



Kern Regional Center (KRC)
Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2020 – 5:00 PM

Teleconference via GoToMeeting

<https://www.gotomeet.me/KernRegionalCenter/self-determination-advisory-committee-meeting>

Dial: 1-872-240-3212 Access Code: 789-461-117

Members Present

Rick Wood (Chair)
Kelly Kulzer-Reyes
Nick Schneider
Mario Espinoza

Others Attending

Cherylle Mallinson
Celia Pinal
Dian Schneider
Michi Gates
Kristine Khuu
Melanie Waters
Yolanda Cruz (SDCC)
Ana Leheny
Amy McNinch
Heidi Arntzen
Lulu Calvillo
Virginia Gantong (Exceptional
Family Center)

Yesenia Mackie
Joe Martinez (Moving Closer
Together)
Edwin Pineda (DDS)
Tamica Fouts-Rachal (SDCC)
Christina Christenson-Rockwell
Cindy Cox
Doug Pascover
Andrea Conetto
Michelle Smith (CVRC)

Members Absent

1) Call to Order

5:10pm: Meeting called to order (Wood)

2) Establish of Quorum

Quorum was established

3) Additional Agenda Items

Item #6.a.i. – DDS Directive and Enclosure – Funding to Support Implementation of SDP

Item #6.a.ii. – Training Dates

4) Public Comments

None

5) Approval of Minutes February 24, 2020

M/S/C (Kulzer-Reyes/Schneider) Minutes Approved 4-0-0

6) Status of Waiver Application (Wood/Kulzer-Reyes)

a) *Updates on Self-Determination – (Wood) Statewide Advisory Committee Meeting to be held via Zoom June 9, 2020 at 10 am to 2 pm, link can be found on the State Council website or you may call toll-free at 888-475-4499 and include meeting ID number 95092251627. DDS and Regional Centers personnel have been invited to attend. One person from each regional center will be assigned in a group to participate in four breakout sessions to discuss areas of barriers to self-determination. Another group will consist of Local Advisory Committee members. Public groups may also be included with parents, self-advocates and/or independent facilitators. Each group will discuss an area of barrier and a report from all groups will be synthesized into a report that will be delivered to the State Council and DDS.*

i) *DDS Directive and Enclosure – Funding to Support Implementation of SDP (Kulzer-Reyes)*

KRC was allotted \$56,719 to be used toward the implementation of self-determination. Monies not to be expended until SDAC and the regional center jointly assess the local needs and to see what the best use of the funding would be. Would like to see what the group would like to discuss about the priority areas and how the funds will be expended. SDP has until March of 2022 to expend funds and will be encumbered by June 30, 2020. (Wood) A previous discussion with DDS workgroup of stakeholders was to prioritize payments for person-centered planning with the suggested amount of up to \$2500 for the people developing plans. These funds will be available from another source, such as purchase of service. An effective way to get more families started is with collaborative groups and workshops. Out of 17 reports read in preparation for the statewide advisory meeting, the theme is the same throughout 17 of the 21 regional centers. The theme being that people don't know what to do next. Statewide goal is to have 2500 people participating in the program by June 7, 2021. 103 slots filled for KRC, and the idea would be to prove out the success by having 103 plans in place.

ii) *Training – (Yolanda) Constant plan of contention is there is not enough person-centered planning training available. Could funds be used to bring in Spanish speaking trainers for person-centered planning? (Kulzer-Reyes) Possible to collaborate with Central Valley RC or their local advisory committee to provide workshops for person-centered planning in both English and Spanish. Giving the people the proper tools and practice together may empower and motivate them to work on their plans independently. The workshops would be for those who have completed orientation and are ready for the next step. The idea would be to discuss what the person-centered planning process can look like, this may be a Q&A session, with the help of service coordinators. (Yolanda) Reiterates the need for more training for FMS facilitators, including on-going training. CVRC and KRC are holding ongoing training such as brainstorming independent facilitator's trainings or workshops via Zoom. KRC not having received as much funds as other RC's may collaborate with other RC's, through Zoom or other platforms, to use funds to bring in presenters. (Kulzer-Reyes) An orientation was held via Zoom with 3 families who participated, and it went well but not held in a Q&A format.*

