



**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, September 26, 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) - present  
(OCRA-Attorney/Clients’ Rights Advocate)

Alyson Sinclair (Parent Advocate) - present

Christine Kantor (Parent Advocate)

Ken Parekh (Parent Advocate)

Brenda Bachechi (Community Advocate/Provider) - present

Sandy Chin (Parent Advocate)

Barclay Lynn - present

Aparna Kommineni - present

**SCDD Advisor:**

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

**GGRC Advisors:**

Eric Zigman (Executive Director)

Lisa Rosene (Director, Regional Center Services) - present

Lop Hou (Chief Financial Officer) - present

Juliet Sousa (SDP Supervising Social Worker)

Meghan Reynard (SDP Supervising Social Worker)  
Kori Mason (Participant Choice Specialist) - present  
Janika Jaramillo (Participant Choice Specialist) - present  
Anh Nguyen (Recording Secretary)

**Guests:**

Avanti Ambaker – parent of 13 year old  
Debra Adler – advocate  
Kayley Proenza – Disability Voices United  
Kim Sinclair – Autism Society

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

Lop provided an overview of the funds remaining that need to be used before April 2025, about \$72,000. Lop provided the Chairs and the committee with a detailed breakdown of funds remaining for three years.

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: Thanked the committee for all of the work on SDP.

Kim Sinclair: If you are looking for IF solutions or solutions to train parents and people, please reach out. We conduct live Zoom trainings with parents, persons served and professionals. English, Spanish and Korean with community moderators in each session and have a very diverse curriculum. Many have family members in SDP and know how to navigate the systems.

Aparna: Frustration is there's a lack of clarity of the program with providers. I've received IF training and one of the most common complaints about SDP is how bad the FMSs are. Use these funds to provide clarity for everyone.

Motion by the committee to make Ken Parekh the co-chair. M/S, Sascha, Liz

#### IV. SDLAC Funded Projects (Walsh)

Bay Area SDP Website Committee

We have a contractor who started a few weeks ago. Lop said her name is Caroline Fong and the contract is good for one year.

SDP Updates in Case Management Manual

Anh to provide committee with a list of the DDS funding priorities.

SDLAC-funded data support temporary position and update

The position was funded in October and has been extended to December. Meghan wanted to share that the data is ready and available on all of the clients and GGRC is ready for surveys.

#### V. SDLAC Workgroup Reports

Participant Onboarding (Ken/Sascha) – Sascha made a presentation on behalf of the workgroup. We want to build the SDP community and support social workers and others. Sheraden provided a PowerPoint presentation for the committee to review outlining the actions the workgroup has taken, specifically covering the RFQ. The workgroup is recommending contracting with Pragnya and Support for Families with Children with Disabilities with the goal of rolling out by October/November.

Aparna: Why are we focusing on onboarding when we can't serve the people we already have in SDP? Does GGRC have enough staff to support them and are they trained?

Sheraden provided background and what requirements DDS has placed on the committee's funding.

Brenda expressed she shared Aparna's concerns and talked about how to address problems. Ongoing training for social workers and are unsure how to complete all of

the steps in the process or coming up with a budget for someone who hasn't been served before. Is there something we can do capacity-wise to increase training so there isn't so much pressure on the SDP team. What can we do as a committee.

Motion: Workgroup, in conjunction with GGRC will develop and execute a contract with Pragnya and SFDC in accordance with the information contained in their formal proposals for the committee's review at the October meeting. M/S Alyson, Barclay

Outreach and Equity Coordination (Christine/Alyson/Elizabeth)

Best Practices (Brenda/Sandy)

- VI. Discussion of SDLAC Co-Chair and announcement of new co-chair (Walsh)
- VII. SCDD Update (Nicholau)
- VIII. 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)

This involves all of the data being provided into SANDIS because all of their information will be in the system.

Janika and Kori shared there's 170 clients enrolled and collected data for all incoming clients, Janika at 38 at initials with about 5 with 10/1 start dates, Kori has 24 at initials. Perhaps by the end of the year, GGRC is looking at about 230+ enrollees in SDP.

- IX. GGRC Updates (Zigman)
- X. Disability Rights California Update (OCRA)
- XI. Adjourn

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

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