

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, January 20, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**

Recorder: Sedona B.

In-Person and Zoom Meeting

**Present:**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS (\*=Appointed By):** Frank Van Curen (SCDD\*), Robert Miland Taylor (RCRC\*), Chris Miller (RCRC\*), Pam Jensen (SCDD\*), Roshan Ashford (SCDD\*)

**REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COMMITTEE:** Sheila Keys (RCRC), Sedona Bowser (RCRC), Alex Chesstell (RCRC), Julie Eby-McKenzie (SCDD)

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** Christopher Aquire (Community), Corinne Sixkiller (Community), Crisalyn Miranda (OCRA), Deborah Wyman (Community), Nicole Hugelshofer (RCRC), Sherry Erickson (Community), Valerie Johnson (Community)

**Absent Committee Members:** Clifford Black (OCRA)

**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 (Frank):**
  - a. Sedona identified all who are in attendance.
  - b. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
  - c. Roshan A. was selected as Timekeeper.
  
2. **Review, Discussion and Approval of 11/18/2022 Minutes (Frank):**

**Motion:** Chris M. moves to accept the 11/18/2022 minutes with recommended corrections.

**Second:** Frank VC.

**Roll call vote:**

  - Frank Van Curen (Yes)
  - Robert Taylor (Yes)
  - Chris Miller (Yes)
  - Roshan Ashford (Yes)

**Motion** PASSED

3. Update on November Action Items (Frank):
  - a. **ACTION: Elizabeth will help Frank organize issues to take to the Statewide SDAC meeting.**
    - i. Elizabeth and Frank were unable to connect, however, Chris M attended the meeting and represented this committee.
  - b. **ACTION: Sheila and Pam will mail out the survey letters by the end of November 2022.**
    - i. The flyer went out on 01/11/23. Spanish translation took some time and consideration of the holidays we chose to wait till after the New Year.
  - c. **ACTION: Sedona will reduce the “Adhoc Committee: SDP Survey Update” agenda item to 5 minutes.**
    - i. Done
4. Participant and Family Sharing – What’s Working and What’s Not Working (Community):

No comments were shared.
5. Statewide SDAC Report (Chris):
  - a. The SDAC has a workgroup that advises DDS on some of the current issues that Self-Determination is facing, such as the difficulties with FMS. FMS agencies continue to say no to people being able to purchase things on credit cards that may be needed which makes it harder to purchase what they may need. The workgroup is also working on the development of the 099 Transition Support Development. This workgroup currently has a vacancy which should be filled by someone from RCRC.
    - i. The committee discussed who would represent this SDAC. Frank would typically be that representative but he asked Chris to represent in his place and Chris accepted. Julie will keep both Frank and Chris on the notification loops for future information communications.
    - ii. **ACTION: Sedona will update the RCRC website to reflect the current SDAC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and add Roshan as a member.**
  - b. DDS is going through a restructuring and created a new department that includes SDP which is under Deputy Director Vicky Smith. Tim Travis left DDS to take a director position at the regional center he worked for before. Suzy Requarth, who was the SDP ombudsperson, has been moved to Acting Manager of the SDP program. She will oversee SDP for DDS.
  - c. SD Update from DDS
    - i. Those enrolled in SDP as of 10/22 is 2046. We had a discussion on disparities in the SDP program. Numbers of those who are black or Latinx are very low compared to those in the program who are English speakers.
    - ii. Those with Autism are overrepresented in the SDP program compared to those who have other conditions.
    - iii. Suzy from DDS reported that Adults 18 to 65 are overrepresented as compared to kids and young adults.