iii) *Independent Facilitator – (Christina Rockwell)*

Would like to share, along with other IF's, experiences and what has been done to create templates of how to write a person-centered plan, the spreadsheets that are used and how fiscal management services have become accustomed to read, and also how IF's have been able to encapsulate the maximum of service codes that are offered. Would like to be

able to participate in trainings or offer expertise and experiences so that training can be developed based on what has been done over the years. Contact information (702) 328-0384 (Wood) Goal to reach the 103 participants one person at a time. Possibly put 3-4 potential participants and families together, including members of their circle of support and those who will be providing services, to work through questions, development of plan, budget and certifications in order to move forward. (Kulzer-Reyes) Concern of disparity within the Spanish speaking community. Create a small group of Spanish speakers who can help and support each other in trainings with collaboration of CVRC and State Council, so that in the end they may train other families in the Spanish speaking community. (Mallinson) Regarding the expenditure of funds for support/coaching in the DDS directive, KRC has 95 available SDP seats in comparison to CVRC who has 140 seats. There is interest in collaboration between KRC and CVRC. What is seen is hesitation from families due to COVID-19. Having something in regards to a coach or support system to transition families over to the next step as KRC is losing seats. 91 participants are currently enrolled of the 95 available. (Wood) The program is viewed as at risk in the next year because of its slow progress. (Pinal) Spanish speaking families are in limbo. They want to understand the program, and don't want to drop out. When small orientation groups of about 3-5 people are held, the participants aren't sure of what to ask. Some have elected to stay and others have not yet decided, while some state that traditional services are enough and chose to drop out. With the Spanish speaking population a hands-on/personal approach was requested to have a better understanding of the program. (Kulzer-Reyes) A Spanish language self-determination informal meeting was held via Zoom and was attended by almost 200 people for about 3 hours. There is interest throughout the state. Disability Voices United and Integrated Community Collaborative are providing Spanish language sessions. (Pinal) Feedback from case managers at KRC provided these options to families, and the response is they'd like to do orientation in person. The use of electronic conferencing is great, because meeting with families has been a barrier due to COVID-19. KRC is learning from it, preparing, using and encouraging the use of electronic conferencing. To clarify, KRC is not proposing to withhold or delay trainings from the Spanish speaking families. If needed, the Malibu conference room at KRC can be set up for a meeting/orientation for a limited number of people, practicing social distancing and sanitizing the room.

- iv) Collaboration – (Kulzer-Reyes) Would like a plan put in place with collaboration with CVRC and any other RC's to create a small pilot project. The workshops and collaborative groups will be a very effective way to maximize and optimize the funding that is available. (Mallinson) Requested SDAC for a motion to ask KRC staff to reach out to other RC's to develop a workshop by June 15 and to determine five families that are in SDP to participate in a support/coaching/training session regarding SDP topics forthcoming - discussion ensued (Wood) Future discussion to be held to begin to develop the content and an agenda for a workshop possibly in the next 2 weeks. Topics to be discussed may include: Person-centered plan, how to write the plan and what does it look like, a spending plan, and how to choose an FMS. Meeting to be conducted like an orientation and break down into sessions. (Rockwell) Necessary to identify generic resources, especially for rural areas, and how much of the budget will be covered by that

b) Orientation Overview (Kulzer-Reyes/Espinosa) – dates for orientation are:

- 1) 10/12/2020 Spanish (Espinosa) from 9am to 12 pm – KRC

2) 10/12/2020 English (Kulzer-Reyes) from 9am to 12 pm – KRC

7) KRC Updates (Khuu/Mallinson)

