



SELF-DETERMINATION LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Monday, September 11, 2023

Start Time: 7:00 pm **End Time:** 8:18 pm

Location of This Meeting: Zoom- no physical meeting location

Location of the Next Meeting: Zoom-no physical meeting location

ATTENDEES:

Committee Members Present: Irene Litherland, Melissa Crisp-Cooper, Vi Ibarra, Lilian Ansari, Arthur Lipscomb, Pamela Baird, Lorena Gomez

Committee Members Absent: Dianne Millner, Pei Wang, Morena Grimaldi, Jocelyn Manalac

Committee Administrative Assistant: Sam Coston

RCEB Staff Present: Lisa Kleinbub, Ronke Sodipo, Jenifer Castaneda, Lindsay Meninger

SCDD Staff Present: None

Guests: Anna, Carola Camacho Maranon, Christopher Morrison, Crystal T, Jane Sakurai, Jefferey Wallace, Monica Shaw, Norma Gonzalez, Paula Senigar, Will Sanford, Sonia Morales, Sophia Agafonow, Uriel Ascanio, Frida Blum

Agenda Item: Welcome, Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Vi welcomed committee members and guests. Roll call of committee members was taken. Lillian monitored the chat. Sam recorded the minutes. The meeting was interpreted into Spanish by Frida Blum.

Agenda Item: Consent to the Minutes from July 10, and August 7, 2023

M/S/C "The committee moves to approve the July 10, and August 2023 minutes as submitted." Minutes passed with two abstentions. [Ansari/Litherland].

Agenda Item: Report on Committee Leadership Transition and Member Roles

Ronke introduced two new members appointed by RCEB to the SDLAC: Lilian Ansari and Lorena Gomez. Vi or Melissa will check in with new committee members and get them up-to-date on work previously done by the committee. Wandra asked about the qualifications for becoming a committee member. Ronke stated that the main qualification is that one is being served by RCEB or is a family member. In addition, new appointees must reflect diversity and be within the geographic profile of the catchment area. Irene noted that the application form is on the RCEB website. Vi highlighted member roles that will be shared rather than having a Chair. Vi is the meeting facilitator; Melissa acts as records manager; Lilian will be the chat monitor. Each role will have a duration of about 6 months.

Agenda Item: Public Comments on Successes and Concerns with SDP

An independent facilitator shared that one of her clients had their budget approved in 2 and a half months. On the other hand, she elaborated that another client is having difficulty in getting a budget approved. The process has taken eight months, and in the meantime, the client has transitioned into their second year of SDP. The transition occurred with an interim budget and needs that must be reassessed. Other concerns expressed were the difficulty in transitioning to year 3. The duration has taken 6 months, including an extension. Despite no new identified needs, budgets were cut with no spending plan for September. The family is in contact with RCEB and was asked for additional documentation. The FMS has been unresponsive as well. A parent whose daughter is in an Independent Living Service (ILS), expressed her daughter living independently as a success. She also expressed concern over the ILS staff, who has had difficulty in staying attuned to her daughter's specific needs. She's attending the meeting to learn more about SDP. Homies is a shared-living program for people with disabilities. They provide supportive roommates, thus allowing individuals to live independently. One success story highlighted was an individual, who prior to SDP, lived mostly in homeless shelters for an eight-month period. Homies provided him with a supportive roommate, where he now resides in a two-bedroom apartment and is thriving. Interestingly, he is neighbors with the first openly autistic mayor in the U.S. A concern with GT Independence and their paying employees was expressed. It is encouraged to file complaints when appropriate. Vi noted a DDS report that was included as a link with the agenda, **An Evaluation of Participants' Experience in California's Self Determination Program**. Vi encouraged those interested to look at the report.

Agenda Item: Update from Regional Center

Jenifer gave an update on SDP enrollments. There have been 219 participants successfully enrolled into SDP. 11 have been enrolled for September, with 7 enrollments for October. 149 participants are in subsequent years – 103 in year 2; 39 in year 3 and 7 in year 4. There have been 4 unenrollments, which cited complications with the FMS. RCEB orientation attendance and registration has decreased over the last several months. On average, numbers for English orientations are 10; Spanish orientations is 2. Statewide orientations are being held in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. SDP brochures have been printed and distributed, with more being put into circulation. Vi questioned if the unenrollments can be included as year-to-date, as well to track the numbers should they become bigger, as a way of documentation. Irene asked if interpreters would be needed for the statewide orientations. Jenifer clarified that it's added into the orientation. Statewide orientation is typically larger in attendance, so generally the questions are answered. Lisa added that additional languages are being included in the threshold languages including Tagalog, Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese, English and Spanish. A copy of the RCEB report will be included with the agenda going forward.

Agenda Item: Update on Applications Received for Funding Year 3 from DDS

Irene shared that applications have been received for 3 of 6 projects: Promoting SDP to underserved populations; Creation of information sheets on SDP; and Post-Transition Webinars. Applications will be reviewed, interviews held, and selection made.

Agenda Item: Public Comment on Items Not in Agenda; Announcements

Concern was expressed over the gaps when transitioning between years in SDP. Lindsay expressed that it is important to have needs reassessed so participants can receive the appropriate services. Lisa noted that concerns are being heard and RCEB is looking at ways to streamline the process. Jane from Autism Society Los Angeles shared that they will be providing advanced cross-cultural Independent Facilitator training. Workshops will also be held to exchange ideas. It's a 2-year training program. Irene mentioned how thorough the training through Autism Society Los Angeles is and encouraged others to attend if interested. Clients Rights Advocates will host a training on September 29, geared to Japanese and Vietnamese RCEB participants, though it's open to all interested. Dr.

Christopher Morrison from High Point; they're an interdisciplinary team of professionals in the medical field who help young adults find employment, access to higher education and mentorship and expressed interest in SDP.

Agenda Item: Input on Future Agenda Items

A possible presentation from RCEB on the process when transitioning between years.

2023 Meetings
October 2
November 6
December 4