

Alta California Regional Center  
 Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting  
 Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.  
 Minutes

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Members Absent:</b>
Lisa Cooley SA	Carole Watilo SP
Joyce McNair FA	Margaret Lamb FA
Kimberly Terrell SA	Brittnee Gillespie DRC
Stacy Shaw SA	Christian Griffith FA
	Nancy Libby FA
<b>Others Present:</b>	Lana Knyazev SP
Jason Lindo, ACRC	Nina Iliff FA
Robin LeMay (Support Staff), ACRC	Luis Rivera FA
Kathy Brian SCDD	
Legend: SA – Self-Advocate, FA – Family Advocate, SP – Service Provider	

**1. Call to Order by Lisa Cooley, Chair**

- Welcome & Introductions (10:00 A.M.)

**2. Approval of Agenda & Minutes (from December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017)**

- It was moved/seconded and carried to approve the agenda and minutes. No Abstentions.

**3. SDP Meetings and General Information Update – Jason Lindo**

- The waiver was formally submitted to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and was formally accepted.

- The application is back on the clock and CMS has 90 days to either approve, deny or request additional information.
- Because this is a re-submission, there will not be a public comment period.
- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has not completed the training materials for the regional center (RC) yet.
- The RC will need to train on the Self-Determination Program based on the waiver and it will need to be implemented in the Individualized Program Plan (IPP) process.
- The RC has not received instructions yet on how to enroll in this waiver.
- DDS has not been able to provide an answer to the ability of institutionally deeming adult clients with a large share of cost or income.
- DDS is in the process of finalizing the curriculum including Person Centered Planning.
- The RC Community Services Department has been working with DDS on how to operationalize this through the final rule setting.
- The final rule setting was accepted by CMS, but we will need to ensure that anybody funded through this waiver meets the final rule criteria.

- Some providers will be vendors of the RC, but many will not, and they will need to understand the final rule setting process.
- We have to be realistic in talking about Self-Determination as it's going to be based on regulation and law and our flexibility is defined by federal regulation.
- The Self-Determination Program (SDP) will be starting out small which will be helpful in fine tuning the process for the future.
- A billing mechanism will need to be put into place along with service codes.
- The Self-Determination Work Group is working on setting up service codes and how to create the rate structure.
- Jason will check with the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) to see if he can provide meeting notes from the Self-Determination Work Group.
- Funding is based on the CMS rates for a billable service. The hope is there will be an expansion of the billable categories for this waiver.
- There are two proposals of how clients will get chosen for the SDP: All 175 clients will get chosen all at once, or the 175 clients will be chosen on a gradual basis.
- **See attached Self-Determination Program Participant Selection Information.**

- The goal is for the SDP to have a good representation for clients. This is DDS's process and the algorithm is based on Sandis data.
- Clients chosen for the SDP will receive a letter with confirmation from DDS.
- **See attached Department of Developmental Services Self-Determination Program Letter.**
- Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) currently has 2,224 clients on the SDP list.
- DDS allowed ACRC to send the names of clients signed up prior to January 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 to DDS to have them transferred to their spreadsheet.
- Out of the 2,224 clients on the list, 2,219 names were successfully transferred. Some of the cases were closed, moved out of state, or deceased.
- ACRC had 31 clients move to other RC's and ACRC sent those names to DDS on their behalf. ACRC let each RC know this prior to sending them out.
- The DDS letter being sent to families is very official looking and some undocumented clients have been nervous about getting on the SDP list.
- This feedback has been provided to DDS to see if they can adjust the letter so it doesn't look so official.

- Jason has asked Service Coordinators to contact families to let them know the SDP list will not go to any government agency involving immigration.
- All of ACRC's SDP trainings will be listed on the website and will occur on the weekdays and weekends.
- The official DDS SDP Power Point is being used to provide the trainings.
- There is an email mailbox found on DDS's website where people can submit any questions as it relates to the SDP.
- Client addresses, names and UCI's must be accurate when being provided to DDS and any changes should be reported to their SC.
- ACRC will not be receiving more than the initial 175 client allotment to sign up for the SDP.
- If clients withdraw their names from the list, other client names will be put in their place.
- Until the waiver is signed, we are discussing how we will operationalize this as it relates to case management for the first three years.
- There is a lot of discussion on how to create the budget.
- Kimberly questioned if clients are really making choices if the choices have to be within the guidelines.

