



**Golden Gate Regional Center**  
**SELF-DETERMINATION LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes**  
**December 8, 2020**

**Present:**

Sascha Bittner (Self-Advocate, Co-Chair)	Alison Sinclair (Parent Advocate)
Jennifer Walsh (Self-Advocate, Co-Chair)	Eric Zigman (Executive Director, GGRC)
Rosalia Banta (Assistant to Jennifer Walsh)	Connie Johnson (Parent Advocate)
Chris Kantor (Parent Advocate)	Kimberley Shreiber (NeuroNav – GGRC’s Independent Facilitator Consultant)
Elizabeth Grigsby (Rights Advocate, GGRC)	Will Sanford (Sanford Creative & Consulting Services/GGRC I.F. Consultant working w/ NeuroNav)
Rachel Younger (Elizabeth Grigsby’s Job Coach)	Lisa Rosene (RCS Director, GGRC)
Sheraden Nicholau (Regional Manager, Bay Area Office, SCDD)	Juliet Sousa (Supervising Social Worker, GGRC)

Welcome/Call to Order

Committee members introduced themselves. Statement made that the meeting was being recorded only for the purpose of assisting with the preparation of minutes and that the recording will be destroyed after minutes are approved by the committee.

Minutes and Agenda

Review of the minutes from November 10, 2020, was deferred at the moment to await a quorum. It will be reviewed at next meeting.

Participant/Family of Participant/Public Feedback on SDP

No public comments.

Updates

Covid-19 (Nicholau/Zigman)

No report.

Department of Developmental Services (Bittner/Nicholau/Zigman)

No report.

Disability Rights of California (Alex)

No report.

State Self Determination Advisory Committee (Nicholau)

Sheraden shared that there are no new trends to report. Continue to receive concerns from community of not having enough Person-Centered Planners and Independent Facilitators to meet the needs – not just for now, but in anticipation of next summer when SDP goes live with the full roll-out.

Sheraden highlighted a couple DDS Directives that went out in last few weeks. Share with others who may not be aware of it.

- Waiving requirement of FMS fee to be paid by individual’s budget effective October 1, 2020. Allows SDP participants to repurpose waived fees for different and/or additional self-determination related services during Covid-19 state of emergency.
- Payments for initial person-centered plan includes payments to Independent Facilitators.

GGRC (Rosene/Sousa/Zigman)

Lisa shared that she and Juliet have just started participating in a statewide group for people who are responsible for coordinating self-determination at each of their regional centers. One of the regional centers shared a template they use for the spending plan. The regional center that created this template had its accounting department develop it; therefore, it met requirements on the fiscal side of it. The template is user friendly to all. Adopting this template could be helpful for our SDP participants and their planning teams to develop their spending plan. The FMS can then assist with other details such as employee withholdings, etc. if person will be hiring workers. Lisa will present template to GGRC’s Chief Financial Officer, Lop Hou, for review.

❖ What is status of GGRC SDP individuals?

Juliet reported that two more individuals started on December 1<sup>st</sup>.  
The stats as of December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 are as follows:

Actively using SDP individual budget:	6		
Person-Centered Plans Completed:	24	In Progress	4
Individual Budgets Completed:	13	In Progress	10
Spending Plans Completed:	8	In Progress	1
Dis-enrolled:	13		

Juliet shared:

- She and Lisa will hold two SDP trainings this month – 12/15 and 12/22 - specifically for GGRC social workers. There will continue to be 1 – 2 monthly SDP trainings for staff, in addition to having other SDP informational meetings (e.g. FMS, PCP, I.F., etc.). Eventually, plan to have SDP training/orientation for all staff – not only social work staff, to help demystify SDP.
- Working on a guide for social work staff. Eventually, SDP process will need to be added to GGRC’s case management manual.
- Lisa and Juliet are working on streamlining PCP provider funding process with fiscal department without the usual vendor packet.

## Independent Facilitator Training Feedback (Kim Schreiber)

Kim summarized results of I.F. trainings:

October training in English:

40 registered

23 attended

18 responded to post-training survey.

10 of 18 respondents gave permission to be added to I.F. referral list.

November training in Spanish:

9 registered

6 attended

Awaiting participants' responses to the post-training survey.

Awaiting participants willing to be added to the IF referral list.

The I.F. referral list was forwarded to Juliet. Updates to referral list will be sent to her.

Challenges:

- Outreach – Plan to work with advisory committee to brainstorm ways to increase potential reach of I.F. trainings; especially as modular trainings will be planned as well.
- Providing detailed training information - A lot of information was provided at one time, but people wanted more detail. Modular trainings will be helpful so folks can learn at their own pace. Will be looking at creating more detailed material.

Feedback:

What went well?

Information presented was interesting, relevant, clear. Learning about budget and spending plan was very useful. Enjoyed multiple presenters, multiple voices in the “room.”

What could be improved?

One person said it was too long. Many said it was not long enough. More focus on budget and spending plan. Knowing how to update and renew budgets and spending plans.

Based on the feedback, NeuroNav will:

- Look into creating a peer-mentor network or build an I.F. network.
- Update curriculum; develop a more robust training - particularly in the areas of budget and spending plan.
- Build curriculum into the modular training versions.
- Pre-send training materials.

Kim asked if anyone has ideas for outreach to contact her.

Sheraden shared that San Andreas Regional Center started network of I.F.'s in a Facebook group. NeuroNav is a participant in that group. Sheraden added there is talk of creating a second I.F. group specifically for self-advocates. Elizabeth added she'd like to see self-advocates take more of a leadership role in this area.

## 'Barriers' Report

The committee discussed how to address the Barriers Report and obtain feedback from participants and families about what they think is lacking with SDP. In collecting feedback, it was mentioned that a survey is one tool, but the best tool is this monthly meeting where participants and families can give direct feedback. We need to get more folks to participate in these meetings.

A few areas of the report were briefly discussed. From the Barriers Report, concern about providing SDP training and orientation to traditional vendors/service providers was raised. It was mentioned GGRC's Community Services Unit would be addressing this area. Unfortunately, Covid-19 needs have consumed CSU's time.

The committee will continue discussion in January.

## DDS Funds for SDP (SDLAC members)

### ❖ GGRC SDLAC's Spending Plan

This will be further discussed in January's meeting.

Sascha and Jennifer mentioned they met with RCEB. They talked about possible collaboration with RCEB.

## Closing Thoughts/Adjourn (All/Sascha)

Happy Holidays everyone!

## Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, (3:45pm - 5:30pm)

Location: TBA

Submitted by Kathryn Carpenter and Juliet Sousa