



**Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 25, 2025 - 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.

****We honor confidentiality and you can make public comment anonymously.****

After the public comment period, 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)
Kristin Zlogar (OCRA-Attorney/Clients’ Rights Advocate) - present
Alyson Sinclair (Parent Advocate) - present
Christine Kantor (Parent Advocate)
Ken Parekh (Parent Advocate) - present
Brenda Bachechi (Community Advocate/Provider)
Sandy Chin (Parent Advocate) - present
Barclay Lynn (Advocate) - present
Aparna Kommineni (Advocate) - present

Partners:

Sheraden Nicholau (SCDD-Regional Manager, Bay Area Office) - present
Department of Developmental Services
Olga Maldonado, SFF - present
Patricia Idrugo, FRC
Pragnya

GGRC Partners:

Eric Zigman (Executive Director) - present
Lisa Rosene (Director, Regional Center Services) - present
Lop Hou (Chief Financial Officer) - present
Angelina Demetry (SDP Administrative Support) – present
Janika Jamarillo (Participant Choice Specialist) - present
Anh Nguyen (Recording Secretary) - present

Guests:

Kaylie Chang
Jua Perez
Grace Chang, parent
Sherya Krishnan, Children Therapy Services Director, AbilityPath
Amelia Edellman, Lionheart Collaborative
Julia Ballentyne, the Arc
Rosie Lasca, Independent Facilitator Training Academy
Margaret Motamed, Nicholas' parent

- I. Welcome/Call to order (Walsh) (10 minutes)
 - a. Roll call (Nguyen)
 - i. Guest introductions are optional
 - b. Approval of Agenda (Walsh) M/S, Sascha, Ken
 - c. Approval of Minutes (Walsh/All) M/S, Ken, Alyson
- II. Funding to Support Implementation of the Self-Determination Program (Walsh/Hou) (5 minutes)
 - a. Update on GGRC's SDLAC expenditures

III. PUBLIC COMMENT (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.

Amelia – lots of broad goals are being placed in the IPP for a few of her clients. DDS might be asking for more specific goals.

Julia – she gave a brief presentation on the Arc of California's Caring Futures information training program.

Jua – parent of a son at the beginning of the SDP process. Having issues with the IF list not being updated (who’s vendorized, not being updated in general). Angelina shared that the GGRC list is from the SDP network and the list is only as good as the information provided and that the lists are not exhaustive. Barclay stated that she’s been trying to work on the 099 issue. Burdening 024 (purchase reimbursement) Ritz has offered to be the FMS then Ifs can be vendorized with the FMS and don’t have to go through the GGRC vendorization which isn’t as appropriate for smaller businesses. Grace – having problems with vendors working with the FMSs. Is there a way to persuade them, this isn’t a hard process to be vendorized through the FMS. Ken – one of the benefits of SDP is we don’t have to have vendorized vendors, they’re working through an FMS and the process of working through that is much easier. Sheraden suggested in the chat about sending a letter to DDS and the SSDAC so they can observe trends. Alyson – recently onboarded and working with an FMS and found it easier to bring service providers on who aren’t vendorized. Rather than paying them directly, they would be reimbursed through the FMS, all they needed to do was submit an invoice. Work with the FMS and get what they need and they’ll contact the service provider about what they need to get reimbursed.

IV. GGRC SDP Team Update (Rosene) – (10 minutes)

- a. Participant data points: number of persons currently enrolled, number of participants in the process, how long participants have been enrolled
- b. SDP Regional Resource Fairs

Lisa shared a slide deck presentation. DDS has started sharing information June/July/August stats for people expressing interest in joining SDP, about 30 people a month from GGRC’s area who are going through SDP.

Lots of positive feedback about the success of the SF resource fair but perhaps we can do more to promote the future events and include that translation services will be offered for non-English speaking families.

V. Discussion and review of SDLAC Committee Centered Plan (Parekh) – (10 minutes)

Ken reviewed the plan and updated on components on the status of the respective projects.

VI. SDLAC Workgroup Reports (10 minutes)

- Participant Onboarding (Ken/Sascha)
- Outreach and Equity Coordination (Christine/Alyson/Elizabeth)
- Best Practices (Brenda/Sandy)

VII. SCDD Update (Nicholau) – (5 minutes)

a. Local personnel updates and transition plan

Sheraden shared the SCDD link for upcoming meeting dates. Not a lot of technical assistance requests.

VIII. GGRC Updates (Zigman) – (5 minutes)

Courtesy vendorization could/should be revisited and what works and doesn't work. In SDP, families had the option to use any FMS and the only way to do that was courtesy vendorization. We'll continue to work with SGPRC to vendorize Ritz, it's not finished yet.

GGRC is working on crafting a message to respond to the federal government's statement of the possible causes of autism. Sheraden shared DDS' statement on this announcement:

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/news-releases/california-issues-statement-credible-medical-information-regarding-acetaminophen-pregnancy/>

Eric attended the Deaf Plus Conference, hosted in conjunction with RCEB. It was a great opportunity to see people served at the intersection of DHH and I/DD.

Amanda is continuing to work on the new GGRC website; hopefully will launch in about 5-6 months. GGRC subcontracted with World Institute on Disability (WID) to support the review the changes and make it accessible to the community.

GGRC held three community outreach sessions through the three counties, held at coffee shops that were supported by provider agencies.

IX. Disability Rights California Update (OCRA) – (5 minutes)

X. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 23, 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM