

## **RCEB SELF-DETERMINATION LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Date:** Monday, February 3, 2025

**Start Time:** 7:00 pm      **End Time:** 8:34 pm

**Location of the Meeting:** Zoom- no physical location

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

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### **ATTENDEES:**

**Committee Members Present:** Dianne Millner, Irene Litherland, Virginia Hom, Arthur Lipscomb, Aarthy Desikan, Pamela Baird, Vi Ibarra, Jocelyn Manalac, Lorena Gomez

**Committee Members Absent:** Morena Grimaldi

**Committee Administrative Assistant:** Britney Edmond, Samuel Coston

**RCEB Staff Present:** Lindsay Meninger, Ronke Sodipo, Becky Nanyonjo, Jenifer Castaneda, Ashley Harmon, John Lee

**DDS Liaison:** Chris Aguire

**SCDD Staff Present:** Sheraden Nicholau

**Guests:** Wandra and Erin, Joyce Butz, Adurahman, Ana Elvia Sanchez (Interpreter), Yelka Vargas (Interpreter), Raji H., Diego Olmedo, Rosie Lasca (Independent Facilitator Training Academy), Eric Anderson, Paul S., Araceli, Annechen, Jazmin, Sonia M.

### **Agenda Item: Welcome, Interpreter's Introduction, Chat Monitor, Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

Dianne Millner welcomed committee members and guests. Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Ronke was pleased to introduce the new Executive Director of RCEB, Becky Nanyonjo, to the Committee and attendees. Ms. Nanyonjo greeted attendees and stated she looked forward to working with the Committee.

### **Agenda Item: Review and Consent to Minutes from Prior Meeting**

Dianne presented the minutes from the January 2025 meeting. She allowed the members to review the minutes and voice any objections. Arthur Lipscomb pointed out a mistake with Katie Hornberger's name. Dianne entertained the motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Pamela Baird moved the motion to accept the minutes, as corrected. Irene seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Agenda Item: Report on the Bay Area website**

Irene discussed that a website was created through combined efforts from the Regional Center of the East Bay, the Advisory Committee from the Regional Center of San Andreas, and the Advisory Committee at Golden Gate Regional Center. There was a one-year contract with the original developer and a content manager. After that contract, there was a hiatus, and now there is a new contractor who will assist with moving the project into phase two. The Committee has been meeting twice a month for the last year. The project is progressing, and now they will move to one meeting a month. The website is active, but it has not been officially rolled out to the public. The developer is currently working to make the website more Bay Area-focused. This will

create a focus on how things work in the Bay Area in the three regional centers involved. Irene also mentioned the possibility of creating Bay Area town halls on self-determination, inviting all three regional centers.

**Agenda Item: Update from Regional Center**

**a. Report on current RCEB SDP Enrollment- Status of making the report available on the RCEB SDP website and in Committee minutes per SDLAC request from the December meeting**

- a. Jenifer shared enrollment details from the self-determination program.
  - i. There are currently 416 enrollments. This report included revisions. To date, they have completed 22 revisions. This includes changes in FMS, changes in spending plans, and changes in a budget. None of these reflect the rate implementation changes expected to balloon in March.
  - ii. Jenifer discussed updating and streamlining the navigation of the SDP portion of the website. The website now separates the overview from the enrollment into self-determination. They also, at the committee's request, added the current FMS list to the website. (Currently embedded as a PDF.) They are still working on colors and fonts to assist with ease of reading.
  - iii. She revealed they had contacted DDS and inquired about the report, which shows details on SD orientations given and attended. The current information in that report is not readily available regularly. However, it can be made available upon request of the regional center. A request has been made for this information. Jenifer requested that DDS present the information at a meeting. DDS has requested that the committee provide dates and times so that they can coordinate their schedule to be present.
  - iv. The SDP LatinX-targeted Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 1, 2025. The notice of Fair postcards was received on Friday afternoon, and support staff are assisting with mailing them.

**b. Any other RCEB updates on new developments at the State or local level on Self-determination**

No additional information was provided.