- Jason reminded the group that the SDP is a waiver program and is federal funding through tax payer dollars, so we need to have fidelity.
- Joyce questioned if there will be an expanded version of the choices available to clients.
- Jason advised that RC services are Medi-Caid waiver billable and are bounded by Title 17 vendorization agreements.
- Since the SDP doesn't use purchase of service dollars, the service code list is being worked on to be expanded.
- Kimberly reiterated that under the SDP, services won't have to be provided by a vendor of the RC and the clients will be negotiating services.
- Jason stated that there has been a lot of discussion around what the role of the Financial Management Services (FMS) will be.
- Under SDP, clients will learn a lot more about the financial side of services.
- Kimberly stated that clients may gain a better understanding of why they may not have had access to certain services in the past.
- Jason noted that SDP will also be an education process for ACRC's Service Coordinators (SC's).
- With the SDP, the planning team process will be different outside of the basic foundation.

- CMS will determine how the budget works and the law states that services have to be billable and the regulations will have to be enforced.
- For SDP, all clients will have to be on a waiver. If the services doesn't fall under a billable category, it cannot be chosen.
- Some examples of current non-billable services are paying for rent or utility bills.
- At this time, we don't know how the exemption/appeal process or expanded service codes will work.
- Kimberly is hopeful that SDP will be individualized to fit the needs of clients and fall under the proper funding.
- Jason noted that in the SDP Flow Chart, the first step after a client decides they want SDP, is person centered planning.
- Anything that is waiver related, has to be a personal choice. This is why the RC is mandated to conduct an IPP every year.
- One of the questions will still don't have an answer to is if the IPP will be able to be amended.
- Kimberly advised that under the SDP, clients will have to be aware more now so than ever as to what is going on. They have the right, the knowledge and authority to speak on their choices.

- Jason stated that Notice of Action's (NOA's) have not been discussed yet, but he will reach out to Disability Rights to see if they have some working knowledge on this.
- Jason stated that once the waiver is signed, we will need to have a meeting on how to operationalize and will need to increase the frequency of the meetings.
- Once this is operationalized, they will expect the SDAC to provide feedback on how the first three years of SDP is going.
- Jason stated that the SDAC may need to think about meeting electronically. Jason will put this topic on the next meeting and discuss how to do with this ACRC's Training Manager.
- The SDAC needs to have good communication, but not have the meetings tied to a physical location as ACRC's rooms are frequently booked.
- Jason requested for SDAC members to reach out to other members that haven't been attending.
- Kimberly stated that she likes meeting in person as it can be hard to have conversations over the phone.
- Jason advised that he will try to have meetings in person as often as possible.
- There will be SDP Informational Meeting's at ACRC's Sacramento Office on:

- March 24<sup>th</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup>, and April 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

#### **4. Outreach Efforts Committee Members – Joyce McNair**

- Currently, Joyce has been providing outreach more on an informal basis.
- Lisa will be presenting on adult services on May 4<sup>th</sup> and she conducted a presentation to medical students about clients transitioning from children to adult services. Lisa will also be presenting to the African American community on the transition process on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Kathy stated that she has been sharing the SDP flyer at transition fairs, special education meetings, and self-employment programs.
- Jason stated that programs can utilize the DDS SDP power point to provide public meetings. Community members can attend the SDP public meetings and get narrative and coaching information.
- Kimberly noted that it would be helpful to provide an SDAC flyer to see if more people from the public can attend the meetings.
- Jason agreed that ACRC should emphasize on the website that the public can attend these meetings.
- Stacy stated that ACRC should send email invitations to providers.
- Jason advised that ACRC's Community Services Department has been conducting outreach to providers.

## 5. **Public Comment Period**

- Nicole Patterson (DDS Coordinator of Consumer Services):
- If the public would like to speed up the waiver process, they can write a support letter to the federal government.
- The SDP is waiver funded, but clients do not have to be on the waiver to get Self-Determination. \*\*\*(*Jason commented that this was different from the information he has received*)\*\*\*
- Jason questioned if clients, need to have a Social Security Number, and Nicole was not sure.
- The qualifications for how clients will be chosen is they will first look at ethnicity, then disability, gender, and age.
- When clients are establishing their budget they cannot go outside of the rate, but it doesn't mean the rates cannot be negotiated.
- Transportation should not be a problem, because it's a service that clients can still access and pay for.
- For the service categories, they are very broad and don't see too many services not being able to fit into one of the categories.
- The service categories in the waiver can be viewed online.
- Some areas of struggle surround the structure and training of the budget section.

- Anybody providing a direct service will be mandated reporters and they will have to sign a document stating they will follow through with the process.
- The complaint and NOA process will not change and this will be an educational opportunity for the judges.

