



**Alta California**

Regional Center

4151 E Commerce Way, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95834

916-978-6400

**Alta California Regional Center (ACRC)  
Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting (SDAC)  
Wednesday, July 9, 2025  
1 to 3 p.m.  
Minutes**

<b>Members:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Legend:</b></p> <p>SA – Self-Advocate FA – Family Advocate SP – Service Provider</p>
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		
Tom Hopkins, SA	X		
<b>Non-members Present:</b>			
Mechelle Johnson, ACRC Jennifer Bloom, ACRC Kenisha Hurd, ACRC Tracy Brown, ACRC Faye Tait, ACRC Esperanza Zuniga, ACRC Kizi Smith, ACRC Sydney Ruport, ACRC Cat Carl, ACRC Ashley Henderson, ACRC Love Guyton Artelias Guyton	Peter Mendoza, SCDD Cindy J. Jaclyn Balanay, DDS Rosie Lasca, IFTA Rachael Palmer-Teefy, PEC Amanda Pelaccio, PEC Tandra Fontaine, PEC Beth Beswick, Engaged Services Kaley Proenza, Disability Voices United Patricia Foley Emily S.	Alejandra Calderon Lori Ross Yasmin Herrera-Vilchez Mirela Bere Preselah Seymore, GT Independence	

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Dr. Rogers, Souls Winner Counseling Dr. Diaz Dennis Freeman, Chef, Liberations Foods		
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### **1. Welcome and Purpose – Alta/SCDD**

Peter, SCDD, began the meeting with a self-introduction and a visual description, emphasizing the importance of self-description for visually impaired attendees. Peter, SCDD, and 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 – Benita Shaw, Vice Chair**

Chair Lisa Cooley called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. and requested a motion to approve the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting.

**M/S/C (Daniel/Carmen) Made the motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting and the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Vice Chair Benita Shaw abstained due to not being present at the last meeting.**

**The committee approved today's agenda and the April 14<sup>th</sup> SDAC meeting minutes.**

### **4. Public Comment Period**

- In a public comment, Cindy highlighted issues with providers requesting excessive personal information before service tours.
- Yasmin shared a public comment requesting clearer timelines for SDP transitions, consistent guidelines, rights protection, and the importance of support for non-English speaking families.

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- Rachael, PEC, shared feedback regarding significant delays in budget extensions, confusing feedback on spending plans, and the need for clearer requirements.
- Kayley Proenzas, Disability Voices United, shared a public comment regarding a community meeting for Local Volunteer Advisory Committee members from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. The meeting aims to help committee members meet each other, share ideas, discuss state-level changes, and compare how different regional centers implement the Self-Determination Program. It is not a public meeting and is only for SDP local volunteer advisory committee members. Kayley also shared that the organization is hosting a self-determination and supportive decision-making event in Oakland on September 11th. The tickets are \$50.
- Lori, a mother and independent facilitator, expressed concerns about new, unclear reporting requirements for her client's second year. She requested clearer guidelines, consistent expectations, and a comprehensive guidebook to help all stakeholders understand the Self-Determination Program process.
- Love shared her experiences of attending community college, where she has demonstrated self-advocacy and team-building skills.
- Ms. Guyton, Love's mother, highlighted Love's personal growth through SDP and introduced Love's team.
- Yasmin shared an additional public comment requesting more collaboration from the community and the regional center.

### **5. ACRC SDP Updates**

#### **A. General SDP Update**

- Kenisha shared that as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, ACRC has 547 individuals who have fully transitioned to SDP. Of those, 333 are White, and 214 are Non-White. The Ethnicity breakdown is Asian (78), Black (30), Latin (37), Mixed (55), and Other (14).
- ACRC has 27 vendored Financial Management Service (FMS) Agencies: AAA, Accura, ACE, Action, Acumen, Aid, Arch, Balance, 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, Sisk Financial Services, 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 vendored and have been funded 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. If clients/families cannot make the times of the SCDD orientation, we are able to provide the LMS training in place.
- There are 9 PCS's currently supporting all case management units with the 10<sup>th</sup> and final PCS starting in the coming weeks (after position is backfilled).
- 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 SC's 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. SC's may share the verbiage below along with the sharing FAQ's 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 Managers and Lead SCs monthly.
- The SDP team holds SDP drop-in clinics for SCs once per month.
- 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.

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- PCSs continue to attend unit meetings to share information, resources, and technical support.
- Weekly office hours for our Grass Valley office, as they are comprised of 20% of overall SDP participants.
- Developed language and guidance in accordance with the new standardized IPP. Effective 4/21/25, all IPP's will be written in the standardized way which was effective 1/1/25.

### **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.
- Attended the Placer County Mental Health Wellness Fair on May 15<sup>th</sup> in Roseville.
- Attended Sacramento PRIDE on June 15<sup>th</sup>
- ACRC Open House 7/10/25
- We are interested in your ideas and suggestions on where outreach may be helpful.

### **B. Caseload Ratio Feedback**

- Jen shared that this information is posted on the ACRC website.

### **6. Potential SCDD Appointed SDAC Member**

- Peter shared that three members of the SDAC have resigned. Mina, Kimberly, and William.
- Peter introduced Rosie Lasca, founder of the Independent Facilitator Training Academy (IFTA), and has a son in SDP, to the committee. Rosie has completed several projects with the regional centers. Rosie thanked the committee for the nomination.

**M/S/C (Lisa/Carmen) made the motion to approve Rosie as a member of the SDAC.**

**The committee approved the motion to approve Rosie as a member of the committee.**

### **7. Grant Funding Sub-Committee Update**

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- The Grant Funding Subcommittee proposed focusing on FMS (Financial Management Services) agencies for potential implementation funds.
- Proposed Focus Areas:
  - Accessing FMS agencies – the “ins and outs”
  - Timelines and what to expect in working with FMS agencies
  - Understanding each FMS model
  - Staffing and planning
  - Joint training for participants, families, regional centers, LVAC members, and others with a focus on training self-advocates and families from diverse communities that are under-represented in the Self Determination Program.
  - Collaborative groups or workshops to families, regional center staff, community members, and SDAC members to foster ongoing, shared learning and problem-solving opportunities across diverse communities and those who are under-represented in the SDP
- The committee voted to invite FMS agencies to submit proposals detailing how they could address these areas, with the goal of using implementation funds to support and improve the Self-Determination Program.
- The Supported Life Institute proposed partnering for their annual conference on October 9-10th.  
Conference Highlights:  
Incorporating self-determination strand sessions  
Breakout sessions on SDP topics  
Offering an exhibit table  
Complimentary conference registrations
- Proposal Details: Request for \$15,000 in SDAC implementation funds. Will provide promotional materials. Sessions include topics such as "I Get to Choose" and navigating SDP.

**M/S/C (Lisa/Carmen) made the motion to approve the proposal for the Supported Life Conference.**

**The committee approved the motion to approve the Supported Life Conference proposal.**

**8. Action Items from Prior SDAC Meeting**

- No previous action items

**9. SDAC Member Comment Period**

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**10. Dates for Future meetings:**

- September 10th, 2025, 1-3 pm
- November 12th, 2025, 6-8 pm Remote Only

**11. Identify agenda items for the next meeting**

- Please submit any items to Kizi Smith to be added to the agenda.

**12. The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.**