



Alta California

Regional Center

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**Alta California Regional Center (ACRC)
 Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting (SDAC)
 Wednesday, January 14, 2026
 1 to 3 p.m.
 Minutes**

Members:	Present	Absent	Legend: SA – Self-Advocate FA – Family Advocate SP – Service Provider
Benita Shaw, FA	x		
Carmen Delgado, FA		x	
Kelsey Handcock, DRC	x		
Margaux De Leon, FA	x		
Lisa Cooley, SA (Chair)	x		
Tanishia Hubbard, Community Resource Partner	x		
Rosie Lasca, FA	x		
Tom Hopkins, SA		x	
Nelia Nunes, FA	x		
David Kline, SA		x	
Non-members Present:			
Jennifer Bloom, ACRC Mechelle Johnson, ACRC Tracy Brown, ACRC Jaspreet Mann, ACRC Faye Tait, ACRC Bailey Norman, ACRC David Lopez, ACRC Amy Silva, ACRC Lisa Hooks, SCDD	Jaclyn Balanay, DDS Florida Meza Miss Nerdy, PNC Mirela Bere Mike Bell David Ellis, Cambrian Dylan Nobida, Maxim Jhonathan, Maxim	Debbie Fisher Yadir Morales Kayley Proenza Preselah Seymore Cindy Hellman	

1. Welcome and Purpose – Alta/SCDD

Jennifer, ACRC, provided an overview of the Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) structure, including the roles of the regional center and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD).

2. Call to Order by Lisa Cooley, Chair

Welcome & Introductions (1:00 p.m.)

3. Approval of Agenda & Minutes – Lisa Cooley, Chair

Chair Lisa Cooley called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. and requested a motion to approve the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting.

M/S/C (Nelia/Margaux) Made the motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting and the November 12th meeting minutes.

The committee approved today's agenda and the November 12th SDAC meeting minutes.

4. Public Comment Period

- Mike Bell with GoGo Grandparent shared information about transportation services and interest in SDP.
- Yadir Morales, facilitator/self-advocate, would like to know how decisions are made and receive an overview of the ACRC's internal Spending Plan Committee.
- David FMS provider (Cambrian) shared enthusiasm for SDP participant training rollout.
- Kaley Proenza with Disability Voices United (DVU) shared information about an upcoming DVU monthly SDP Connect Meeting.

5. ACRC SDP Updates

A. General SDP Update

- Jaspreet shared that as of January 2, 2026, ACRC has 631 individuals who have fully transitioned to SDP. Of those, 381 are White, and 250 are Non-White. The Ethnicity breakdown is Asian (85), Black (39), Latin (39), Mixed (65), and Other (22).
- ACRC has 26 vendored Financial Management Service (FMS) Agencies: AAA FMS, Accura FMS, ACE FMS, Action FMS, Acumen

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FMS, Aid FMS, Arch FMS, Balance FMS, Bolder Path Services, Cambrian, Community Interface Services (CIS), Dromen, Inc., Essential Pay, Fact Family Management Services, Stro Financial Services, FMS Pay, GRD Fiduciary, GT Independence, Home of Guiding Hands, HR Alliance West, Mains'I, Premier DBA Aveanna Healthcare, Public Partnerships, Ridgeline FMS, Sentinel Four, Sequoia. Their contact information is listed on the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS') website. We continue to work on adding additional FMSs.

- 36 Providers are vended for Self-Directed Services (up to 40 hours of pre-enrollment training and supports).
- The Statewide SDP Orientation is available in English, Spanish Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Hmong, and Arabic from a collaboration between SCDD and the DDS. ACRC continues to promote and share this resource, including having PCSs attend and be available to all staff as well.
- There are 10 PCS's currently supporting all case management units. PCS support role/duties were highlighted at the beginning of this meeting.
- We recognize that rate reform in SDP requires more conversation from SC's than in Traditional. While the SC is not expected to be well versed and in-the-weeds knowledgeable about rate reform, we want to make sure that SCs are equipped to provide simplified information to clients and families. This information is related to changes that clients and families can expect to see when they're reviewing their IBCCT compared to last year's IBCCT. Notably, clients and families can expect to see changes in service codes, ratios, and rates. SCs may share the following verbiage along with sharing FAQs found on DDS's website in preparation for assessed needs meetings.
 - Rate Reform in California's developmental services system means changing the way the state pays for services. The goal is to make sure that the payment system is fair, supports providing high-quality care, and that it helps people get the services they need. Payments are made by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) through regional centers to all service providers. The payments are reimbursements for

services provided to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and families. As a result of rate reform, some service codes that existed before 1/1/25 are no longer applicable, new service codes have been created, some rates have decreased, some rates have increased, and some rates now include mileage. ACRC continues to assess services based on the client's intended outcomes in the IPP, ensuring that the regional center funded services are connected to the client's qualifying diagnosis and promotes independence. For more information, please find the FAQ's related to rate reform on DDS's website. If you have any specific questions, please let your Service Coordinator know.

