

**SELF-DETERMINATION LOCAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MINUTES
D R A F T**

Date: Monday, September 14, 2026

Start Time: 7:00 pm **End Time:** 8:30 pm

Committee Member Attendance

Committee Member	Present	Absent
Arthur Lipscomb	X	
Pamela Baird	X	
Vi Ibarra	X	
Jocelyn Manalac		X
Lorena Gomez	X	
Virginia Hom		X
Aarthy Desikan		X
Ken Sobieraj		X
Rajashree Joshi-Hangal	X	

Agenda Item: Welcome, Interpreter's Intro, Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Agenda Item: Review and Approve Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2026 Meeting

M/S/C "The committee moves to approve the July 6, 2026 minutes, as submitted" [Raji/Lorena] Passed unanimously. Karina will adjust where the minutes are posted on rceb.org as the July meeting minutes are currently posted under the August meeting.

Agenda Item: Public Comment

- Community member stated that the FMS removed funds from her son's last pay period of the year and the employees didn't receive their full wages. The FMS said that they need it to have money to pay for workers' compensation.
- Commenter shared appreciation for the program, although process has been longer than she expected and bumpy in places. The case manager and SDP specialist have been very helpful, especially recently, in getting issues resolved. Some staff members seem to be under-informed or inexperienced in SDP and commenter is asking how that is being addressed at RCEB. Clarification was provided in the process between when a case manager is working with the client, and at what point it gets turned over to the SDP Specialist. With several hundred case managers at RCEB, it is not realistic for them all to be expert in the SDP process. The SDP Specialists are meant to have that expertise.
- There was a comment about FMS withholding money for workers comp, and that they raised rate for workers compensation in the middle of and SDP year which impacted the spending plan.
- Kai's Network was shared as a resource for parent peer support. One family in the Network asked about SDP to her case manager, and the response was focused only on the process rather

than answering her question regarding what the benefits of SDP are, what it is for, or how it can help. Commenters received a packet of resources to follow up on, and when she reached out to the various providers on the list, there were many inaccuracies.

- There was a comment that recently this parents was advised that the PCP did not need to inform the IPP for building the budget, and parent did not need to be involved in that process. RCEB clarified that the client's needs included in the PCP should be considered as one tool in the IPP process, however, they would not necessarily take directive comments about particular providers or how much service is indicated in the PCP.

Agenda Item: Report from August 10 Statewide SDP Advisory Committee Meeting

- Vi reviewed the report that was shared with the agenda packet.

Agenda Item: Update from Regional Center

- Personnel updates: Lindsay has been promoted to Director of Client Services, and will continue to oversee SDP. Jen Castaneda promoted to Associate Director of Client Services and Equity.
- Jen reviewed the report she sent out that was included in the meeting packet.
- The only other announcement is that the SDP waiver was renewed for 2026-2031 (it will go through the renewal process every 5 years).
- Check the Upcoming Events at RCEB.org for information on public events that are being offered.

Agenda Item: Updates on Workgroups for Next Funding Round

- Admin Support- 3 applicants, one has been interviewed, but her interest and passion was more about advocacy rather than the admin role we are looking to fill. Applicant decided to rescind her application. One other will be interviewed tomorrow and the third seems to be no longer interested.
- Outreach- no workgroup has been established to work on this objective.
- IF Capacity- no workgroup has been established to work on this objective.

Agenda Item: Update on Potential New Committee Members

Greg has received applicants from three potential new committee members, two of whom are on the call now and were asked to introduce themselves.

- Breann Van Slooten is a provider outside of the RCEB catchment area. She is a social worker and advocate for the disability community. She has non-profit and committee work experience.
- BryAna Wallace, parent of a son with autism. She was a community organizer with Care Voices Oakland which sparked her interest in this committee. She also served on the Measure C advisory board. She loves being in spaces where decisions are made and is interested in being part of the process in systems that affect not only her own family but others as well.

Agenda Item: Ongoing Committee Leadership

Vi will continue as note taker. Pamela has agreed to facilitate one additional meeting (in October), but that will need to be her last meeting for now as facilitator. We do need committee members to volunteer to facilitate upcoming committee meetings. Pamela encouraged committee members to consider volunteering to serve as meeting facilitator for a few meetings. Support would be provided from Pamela, Vi, Greg, and the RCEB team-

Agenda Item: Renewal Process

Jenifer reviewed the slide deck that was shared in the meeting packet. Comments and questions:

- Timeline for entering into SDP has been 8-9 months, then it is only that much time before a renewal process needs to begin again. How could RCEB be supported better in this process?
Asked in another way- what does RCEB identify as the biggest barriers to timely renewals?
 - SDP Specialist positions are not funded positions, they come out of the case manager budget. RCEB has 5 SDP Specialist and associated management. This demonstrates RCEB commitment to supporting clients in SDP.
 - RCEB strives to provide clear and timely responses to families specifically at the budget development and spending plan stage. There is ongoing back and forth with families, then families give requested info right at the last minute. There are also times when delays are too long on the Regional Center side.
 - There are challenges with timelines in the traditional process, not just SDP.
 - They are strengthening the approval authority as the case manager and supervisory level to get exceptions requests reviewed more quickly.
- Does budget need to come from SDP Specialist? Could that step be omitted and have it come through the case manager instead? Additionally, SDP Specialists are all very competent and appreciated. But families can get frustrated by silence. Timely responses, even acknowledgement of receipt of messages, would be appreciated.

Agenda Item: Future Agenda Items

- Question in chat looking for more information about the Social Recreation procedure referenced in RCEB's monthly report. RCEB responded that on Sept 24 there will be a community session for IFs about this procedure in SDP. Details will be posted to rceb.org by end of the week.
- The North LA Regional Center LVAC is using an online form to collect feedback from committee members and community members to identify trends for what is working well/successes in SDP, as well as what are current challenges or barriers in SDP. The input collected is then compiled into a monthly report. Per committee consensus, Vi will work on getting this process going and be prepared to share further detail at a future meeting. Beth Martinko, an IF and LVAC member at North LA Regional Center, is working on an automated process to make this more streamlined and will be in touch with Vi to coordinate.