**6. Open discussion on Self-Determination:**

- Will add the topic of SDAC to the agenda for the next Provider Advisory Committee Meeting occurring at ACRC.

**7. Dates for Future Meetings:**

- In Person Meeting Dates:
  - May 9<sup>th</sup> (Brenda Smith)
  - July 11<sup>th</sup> (Brenda Smith)
  - September 12<sup>th</sup> (Brenda Smith)
  - November 14<sup>th</sup> (Brenda Smith)

**8. Identify agenda items for next meeting:**

- To be determined.

9. Meeting adjourned at 12:09 am

### Self-Determination Program Participant Selection Information

RC	Disability Type					Gender		Age			Ethnicity						Proposed Number of Participants Per RC*	Remaining Pilot Program Consumers
	ID	Autism	Cerebral Palsy	Epilepsy	Other	Male	Female	0-21	22-41	42+	Asian	Black/ Af Am	Filipino	Hispanic	White	Other		
ACRC	84	36	17	17	21	110	65	85	54	36	11	22	3	27	92	20	175	
CVRC	74	20	15	21	11	86	55	95	46	0	8	9	1	69	46	8	141	
EBRC	65	36	17	17	20	101	54	74	47	34	19	30	7	30	50	19	155	
ELARC	37	28	7	9	7	60	28	50	24	14	10	1	1	62	10	4	88	26
FNRC	32	13	6	7	4	38	24	25	20	17	1	1	0	6	49	5	62	
FDLRC	29	26	6	8	5	51	23	43	17	14	7	5	3	32	21	6	74	
GGRC	36	11	9	9	9	44	30	28	22	24	12	7	5	15	28	7	74	
HRC	46	27	8	9	8	64	34	53	27	18	8	12	5	37	27	9	98	
IRC	126	43	33	32	10	152	92	124	79	41	6	30	4	108	82	14	244	
KRC	33	14	5	8	7	42	25	33	21	13	1	6	1	28	26	5	67	36
NBRC	36	12	7	8	8	44	27	29	24	18	1	7	3	14	39	7	71	
NLACRC	74	57	18	17	8	116	58	101	47	26	6	19	5	72	63	9	174	
RCOC	76	33	20	20	6	99	56	77	46	32	20	3	3	48	63	18	155	
RCRC	14	4	3	4	3	17	11	11	9	8	0	1	0	3	21	3	28	27
SARC	62	31	11	13	9	82	44	64	37	25	21	4	4	43	43	11	126	
SCLARC	54	23	11	12	7	69	38	57	33	17	1	32	1	66	4	3	107	
SDRC	94	42	22	22	11	123	68	97	58	36	7	11	6	63	65	39	191	3
SGPRC	50	21	12	13	6	65	37	48	30	24	9	7	3	52	24	7	102	
TCRC	56	18	9	9	6	61	37	48	29	21	2	2	1	35	45	13	98	16
VMRC	48	20	9	12	6	61	34	47	28	20	5	9	2	29	42	8	95	
WRC	28	19	7	7	6	45	22	36	18	13	2	17	1	21	19	7	67	
<b>TOTAL</b>	1154	534	252	274	178	1530	862	1225	716	451	157	235	59	860	859	222	2392	108
<b>%</b>	48.2%	22.3%	10.5%	11.5%	7.0%	64.0%	36.0%	51.2%	29.9%	18.9%	6.6%	9.8%	2.5%	36.0%	35.9%	9.3%		

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 320, MS 3-8  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)  
(916) 654-1958



December 26, 2017

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

This letter is confirmation that your name was added to the list for the Self-Determination Program. From this list, the Department of Developmental Services (Department) will select the first 2,500 participants for self-determination once the program is started.

If you would like to make sure that your name was added to the Department's list, you may also check the website at [www.dds.ca.gov/SDPverification](http://www.dds.ca.gov/SDPverification) and search the Department's database, using your UCI (Unique Client Identifier) number. Your UCI number can be found on your Individual Program Plan document or by asking your regional center service coordinator.

If your name is selected to participate in the Self-Determination Program you will be notified by your regional center. You will then have the opportunity to start the enrollment process by attending a Self-Determination Program orientation at your regional center.

If you are not selected, your name will be kept on the Department's list in the event that space opens up in the program.

Please email the Department at [sdp@dds.ca.gov](mailto:sdp@dds.ca.gov) if you have any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,

Community Services Division  
California Department of Developmental Services

**"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"**