



Alta California

Regional Center

2241 Harvard Street, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95815

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Alta California Regional Center (ACRC)
Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting (SDAC)
Wednesday, January 8, 2025
1 to 3 p.m.
Minutes

Members:	Present	Absent	<p align="center">Legend:</p> <p>SA – Self-Advocate FA – Family Advocate SP – Service Provider</p>
Benita Shaw, FA	x		
Carmen Delgado, FA	x		
Daniel Meadows, SA		x	
Kelsey Handcock, DRC	x		
Kimberly Terrell, SA		x	
Lisa Cooley, SA (Chair)		excused	
Meena Kalyanasundaram, FA		x	
Tanishia Hubbard, Community Resource Partner	x		
Tom Hopkins, SA		x	
William Reed		x	
Margaux De Leon, FA	x		
Non-members Present:			
Mechelle Johnson, ACRC Jennifer Bloom, ACRC Kenisha Hurd, ACRC Tracy Brown, ACRC Anne Shayler, ACRC Kizi Smith, ACRC Sydney Ruport, ACRC David Lopez, ACRC Cat Carl, ACRC	Catie Denico, ACRC Amanda Visger, ACRC Lisa Hooks, SCDD Peter Mendoza, SCDD Jaclyn Balanay, DDS Olaf L., Ritz FMS Rosie Lasca, IFTA Rachel Palmer Teefy, PEC Beth Beswick, Engaged Services		

1. Call to Order by Benita Shaw, Vice Chair

Welcome & Introductions (1:00 p.m.)

2. Approval of Agenda & Minutes – Benita Shaw, Vice Chair

Jennifer Bloom (ACRC) took a roll call, shared opening statements, and invited the committee to proceed with the non-voting items and return to the vote on today's agenda and the November 13th SDAC meeting minutes once a quorum is established.

A quorum was not established.

3. Public Comment Period

- Rachael Palmer Teefy (PEC) shared concerns about delayed payments from Financial Management Services (FMS), affecting her business and other service providers. Additionally, FMS changing requirements without prior notification. For example, some FMS no longer allow service providers to submit their own invoices that have already been reviewed and signed by those they support, which creates additional administrative tasks due to not being able to track whether the FMS has received payment.

4. ACRC SDP Updates

A. General SDP Update

- Kenisha shared that as of January 3rd, 2025, ACRC has 474 individuals who have fully transitioned to SDP. Of those, 286 are White, and 188 are Non-White. The Ethnicity breakdown is Asian (70), Black (25), Latin (31), Mixed (50) and Other (12).
- ACRC currently has 14 vendored Financial Management Service (FMS) Agencies: ACE, Action, Acumen, Aveanna, Cambrian, GT Independence, Essential Pay, FMS Pay, Laurence F. Padway, Mains'l, Public Partnerships, Ritz, Sisk Financial Services, and Sentinel Four. Their contact information is listed on the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS') website. We continue to work on adding additional FMSs.
- Aveanna FMS is vendored for Self Directive Supports (up to 40 hours of pre-enrollment training and supports. Along with the following

Self-Determination Meeting Minutes January 8, 2025

FMSs in process of completing their courtesy vendorization process: Action, Ace, and Public Partnership, LLC.

- The Statewide SDP Orientation continues is available in English, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Traditional Chinese, Farsi, Hmong, and Arabic from a collaboration between SCDD and the DDS. ACRC continues to promote and share this resource, including having PCSs attend and be available to all staff as well. If clients/families cannot make the times of the SCDD orientation, we are able to provide the LMS training in its place.
- There are five PCSs currently supporting all case management units, with plans to hire four more.
- Benita shared concerns of some clients/family's experiences navigating the SDP process and working with the FMS and IFs. Benita suggested that more detailed information and resources could address these concerns.
 - Anne Shayler, SDP Client Services Manager (ACRC) noted that step-by-step checklists and resources for families are provided, including information on how to contact FMS and IFs. Anne added that she is also available to provide further assistance if needed.
- Benita also inquired how Rosie's IFTA workshops and resources are shared within the agency and community and how SCs that have not had a client in SDP become familiar with the program.
 - Kenisha (ACRC) noted that IFTA's workshop information was shared internally with all case management and on Alta's website and Social Media Platforms, encouraging all to share these resources. Additionally, the SDP team holds SDP drop-in labs for Managers and Lead SCs monthly and drop-in clinics for SCs once per month.
- Benita inquired about the FMS procedure and asked for clarification on whether families are being directed to go to them prior to them having their spending plan ready.

