior to the meeting at:

www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/. There may be members of the public body who are participating in the meeting that were granted a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations.

Individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in any meeting should contact us at bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call us at **510.286.0439**, a least five (5) business days before that meeting.

Those with other accessibility requests, including language interpretation and/or ASL interpretation, should contact us at bayarea@scdd.ca.gov or call us at **510.286.0439**, a least five (5) business days before that meeting.

Networking from 5:15 PM to 5:30 PM, RAC Meeting from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

September 24, 2025: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in Alameda County

December 03, 2025: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in Contra Costa County

February 25, 2026: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in San Mateo County

April 29, 2026: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in Marin County

June 24, 2026: Hybrid meeting, in-person location in San Francisco

"The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families."



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Calendario 2025-2026 del Concilio Estatal Reuniones del Comité Asesor Regional (RAC) del Área de la Bahía

Se da la bienvenida y se alienta a los miembros del público a participar en estas reuniones del Comité Asesor Regional (RAC) del Area de la Bahía.

Estas reuniones cumplen con las secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11123.2 del Código del Gobierno, así como con las secciones 11123.1, 11123.2 y 11125(f). Los detalles específicos de la reunión y los formatos accesibles de todos los temas y materiales se pueden encontrar al menos 10 días antes de la reunión en:

www.scdd.ca.gov/bayarea/. Puede haber miembros del público que estén participando en la reunión a los que se les haya concedido una acomodación razonable según la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA). Los miembros pueden estar físicamente presentes en una o más teleconferencias.

Las personas con discapacidad que necesiten formatos alternativos accesibles del programa y los materiales relacionados y/o ayudas auxiliares/servicios para participar en cualquier reunión deben comunicarse con nosotros a través de bayarea@scdd.ca.gov o llámenos al 510.286.0439 al menos cinco (5) días hábiles antes de esa reunión.

Aquellos que tengan otras solicitudes de accesibilidad, incluyendo interpretación en idiomas y/o ASL, deben contactarnos a bayarea@scdd.ca.gov o llamarnos al 510.286.0439, por lo menos cinco (5) días hábiles antes de esa reunión.

Oportunidad de red 5:15 PM a 5:30 PM, Reunión de 5:30 PM a 8:00 PM.

24/9/2025 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de Alameda

3/12/2025 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de Contra Costa

25/2/2026 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de San Mateo

29/4/2026 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de Marin

24/6/2026 Reunión híbrida, ubicación en persona en el condado de San Francisco

"The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families."