- Services available outside the SDP Budget
 - Coordinated Family Supports (CFS)
 - Co-Pays
 - Environmental Accessibility
 - Sedation Dentistry (pre/post op and cleaning)
 - State Supplemental Program (SSP)
 - Paid Internship Program (PIP)
 - Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)
 - Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP)
 - Creating Behavioral Educational Momentum (CBEM) Crisis Hotline
- Assessing Training Goals
 - Documentation for progress reports for ILS, SLS, TDS, Day Program, and Job Coaching
 - What was the goal? What supports were in place to meet the goal? Barriers? Success?
- Client Services Managers and SC's continue to receive alerts/reminders to initiate new year transitions at the 120, 90, 60, 30, and 15 day mark.

Ongoing meetings and collaboration

- The SDP team holds SDP drop-in labs for SC's Managers and Lead SCs monthly.

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- Individual SDP case staffings with SCs, CSMs, PCSs, and ADs continue, as needed.
- Collaboration between Regional Centers continues with monthly meetings.
- Monthly Statewide SDP meetings continue.
- PCSs continue to attend unit meetings to share information, resources, and technical support (clarification on directives and service definitions related to service requests in spending plans).
- Weekly office hours for our Grass Valley office, as they are comprised of 20% of overall SDP participants.
- Standing meetings with CSMs for units with higher enrollment numbers.
- Spending plan committee for budgets with the following:
 - Health and safety support funding
 - \$125 or greater which is higher than the state's average of \$90k per DDS.
- Participant Checklist has been updated and now includes timelines.

Outreach

- SCs continue to discuss SDP with clients and families during quarterly meetings, planning team meetings, annual IPP meetings, and when prompted. This includes support with registering for the required orientation.
- Outreach activities coordinated by ACRC's Diversity Outreach Workgroup post its outreach events on social media platforms.
- Eastern and Western Health Fair – November 2025
- Transgender Day of Remembrance – November 2025
- Holiday Mixer at Sacramento City Unified – December 2025
- Santa Day – December 2025
- We are interested in your ideas and suggestions on where outreach may be helpful.

Previous Public Comments

Please include your contact information so that you may receive a timely call back.

- Request for PCS to attend spending plan review meetings
 - Recommendations
 - SC and CSM to attend a planning team meeting using the spending plan checklist.

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- SC and CSM to attend the spending plan committee if the budget is greater than \$125k and/or includes funding for health/safety items.
- Request for families' salaries to be exempt from taxes when SDP funds are used to pay families to support regional center clients.
 - Recommendations
 - These requests/recommendations should be shared with your local representative or senator
- SDP Townhall and More Outreach
 - ACRC is committed to attending/participating in more outreach opportunities. Please share any ideas that you may have.
- Are Progress Reports Person-Centered
 - Yes, they should be.
- SDP Implementation Funds – Partnership with Cambrian FMS offering training for newly onboarded participants.
- Delays with processing – as SDP enrollments increase, more time will be needed to process requests. In the event you are not receiving a response, please escalate your call/email to the Client Services Manager for support.
- Decision Makers at meetings
 - Service Coordinators are able to make decisions at meetings when assessed requests are within our procedural guidelines.
 - In instances outside of procedural guidelines and disagreements, a follow-up meeting and decision will be made within 15 days (or later if agreed upon by the planning team). W&I Code 4646(h).
- How many orientations for SDP were completed in comparison to actual enrollment flips into SDP? ACRC received orientation lists from DDS and will be monitoring and reporting when/if these clients flip:
 - *Orientation reports include professionals associated with Regional Center, DDS, and multiple people representing the same client. As such, the orientation numbers are skewed.
 - 9/15 – report included 30 orientations from June 6 flips
 - 9/23 – report included 48 orientations from July 3 flips
 - 10/23 – report included 36 orientations from August 1 flip
 - 11/25 -No Data Provided
 - 12/19 – report included 23 orientations from September with 1 flip and 29 orientations in October with 0 flips

6. Grant Funding Sub-Committee Update

- Jennifer shared that David Ellis from Cambrian FMS created a flyer using SDAC implementation funds. David will be added to the agenda moving forward. Nine new SDP participants will be attending the first training session.

7. Action Items from Prior SDAC Meeting

- No action items.

8. SDAC Member Comment Period

- Margaux shared kudos and concerns. At the end of 2025, she realized an invoice from 2023 had not been paid. She also expressed increased difficulties with budget transition.
 - Jennifer Bloom assisted with the resolution.
- Benita solicited ideas about solutions.
- Benita and Lisa C. requested that Directive Interpretation be placed on the next meeting agenda.
- Nelia shared feedback about a change in service provider name, and inquired about a reasonable timeline to process the change.
- Lisa H. suggested providing updates on Directives in between meetings. It may draw people to SDAC meetings.

9. Dates for Future meetings:

- Wednesday, March 11th, 2026, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 13th, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm
- Wednesday, July 8th, 2026, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Wednesday, September 9th, 2026, 1:00-3:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 18th, 2026, 6:00-8:00 pm

10. Identify agenda items for the next meeting

- Please submit any items to Kizi Smith to be added to the agenda.
- Updates on any Directives between the January and March meetings.
- Overview of the Goods and Services Directive.
- Overview of the Spending Plan Committee.
- Demographic Information on SDP Orientation Participants.

11. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.