



## State Plan Committee Meeting Minutes October 29, 2025

### Attending Members

Jessica Brown, Chair (FA)  
Cathay Liu (FA)  
Julio Garnica (SA)  
Larry Yin (UCEDD)  
Nestor Nieves (SA)

### Members Absent

Harold Ashe (FA)

### Others Attending

Austin Murphy  
Barbara Imle  
Brian Hoang  
David Delgado  
Janet Fernandez  
Rihana Ahmad  
Sam Wijesiriwardane

#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Jessica Brown (FA) called the meeting to order at 10:34 AM

#### 2. **ESTABLISH QUORUM**

A quorum was established.

#### 3. **WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

Members and others introduced themselves.

#### 4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments

#### 5. **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2025 MINUTES**

It was moved/seconded (Yin [UCEDD]/Garnica [SA]) and carried to approve the August 2025 meeting minutes, as presented (All members present voted to approve. Cathay Liu was not present for the vote. (See Page 1 for a list of members present).

## 6. 2027 – 2031 STATE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

### Overview of Statewide Survey Results

Branch Chief of Headquarters Operations David Delgado and Chief Deputy Director Rihana Ahmad presented results for the 2027-2031 State Plan Development survey. SCDD received 4,197 responses, with family members comprising the largest respondent group at 2,641. Geographic and demographic distribution closely mirrored California's population. Staff noted that response rates were affected by the current political climate, survey fatigue, and staffing transitions at several Regional Offices. Members requested comparative data from the previous survey, including trends analysis and geographic distribution of self-advocate responses. Staff committed to providing this information at the next meeting.

### Development of Objective Language

Staff advised the Committee to develop objectives based on the SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic & Time-Phased) model as recommended by federal feedback. The Committee began by reviewing goal language and developing objectives for Goal 1 (Self-Advocacy) and Goal 3 (Capacity-Building).

#### Goal 1 (Self-Advocacy):

Members discussed the term "stronger" and suggested alternatives such as "better informed," "more knowledgeable," and "increasing advocacy." The committee agreed to revisit this word choice at the next meeting.

**Objective 1** – Members agreed on the language below, with the term “stronger” to be revisited:

*“By 2031, the Council will reach \_\_\_ self-advocates with community-building activities, training, events, projects and resources that build their capacity for self-governance and to become **stronger**, more active leaders, peer trainers and mentors.”*

**Objective 2** – Staff presented federal feedback recommending concise and plain language. Members agreed on the language below:

*“By 2031, the Council will reach \_\_\_ 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.”*

### **Goal 3: (Capacity-Building)**

No changes were made.

**Objective 1** – Members agreed on the language below:

*“By 2031, the Council will increase the capacity of \_\_\_ people with assistance and resources to identify and obtain the supports and services to help people with intellectual/developmental disabilities live a safer and healthier life, by:*

- 1. Providing (staff-led, peer-led and/or collaborative) training to \_\_\_ people (family/self-advocates/others), and*
- 2. Providing technical assistance (TA)/advocacy clinics and/or resources, reaching \_\_\_ people.”*

**Objective 2** – Members discussed focus areas based on statewide survey responses. Staff clarified that regional center work would be addressed through training in Objective 1 and systems change activities in Goal 2, which is addressed through the annual work plan.

The committee agreed on the final focus areas, including health and safety, housing, employment, education, and emerging issues, in the order of priority, as indicated by survey results. Members agreed on the language below:

*“By 2031, the Council will engage in projects and events in the areas of health/safety, housing, employment, education, and/or emerging issues reaching \_\_\_ 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.”*

Goal 2 (Systems Change) will be reviewed at the next meeting after additional research is considered.

## **7. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2025. The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 PM.