



SELF-DETERMINATION LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Approved 1/8/2024

Date: Monday, December 4, 2023

Start Time: 7:07 pm **End Time:** 8:31p pm

Location of This Meeting: Zoom - no physical meeting location

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

ATTENDEES:

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

Committee Members Absent: Diane Milner, Morena Grimaldi,

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

SCDD Staff Present: Sophia Agafonow (DDS), Sheraden Nicholau

Guests: Virginia Hom, Will Sanford, Chris' iPhone, Christine Kantor, Diego Olmedo, Paula S

Agenda Item: Welcome, Roll Call to Establish Quorum. Quorum established by Vi Ibarra.

Agenda Item: Consent to the Minutes

M/S/C "The committee moves to approve the November 2023 minutes as submitted". Passed unanimously. Motioned by: Lillian Ansari, Seconded by: Irene Litherland

Agenda Item: 2024 Meeting Dates (10 minutes)

Will move January, April, and September meetings to the **second** Monday due to holidays. Otherwise, first Mondays of the month will remain as scheduled.

Agenda Item: Public Comments on Successes and Concerns with SDP (15 minutes)

A family member who wants to remain anonymous shared the following through Sheraden Nicholau:



- The information on the SDP page at rceb.org assumes families know the traditional model of service. The suggestion was made to include information about rights and responsibilities for those unfamiliar with the traditional model or the system in general.
- They recommend that the website has more SDP processes, timelines, and tools posted so clients and families could access info and also to help support case managers newer to SDP.
- Generally, accessing SDP advisory committee and other SDP information on the website is difficult- things are hard to find.
- Meeting minutes have not been posted for several months.
- It should be clear on the website that individuals are welcome to provide public comment, and that they are not required to identify themselves to do so.

A comment was made requesting help with an issue specific to her son. Lindsay asked the parent to contact her directly to follow up.

How does one handle a change when moving from one regional center catchment area to another? Commenter was told there would be a gap in services, which would be problematic. Ronke shared that she is involved with a Statewide committee regarding RC transfers. Case management can help with the transition, and much of the challenge seems to revolve around the FMS services. Ronke and her peers at other RCs have committed to working together with those families.

Arthur shared these links in the chat

- <https://rula.disabilityrightsca.org/rula-book/chapter-3-regional-centers/if-i-move-to-a-different-area-of-the-state-will-the-regional-centers-work-together-to-help-me-transition-to-the-new-regional-center/>
- <https://rula.disabilityrightsca.org/supplements/supplement-g-inter-regional-center-transfer-guidelines/>

Agenda Item: Update from Regional Center (20 minutes)

Jenifer shared her [December SDP report](#)

- 17 new enrollments in Nov; 11 new enrollments in Dec.
- No Spanish orientations offered since we reduced to once per month due to lack of requests.



- FMS services – seeing more use of GT Independence, RCEB is trying to work closely with them to understand their processes better. Same with Aveanna. Acumen is fairly new, only bill payer and sole employer services are offered by them at this time. Mains’l will reduce the models they offer as of January 2024.
- All DDS directives can be found at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/regional-center-directives/> Jenifer shared three recent directives:
 - [Remote services](#)- out of state providers are allowed as long as the participant’s in-person needs are being met – will be in spending plan – remote service must be initiated by participant, and participant must be in California when services are received. It was clarified that IF services are included in this directive.
 - [Coordinated Family Support services](#) is now being allowed under SDP. This is service Code 076 under traditional services. The first year this service was authorized was a pilot year, and it was not applicable to people in SDP. At this time, it will be paid outside of SDP – not included in spending plan/budget.
 - [Participant Directed [Goods and Services Directive](#). Specific requirements for providers are included in Enclosure.

The monthly RCEB report previously included information about disenrollments as well as data on how many people are in year one as well as subsequent years. This has been omitted from the RCEB presented at this meeting. Jenifer said that was an oversight and will be added back going forward.

There was a question about the 1% fee on purchased services that some FMSs are charging, and whether DDS agreed to this mark-up. Ronke said they are working on this, for now we need to accept that fee and cannot adjust budget for it.

A follow-up question from last meeting was asked regarding the frequency of assessments required for certain services (such as ABA). Lisa will research and provide more info at January meeting.

Agenda Item: Update on Projects for Year 3 Funding (5 minutes)



Irene discussed that we are currently in year 3 of funding, which is ending March 2024. Earlier in this fiscal year, we posted 6 RFPs, only some of which received proposals. This leaves us with funds that are currently unallocated and will expire if not used by the end of March 2024. If we are to use these funds, we need to use it on projects that can be implemented very quickly. We received a proposal from *IF Training Academy* (IFTA) to provide in depth IF training. The proposal includes access to 25 recorded modules, which includes the history of Q&As from past participants, links to other related resources, access to topical templates, and links to applicable DDS guidance. Additionally, the proposal includes six bi-weekly synchronous virtual meetings for discussion on each module. IFTA would also assist with recruitment and screening of attendees. The proposal would accommodate up to 30 people (with a minimum of 15.) Our committee has expressed a need for more IF training, and some of the RFPs that did not receive proposals were to support increasing capacity of IFs in our area. The total cost would be \$24,870 if the course is full with 30 trainees, there would be some cost savings if the group is less than 30. Several people commented with positive feedback on this particular provider, and it was noted that there are other IFs that provide in depth IF training.

M/S/C “The committee moves to approve the proposal submitted by IFTA for up to \$24,870 to provide training for up to 30 attendees”. Passed unanimously. Motioned by: Irene Litherland, Seconded by: Lillian Ansari

Agenda Item: Plan for Next Fiscal Year Funding (10 minutes)

We have received our funding amounts for the next two years. The amount available to our committee to use by March 2025 is \$109,576.99. The amount to be used by March 2026 is \$ 113,140.92. In January, this committee will embark on a three-step plan to determine priorities for how to allocate this funding.

- 1) Committee to review and reflect on what we’ve tried – what worked, didn’t work, projects that were identified, but not funded, etc.
- 2) Identify what is needed now, what are current trends in terms of barriers to entry to SDP, what do we see locally that we would like to improve.
- 3) What do we want to do now? What might these projects look like? What would the timelines look like?



At the January meeting, we will discuss step one with the full committee. Later in January, a smaller workgroup will work on steps 2 and 3. These two additional meetings will be Jan 16 and 23 from 3:30-5:00 pm. In February, the smaller workgroup will present to the full committee for discussion and consensus. We'll move on from there to create RFPs for the coming year. Paula and Virginia both offered to help with this workgroup in January. The workgroup will be open to any other advisory committee members who are interested in joining.

Agenda Item: Future Agenda Items (5 minutes)

No comments.

Agenda Item: Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda, Announcements

Irene shared that there was an announcement today that the Statewide Advisory Committee is holding a Town Hall for SDP participants to share their experience with FMSs. It will be Monday, 12/18, from 10:30 am-12:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.