**Agenda Item: Report from Regional Center on Addressing Emergency Preparedness and Protection for RCEB clients during future Bay Area natural disasters (RCEB Emergency Coordinator, John Lee)**

Ronke Sodipo introduced the Emergency Coordinator, John Lee. He delivered a presentation about his background and experience. He joined in 2001 under the Office of Information and Communication. He and his colleagues are in their fourth year of establishment. They are designed to be preventative and reactive. He revealed the available preventative measures by walking the Committee and other attendees through a detailed presentation on measures John and other Alameda County and Statewide

emergency personnel work together to protect RCEB clients in mass emergencies. John also spoke of the partnerships and emergency response steps.

**Agenda Item: Update on potential new committee members**

Sheraden Nicholau revealed that she, Ronke Sodipo, and Arthur Lipscomb make up the subgroup for committee membership. There are ten voting members on the Committee. They have currently interviewed one potential person from Contra Costa County. The candidate has lived experience. They are currently waiting for the State Council's membership committee to convene specifically to look at recommendations for appointments. We should see results in the next month. There are two other candidates. One candidate will be interviewed in February. The third candidate is applying on the website. She also revealed that traditionally, there should be a member of the family resource center on the committee. She identified this as a pending gap. The membership working group of the committee will reach out to FRCs that serve the Regional Center of the East Bay.

Arthur Lipscomb, Melissa Chrisp-Cooper, Chris Aguire, and Sheraden Nicholau will speak at the LatinX-targeted self-determination-focused event from Congreso on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

DDS is offering SDP Orientations in English, Spanish, and Farsi in February.

**Agenda Item: Update on Funded Projects: Outreach Targeted to Latin X and Black communities:**

**a. Report on March 1, 2025, SDP Outreach Fair Targeted to Latin X community**

Irene revealed that the Latin-X targeted fair is scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup>. Postcards have been sent out to potential attendees.

**b. Report on SDP Outreach Targeted to Black Communities.**

Dianne delivered an update on the SDP outreach targeted to Black communities. A team distributed flyers about SDP at various events on the weekend of Martin Luther King's birthday. They have worked to publicize a March 29<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting about SDP. Vendors and speakers have already committed. This team is also creating an SDP website to target the Black community. More information will follow at the next meeting.

**Agenda Item: Action Item: Recommendation regarding Request for Proposal ("RFP") to create SDP Handbook similar to the North Los Angeles County Regional Center IF Handbook**

Virginia revealed that there were three interested parties. Dianne and Virginia interviewed each organization. They are suggesting that the committee vote for the IF Training Academy. This organization was able to provide a proposal for a Spanish translation of the handbook. They also have access to other resources that have been used for other SDP projects. Pamela Baird revealed that she has worked with Rosie (IF Training Academy) on prior projects and would recommend her and her team.

Dianne entertained a motion to approve entering into a contract with IF Training Academy for up to \$8,000 for the creation of the handbook for potential SDP participants. Irene moved the motion, and Pamela seconded the motion. No opposition. The motion was passed.

**Agenda Item: Status of item approved at November 2024 Committee meeting approving posting on RCEB website an invitation for proposals to facilitate SDP Enrollment similar to the invitation for proposals posted by Alta Regional Center: (see: <https://www.altaregional.org/post/self-determination-advisory-committee-call-proposals>)**

Lindsay revealed that it has been updated on the website. The SDLAC administrator will monitor that email for inquiries.

**Agenda Item: Public Comments on Success and Concerns with SDP; or Items Not on the Agenda**

Dianne asked for additional comments. Wandra, a parent, revealed that she has had a great year with G.T. Independence. She felt that she was supported by Alejandro Calderon, the facilitator at G.T. Independence.

Sonia shared her concern about what would happen to a participant if all documents were not approved in sixty days. Lindsay showed empathy for her concerns and offered support.

Virginia asked if RCEB received the list from DDS of participants who joined the SDP orientation meeting. Lindsay revealed that a request has been made to receive the list.

**Future Agenda Items and Announcements**

Dianne asked if there were any future agenda items. No suggestions were made.

**Future Item: Appoint Workgroup for SDP Project planning to use approximately \$131,000 DDS funds allocated for our committee for the period of 4/1/25-3/31/27**

Dianne wants to appoint a workgroup to brainstorm and execute some ideas. She asked for additional volunteers. She will be consulting with Committee members to serve on the workgroup.

**Adjournment**

M/S/C "Move to adjourn the meeting." Motion passed. [Baird/Litherland/Millner]