



Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 25, 2024 - 4:00pm-5:30pm

MEETING NOTICE/DRAFT AGENDA

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

PLEASE NOTE

There will be a public comment period at the *beginning* of the meeting to provide guests an opportunity to address the committee.

After that time, the committee will be conducting business and will NOT be engaging with guests.

Questions can be submitted to through the “Chat” feature and will be recorded.

SDLAC Members:

Jennifer Walsh (Chair/Self-Advocate) – present
Sascha Bittner (Self-Advocate) – present
Elizabeth Grigsby (GGRC Consumer Rights Advocate/Self-Advocate)
VACANT (OCRA-Attorney/Clients’ Rights Advocate) – present (Courtney)
Alyson Sinclair (Parent Advocate)
Christine Kantor (Parent Advocate) – present
Ken Parekh (Parent Advocate) - present
Brenda Bachechi (Community Advocate/Provider)
Sandy Chin (Parent Advocate) - present

SCDD Advisor:

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

GGRC Advisors:

Eric Zigman (Executive Director) - present
Lisa Rosene (Director, Case Management) - present
Juliet Sousa (SDP Supervising Social Worker)
Meghan Reynard (SDP Supervising Social Worker) - present
Kori Mason (Participant Choice Specialist) - present
Janika Jaramillo (Participant Choice Specialist) - present

Anh Nguyen (Recording Secretary)

Guests:

Chris Aguire – DDS

Debra Adler – parent advocate

- I. Welcome/Call to order (Walsh)
 - a. Roll call (Nguyen)
 - b. Approval of Agenda (Walsh)
 - c. Approval of Minutes (Walsh/All)

- II. Funding to Support Implementation of the Self-Determination Program for Fiscal Year 2021-22 - (Walsh/Hou)
 - a. GGRC's SDLAC spending plan update after workgroups meet

No finance report this week. Lop and Eric will continue to work on identifying someone from accounting to come report to the committee.

The report should focus on what the planned/budgeted items are and how much money remains. Confusion can lie in the fact that funds can carry over through three fiscal years. Lop does a great job to make sure those funds are encumbered and allocated. Not the most simple financial report because of the different fiscal years.

Jennifer: There are two RFPs out, one for onboarding and one for the Bay Area SDP website.

Meghan: Can the committee use funds to provide support to SDP team?

Lisa: There's an incentive from DDS if we enter all of the data on SANDIS. So it follows each person's SDP journey, it'll track when their budgets were done, etc. GGRC will track manually the spending plan changes and accounts for a big bulk of the work.

Would the committee be interested in hiring a temporary staff person to do that data entry because there's only four people working on SDP. That would be another project.

Jennifer: Can the committee help hire staff for GGRC for this project?

Eric: As long as it's a contract and an appropriate expenditure for the committee, it's fine. The committee can't hire someone directly, but they can contract for work related to SDP.

Ken: How can we help and contract with people to help the team with some broader efforts. This will be addressed in the working group.

Jennifer/Eric discussed confidentiality and Eric said they would just sign a HIPAA compliance agreement.

Meghan: Participants are growing exponentially, and SDP are all at capacity on workload. Interested in hiring someone to help the SDP team.

Jennifer: Agendize this for next month's meeting. Eric feels comfortable with moving forward to hire the temporary staff with the use of SDLAC funds and GGRC will take the risk of using Ops funds if the full committee votes against this.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- 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.

Debra Adler: Thank you all for what you do. I get to learn a lot about SDP and the struggles you all have at GGRC with regards to the program.

IV. SDLAC Funded Projects (Walsh)

Bay Area SDP Website Committee

We've interviewed three people. We have one more interview to go, so we're making progress. We'll be making a decision in the next couple of weeks. There are some good candidates and should have someone get us going soon.

SDP Updates in Case Management Manual

Wanda will be doing the updates to ensure that things are current.

Once we see the flow, we can see where the redundancies are. Once it's done, Lisa will recommend to sit down with Accounting to better outline the full structure of how SDP flows.