- Anne shared that although some FMS processes may vary, most FMS will start to work with families once they have a budget.

Ongoing meetings and collaboration

- The SDP team holds SDP drop-in labs for Managers and Lead SCs monthly.
- The SDP team holds SDP drop-in clinics for SCs once per month.
- Individual SDP case staffings with SCs, CSMs, PCSs, and ADs continue, as needed.
- Collaboration between Regional Centers continues.
- Monthly Statewide SDP meetings continue.
- PCSs continue to attend unit meetings to share information, resources, and technical support.

Outreach

- SCs continue to discuss the SDP with clients and families during quarterly meetings, planning team meetings, annual IPP meetings, and when prompted. This includes support with registering for the required orientation.
- Santa Day, December 13th –SDP Unit hosted a booth and shared information, provided attendees with a flyer about the upcoming workshops facilitated by the Independent Facilitator Training Academy and gave out swag items that were purchased with implementation funds from the supported life conference.
- We are interested in your ideas and suggestions on where outreach may be helpful.

5. Grant Funding Sub-Committee Update

- The item was deferred as there was not a quorum.

6. Independent Facilitator Training Academy Proposal Update

- Rosie L., IFTA, shared an update on the 7 in-person workshops held in December to educate clients and families on SDP. There were 130 attendees, 75 of whom completed surveys about the knowledge they gained from the workshop. IFTA's recruitment efforts included collaborating with Engaged Services and Family Soup in Yuba City who lent their location for one of the workshops. Flyers for the workshops were sent in multiple languages to Warmline and several

other agencies, as well as an email blast from Alta, and community outreach events were attended to spread the word.

- Rosie shared the breakdown of attendees who registered for the workshops: El Dorado (17), Sacramento (38), Nevada (19), Placer (20), Yolo (33), and Yuba (8). Colusa and Grass Valley did not have anyone pre-register, but several participants attended. Rosie also mentioned that the majority of attendees were white, but there were also attendees from other ethnic backgrounds.
- The Self-Determination starter package and step-by-step handouts on how to start the SDP process were provided at the workshops. The starter packages and the SDP workbook will also be emailed.
- Rosie noted that based on the surveys, she saw increased knowledge across all categories.
- Coming up will be the virtual Self-Determination workshops, which will be held from January 14th through February 5th, with morning and evening options. Rosie will be meeting with SCs to identify more tools and strategies to support individuals interested in or transitioning into SDP and will continue to target underserved communities.
- Benita requested that the workbook be shared with SDAC committee members by mail or email.
- Margaux asked if Alta would also be distributing the SDP workbooks.
 - Rosie noted that the PDF version will be shared with SC's. Jen added that these workbooks were funded by the SDAC Implementation funds and ensured they will be shared widely.
- Margaux asked if a system is in place to track if attendees are already clients of Alta or are interested in getting into SDP and the follow-up efforts once the workshops are completed.
 - Rosie noted that the registration includes the attendees' contact information and is happy to share this with the committee to follow up on this information.

Self-Determination Meeting Minutes January 8, 2025

- Benita noted the challenges of reaching diverse communities for these workshops and inquired how Rosie plans to address this.
 - Rosie shared that she contacted various organizations, including Spanish and African American communities, and added that more SDP awareness is needed in diverse communities.
 - Lisa H. (SCDD) noted that partnership is crucial in reaching underserved communities to ensure accessibility and understanding. SCDD is happy to partner with Rosie to share resources with Alta's support.
 - Rosie welcomes collaboration opportunities with organizations and noted that her information can be shared with clients and families for questions.

7. Action Items from Prior SDAC meeting

8. SDAC Member Comment Period

- There were no comments.

9. Dates for Future meetings:

- March 12, 2025, 1-3 pm
- May 14th, 2025, 6-8 pm
- July 9th, 2025, 1-3 pm
- September 10th, 2025, 1-3 pm
- November 12th, 2025, 6-8 pm

10. Identify agenda items for the next meeting

- Please send any agenda items to Kizi.

11. The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.