



Alta California

Regional Center

2241 Harvard Street, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95815

916-978-6400

**Alta California Regional Center (ACRC)
Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting (SDAC)
Wednesday, November 10, 2021
1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Minutes**

Members:	Present	Absent	Legend: SA – Self-Advocate FA – Family Advocate SP – Service Provider
Benita Ayala, FA	X		
Carmen Delgado, FA	X		
Daniel Meadows, SA	X		
Karen Mulvany, FA	X		
Kelsey Handcock, DRC	X		
Kenya Martinez, FA	X		
Kimberly Terrell, SA		X	
Lisa Cooley, SA (Chair)		X	
Meena Kalyanasundaram, FA	X		
Pam Cheh, Community Resource Partner		X	
Tom Hopkins, SA	X		
Tracy Ligtenberg, FA	X		
William Reed		X	
Non-members Present:			
Brittany Mangum, ACRC Mechelle Johnson, ACRC Jennifer Bloom, ACRC Johnny Xiong, ACRC Tracy Brown, ACRC Peter Mendoza, SDDD Thalia Castro Vega, ACRC Herman Kothe, ACRC Jessica Markov, ACRC Faye Tait, ACRC Nicole Neilsen, ACRC Helen Neri, ACRC Heidi Dilley, ACRC	Maxine Paula Milam, DDS Cindy Cox, SP, First Choice Solutions Lori Boettner Danielle Trachtenberg Margaux de Leon Kevin Lee, SP, Lending Works Inc. Amy Sanchez, SP, Lending Works Inc. Danielle Trachtenberg, SP, Lending Works Inc.	Chynna Glasson, SP, NeuroNav Pat Franco Judy Odipo Breanne Burris, 24 Hour Home Care Rekha Jessica Mercado, GT Independence	

1. Call to Order by Benita Ayala, Co-Chair

Welcome & Introductions (1:03 P.M.)

2. Approval of Agenda & Minutes (from September 8, 2021)—Benita Ayala

- Meeting Agenda:
 - Motion to amend agenda by Karen with amendment to defer action 8a until January 2022 meeting. Lisa Cooley not present, Benita Ayala to take over Lisa's items.
 - Motion to approve agenda by Tom Hopkins
 - Seconded by Tracy Ligtenberg
 - SDAC passes unanimously
- Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve minutes by Karen Mulvany
 - Seconded by Tracy Ligtenberg
 - SDAC passes unanimously

3. ACRC SDP Updates—Mechelle Johnson, Jennifer Bloom, Johnny Xiong, & Tracy Brown, ACRC

a. ACRC 2021 Progress Report:

SDAC Date of Meeting	Orientation Completed	Budget Completed	Budget In Process	PCP Completed	PCP In Process	Spending Plan Completed	Spending Plan In Process	IPP Completed	IPP In Process	Flipped the Switch!
7/14/2021		12	4	12	13	12	1	12	2	12
8/11/2021	236	19	34	13	5	8	7	3	11	16
9/8/2021	45	6				4				20
10/13/2021	47	4				3				25
11/10/2021										29

- ACRC continues to update our internal spreadsheets which identify and track the specific progress of each participant's enrollment in SDP. This provides information at a quick glance on where in the process each client currently is, which will assist us in understanding who is currently responsible for the next steps, as well as to continue to identify any barriers for the completion of enrollment.
- We have a total of 29 clients who have "flipped the switch".

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- ACRC continues to have seven FMS vendored Agencies: Acumen, Aveanna, Community Interface Services, GT Independence, The Emelyn Group, Public Partnerships, Mains'l. Their contact information and available FMS services are listed out on the DDS website. ARCC Center sent letter 10/1 they will no longer be offering FMS services for SDP as of 11/30.
- There are four agencies in various stages of the vendorization process for PCP. Two of the four applicants are actively moving through the process.
- We continue our weekly SDP Q&A Sessions for our Service Coordinators every Thursday, since May 2021. A weekly SDP consultation committee has been added so that Service Coordinators are able to staff case specific questions.
- Regional Centers SDP Collaborative meeting 10/07
- Statewide SDP Meetings, each month, 11/7 next
- ACRC HCBS internal workgroup on 10/25, next one is 12/6. HCBS assessments continuing, as well as consults with Service Coordinators as needed.
- ACRC Monthly Meeting with DDS was on 10/19, our next meeting is on 11/19
- Meetings with Independent Facilitators partners to collaborate on ideas and processes
- Service Coordinators continuing outreach to clients to discuss the SDP program (documented on the 588 as a discussion item) and assisting them with registering for the LMS SDP Orientation, and this circles back to our tracking sheet for updates.
- Individual case staffings are ongoing with CSMs and ADs, as needed outside of the weekly committee staffing schedule
- Two successful SDP provider trainings thus far (about 50 providers attended so far), recorded and posted our next session 11/16 3-4:30

