

**North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Notes**

**April 16, 2020
Via ZOOM**

Present: Sandra Baker, Victoria Berrey, Richard Dier, Jon Francis, Ellen Jannol, Jordan Feinstock, Michelle Heid, Lillian Martinez, Roxana Topete—Committee Members

Jesse Weller, Liz Chavez —NLACRC staff
Julie Eby-McKenzie—State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Guests: Ken Curry, Doris Longmire, Jonah ____, Josh Kaplan, Lillian Martinez, Tamra Pauly, Diane Bernstein, Patricia Milgarejo, Joyce Thomas, Jacqueline Gaytan, Sade Johnson, Terrasel Jones, Theresa Millio, Valerie Bane, Mayra Lara, Scott Shepard, Ernesto Vasquez, Celina Tomlinson, Christina Cannarella, Montserrat Doe, Ron San Agustin, Mariela Ramos, Monica, Marlene Lueck, others unidentified

Absent: Cheryl Hendrickson, Lori Walker

1. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Michelle Heid, Chair, at 7:05p.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

2. Public Input

Valerie Bane from GT Independence announced that the State is making sure that financial assistance is available for SDP enrollees and their families called the Family First Coronavirus Response Fund. A parent says that she has not received help with her son’s budget since December. Dr. Weller says to contact him directly.

3. Consent Items

a. Approval of Agenda

Approval of Agenda:

M/S/A. (Jannol, Baker). Approved.

Baker	Yes	Hendrickson	Absent
Berrey	Yes	Jannol	Yes
Dier	Yes	Martinez	Yes
Feinstock	Yes	Topete	Yes
Francis	Yes	Walker	Absent
Heid	Yes		

b. Approval of February Meeting minutes

Approval of Minutes

M/S/A. (Feinstock, Jannol). Approved with the comments that she received some comments via email but felt that the minutes were consistent with Board actions.

Baker	Yes	Hendrickson	Absent
Berrey	Yes	Jannol	Yes

Dier	Yes	Martinez	Yes
Feinstock	Yes	Topete	Yes
Francis	Yes	Walker	Absent
Heid	Yes		

4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Chair's Report**— Michelle said that the next SDP statewide committee will be in June. The Committee was asked for feedback as to the most important thing that can be done to keep SDP moving during COVID-19. Richard said that it would be helpful to continue to get information from DDS and NLACRC about SDP cases in our area. Julie is concerned that SDP may be set aside to deal with COVID-19 and wants to see continued progress. She also says that participants need a lot of assistance in developing the budget and identifying unmet needs. Tamra Pauly, an independent facilitator, said that adult consumers have advocacy needs that minors do not have such as getting SSI and CalFresh and it is very time consuming. Roxana said that some SDP-focused trainings have had to be pushed back.

b. **Board Report**

There were no Board actions related to SDP at the last Board meeting. Lillian is our Board Representative and Christina Cannarella is also a Board Member.

5. **NLACRC/DDS Implementation News**

- a) DDS Implementation Update – Dr. Weller gave an overview of the state of the state that we are operating in. They are working on capacity to serve individuals that are positive for COVID-19 including having the ability to approve other placements. Nearly all NLACRC staff are working remotely. He wants to ensure we give SDP due diligence.
- i. DDS SDP Implementation Funding – the Committee reviewed the directive and funding allocation. Several suggestions were made. Because we cannot meet in person at this time, we agreed that Committee members should send emails to Richard Dier with their suggestions. Then he will summarize all suggestions and we will discuss further at our next meeting.
 - ii. SDP Newsletter and DDS Directives – there have been no new SDP newsletters or directives related to SDP.
- b) NLACRC Implementation Update – Dr. Weller introduced Josh Kaplan, a CSC in Santa Clarita office. Sheila Calove is on a leave of absence. Recruitment for SDP specialists – are interviewing for SDP specialists; offers are being made. Added a new SDP specialist position to SFV. Also recruiting for an SDP supervisor. There are 183 SDP slots in NLACRC.
- i. Orientation –Orientations are being held in all offices. Orientation in April was cancelled. Working on getting Orientations & Informational Meetings on Zoom due to COVID-19. 168 participants SDP eligible, from 183 originally
4 enrolled and receiving services; wants to see this higher
38 budgets in the works
35 need orientations – all from November selection

Julie asked how we can help get orientations done for people who cannot use Zoom. Jesse says he knows that is an issue, but trying to get more oriented during COVID-19 closures. They are asking participants what method would work best for them. Julie suggests asking Spanish speaking support groups what would work best for them. Roxana suggested television like Univision, or radio. Richard suggested YouTube with a link sent to participants. Liz said that as participants drop out, DDS sends more participants from the interest list to fill those slots.

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- c) Participant Successes and Challenges – Richard Dier provided some feedback on his son’s participation in SDP. He thanked Dr. Weller for his support in getting his spending plan approved. Some of his son’s staff have tested positive for COVID-19. One of his staff moved in with him. He says the flexibility of SDP was a lifesaver. Sandra Baker shared that she feels “stuck” right now because she wanted to attend more trainings before hiring an IF to do a Person Centered Plan. Julie says the SCDD is moving towards putting their trainings into online formats but she is not sure what topic will be handled first.
- d) Legislative Update – DDS has issued some directives that allow Regional Centers to respond more quickly and to allow consumers to use non-vendored service providers (participant-directed services).

6. **Committee Business**

- a. Recognition for Bebo Saab – Richard distributed the wording he proposes for the plaque. He will send the proposed writing to Committee members. Michelle encourages us to send emails of thanks directly to Bebo.
- b. Self Determination Resource Fair – 2020. This event was targeted for May but is on hold pending further information about COVID-19. A virtual Resource Fair was discussed.
- c. Service Category Definitions – we reviewed Acupuncture and Behavior Intervention Services tonight. We will review Community Integration Services and Participant Directed Goods and Services next time
- d. Agenda planning – DDS Implementation Funding, Service Category definitions

7. **Public Input & Comments**— attendees shared resources related to COVID-19 on different websites. Julie asked participants to share their experiences related to COVID-19 so that they can

8. **Adjournment** - meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Next Meeting: May 21 via Zoom