



**Golden Gate Regional Center**  
**SELF-DETERMINATION LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes**

**September 8, 2020**

**Present:**

Sascha Bittner (Self-Advocate, Co-Chair)	Juliet Sousa (SDP Supervising Social Worker)
Jennifer Walsh (Self-Advocate, Co-Chair)	Kathryn Carpenter (Recording Secretary)
Rosalia Banta (Assistant to Jennifer Walsh)	Breanne Burris, (Guest)
Chris Kantor (Parent Advocate)	Joyce Cabrera (Guest)
Connie Johnson (Parent Advocate)	Sabrina Ramos (Guest)
Elizabeth Grigsby (Rights Advocate, GGRC)	Maxine Milan, (Guest, DDS)
Alex Gastelum (OCRA)	Kimberley Shreiber (Guest)
Alison Sinclair (Parent Advocate)	Will Sanford (Guest)
Sheraden Nicholau (Regional Manager, Bay Area Office, SCDD)	Chris Wecks (Guest)
Eric Zigman, (Executive Director, 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

The minutes from August, September, October, 2019 were approved by the committee. The minutes from January, February, March, April, May, June and August of 2020 were approved by the committee.

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from August 2019 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Connie Johnson motioned/Alison Sinclair seconded).*

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from September 2019 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Jennifer Walsh motioned/Connie Johnson seconded).*

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from October 2019 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Connie Johnson motioned/Alison Sinclair seconded).*

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from February 2020 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Jennifer Walsh motioned/Connie Johnson seconded).*

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from March 2020 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Alex Gastelum motioned/Alison Sinclair seconded).*

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from April 2020 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Jennifer Walsh motioned/Alison Sinclair seconded).*

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the minutes from May 2020 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Alex Gastelum motioned/Jennifer Walsh seconded).*

*M/S/C: Motion to approve the minutes from June 2020 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Jennifer Walsh motioned/Connie Johnson seconded).*

*M/S/C: Motion to approve the minutes from August 2020 was unanimously approved by the committee. (Connie Johnson motioned/Jennifer Walsh seconded).*

### Participant/Family of Participant/Public Feedback on SDP

Chris announced that Disability Voices United continues to conduct weekly SDP webinars, the next one will be held tomorrow September 9, from 4:30-5:30pm. The focus will be on education. Chris will put the link on the chat if anyone is interested in attending.

### Updates

#### Covid-19 (Nicholau/Zigman)

Sheraden reported that we have received additional directive extensions from DDS, providers continue to be creative and serve our individuals during the pandemic via webinars and brainstorming sessions geared toward development of alternative service delivery. SCDD has been receiving a lot of feedback from the community that they would like to see the implementation of components of self-directed services. In terms of PPE distribution, the state has to-date secured over 37 million pieces of PPE equipment for persons with disabilities and providers. With regard to statewide self-determination program notes, we're seeing a lot of interest in online Independent Facilitators (IFs) trainings, both in English and Spanish, with full registration. SCDD is also working to finalize a list of IFs of that have gone through training. Regionally, we have had a blip of trending of technical assistance request in terms of who can and cannot be paid as an IF. To clarify, these are the criteria in order for a facilitator to be paid:

- A conservator or parent of an adult can be a paid IF.
- An IF cannot be the parent of a minor child consumer or the spouse of a consumer.
- An IF cannot provide other services, or work for someone/agency who provides services, pursuant to the consumer's IPP.
- The IF has to be independent.
- The directive doesn't specify a conservator of a minor; it specifies parents of a minor cannot be the IF.
- When someone is paid to provide a service, they would be in the IPP; people providing services in the IPP cannot be a paid IF.

RCEB is in the process of interviewing candidates for 8 projects, namely, a coaching project, PCT training, recording and editing of SDP orientations, recording and editing of IF trainings, interpretations and translations of materials, development of a SDP information website, as well as the production of a quarterly electronic newsletter.

#### GGRC (Rosene/Sousa/Zigman)

- What is status of GGRC SDP individuals?

Juliet reported that we have three additional individuals who have completed their orientations from the second selection group. She has been working closely with a San Francisco social worker who currently has five participants in the program. We continue to conduct Spanish

speaking orientations as well. Four more individual budgets are near completion. One spending plan has been completed for an individual who is a minor, and Juliet is working with the parent on registering with an FMS. GGRC continues to interface with RCEB to check-in with their SDP coordinator. SDP training for vendors/service providers continues to be needed in our community.

Eric, Juliet and Lisa met recently with DDS representatives to gather SDP data, and based on regional center feedback, a determination was made in terms of what is going well and what could be improved. One particular area of concern is how FMS organizations bill for spending plans as they are not structured well. Feedback from the department was duly noted.

#### Department of Developmental Services (Bittner/Nicholau, 5 Minutes)

Sheraden continues to encourage individuals, families and others to visit the DDS website for updates, including recent directives.

#### Disability Rights of California (Alex)

No report.

#### Independent Facilitator Training (SDLAC members)

- I.F. Consultant Update

Eric reported that the co-chairs of the committee, along with Juliet, Sheraden and Lisa, have settled on a consulting group that is here tonight, NeuroNav. GGRC is very excited to be working with them, and along with the training the IFs, they will also be tracking and communicating with those who have already been trained. On June 7, 2021 this program becomes an option for everyone served, and we are working on having systems in place by then. Kimberley Shrieber of NeuroNav, along with her co-founder Sabrina Ramos, gave a brief presentation on how they will be designing the initial draft of the IF training curriculum. They will be hosting a 1-2 hour design workshop in September, collaborating with the SDLAC committee. The first trainings will then go live in October, conducted in both English and Spanish.

#### DDS Funds for SDP (SDLAC members)

- GGRC SDLAC's Spending Plan

GGRC and SDLAC continue to work with the department on the spending plan.

#### Learning Community' Conference/Gathering (SDLAC members)

Committee members shared thoughts and learning experiences on the conference, feedback was very positive. Suggested upcoming events and seminars that might be of interest to the committee were also discussed.

Closing Thoughts/Adjourn (All/Sascha)

Sascha reported that on September 30, at 6:30pm, the RAC meeting will be discussing voting as an agenda item, and she encouraged all to attend if they are able. Alex reported that there will be a Self-Advocacy Training for Voting Rights on Tuesday, September 15.

Discussion as to whether the committee should support the Black Lives Matter movement was introduced by Jennifer Walsh. All committee members were in favor of this important movement.

**M/S/C:** *Motion to approve the support of Blacks Lives Matter was unanimously approved by the committee. (Jennifer Walsh motioned/Liz Grigsby seconded).*

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 (3:30pm - 5:30pm)  
Location: TBA

Submitted by Kathryn Carpenter