

Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 21, 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*), Pam Jensen (SCDD*), Robert Miland Taylor (RCRC*), Chris Miller (RCRC*), Roshan Ashford (SCDD*), Clifford Black (OCRA)

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

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Deborah Wyman (Community), Kari Elkins (Community), Nicole Hugelshofer (RCRC), Sherry Erickson (Community), Valerie Johnson (Community)

Absent Committee Members:

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), **PCM** (Participant Choice Manager), **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. Pam J. was selected as Timekeeper.

2. **Review, Discussion and Approval of 03/17/2022 Minutes (Frank):**

Motion: Chris M. moves to accept the 03/17/2022 minutes as is.

Second: Cliff B.

Roll call vote:

Frank Van Curen (Yes)
Pam Jensen (Yes)
Robert Taylor (Yes)
Chris Miller (Yes)
Roshan Ashford (Yes)
Clifford Black (Yes)

Motion PASSED

3. Update on March Action Items (Frank):
 - a. **FEBRUARY ACTION:** Barbara will email the committee some plain language directions for accessing the SDP surveys online using the QQR code and link, and include a PDF of the survey. She will also include a draft flyer with this information.
 - i. In progress.
 - b. **FEBRUARY ACTION:** Sheila and Alex will draft an email to DDS with the spending priorities to the transition fund and send it to the members of the committee before sending to DDS.
 - i. In progress. Sheila and Alex will review with the committee during the meeting.
 - c. **ACTION:** Pam will work with the Adhoc Committee to rework the survey flyer to be more user friendly and then send to Sheila and Alex for review prior to the next meeting.
 - i. Pam shared the flyer during the meeting.
 - d. **ACTION:** Adhoc Committee will further discuss an incentive plan for completing the surveys and share at the next meeting.
 - i. Committee met.
 - e. **ACTION:** Sheila will look into potential incentive gift card options.
 - i. Sheila is still researching options.
4. Participant and Family Sharing – What’s Working and What’s Not Working (Community):
 - a. Robert is working with Aveanna to get a laptop update. They are requiring Robert to meet with his SC a full month prior to meeting about his services. If a complaint needs to be made, keep RCRC informed but reach out to the Ombudsperson for assistance.
 - b. Kari (IF) shared that they use Aveanna for respite and have not had any major issues with them, even though their programs are very technical and confusing. Also, after Aveanna changed all their rules, everyone wants to try Mains’l but they are always full and aren’t accepting new clients. She shared that although everyone is frustrated with the quality of their services they appreciate that at least they are getting services and the vendors are getting paid.
 - c. Sherry has tried for 2 months to get on with Mains’l but not been successful but she knows someone who was able to get on. ... Can DDS vendorize FMSs for the entire state rather than having “guests” providers?
 - d. Clifford reminded everyone that the OCRA offers assistance submitting complaints to the Ombudsperson. You can contact OCRA at 707-268-1388.
 - e. Chris shared that the Statewide Council is very much aware of the issue however there doesn’t seem to be a plan of resolution at this time. He is also working on a plan to recruit for another FMS option. It is still in the very early stages of planning.
 - f. Valerie suggested one FMS that seems successful in making things work train or mentor other FMSs. Sheila shared that Mainsl is nationwide and comes from a social service angle, whereas the others seem to come from an insurance provider angle. Kari suggested maybe other money management vendors might add FMS services to their services. Sheila shared DDS has announced a rate increase for FMS providers is in the works but it is unknown when it will happen.

5. State Council Report (Julie): The new SD Manager and Orientations Manager said the Statewide Committee is rolling out an SDP best/promising practice submission form and on a local reporting tool. They are also working on a simplified SDP information sheet that can be translated. Regarding Bagley-Keen meeting requirements, in-person meetings will be required again.
 - a. **ACTION: Sedona will check to make sure all conference rooms are reserved for SDAC meetings for the year.**

6. Adhoc Committee: SDP Survey Update (Pam): The committee met and thought a \$20 gift card for the survey completion would be appropriate, and they completed a draft of the survey flyer, which was shared with the group. Pam will be working on updating the surveys to allow an option for identifying information in order to receive the gift card. Sherry mentioned people are confused who is requesting this survey and asked for a way to identify ourselves. Sheila shared the surveys are sent out in an RCRC envelope. Valerie suggested we just send out the flyer and see what response we get and consider revising it later if needed. She also thinks we should send the gift card out to the six people who have already responded.
 - a. **ACTION: Pam will revise the SDP Survey flyer to identify “Your Local Self-Determination Committee” at the top.**
 - b. **ACTION: Adhoc committee will let Sheila know who they have already done surveys with.**
 - c. **ACTION: Pam will talk to Barbara to find out if there is a way to amend the confidential online survey to identify information to send a gift card.**

Motion: Pam J. moves that the committee send survey participants \$20 gift cards with monies from the DDS implementation funds for completing the SDP survey.

Second: Frank VC.

