

Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 21, 2022
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

Recorder: Sedona B.

Zoom Meeting

Present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS (*=Appointed By): Robert Miland Taylor (RCRC*), Pam Jensen (SCDD*), Clifford Black (CRA), Frank Van Curen (SCDD*)

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COMMITTEE: Sheila Keys (RCRC), Mary Block (RCRC), Sedona Bowser (RCRC), Julie Eby-McKenzie (SCDD)

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Allan Smith (Community), Barbara Sprout (Community), Chris Miller (Community), Christine Ibia (Community), George Jirout (Community), Kari Elkins (Community), Joe Hernandez (SCDD), Roshan Ashford (Community), Sheri Steinmetz (RCRC), Sherry Erickson (Community), Valerie Johnson (Community)

Absent Committee Members: None

Common Abbreviations:

CRA (Client Rights Advocate), **DDS** (Department of Developmental Services), **DVU** (Disability Voices United), **FMS** (Financial Management Services), **FRC** (Family Resource Center), **IF** (Independent Facilitator), **PDS** (Participant Directed Services), **PCT** (Person Centered Training), **RC** (Regional Center), **RCRC** (Redwood Coast Regional Center), **SC** (Service Coordinator), **SCDD** (State Council on Developmental Disabilities), **SDAC** (Self-Determination Advisory Committee), **SDP** (Self-Determination Program), **SSDAC** (Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee)

Minutes:

1. **Welcome, Introductions, Roll Call, and Select a Timekeeper (Robert):**
 - a. Sedona identified all who are in attendance.
 - b. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
 - c. Pam J. was selected as Timekeeper.

2. **Review, Discussion and Approval of 11/19/2021 Minutes (Robert):**

Motion: Pam J. moves to accept the 11/19/2021 minutes with no corrections.

Second: Frank VC.

Roll call vote:

 - Robert Taylor (Yes)
 - Pam Jensen (Yes)
 - Frank Van Curen (Yes)
 - Clifford Black (Yes)

Motion PASSED

3. Update on November Action Items (Robert):

- a. **ACTION: Katie will email Sedona the SDP Ombudsperson PowerPoint and Sedona will email it to the SDAC group.**
 - i. (Done 11/19)
- b. **ACTION: Sedona will send the committee the updated 2022 SDAC Meeting Schedule with the January agenda.**
 - i. (Done)
- c. **ACTION: Sedona to add a standing agenda item “Participant and Family Sharing - What’s Working and Not Working” after Action Items on the agenda.**
 - i. (Done)
- d. **ACTION: Sedona to email Jennifer G to add to the RCRC Newsletter and social media and RCRC website about the Participant and Family Sharing agenda item on ongoing agendas.**
 - i. (Done 12/15)
- e. **ACTION: Sheila will organize an outreach letter to current SDP participants and those who have completed an orientation.**
 - i. (Pending)
- f. **ACTION: Sedona will remove “Outreach with FNRC” from the agenda and Sheila will notify once communication has continued with FNRC.**
 - i. (Done)
- g. **ACTION: Sedona will add an agenda item in January for Robert’s SSDAC Meeting for 20 minutes.**
 - i. (Done)
- h. **ACTION: Sheila will email out the flyer for the next SD Conversation Zoom.**
 - i. (Pending)
- i. **ACTION: Sedona will update and Sheila will mail the SD Participant Choice Specialist Funding Letter.**
 - i. (Sent to Sheila 12/21)

4. Participant and Family Sharing – What’s Working and What’s Not Working (Community):

Valerie Johnson was thankful for this additional agenda item. Valerie is sharing on behalf of her partner that they have found the SDP system incredibly difficult to navigate. On their second year they are still struggling to get assistance, for various reasons. They get the impression that staff are overburdened and the staffing infrastructure is a problem. Valerie requested that support continue after enrollment as well as the initial enrollment. She did share that their direct support worker is wonderful but the FMS situation was not satisfactory causing one of their most important support providers to not be paid since October, not for lack of trying, and required involving Katie (Ombudsperson). Communication needs to be better. Our experience has been a 5 on a scale of 1-10. Pam asked Valerie if any penalties for non-payment have occurred and being addressed? RCRC was aware of the situation but

was not responsive. Valerie said meetings with Katie seem to be bringing resolution. Julie is also hoping that once RCRC has a designated position for SDP then these problems won't continue. Julie also shared a link on Facebook to get opinions on SDP which can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/475398989897788>.

- a. **ACTION: Julie requested "Complaint Resolution Process" be added to the next agenda for 20 minutes.**

Mary shared that there are two new positions at RCRC for Participant Choice, one for Lake/Mendo and one for Humboldt/Del Norte. The southern position has been given to Sheila Keys, starting March 16th, but she will still be phasing out of her other duties. They are still taking applications for the northern position.