- a) *KRC Updates (Khuu) – 28 participants transitioned over, 1 will transition by the end of the month and 1 other may transition soon. 5 individuals still need to complete orientation. KRC is reaching out to each individual to see what type of session they would like to proceed with. Due to the pandemic, families are on hold and waiting to proceed. Families are in different stages of the process, most are in person-centered planning or budget planning. Request to provide update of progress at next meeting of how many individuals are in each stage. (Conetto) 4 individuals left of 7 drawn in the fall that are in the middle of person-centered planning. 2 of the 4 are from North Mono County who just completed orientation and are in the process of choosing their IF. Remaining 2 individuals chose their IF and are in the middle of the person-centered planning process. 3 participants have transitioned and 2 declined SD services. The 2 individuals in the PCP process may transition by the end of the month. Will follow up with SC on the 2 individuals choosing their IF to see if they have decided. 1 individual was added in April in to the pilot program. KRC can provide detailed information, minus client/family names, to SDAC of individuals progress in the catchment area. (Mackie) In regards to Spanish speaking families her unit have gone 1 on 1 to translate and review terminology of the program as a 101.*
- b) *General Updates - None*
- c) *Nominations for Committee (Mallinson/Cruz) – Still looking for candidates. Nominations can be submitted to KRC or Yolanda Cruz (SDCC)*

8) Topics for Next Meeting

- 1. *Call to Order*
- 2. *Establishment of Quorum*
- 3. *Additional Agenda Items*
- 4. *Public Comments*
- 5. *Approval of Minutes – June 8, 2020*
- 6. *Status of SDP (Wood/Kulzer-Reyes)*
 - a) *Updates on Self-Determination*
 - i) *Statewide Meeting Report*
 - b) *Orientation Updates*
- 7. *KRC Updates (Khuu/Mallinson)*
 - a) *KRC SD Updates*
 - b) *General Updates*
 - c) *Nominations for Committee*
- 8. *Topics for Next Meeting*
- 9. *Date of Next Meeting*
- 10. *Adjournment*

9) Date of Next Meeting

July 27, 2020 at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

10) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – M/S/C (Kulzer-Reyes/Schneider) Meeting adjourned 7:01

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 320, MS 3-8
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1954



March 2, 2020

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: FUNDING TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SELFDETERMINATION PROGRAM

In accordance with Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4685.8(g), funds have been allocated to regional centers to support implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP). The purpose of this letter is to provide guidance on the use of these funds, including the required collaboration with local volunteer advisory committees (LVAC) in determining local priorities for the funding.

W&I Code section 4685.8(g) specifies these funds shall be used to maximize the ability of SDP participants to direct their own lives. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS), in consultation with stakeholders, identified priority areas for the funding including:

- Recruitment and training of independent facilitators;
- Joint training for participants, families, regional centers, LVAC members and others;
- Support or coaching in making the transition to SDP;
- Assistance with spending plan development;
- Orientation support which could include costs for speakers/presenters, and development of modification of materials; and
- Collaborative groups/workshops to foster ongoing, shared learning and problem-solving opportunities.

The LVACs play an important role in the implementation and oversight of the SDP. Therefore, regional centers and LVACs must work collaboratively to prioritize the use of the available funds to meet the needs of participants in their local area. Funds may only be expended after agreement is reached on the local needs. See Enclosure 1 for more information about the potential uses of the funds, the amount available in each regional center area, and suggested steps to determine the use of the funds.

“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”

Attachment 1

Regional Center Executive Directors
March 2, 2020
Page two

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact sdp@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

JIM KNIGHT
Deputy Director
Federal Programs Division

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Chief Counselors
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Brian Winfield, DDS
LeeAnn Christian, DDS
Karyn Meyreles, DDS
Mike Sakamoto, DDS
Ernie Cruz, DDS

Enclosure 1

Funding to Support Implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP)

As noted in the letter accompanying this enclosure, in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code section 4685.8(g), funding is available to support implementation of the SDP. The potential uses of these funds and the process to make this determination and use these funds are described below.