What are some of the highlights of some of the topics brought in the SDP Consultation Committee for ACRC staff?

Jen shared that Service Coordinators are wanting to make sure they are on the right track and understand the procedure as well as have questions answered about the budget. Tracy explained

how there is just conversation that is taking place. Many of the staffings are just for reassurance.

Social recreation: ACRC is revising their policy. Requests are coming to ACRC's Best Practice Committee. ACRC is developing a procedure and revising its policy to include both children and adults.

What will be done as outreach for the African American community for SDP? The questions being asked to African American families are different than what are they are being asked from Caucasian families and clients.

ACRC will work with SDAC on use of our implementation funds. As of 11/12. ACRC has 29 clients in SDP. Here is the breakdown:

- 12 clients are white
- 17 clients represent multiple ethnicities
- 5 Multicultural Cultural
- 4 African American
- 4 Hispanic
- 2 Pacific Islander
- 1 other Asian
- 1 Korean

4. General questions for the Office of Disability Rights California—Kelsey Handcock

Kelsey introduced herself and provided her contact information:

Kelsey Handcock

Attorney/Clients' Rights Advocate

Serving Consumers of Alta California Regional Center

1831 K Street

Sacramento, CA 95811

Kelsey.Handcock@disabilityrightscalifornia.org

916-504-5989

Please reach out to Kelsey if you or a family member if you have issues that come up with SDP. This office is completely separate from

ACRC, but for ACRC clients. DRC can help build up conversation between clients and ACRC. *The OCRA/DRC brochure is attached with the minutes that provides more information.*

5. Presentation: Lending Works—Kevin Lee, Treasurer, Lending Works, Inc.

The video presentation can be located at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Txe_Uj_mAc

6. Update from SDA Provider Committee—Karen Mulvany

The purpose of this committee is to enable our most experienced vendored providers to be positioned to also provide services under SDP, including how they can get creative and innovative with SDP. Meetings have begun and will continue through mid-November.

Provider questions focused on how to put contracts together and learning more about Independent Facilitators and Financial Management Service agencies. There is a template contract on DDS's website.

7. Look into changing SDAC time back to 10 am to 12 pm

- Vote

Yes: Benita, Karen

No: Carmen, Kenya, Tom, Tracy

- Committee votes to leave the meeting time as is, from 1-3 PM

8. Action Items:

- a. Karen Mulvany will draft a report outlining SDP progress by the SDAC and ACRC for SDAC approval, with a due date of the November SDAC meeting agenda publication.**
 - Defer to January meeting and append to January agenda.
- b. ACRC will amend the SDAC website to post membership of the committee, so that the SDAC has access to accurate roster for quorum counting purposes.**
 - ACRC will have this posted to the website by the January 2022 meeting.
- c. ACRC will update the SDAC meeting website page to reflect monthly meeting occurrence and newly approved 2022 meeting dates.**
 - Will work on website and get meeting links from SCDD. This is time sensitive.
- d. ASL/Translation support implementation. ACRC will add and highlight on our website and agenda ACRC options for accommodations for other language /translation, including ASL.**
 - Kelsey will collaborate with ACRC on the best implementation.
- e. ACRC will email Benita with and advice the SDAC of the amount of remaining funds in the prior year's Self-Determination Program grant.**
 - Committee is aware this will come out of grant money.
 - Will need to plan accordingly in advance for translators. New method for participating in 2022 will require registration and identify any translation that will be needed for attendees. ACRC will also need 5 days in advance. The translation service will cost \$300-400 for each interpreter.
- f. ACRC Questions:**
 - **Please Advise if ACRC has any guidance on SDP provider requirements to comply with Electronic Visit Verification.**
 - DDS will require this for many Direct Support Providers. It is still not clear if SDP providers will have to comply starting on January 1st, 2022.
 - **Please advise how ACRC can work to improve FMS disclosure of their business terms to participants. Some FMSs are requiring providers to provide payroll information and**