- iv. The goal for Suzy in her new role is to help fix the problems with FMS agencies, including their billing systems, rates, and monitoring standards added in last years' trailer bill language.
- d. Ombudspersons Office Report:
    - i. The ombudspersons office had 932 contacts since July 21<sup>st</sup>, 192 were about FMS issues, 175 were general Information calls and 158 of those were in regard to Regional Centers
    - ii. The office wants to focus on internal partnerships and community collaboration with Legal Affairs, HCBS Community Operations and the Director of DDS. The office also wants to reduce issues with enrollment and time it takes to enroll, recommend policy changes for RCs and DDS.
  - e. SDAC Priorities
    - i. Create and establish a best practices platform for SDP
    - ii. Service Coordinator Training
    - iii. Reducing Disparities
  - f. SCDD Report:
    - i. UCLA did a satisfaction survey about SDP. It was not very person-centered and they were asked to rework it.
    - ii. There is a new SCDD SDP lead named Christine Tolbert; she has 20 years with SCDD and she's out of Orange County.
    - iii. Statewide Orientations Training
      - 1. 91 trainings total
      - 2. 61 English
      - 3. 30 Spanish
      - 4. 1 Vietnamese
      - 5. 1236 participants? 935 Certificates?
      - 6. 8 % clients 65% family 25% Professional
  - g. Statewide SDAC Info:
    - i. Local SDAC Concerns
    - ii. Concerns about Transparency and practices
    - iii. Identify training needs
    - iv. Create a workgroup to create more trainings.
6. State Council Report (Julie): Chris's report was very thorough and Julie had very little left to share. Christine has been on the job as SCDD SDP Lead for a while now and doing a great job. If anyone has questions you want passed on to Christine, please let Julie know. Unrelated to SD, the National Core Indicators (NCI) interviews are happening so please encourage people to participate in those surveys.
7. Adhoc Committee: SDP Survey Update (Pam): The survey letters went out and we've had two responses. Sheila reported there was one more recently received; one from Lake and two from Mendocino. Valerie suggested someone might want to do a follow-up phone call to those who have not responded to see if they received it and if they

would like to do an interview. Sheila is hesitant that in combination to our survey, the NCI survey and the UCLA survey we don't want people feeling badgered. Chris suggested we wait a bit longer and then do some follow-up. Sheila also suggested once the digital survey that Barbara is working on is ready we could then make that call and offer that additional option. Sheila will send Pam participants who responded they would be willing to be interviewed and Pam will arrange with the various committee volunteers to facilitate them. Pam will also talk with Barbara to make sure she has the current surveys for the website surveys.

- a. **ACTION: Sheila and Alex will look for a way for interviewers or participants to complete the survey online without paid software.**
8. Recruiting for Del Norte and FRC SDAC Vacant Positions (Sheila/Alex): There is one vacancy in Del Norte and one vacancy for a FRC member. We are frequently requesting suggestions but have had no interest. The RCRC recruitment flyer was updated in November 2022.
  9. DDS Funding to Support Implementation of SDP Update (Sheila/Alex): RCRC supported 14 people to attend the DVU conference on 12/02/22. There are nine potential participants or their family members, one current participant/SDAC member, one PCM, one SDAC vice chairperson. A few Spanish speaking families were informed about the conference by the Integrated Community Collaborative agency, <https://www.integratedcommunitycollaborative.org/>.
    - a. **ACTION: At the next meeting the committee will identify priorities for spending future SD monies.**
  10. Update on SDP Participant Transition, Status of Independent Facilitators and FMSs, and Report on Self-Determination Conversations Meetings (Sheila/Alex):
    - a. Orientations update:
      - i. There are no new views of the RCRC recorded orientation. At least two people have completed the SDAC orientation. The orientation is now available at <https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/>.
        1. **ACTION: Sheila, Alex and Sedona will work on posting links to Orientations on the RCRC website.**
    - b. Enrollments update: NO NEW ENROLLMENTS SINCE 11/18/22
      - i. New enrollments as of 11/18/22: Del Norte - 0, Humboldt - 0, Lake - 0, Mendocino - 1
      - ii. Total Enrolled 43 (1 new, 1 person died)
        1. County: 1 Del Norte, 9 Humboldt, 5 Lake, 28 Mendocino.
        2. Age: 41 Adults, 2 Children (Mendocino)
        3. Primary Language: 1 Spanish (Mendocino), 41 English, 1 Korean
        4. Ethnicity: 3 Spanish/Latinx, 1 Indigenous, 2 Multi-cultural, 36 White, 1 Korean
        5. Total on SD Waiver: 32 (1 died)

