

## Meeting Summary for SDLAC

Feb 20, 2025, 06:17 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) ID: 974 1350 1392

### Quick recap

The Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee meeting focused on introducing committee members and the SDP team, discussing new coaching, and mentoring services, and addressing potential changes to the RFP process. The group also discussed the success of the support group, the need for better system improvements, and the process of transitioning into self-determination. Technical issues and difficulties progressing in the SDP program were also highlighted, with plans to review current practices and training.

### Next steps

Silvia to investigate extending the contract deadline for Jackie's remaining coaching funds.

Silvia to investigate the possibility of a direct bid contract process for next year's RFPs.

Kristianna (DVU) to develop employer training curriculum for SDP participants.

NLACRC to post job listings for new SDP-specialized service coordinators on the North LA website.

Robin to follow up with specific case management teams on delayed budget and spending plan approvals.

Help Grow to update her website with clearer instructions on how clients can request coaching sessions.

Silvia to inquire about the possibility of generating SDP-specific purchase of service data reports.

Robin to provide recording to the SDLAC committee on the SDP training (logistics to be determined).

Leah to conduct outreach for filling the vacant SDLAC seat before the July membership committee meeting.

Silvia and Robin to interview potential Latino/Hispanic candidates for the open North LA SDLAC position.

### New Participation Method and SDP Team

At the meeting, Lori introduced a new way of participating in discussions, with everyone muted and encouraged to use the chat for questions or comments. She also thanked committee members for reaffirming their commitment. The meeting then proceeded to introduce committee members and the new SDP team, including Robin, Silvia, and Megan, who shared their new roles. Lori also highlighted the resources available for families, such as the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee and the Disability Voices United website.

### Upcoming Training Sessions and RFPs Discussed

Lia announced upcoming training sessions in English and Spanish and encouraged participation. Lori mentioned the availability of translation services and the upcoming legislative town hall. Victoria announced a resource fair in Lancaster and asked about the chat functionality. Lori shared links to the statewide self-determination committee meeting materials and the Disability Voices United SDP website. She also introduced the five Request for Proposal (RFP) recipients: Accolades for Achievement, Claudia Cares Consulting, Integrated Community Collaborative, Disability Voices United, and Help Grow. Claudia, representing Claudia Cares Consulting, shared her company's experience in providing self-determination coaching and expressed excitement about continuing the service.

#### New Coaching Services for IFs and SDP Participants

The group discusses new coaching and mentoring services for independent facilitators (IFs) in the Self-Determination Program (SDP). Claudia and Jackie are continuing their coaching services participants, while Stephanie was introduced as a new coach. The services aim to help individuals how to navigate regional center processes and support families, especially Spanish-speaking ones. The coaches' contact information and website links will be added to the regional center's website. Silvia confirms that contracts are in place for the coaches to begin working with clients. The group also mentions ICC as another coaching provider, though they are not present at the meeting and their contract is not in place yet.

#### Support Group Success and Other Issues addressed

Kristianna discussed the success of the support group, which had ninety-nine attendees in February, and the upcoming SDP conference. Lori mentioned the difficulty in obtaining the Columbus organization's final report and the need for a public records request through DDS. She also discussed the board report, highlighting the election of new board members and the focus on SDP. Lori also mentioned the need for a monthly RFP meeting to address contract issues and miscommunications. Lastly, she proposed continuing the current services, including support group and coaching, as they are in high demand.

#### RFP Process and Employer Responsibilities

The summary discusses potential changes to the RFP process for the next year and concerns about employer responsibilities in self-determination programs. Lori suggests continuing with the current approach and looking into a direct bid contract to simplify the process. The group considers adding employee training to address concerns about participants not understanding their roles as employers. Jordan emphasizes the importance of teaching participants about their responsibilities before entering the program, while others suggest exploring alternative options to mitigate liability risks. The discussion concludes with plans to review current practices and include employee training for participants in the next RFP.

### Improving Program Efficiency and Centralization.

Lori expressed difficulties in progressing the program due to the extensive activities at North La and the need for better system improvements. She hoped that the special contract would make the system more efficient. Lori also discussed the Committee Center plan, which she uses to track progress and ensure tasks are completed. She noted progress on two of the objectives from the public records request and the centralization of the SDP. Robin presented an implementation report for February 1st, 2025, which included statistics on the number of participants in the program, budgets certified, spending plans approved and active. She also reported on the number of participants that have fully transitioned into the SDP. Robin confirmed that the program is growing rapidly and is currently in second place among all regional centers in terms of the number of SDP participants. Robin shared that they are working on centralizing the unit to impact the program and are also working on a new employee training. Lori expressed concern about the difficulty in transitioning into self-determination and the subsequent years due to the process. She suggested that the centralization of the unit could potentially solve some of these problems.

Jordan highlighted issues with the FMS and Regional Center, as well as his own personal issues. Silvia assured that North LA would address any issues identified during this meeting. Miriam and Stephanie discussed improving the process for scheduling coaching sessions. Erica suggested analyzing Purchase of Service data for SDP. Silvia agreed to inquire about this possibility.

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