

**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, February 14, 2023 3:45pm-5:30pm**

MEETING NOTICE

DRAFT AGENDA

*\*Meeting is open to the public – all are welcome to attend\**

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87601152530?pwd=STJwMHI4YmtJUVlyVnpaL2tMOHROZz09>

**SDLAC Members:**

Sascha Bittner (Co-Chair/Self-Advocate) - present  
Jennifer Walsh (Co-Chair/Self-Advocate) - present  
Elizabeth Grigsby (GGRC Consumer Rights Advocate/Self-Advocate)  
Courtney Magnus (OCRA-Attorney/Clients' Rights Advocate) - present  
Connie Johnson (Parent Advocate) - present  
Alyson Sinclair (Parent Advocate)  
Christine Kantor (Parent Advocate) - present  
Gaby Choy, (Parent Advocate)  
David Nguyen (Parent Advocate) – present by phone

**SCDD Advisor:**

Sheraden Nicholau (SCDD-Regional Manager, Bay Area Office) - present

**GGRC Advisors:**

Eric Zigman (Executive Director) – present  
Juliet Sousa (SDP Supervising Social Worker) - present  
Meghan Reynard (Participant Choice Specialist)  
Anh Nguyen (Recording Secretary) – present

**Guests:**

Amanda Nixon, NeuroNav  
Corrine Sixkiller, DDS  
Karen Hammond, Parent Advocate/IF  
Tanya Hernandez, GT Independence  
Lena Driscoll, NeuroNav  
Mya Ewing, NeuroNav  
Alex Gillaspie for Kim, NeuroNav  
Garrett Ackerman, Provider, Meet the Homies  
David Grady, SCDD

- I. Welcome/Call to order (Bittner and All) – 5 minutes

- a. Introductions
- b. Approval of Agenda (Bittner)
- c. Approval of Minutes (Bittner/All)

II. Participant/Family/Public Feedback on SDP (All) – 20 minutes

a. Comments are limited to FOUR minutes per speaker on items not on the agenda, 20 minutes total.

b. We welcome critiques and feedback but ask speakers refrain from personal attacks on individuals or the committee.

c. The committee will not be responding to comments but may address them further down in the agenda or in future agenda items.

Garrett: Their new program, Meet the Homies works on matching people and helping them find roommates.

Tanya: GT is currently enrolling for June start dates and asking families to have a certified budget, draft spending plan, and most recent copy of their IPP so they can schedule a consultation meeting together.

III. SCDD Update (Bittner/Nicholau) – 10 minutes

Sheraden: Technical assistance has slowed down the last month but continues to focus on FMS availability and working with RCs so they're aware of what the needs are and consistent in messaging to participants. Orientations continue in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and ASL, hoping to start Mandarin in March. SCDD materials and information for registering for orientations available online at the website. [scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation](http://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation)

Sascha: Last week's meeting was about FMSs and a lot about what Karen shared with regards to delays. One project discussed was creating a database, one by regional center and one by others. Also focusing on disparities and had a lively discussion on this. The workgroup is coming back for the next meeting with recommendations about how to gather best practices and promising practices.

IV. GGRC Updates (Zigman) – 10 minutes

System is reeling from the performance measures; RCs will have some funding held as an "incentive" to their performance. HCBS compliance also has an overlap with SDP since they have to be compliant with HCBS Final Rule. Still waiting on FMS rate change, maximum of \$165/month isn't a realistic way to incentivize FMSs.

David: Will the raise be adequate with inflation and rising costs?

Perhaps rate study can be a model to show how rates can be adjusted.

At GGRC, still struggling to hire but moving in the right direction. Social work vacancies are still resulting in high and uncovered caseloads and using every strategy at our disposal. Social workers are Bachelor's level positions and experience in a

related field. Questions regarding EVV changes are in the chat, but not anything Eric can speak to specifically. Sheraden shared the following links:

- FAQs for EVV: <https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/EVV-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>

- Guidance to RCs [https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/EVV RC Service Codes Guidance.pdf](https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/EVV_RC_Service_Codes_Guidance.pdf)

- Flow chart for EVV self-registration: [https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Home Health Care Service Providers Self Registration Process Flow Chart.pdf](https://www.dds.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Home_Health_Care_Service_Providers_Self_Registration_Process_Flow_Chart.pdf)

V. GGRC SDP Team Update (Sousa) – 10 minutes

Juliet shared a personal success story from SDP.

Renewals are starting/second years are moving on. The first years and initial starts were difficult, but participants are receiving services they did not have access to before. GGRC continues to interview for two Participant Choice Specialists. Initially looking for internal candidates with complexities of RC system, so now looking at external applicants. Supervisors and managers are going to be trained on 2/28 including Lisa Rosene, Meghan Reynard and Juliet. Things have changed since SDP implementation so the new trainings will be an update as well. Another vendor training coming up to update the larger vendors since some info is not really up-to-date on SDP. The training is open to all vendors in the general region, not just GGRC. Will make sure that SPAC can help spread the word about the training. Juliet putting together a simplified guide for training staff on budgets. Orientation for Chinese-speaking families and prospective participants so they can hear about SDP in their own language and address culturally relevant issues. SDP team is meeting monthly with FMSs. Timeline for the other four FMSs: Aveanna is booking out into June 1. Different timelines for everyone but now it's not just a casual conversation. They have to have budget and spending plans done prior to contact. Spending plans are supposed to be completed before anyway. Aveanna was traditionally doing the spending plans so it was something that GGRC became accustomed to, but it should be the role of social workers, families. Budget gets certified (signed by Lisa as RCS Director) and spending plan (by SDP team) get signed.

Lena: Is GGRC doing courtesy vendorizations with additional FMS providers? Yes.

VI. Disability Rights California Update (Mangus) – 5 minutes

No updates but Courtney providing a quick update on the role of OCRA. You can reach her at [courtney@disabilityrightscalifornia.org](mailto:courtney@disabilityrightscalifornia.org)

VII. SDLAC Strategic Planning Subcommittee (Bittner/Walsh/Nicholau) – 10 minutes  
M/S Jennifer and Connie, unanimous consent for approval of the Strategic Plan

VIII. Outreach to the community – Communication/Correspondence (All) – 10 minutes

IX. Funding to Support Implementation of the Self-Determination Program for Fiscal Year 2021-22 - (Bittner/Walsh) – 15 minutes

a. GGRC's SDLAC spending plan (Nguyen)

X. Bay Area website update (Sinclair, Kantor, Zigman, Grady) – 5 minutes

David Grady from SCDD presented the new Bay Area SDP website and discussed the budget needed for funding this project and other ongoing website related projects for the upcoming year.

XI. Consultant updates – 10 minutes

Can IFs attend the NN info sessions and drop-in meetings?

Committee would like to have information disseminated and how their funding is allocated. Services offered are also available and who the funding partners are and generally all of the support services (both no-cost and fee for services) in the region.

Is there a list of GGRC's IFs, PCPs, FMSs available for families and prospective participants? If so, there should be one.

Social workers need to know about all the IFs serving the catchment area and SDAC funded services available to all. These things need to be separate and clear for all.

We should have a glossary of terms for SDP, perhaps on the website.

XII. Election of new SDLAC Co-Chair

XIII. Adjourn: Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 14 – 3:45 PM – 5:30 PM