5. Recruiting for Del Norte, Humboldt and FRC SDAC Vacant Positions (Sheila): Sheila shared that a lot of outreach has been made. Chris Miller, Director of Training and Advocacy at HCAR is the new Humboldt County committee member designated by RCRC. Chris will have to abstain from any votes that may be a conflict of interest with HCAR's involvement with SDP, but otherwise he is a full functioning committee member effective immediately. Julie shared that they have identified a person for SCDD to represent Mendo Coast and once she receives her appointment letter she will be announced, hopefully by the next SDAC meeting.

- a. **ACTION: Sedona will add Chris to the SDAC Roster and forward an updated roster to the committee.**

6. DDS Funding to Support Implementation of SDP: Request for Proposal (RFP) Update (Sheila): The RFP review and interview teams have met a couple of times last month. We awarded half of the monies for the Fiscal Year (FY) 20/21 to HCAR in Humboldt County. We are working on a comprehensive list of deliverables and HCAR will identify how they propose to make use of the monies. The FY 20/21 SDP transition funding has to be spent by March 31, 2023. Frank, Pam, Clifford, Julie and Kari volunteered to help with determining details. We are also putting out a revised RFP for the other half of the monies to serve the southern counties. The FY 19/20 funding has to be spent by March 31, 2021. HCAR has agreed to collaborate with the SDAC on ways to utilize the funds to improve access to and support for people seeking to enroll in and who are already enrolled in SDP. Frank, Pam, Clifford, Julie and Kari volunteered to help with determining how those funds will be used.

7. State Council Report (Julie): Joe Hernandez (SCDD) introduced himself and his background with SDP and that he is now working on a statewide training orientation with DDS that addresses plain language and breaks down various modules for easier understanding and works in collaboration with Regional Center orientations. These orientations are projected to be ready by March. Joe's committee is having conversations about the various issues that are being made known, such as FMS issues,

etc. He will be compiling all of this information and producing a publication at a later date. The next statewide meeting is scheduled for Feb 15th. If you go to the SCDD website you will find the agenda and Zoom link.

8. SSDAC Report (Robert): Robert shared that the minutes can be found on the DDS website. Some items addressed included an introduction of the Self-Determination Ombudsman and their roles, updates on the statewide rollout, and an overview of a Q&A session. The next meeting is in May, the date to be determined. Valerie and Pam think a satisfaction survey should be sent out to the SDP participants and suggested having an adhoc committee discuss survey questions and bring them back to a SDAC meeting.
 - a. **ACTION: Pam will contact Sedona to set up a Zoom meeting for Valerie, Pam, Frank, Robert and Chris to meet as an adhoc committee.**
9. DDS/RCRC Update on SDP Participation Transition (Sheila): Since the last meeting there have been 7 orientations. One person is very close to enrollment, another planning to start next month. However, one (enrolled) participant has passed away and another may be leaving SDP due to not using services.
10. Recruitment of Independent Facilitators (Sheila): Welcome Kari Elkins, our first Humboldt based IF. She has completed all IF training and is being connected in Humboldt. Kari was a Service Coordinator at the Eureka RCRC office for the last three years but recently left to assist her son who is a client as well as making herself available to others.
11. Self-Determination Conversations Update (Sheila): The next meeting is March 4th and Sheila will send a flyer out this afternoon. This is another place to share frustrations and support one another.
12. Resource Sharing/Community Input (Community): Frank shared that he is now engaged to be married! Robert updated on tsunami warnings that were recently experienced after the volcano eruption in Tonga, he and encourages everyone to be familiar with their emergency preparedness and safety plans. Sherry asked if RCRC and SCDD have masks available, to which Sheila shared that people can contact their Service Coordinators for masks and there are also links on the website to request them. Mary also shared RCRC has medical gowns available. Julie also shared each household can order 4 Covid testing kits from USPS at <https://www.covidtests.gov>.
13. Meeting Recap (Action Items below):
 - a. **November ACTION: Sheila will organize an outreach letter to current SDP participants and those who have completed an orientation.**
 - b. **November ACTION: Sheila will email out the flyer for the next SD**

Conversation Zoom.

- c. **ACTION:** Julie requested "Complaint Resolution Process" be added to the next agenda for 20 minutes.
- d. **ACTION:** Sedona will add Chris to the SDAC Roster and forward an updated roster to the committee.
- e. **ACTION:** Pam will contact Sedona to set up a Zoom meeting for Valerie, Pam, Frank, Robert and Chris to meet as an adhoc committee.

14. Adjourn the meeting (Robert): Meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

The next meeting is set for February 25, 2022.

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Prepared by: S. Bowser (01/21/2022)