

## **SDLAC Summary for September 18, 2025**

### **Quick recap**

Updates were provided on several key initiatives including SDLAC meeting activities, upcoming expos, and various committee activities, with particular focus on the Self-Determination Program's progress and orientation statistics. The conversation ended with discussions about rate reform changes, financial management processes, and challenges with upcoming expo planning, along with updates on committee participation and board engagement strategies.

### **Next steps**

- Robin: Follow up on ICC invoice issues and ensure accurate billing information
- Lori: Continue addressing Matt Asner's attendance issues with reference to the self-governance document
- Committee members: Include "SDLAC" with their names for identification purposes
- Silvia: Provide individual registration links to North LA participants who requested DVU conference tickets
- Silvia: Share links for the upcoming expos in Antelope Valley and at CSUN
- Committee members: Complete the SCDD 5-year plan update survey before the October 15 deadline
- Lori: Check the agenda shared in the chat

### **Summary**

#### **SDLAC Updates and Event Information**

The Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee (SDLAC) meeting began with introductions and updates. Silvia announced that participants interested in Disability Voices United (DVU) conference tickets should send her a private message with their UCI number, and she would provide registration links individually. The team also shared information about upcoming expos in Antelope Valley on September 27 and at CSUN on October 12, where dance events for individuals served will be held. Kristianna from the Self-Determination Institute announced free monthly meetings focused on the enrollment process and community building, with the next sessions scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

## **Self-Determination Committee Progress Updates**

Lori provided updates on several key resources and initiatives. She shared information about the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) meeting, including links to relevant documents and surveys, and highlighted progress made on tracking recommendations and service coordinator training. Michael requested help revising a survey he's developing, with Rita agreeing to assist. Lori also discussed North LA's amended special contract, which includes new metrics for service satisfaction, and announced an upcoming IF (Independent Facilitator) training series. The committee received updates on the support group, which had over 70 participants, and the IF Roundtable, where ongoing challenges with insurance requirements and purchase of service delays were discussed.

## **QIP, Disparity, and TV Pilot**

Lori discussed concerns about the annual Quality Incentive Program (QIP) requirements and rate reform changes, expressing worry about potential confusion due to recurring updates. The group also addressed the Disparity Committee, with questions raised about its invitation-only nature and limited information available online. Morris shared his interest in creating a TV pilot about the Regional Center and sought guidance on interviewing staff, with Silvia offering to help connect him with appropriate contacts. The conversation ended with a brief discussion about the recent Board of Trustees meeting, where Richard and Jon shared their experiences attending the closed session.

## **Committee Presentation Strategy Discussion**

Jon and Juan discussed the committee's interest in presenting to the board, following up on a previous motion by Richard. They highlighted the value of live presentations and sought board support to bring forward recommendations and seek expertise to grow the program. Lori inquired about a success story video presented at the meeting, which Juan confirmed was produced by the public information department. Juan also mentioned improvements in the special contract, noting its reduction in length, and expressed optimism about the current situation despite challenges from budget cuts. Lori shared insights from the director's report, including details on the 15% rate and the Quality Incentive Program.

## **Committee Influence on Board Meetings**

The group discussed how to increase their committee's influence on the board, particularly regarding SDP (Self-Determination Program) issues. Richard proposed having their committee liaison, Juan, be allowed to speak at board meetings on topics relevant to their

committee, without needing to vote. The group agreed that Richard would connect with Juan to discuss this further and clarify their reporting process to the board. They also discussed potentially identifying board members familiar with the SDP program to support their efforts, and considered different approaches to formalize this participation, including possible bylaw changes.

### **Subcommittee Updates on Training and Processes**

Lori provided updates on the Best Practices Subcommittee's activities, including discussions on RFP processes, participant surveys, and the Service Coordinator Training Manual. The subcommittee reviewed progress on the Committee-Centered Plan, highlighting advancements in SDP process updates, user-friendly survey formats, and service coordinator training initiatives. Silvia and Robin shared updates on the hiring of SDP CSE lead trainers, and participants were reminded to provide feedback on the Service Coordinator Training Manual and Committee-Centered Plan.

### **Self-Determination Program September Statistics**

The meeting focused on reviewing September 2025 statistics for the Self-Determination Program. Megan reported that 1,278 individuals completed orientation, 694 budgets were certified, and 606 participants were fully transitioned into the program. Silvia discussed regional variations in program participation, noting that San Fernando Valley had the highest number of participants at 372, followed by Santa Clarita at 153. The group also discussed DDS's request for information about budgets exceeding certain criteria, though specific details about the criteria and required responses were still pending.

### **Financial Updates and Program Progress**

The meeting covered financial updates for various programs, with Silvia reporting on billing status and remaining balances for different organizations including Claudia Cares, DVU, Help Grow, and ICC. Lori discussed concerns about fund utilization at an RFP meeting, noting that North LA and other organizations assured they would meet their spending requirements. DJ provided updates on the self-determination program orientation, reporting over 10,000 participants since July and ongoing collaboration with local community organizations. The conversation ended with Richard sharing his personal success regarding an environmental project for his son, which is set for groundbreaking tomorrow.

### **Rate Reform and FMS Challenges**

The meeting focused on rate reform updates and challenges with FMS (Financial Management Services) processes. Silvia explained that rate reform introduced changes to

service provider qualifications and rates, including a potential 10% increase for certain qualifications, though clarification is still pending for SDP participants. Morris raised concerns about FMS uniformity and control over SDP spending, while Josefina highlighted issues with FMS requiring regional center approval for simple provider name changes, which delays service delivery. Robin clarified that while FMS involvement is necessary for provider changes, updating spending plans is the preferred method rather than just sending emails.