Roll call vote:

Frank Van Curen (Yes)
 Pam Jensen (Yes)
 Robert Taylor (Yes)
 Chris Miller (Yes)
 Roshan Ashford (Yes)
 Clifford Black (Abstain)

Motion PASSED

7. Recruiting for Del Norte and FRC SDAC Vacant Positions (Sheila/Alex): **Updates from previous month are in bold. Julie is meeting with a consortium of FRCs in Humboldt County on May 10th and she will request their consideration.** 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. **One person has said they were interested but did not make it to the meeting today so we will see how it looks at future meetings.**

8. DDS Funding to Support Implementation of SDP Update (Sheila/Alex): Sheila shared her draft letter to DDS outlining funding priorities: Additional Identified Needs, Recruitment/Training of IFs, Support for Transition to SD; Initial Spending Plan Development.

9. Update on SDP Participant Transition, Status of Independent Facilitators and FMSs, and Report on Self-Determination Conversations Meetings (Sheila/Alex): **Updates from previous month are in bold.**
- a. Orientations update:
 - i. There are no new views of the RCRC recorded orientation. The orientation is available at <https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/>. **One** person reported attending the SCDD orientation.
 - b. Enrollments update: **One person will be exiting SD as of May 1st due to FMS and translation issues.**
 - i. New enrollments: Del Norte - 0, Humboldt - 0, Lake - 0, Mendocino - 0
 - ii. Total Enrolled **41**
 - 1. County: 1 Del Norte, 9 Humboldt, 5 Lake, **26** Mendocino.
 - 2. Age: 40 Adults, **1** Children (Mendocino)
 - 3. Primary Language: **0** Spanish (Mendocino), 40 English, 1 Korean
 - 4. Ethnicity: **2** Spanish/Latinx, **2** Indigenous, **1** Multi-cultural, **35** White, 1 Korean
 - 5. Total on SD Waiver: 31
 - iii. Enrolled since 7/1/21: 10 people, average time from orientation to enrollment is 7 months, over the most recent two enrollments were under 5 months.
 - iv. Expected enrollments next month: 0 Humboldt, 1 Mendocino, 0 Lake, 0 Del Norte
 - v. Actively Planning: 0 Del Norte, 4 Humboldt, 2 Mendocino, 2 Lake
 - c. Independent Facilitator Update:
 - i. Sheila and Alex met with potential new IF in February who is interested in providing services (remotely for now) in the area. **She may be available to start providing services in July.**
 - d. FMS Update: **Alex has been working with Ritz Vocational Services. They recently submitted updated paperwork for e-billing. We are connected with another FMS, Fact Family, but they aren't taking new clients until next year.**
 - e. SD Conversations Meetings: **Meeting held on 3/24/23, 7 people attended. Talked about IF training, SD survey and FMS concerns. Next meeting scheduled for 4/28/23 at 3pm.**
 - f. Service Coordinator Support/Training: Sheila and Alex have been providing ongoing support as needed to SC for budget calculation, spending plans and working with **FMSs** and IFS. We have joined meetings with participants and potential participants at the request of the person or SC team to provide information and guidance related to SD.

- i. Monthly SC Training: **There is no meeting in April. Person Centered Thinking Trainings continue monthly.**
- ii. Monthly SC Roundtable: **On 4/10/23 we discussed implementation of DDS's December directive regarding continuity of services in SD, FMS issues and updated IPP forms.**

10. DDS Directives (Sheila/Alex): DDS met with RCRC, ACRC & SARC on March 27, 2023. DDS reports:

- a. Enhancements to the UFS & e-billing systems were done on 2/1/23 to make the billing and payment processes better for FMS providers and RCs.
- b. Working to fix expenditure reports used for calculating budgets.
- c. Released standardized vendor application packet for all RCs to use for 099 SD supports
- d. Updates to the rates for FMS providers are expected to be announced soon. There will be a monthly base rate determined by the number of providers and/or employees, plus additional amount when new employees are hired.
- e. Working to clarify requirements regarding background checks for employees of RC vendors providing services to participants in SD.
- f. Working to clarify rules regarding use of out-of-state services, specifically remote providers located out of state providing services to participants who are in CA.

11. Initial Person Centered Planning and Transition Services (Sheila/Alex): **Updates from previous month are in bold.**

- a. General Self-Directed Transition Support service providers:
 - i. One provider is available to provide SD transition support services.
 - 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 will be available to provide General Transition Support Services in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties beginning in May 2023.**
- b. FMS Transition Support Service providers:
 - i. No change from the previous report. As of 04/20/23, none have been vendored yet.

12. Resource Sharing/Community Input (Community):

- a. Robert shared there was a 4.5 earthquake a couple of days ago and reminds everyone to get the MyShake app and to be prepared for emergencies.
- b. Frank shared that at last month's basketball game against the police department they won by two points. Go team!

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

- a. **ACTION: Sedona will increase the survey agenda item to 10 minutes.**

14. Meeting Recap (Action Items below):

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- e. **ACTION:** Adhoc committee will let Sheila know who they have already done surveys with.
- f. **ACTION:** Pam will talk to Barbara to find out if there is a way to amend the confidential online survey to identify information to send a gift card.
- g. **ACTION:** Sedona will increase the survey agenda item to 10 minutes.

15. Adjourn the meeting (Pam): Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

The next meeting is set for May 19, 2023.

SDAC Mtg Minutes_2023-04-21

Prepared by: S. Bowser (04/21/2023)