

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Friday, August 15, 2025  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**

Recorder: Maria Hernandez

In-Person and Zoom Meeting

**Present:**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS** (\*=*Appointed By*): Chris Miller (RCRC\*), Clifford Black (OCRA), Erin Moynahan (SCDD\*) Frank Van Curen (RCRC\*), Townley Saye (First 5), Bonnie Boek (First 5)

**REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COMMITTEE:** Sheila Keys (RCRC), Jaclyn Balanay (DDS), Alma Ingraham, (RCRC Diversity Specialist), Julie Eby-McKenzie (SCDD)

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** Sherry Erickson (IF), Sonia Lopez (Translation), Mariah W. (participant), Gabriel Baca Meza, Valerio Baca, Carmen Baca, Maribel Oliver, Lucero Lopez, Diana Perez (GTI), Jacqueline M

**Absent Committee Members:** Pam Jensen (SCDD\*), Robert Miland Taylor (RCRC\*)

**Absent Representatives:**

**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), **OCRA** Office of Client's Rights Advocacy, **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 (Pam):**
  - a. Chris was selected as the timekeeper.
2. **Review, Discussion and Approval of June and July 2025 Minutes:**
  - a. The meeting minutes for June and July were approved with 2 small changes made to the July minutes.
3. **Update on July Action Items (Alex/Sheila):**
  - a. **ACTION: Sheila will get details and a quote from Rosie for the committee, so that they may vote to determine if they would like to purchase the Building My Future workbooks for our regional center.** Completed, but the committee wants to verify any pending updates before buying the workbooks.

- b. **ACTION: Alex and Sheila will ask Rhiannon to give an update either at the next meeting or in writing.** – Completed, she will attend on 9/19/2025.
  - c. **ACTION: Sheila and Alex will work to identify people that want to go to the conference and costs associated and bring it to the next month.** – In Process.
- 4. Participant and Family Sharing – What’s Working and What’s Not Working (Community):
- 5. State Council Report:
  - a. Julie encouraged people to attend one of several webinars on the changes coming to Medicaid. She provided a link to the schedule on SCDD’s website.
- 6. Co-Chair Update (Frank/Chris):
  - a. Chris and Frank did not have any new information to report
- 7. RCRC Board Meeting:
  - a. There has not been a recent board meeting to be reported on.
- 8. How to Assist Individuals Who Wish to Offer Support to Others in Their Community (Committee/Community):
  - a. Bonnie Boek informed the committee of a few dates occurring with First 5 and Mendo Leap. There will be an in-person Parent Support meeting, next Wednesday August 24th from 9-11.
  - b. Neurodiversity Night will be happening at Mendo Leap and will be hosted by Erin. There will be a meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30-7:30 online. There will be translation services offered.
  - c. At the Frist 5 and Raise and Shine office, there will be an open house on the 27<sup>th</sup> from 12-2 there will be an ice cream social.
  - d. Gabriel, a community member, informed the committee that there are regional centers who offer support groups for individuals who would like to join SDP. They are monthly meetings for people who need help navigating the SDP program.
  - e. Gabriel asked for a request for proposal to allow DVU (Disability Voices United) to host and present these types of SDP support groups monthly.
  - f. Erin and Chris asked to follow up questions regarding this Request for Proposal that Gabriel brought up.
    - I. Erin asked if there was any funding associated with this proposal and Gabriel mentioned that it would be voluntary.
    - II. Chris mentioned that there needs to be a follow-up with DVU to see if this will be fully voluntary and that this is something that they would like to be done by them. Gabriel mentioned that it would be a good idea for them to be informed and to follow up with them but from what he understands, they are okay with volunteering to provide a monthly meeting to help individuals who would like to enroll into SDP.
- 9. Building My Future Workbook (Committee):

- a. The building my Future Workbook is \$22 for each book plus shipping. Sheila's concern is that some of the information on the books may be updated based on the 7/1/25 changes to the Self Determination statute and expected guidance for implementation expected from DDS. Sheila suggested that we can ask for a specific number of books and then ask Rosie to see if the information would be updated so that we could purchase more after the changes happen.
- b. Erin informed the committee that this book is a better resource for our community as the Thinking Ahead Book was a bit more overwhelming in comparison to the Building Your Future Workbook.
- c. The committee will hold off on buying books until it is determined how soon the information on the books will be changed, after determining when the information will be changed, the committee will decide on the number of books to order.