V. SDLAC Workgroup Reports

Participant Onboarding (Ken/Sascha)

Been meeting and didn't meet this week. We're waiting for responses from the RFI with a deadline for the end of the month. Hoping to get some responses to share with the committee.

Outreach and Equity Coordination (Christine/Alyson/Elizabeth)

Christine met with Sascha and had updates from Elizabeth. We were leading into the website and third party websites and SDP website, reinforcing the updates and not continuing to reinvent the wheel and pointing to some of the resources that are available. Israel is translating resources into Spanish, legacy documents. Trying to further open that up to other languages in GGRC's catchment area. Making more documents more accessible.

Best Practices (Brenda/Sandy)

Christine met with Brenda on Best Practices and was going to pull some notes together and that's where she left it. There was a bit of a disconnect when we met because I thought we were doing outreach.

VI. SCDD Update (Nicholau)

Here is the 7/10 SSDAC meeting packet and handouts that may be of interest to the committee members: <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac>

We have statewide orientations the last week of July / first days of Aug for anyone interested. More August dates to hit the calendar shortly: <https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation>

And a follow up related to a public comment from last meeting:

SF Bay Area Autism Society has engaged with the GGRC SDAC and with SCDD Bay Area and is in the process of requesting a panel presentation, via zoom, in the upcoming months with the following components:

Audience: Bay Area community members (mostly family advocates, with potentially some self-advocates and professionals). Many attendees will have already completed an SDP orientation.

Panelists: Requesting panelists from GGRC SDAC and RC(s). Requesting panelist representation from autism community.

Topics: Requesting updates on recent directives and how-tos for new SDP cases or renewing SDP cases, especially around spending plan and PCP work. Requesting a focus on people with autism and their families.

GGRC team members and SDAC members interested in participating, please let Sheraden know. Estimated timeframe for panel: later summer or early fall panel. TBD.

VII. GGRC SDP Team Update (Sousa/Reynard)

- a. Participant data points: number of persons currently enrolled, number of participants in the process, how long participants have been enrolled GGRC Updates (Zigman)
- b. Review of GGRC's SDP Orientation post-participation "packet" of information (SDP Team)

Meghan: SDP team has been very busy, lots of on-boarding and lots of orientations. Trying to keep the information updated and information on individuals transitioning into SDP. Hopefully the new features in SANDIS will be helpful because a lot of it is manually input.

Kori shared some updates on demographics and participants.

People in underserved communities are barely surviving and trying to get by, so SDP can be daunting and overwhelming because they don't have the capacity/bandwidth or the sophistication to pick up on some of the complexities.

Is anyone looking out for people who may not have families, caregivers, or support to help people who are interested in transitioning into SDP? That's kind of the role of independent facilitators.

Eric suggested the committee could write a letter outlining these thoughts and concerns to the statewide committee or DDS. We serve all different kinds of people in different situations.

Christine has seen how this is a statewide issue after serving as an IF and parent of an SDP participant. Why aren't we seeing more participation from the BIPOC population? There are other complexities that we're unaware of.

VIII. GGRC Updates (Zigman)

DDS Director Nancy Bargmann announced her retirement effective September 2024. Sascha and Edith Arias are both on the Master Plan Committee so GGRC has good representation. The plan can be a threat and an opportunity. No announcements of an interim director or next steps, it's a gubernatorial appointment so it would likely be Secretary Mark Ghaly making any announcements.

IX. Disability Rights California Update (OCRA)

You can continue to contact OCRA with SDP issues. It's not a large percentage of their work, but please reach out if you have questions or concerns. Courtney shared the OCRA contact information (415) 499-9724, ocra.ggrc@disabilityrightsca.org. No one slated for the GGRC OCRA position. There will be staff to help support GGRC.

X. Discussion of SDLAC Co-Chair and nominations (Walsh)
Ken would be open to being considered.

XI. Adjourn

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, August 22nd, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

****PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE – we will be moving SDLAC meetings to the FOURTH Thursday of each month****