- iii. Enrolled since 7/1/21: 9 people, average time from orientation to enrollment is 7 months
    - iv. Expected enrollments next month: 0 Humboldt, 1 Mendocino, 0 Lake, 0 Del Norte
    - v. Actively Planning: 2 Del Norte, 5 Humboldt, 3 Mendocino, 2 Lake
  - c. Independent Facilitator Update: No changes from previous report.
  - d. FMS Update:
    - i. Ritz Vocational Service was added at RCRC in April 2022, but so far no one is using them. DDS recently updated the RCRC page for FMS's to include Ritz. In late November, we learned that RCRC was given incorrect vendor information for GT Independence from their home regional center. The correct information is now in place and reprocessing needed authorizations.
  - e. SD Conversations Meetings:
    - i. There was no meeting last month. The next meeting is scheduled for 01/27/23 at 3:00 p.m.
  - f. Service Coordinator Support/Training:
    - i. PCMs have been providing ongoing support as needed to SC for budget calculation, spending plans and working with IFS.
    - ii. Joined several meetings with participants and potential participants at the request of the person or SC team to provide information and guidance related to SD.
    - iii. Monthly SC Training: Will resume in February 2023.
    - iv. Monthly SC Roundtable: Will resume in February 2023.
- 11. DDS Directives (Sheila/Alex): There were no new directives since our last meeting. RCRC & DDS monthly meetings will resume in February.
  - a. DDS provided an update on 12/16/22 at the SCDD Statewide SDAC meeting. Chris M reported earlier in the meeting.
  - b. SDAC Survey support: On 1/11/23, RCRC mailed a flyer announcing the SDAC survey to all current SD participants. As of 1/18, three people have volunteered to be surveyed, one requested in person, one prefers by telephone and one prefers via zoom. RCRC will send another batch of flyers out soon, to people who were selected to enroll, attended orientation but have not yet enrolled.
- 12. Initial Person Centered Planning and Transition Services (Sheila/Alex):
  - a. General Self-Directed Transition Support service providers:
    - i. One provider is now available to provide SD transition support services. There is one person/family interested in using this service as soon as their

person-centered plan is completed and approved, which could be any day now.

- ii. We have also identified a concern with the rate set by DDS which we are now working to resolve. The rate does not allow for adequate reimbursement for mileage to cover our rural geography. We are seeking an exception to cover that additional expense.
  - iii. One local agency has been developing a service design to provide General Transition Support Services in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.
- b. FMS Transition Support Service providers:
- i. NO CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS REPORT: DDS reported that 3 FMS agencies that RCRC has available to provide FMS services, Aveanna, Mains'I and Ritz Vocational services have all started the process of getting vendored by their home RCs for this service. RCRC is requesting courtesy use from the other RCs for the new FMS transition support services.

13. Resource Sharing/Community Input (Community):

- a. Pam attended the *Breaking Barriers* conference and enjoyed it. She appreciated being able to access breakout sessions that she couldn't attend via video later. She appreciated discussions that included "the why" and not just the "the how." Chris agreed it was great having so much information and the ability access videos later. Pam will email Sheila her notes to capture priorities for future brainstorming.

14. Add/Remove Agenda Items for Next Meeting (Committee):

15. Meeting Recap (Action Items below):

- a. **ACTION:** Sedona will update the RCRC website to reflect the current SDAC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and add Roshan as a member.
- b. **ACTION:** Sheila and Alex will look for a way for interviewers or participants to complete the survey online without paid software.
- c. **ACTION:** At the next meeting the committee will identify priorities for spending future SD monies.
- d. **ACTION:** Sheila, Alex and Sedona will work on posting links to Orientations on the RCRC website.

16. Adjourn the meeting (Frank): Meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

**The next meeting is set for February 24, 2023.**

*SDAC Mtg Minutes\_2023-01-20*

*Prepared by: S. Bowser (01/20/2023)*