10. Start-Up Funding for IF/FMS Agencies, Updates and Approvals/DDS Funding to Support Implementation of SDP (Sheila):

- a. The Disability Voice Conference is coming up on September 11<sup>th</sup> in Oakland, the cost is \$50 per person, there are 3 hotels that are nearby. The least expensive hotel has a price range of \$160/night and the highest was \$260/month.
- b. Sheila looked at the funding available and mentioned that there are 2 sets of money that can be used for anyone who would like to attend the conference.
  - I. For the first one, we have until March of 2026 to spend it. The IF training academy has used \$1,696 for people to get training and there is a contract for Life Leap. This is for Rhiannon Morsch to help with Independent Facilitator recruitment.
  - II. The remaining balance for 23/24 funding is \$2,772.43.
- c. We also have another contract that began in 2024, and we have until March of 2027 to spend the money and that is \$52, 814.09.
  - I. Sheila explained that RCRC can pay for the conference fee directly, but that all travel expenses (hotel, parking, gas, etc.) for people attending the conference would have to be reimbursed by RCRC after the conference. The families who attend would have to provide their receipts in order to be reimbursed. They will also have to fill out a W-9 form. If the people would like to attend, we could pay travel costs after the conference and get the registrations paid prior to the conference.
- d. Chris asked if there were a total number of people who would like to attend the conference.
  - I. So far there are about 10 people who would like to attend the conference.
  - II. Sheila mentioned that this conference would be a learning opportunity for anyone who would like to attend as well as a great way to talk and communicate with others.
- e. The committee agreed that there would be reimbursement for gas, food, and lodging, totaling around \$500 per person to be paid by reimbursement.
- f. Sheila asked for anyone that would like to attend the meeting to please put it in the chat so that she can help with registrations for the conference.
  - I. Frank motioned to send people to the conference. Erin Seconded it.
  - II. The motion has been approved unanimously.

11. RCRC Update: SDAC Membership, Participant Enrollment, IF/FMS Services, SC Support & Training, SD Meetings (Alex/Sheila):

- a. There are a few people enrolling in SDP. 2 of our current SDP clients will be moving to San Diego.
- b. Our enrollment will stay about the same because of the 2 clients moving away but generally, they are enrolling due to word of mouth and because SDP is now a conversation that many people are having.
- c. We have more Independent Facilitators enrolling, not all are vendored, but we do have about 15 IFs that are willing to meet people in all four counties. We have some IFs that speak Spanish who are also willing to travel to other places within our catchment area.
- d. Rhiannon is also mentoring several IFs and helping current participants she works with, to match with new IFs that she is training.
- e. Our total number of people in self-determination is 55.
- f. We now have over 22 FMs that offer multiple languages.

12. DDS Directives:

- a. DDS is currently offering opportunities for community input and doing public outreach. There are meetings offered that will allow the Department to share information about setting budget thresholds. This is related to the Trailer Bill changes that went into effect 4 years ago.

13. Resource Sharing/Community Input (Community):

- a. Gabriel believes it will be in the best interest of SDP participants for RCRC to have a third party facilitate support group meetings for SDP clients and for others who may want to enroll. This will allow people to enroll in SDP, in which he believes this will allow clients take control over their services.

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

- a. None

15. Meeting Recap (Action Items below):

- a. **ACTION: Sheila will reach out to Disability Voices today and let people know that people from Redwood Coast can sign up.**
- b. **ACTION: Sheila will ask Rosie Lasco about updates to the Workbook and bring back information.**
- c. **ACTION: Sheila will work with families interested in attending the disability voice conference regarding reimbursement for travel costs.**

16. Adjourn the meeting:

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

**The next meeting is set for September 19, 2025.**

*SDAC Mtg Minutes\_2025\_08\_15*

*Prepared by: M. Hernandez (8/15/2025)*

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