accept reimbursement timeframes that are dramatically different from Regional Center practices, which may lead to declined participation in SDP. Participants need to know about these issues before selecting a FMS, especially if the participant is acting as an employer.

- This information doesn't necessarily get shared with the participant, who will need to ensure that their choice or provider is compatible with FMS. From the FMS side, they need to include the participant in this information. These are two ways ACRC can improve the communication of when the service provider is funded. Mechelle will share this information so there is awareness and transparency. DDS responded that the committee should go through Mechelle at ACRC.

9. New Action items:

- a. Will translation costs come out of the allocated \$10 million from the Language Access and Cultural Competency Initiative or Implementation Fund money allocated for the SDAC committee? Mechelle will look into this and the funding of translation services.
- b. Mechelle and Karen will work together to figure out a plan for transparency between the FMS and participant.
- c. ACRC will share how the budget is calculated.
- d. ACRC and Kelsey will collaborate on method to accommodate requests for ASL and language translation.
- e. ACRC will provide racial/ethnic data on completed SDP participants, but also those who have completed orientations, and have designated interest in commencing SDP.
- f. ACRC will update SDAC on new Participant Choice Specialist pursuant to DDS directive issued 11/4/2021 at:
https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Participant_Choice_Specialists_October_2021.pdf

10. Public Comment Period

Margaux de Leon

- Accounting issues when creating the budget, what has been done to correct errors and streamline this?

Jen responds by acknowledging that there were errors with basic math. Faye explained by saying the form was ratified and is now done by the computer to alleviate the error. This is the new process. Benita would like this to be elaborated on at our next meeting.

11. SDAC Member Comment Period

Karen:

- On November 4th, DDS published a new DDS Directive on Participant Choice Specialists, who will aid Participants with implementing SDP (see: https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Participant_Choice_Specialists_October_2021.pdf). Karen asks that ACRC report back to SDAC in January about what this position means and how ACRC will be implementing this new DDS directive.
- There is a strong shift towards measured outcomes. Karen wants ACRC to take a look at how ACRC measures outcomes. Please identify where there are particular issues and how these issues were overcome.
- Katie Hornberger is the new ombudsperson. This office is independent of DDS. If anyone has an issue, Katie is available for input, connect information, and to figure systemic issues that may be occurring at other Regional Centers. She has authority to propose legislative and regulatory changes. She can also recommend implementation changes to individual Regional Centers. This is an important resource.

Kenya:

- Sonya Bingaman sent an email that said that a lot of SDACs throughout the state are allocating from their funds to the SCDD from their SDAC budget. This is something that will be brought up at the subcommittee.
- Subcommittee meeting on November 9th: We are 18+ months into the COVID era. A suggestion was made to have some kind of digital event/luncheon with ACRC employees: "Lunch & Learn". Gift cards can be distributed so people can bring their own lunch. The purpose of this would be to get to know who is coming to these meetings and personally get to know them.
- Planning subcommittee- email Kenya. Meena would like to attend subcommittee.

12. Dates for Future Meetings- Monthly

- January 12, 2022, 1 PM - 3 PM
- February 9, 2022, 1-3 pm
- March 9, 2022, 1-3 pm
- April 13, 2022, 1-3 pm
- May 11, 2022, 1-3 pm
- June 8, 2022, 1-3 pm
- July 13, 2022, 1-3 pm
- August 10, 2022, 1-3 pm
- September 14, 2022, 1-3 pm
- October 12, 2022, 1-3 pm
- November 9, 2022, 1-3 pm

13. Identify agenda items for next meeting:

- **Subcommittee meetings for funding**
- **Action items**

14. Meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM