



Golden Gate Regional Center
Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 3:45pm-5:30pm
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING

SDLAC MEMBERS
PRESENT: Sascha Bittner
Jennifer Walsh
Elizabeth Grigsby
Alex Gastelum
Christine Kantor
Alyson Sinclair
Connie Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

GGRC ADVISOR: Eric Zigman
Juliet Sousa
Aria Alokozai (Recording
Secretary)

SCDD ADVISOR: Sheraden Nicholau

GGRC STAFF: Mackenzie Baysinger
Angela Raffin
Annie Huang

OTHER
PRESENTERS/GUESTS: Will Stanford
Sabrina Kappe Ramos
Erika Gonzalez
Maxine Paula Milam
Valerie Bane

Welcome/Call to order (Bittner and All

- Intro/Opening Round
- The meeting is not being recorded
- Statement that the meeting is public

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I. Participant/Family of participant/Public Feedback on SDP

No comments

II. SCDD Update (Bittner/Nicholau)

Sascha and Sheraden updated the committee on recent statewide and local state council activities, including:

- Technical assistance requests have been received from people served and family members regarding components of self-determination.
- Technical assistance has also been requested from service providers regarding their businesses and the issues their businesses have been facing.
- Encouragement and support for self-advocates who either want to start or expand their own businesses inspired by self-determination and the opportunities (not specifically in GGRC catchment area)
- GGRC's Self-determination advisory committee is looking to fill two spots; one appointed by State Council and another filled by GGRC. The committee is interested in continuing to pursue a demographic balance of committee members. So, we are considering applicants from San Mateo County or Marin County primarily at this time. Also, the committee is particularly interested in seeing applicants from Black or Indigenous communities, family advocates or self-advocates). Applicants can apply to be a member of Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) and the online applicant can be found [here](#).

Sheraden shared a series of resources and updates in the DDS website:

- The Financial Management Services information has been updated and can be accessed [here](#).
- The Financial Management Service (FMS) Contact List has been updated and can be accessed [here](#).
- Updated PDF and comparisons chart in Types of Financial Management Services for Self-Determination Program Participants can be found [here](#).
- Visit the DDS website [here](#), to see wide range of questions and answers about the Self-Determination Program (Frequently Asked Questions).

III. Independent Facilitator Training (Sabrina Kappe Ramos)

Sabrina Kappe Ramos shared updates from NeuroNav SCCS: 88% of the program has been completed; 52 people have been trained; 91 people have signed up for the program; and 20 IFs are trained (5 Spanish speaking).

- Efforts are made to continue working on Spanish self-paced online format module.
- Applications for independent facilitator training program are open.
- GGRC staff can also receive orientation through this program (Eric and Juliet will discuss)
- Orientations are generic and open for broader community.

- Thursday coaching sessions are open for anyone who may need more information/assistance.

Elizabeth commented that this kind of coaching service is needed in GGRC's area, to walk people through the initial stages of SDP. Sascha asked Nueuronav if they involved individuals and families currently going through SDP to be part of their presentations on Orientation to SDP. They are not currently, but Neuronav very much wants to have that perspective represented in their trainings.

The independent facilitation network (IFN) has collaborated to create a change.org petition asking DDS for funding PCPs and support for individuals and families entering SDP.

IV. GGRC Updates: (Sousa/Zigman)

Eric shared that the May revision of the budget by the Governor will help bring in more clarity in terms of resourcing for the self-determination program. GGRC desperately needs (but has no budget for) the hiring of additional staff to implement SDP. GGRC needs operations funding to hire SDP focused staff in fiscal, social work, and community services department. The under-resourcing and understaffing of SDP at regional centers remains a very significant problem. GGRC also is hopeful to see any improvement in the May revision of the budget that would support regional centers in terms of caseload ratios and this critically important action would benefit the SDP as well.

Juliet shared the below GGRC updates:

- Some individuals served in SDP have been reassigned to different social worker as a means to accommodate their preferred language.
- Trainings have been specified for social workers in order to familiarize them with individual budgets. Individual and families who are interested in receiving orientation are able to pursue it. Juliet would also like to see service provider training on SDP.
- Efforts are being made toward providing translated SDP materials for Chinese and Spanish speaking families in binder format.
- FMS training and presentation have been requested – 3 FMS trainers have been invited for delivering presentation and providing training.

GGRC & SDLAC planning on how to get current participants Enrolled (Bittner)

Planning on how to get current participants enrolled and encourage the 53 (out of 61) people who aren't using Self-determination to start utilizing the services (Orientation, matching and mentorship might help them move forward).

- Self-determination in general doesn't have many mentors with large amounts of experience in SDP to offer support to people in moving forward with their own self-determination. Coaching was discussed and proposed. Sascha underscored the urgency of getting coaching resources in place at GGRC. She stated that the decision has to be made soon.
- SDLAC Co chairs will meet with Sheraden, Juliet, Lisa and Eric to discuss drafting coaching support needs (and consideration of including GGRC staff training and SDP Orientation support) in hopes of retaining consultants to provide this service.

DDS Fund for SDP

Eric shared the current SDLAC budget and expenditures and the committee discussed future use of these funds.

Jennifer and Sascha are in communication with the chairs of the RCEB and SARC SDLACs and have been discussing the possibility of creating a bay area SDP website. More meetings are scheduled and they will report back.

- Through this exclusive website, people could share how self-determination changed their lives (Grigsby)
- Instant resources could be made available in the website for the potential users and current users (Connie Johnson).
- The website could be used as an outreach medium to people who speak languages other than English who may be majority of the individuals served, and people who are part of marginalized communities.
- Before deciding to fund the website, the group needs to determine what materials, contents and information need to be included and how it would be different from the DDS website.

The committee also discussed the continuing need for supporting the translation services of materials, meetings and contents (Walsh)

Efforts need to be made to continue to get SDP participation to come to SDLAC meetings and share direct feedback about what would be helpful for them.

Meeting adjourned to SDLAC meeting at 5:32PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Aria Alokozai
Interim Executive Assistant