Step	Description
<p>Priority Areas for Funding Use</p>	<p>Priority areas for the funding include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Needs – Costs of providing orientation including, but not limited to, modifying/printing materials, speakers/presenters’ expenses, meeting space expenses, translation/interpreters, etc. • Recruitment/Training of Independent Facilitators – Costs associated with increasing the number of available independent facilitators. This could include, but is not limited to, recruitment, development and/or provision of training, translation/interpreters, costs related to the provision of training, etc. • Collaborative Groups/Workshops – Ongoing and/or periodic meetings for participants and families, providers, etc., to provide learning and problem-solving opportunities. Costs could include, but are not limited to, speakers/presenters’ travel expenses, translation/interpreters, materials, meeting space expenses, etc. This may involve coordinating with LVACs/participants in other areas to increase the scope of the learning opportunities/information sharing. • Joint Training – Training for participants, families, regional center staff and members of local volunteer advisory committees, etc. Joint trainings should focus on shared learning opportunities that increase the collective understanding of all involved with SDP. Costs could include, but are not limited to, development and/or provision of training, translation/interpreters, costs related to the provision of training, etc. • Support/Coaching for Transition to SDP – Support for participants in transitioning to SDP. This could include support in areas such as deciding which financial management service model is the best fit for a participant, suggestions for recruiting/hiring employees, how to establish backup staffing plans, etc. • Initial Spending Plan Development – Support in developing the participant’s use of their individual budget through their spending plan, which may include consultation with a financial management service. • Additional Identified Needs – Items/activities which will support the needs of participants and implementation of the program.

Enclosure 1

<p>Determine How Funds Should be Used</p>	<p>The LVAC and the regional center should jointly assess local needs in the implementation of the SDP to determine the best use of the available funds. Based on this joint assessment, a listing should be developed of the priority areas (above) that will be funded, including the estimated amount to be used for each area selected. A detailed, itemized estimate for each identified area is not required at this point. However, discussion of some of these detailed costs may help inform the estimate.</p> <p>Once agreement has been made on the use of the funds, the LVAC and regional center must jointly report the following to sdp@dds.ca.gov:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing of priority areas to be funded; • Estimated amounts of funding allocated to each priority area; and, • Brief description of how decisions were made. <p>Changes can be made on an ongoing basis as the needs of participants change. However, the use of the funds must continue to remain in alignment with statute and this guidance and decisions on any changes must be made collaboratively by the LVAC and regional center.</p>
<p>Flow of Funds</p>	<p>The funding amounts identified on the following page have been allocated to each regional center. As noted previously, decisions on the use of these funds must be made jointly by the LVAC and regional center. Subsequently, regional centers will reimburse individuals/organizations for providing the services. Funds encumbered by June 30, 2020, must be expended by March 2022.</p>

Enclosure 1

The funding distribution is proportionate to the number of available SDP spaces at each regional center.

SDP Participant Support Funding – Fiscal Year 2019/2020 *		
Regional Center	SDP Spaces at Each Regional Center	Available Funding
ACRC	179	\$106,870
CVRC	140	\$83,585
ELARC	110	\$65,674
FDLRC	73	\$43,584
FNRC	60	\$35,822
GGRC	68	\$40,599
HRC	99	\$59,107
IRC	256	\$152,839
KRC	95	\$56,719
NBRC	66	\$39,404
NLACRC	183	\$109,258
RCEB	154	\$91,944
RCOC	151	\$90,153
RCRC	55	\$32,837
SARC	125	\$74,630
SCLARC	110	\$65,674
SDRC	207	\$123,587
SG/PRC	95	\$56,719
TCRC	110	\$65,674
VMRC	100	\$59,704
WRC	64	\$38,210
TOTAL	2,500	\$1,492,593

* Funds encumbered by 6/30/20 must be expended by March 2022.