

Meeting Summary for SDLAC

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Quick recap

The meeting covered various administrative and operational aspects of a board and committee, including recent resignations, and discussions on improving processes. Participants addressed issues related to communication, resource allocation, and the implementation of self-determination programs. The committee also finalized goals, reviewed data on program participation, and discussed upcoming events and changes in leadership roles.

Next steps

Lori to follow up with Ernie Cruz at DDS regarding the Columbus report.

Richard and Michael to finalize rewording of Goal 2 in the Committee Center Plan.

Kristianna to send the updated Committee Center Plan to Lori, Robin, Denise, and Miriam for posting on the website.

Lori to schedule the June SDLAC meeting for June 18th due to the Juneteenth holiday.

Committee members to send an email to Lori confirming their commitment to another year on the committee.

Lori to update the Consumer Services Committee on the meeting with the executive director at the February meeting.

Committee members to continue reporting FMS issues to the SDP Ombuds office.

Lori to include the SDP Ombuds office on all future email communications with FMSs.

Committee to continue discussing potential solutions for FMS issues in future meetings.

Jordan to create a list of FMS experiences to provide to the Ombuds office by June.

Robin to work with Angela on negotiations regarding centralizing the SDP unit.

SDLAC members to look for opportunities to participate in and research training for new and existing CSCs.

SDLAC to research CEU opportunities and incentives for CSC training.

Lori to discuss with Robin, Denise, and Miriam about implementing Jordan's idea for consolidating meeting links.

Miriam to explore creating a PDF with all meeting links to share with participants.

Robin to assist Lisa with expediting the budget and spending plan process for her children.

Lori to follow up on the status of new coaching contracts starting in February.

Committee to review and provide feedback on the new process for updating the North LA website in a timely manner.

Robin/Silvia to coordinate distribution of SDP books to participants through service coordinators or office pickup.

Richard to continue attending board meetings and advocating for SDLAC's formal role with the board.

Lori to prepare a presentation on SDP for the next Consumer Services Committee meeting.

Summary

Lori led the meeting, discussing the impact of the recent fires on North LA and the efforts of the North LA team to relocate clients. She also mentioned the resignation of the President and the second chair of the board, which was a surprise to the attendees. Lori encouraged committee members to stay on the committee and to advocate for the program. She also shared various resources and upcoming events, including the California Health and Human Services Agency's master plan for developmental services, the Introduction to SDP meeting, and the Support Group. Jordan shared resources, including a benefit concert and a Rockin' Resource Fair. The conversation ended with no further public input or comments.

Lori led the meeting, discussing the committee's use of AI-generated meeting summaries and the process for editing and approving these summaries. She also addressed the committee's request for proposal updates, including the reallocation of funds from the Resource Fair to coaching contracts and the potential encumbrance of remaining funds. Lori also discussed the implementation funds for the coming year and the errors in the 2026 funds directive, which were corrected with the help of DVU. She mentioned the incentive payment of \$362,000 for meeting the SANDIS requirements and the upcoming meeting with the executive director to discuss implementation challenges. Lori also discussed the new process for updating the North LA website and the upcoming meeting with Chris Whitlock and Destiny to review the website's overall flavor. Lastly, she mentioned the readiness of North LA to use an FMS for participant-directed services.

Managing Program Challenges and Communication The committee discussed the challenges of managing their program, particularly with the involvement of multiple entities. They highlighted issues with the interpretation of directives, leading to delays and complications. The team also discussed the difficulties in communication with FMS, with some members expressing frustration over the lack of communication and the slow process of getting issues resolved. The idea of creating a single website with all the links was proposed to streamline the process, and the possibility of creating a PDF with all the links was also discussed. The team also discussed the challenges of finding the right FMS, with some members suggesting the need for a Yelp-like system for rating FMS. The team agreed to explore these ideas further in the next meeting.

Addressing Special Needs Budget Challenges, the meeting involved discussions about the challenges faced by families with special needs in obtaining budgets and spending plans from regional centers. Parent shared her experience of having to wait for four months to get a budget, which caused significant stress and impacted her mental health. She suggested that supervisors should be included in IPP meetings to ensure timely responses. Robin agreed and advised that the process should start four months before the end of the year, with the IPP meeting scheduled by the third month. The team also discussed the issue of courtesy vendorization and the need for more regulation. The conversation ended with an emphasis on the importance of communication and collaboration to address these issues.

FMS Challenges and Time Commitment In the meeting, there are differing perspectives on the challenges and time commitment involved in working with financial management services (FMS) providers. Lori expresses frustration with her FMS provider

and the lengthy process, while Jordan argues that putting in the effort is worthwhile given the significant budgets available through regional centers. Michael raises concerns that not all families have the capacity to devote extensive time to the process, highlighting socioeconomic disparities. Richard acknowledges systemic issues and the need to address them with the board of trustees. There is also discussion around ensuring consumers' funds are not wasted through inefficiencies. Kristianna and the committee finalized the Committee Center Plan with six goals focused on improving the SDP transition process, increasing self-advocate involvement, providing training for coordinators, enhancing communication, defining the committee's advisory role to the board, and gathering feedback on Financial Management Service providers. Richard passionately advocated for revising the bylaws to formalize the committee's ability to present at board meetings and have their voice heard. There were some concerns that the board purposefully scheduled their meeting during the committee's time slot. Overall, the committee aims to make tangible progress on their goals while navigating the relationship with the board and regional center leadership. NLACRC Implementation Report Update Robin presented data on the implementation report of NLACRC, highlighting that they are now number 2 in terms of total participants, with numbers continuously increasing. The data showed that 1,041 participants had completed orientation from 2019 to the present, with 566 budgets certified and 495 spending plans approved. The majority of participants were of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Richard suggested that the SDP participants had increased by 30% in the last year, indicating that they are an increasing proportion of the existing clients. Silvia mentioned that they had 206 transitions in 2024 and that attendance in the orientation had increased. The team decided to move the June meeting to the 18th due to a holiday and to avoid conflicts with other meetings. Lia mentioned that they were still working on filling a vacancy in the membership committee and that they were reviewing applications. The team also discussed the goal of having all RFP recipients at the next meeting to discuss the services they will provide for the year. Kristianna asked about the possibility of offering books to people at the support group. Lori and Robin agreed that it would be fine, but they would need to pick them up or have them delivered. Silvia suggested that service coordinators could deliver the books. Lori clarified that they would be limited in their distribution and not mass-market the books. The team also discussed a resource fair event at Woodley Park, with Jordan suggesting that they could sponsor a table for \$250. However, Silvia clarified that the SDP implementation funds could not be used for this purpose.

Last edited DENISE (Host) Jan 28, 2025 07:48am