



North Bay Regional Center

Special Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting

Month Date, Year

12:30 – 2 pm

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER A. Introductions B. Establish Quorum	<p>12:33pm quorum was established.</p> <p>Introductions: <u>Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Donald Ross Long, Self-Advocate• Lilia Valitova, Parent• Yulahlia Hernandez• Debbie Height• Christian Nava• Teresa Scripps, Parent Advocate <p><u>Community:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beth DeWitt, Director of Client Services• Elissa Reiff, Associate Director of Client Services• Lindsey Interpreter• Shonetrice Smith, Participant Choice Coordinator• Michael and Rene Howard, consumer/parent• Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director• Paula Garcia, Participant Choice Coordinator• Sophia Agafonow DDS• Jesus Rosales, Participant Choice Coordinator• Tobias Weare, Community member• Rhiannon Morsch – Life Leap• Janelle Santana, Assistant Executive Director• Julia LaRose, Phoenix Facilitation• Lisa Hooks• Marita Musante, Parent Advocate• Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanya Hernandez, GTI Representative • Debbie Moran • Heather Crocker - Alift • Rhonda Kopito – Autism Society <p>Motion to approve minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All in favor - Debby and Yulahlia abstain.
Consideration of Agenda: Additions or Modifications	Debbie: Adding UCLA Children's hospital report. Add choosing a language prior to starting SDAC meeting.
Public Comments	<p>Marita: Chair of MFTI community. Stating one of the first MFTI SDP Family's is going through their renewal, and NBRC stated they are no longer covering the MFTI community fees or group fees on the budget. If consumers are living in the transitional program, then community fees would not be funded due to the service being provided on the MFTI campus. Will the fees be funded by NBRC or how can MFTI families have these services covered?</p> <p>Beth: It is based on each individual case. This is a complicated question and cannot be resolved in this forum as it requires a revision of a case-by-case basis. Beth spoke to the Director Cecily at MFTI on Friday and offered a separate meeting to speak on the issue.</p> <p>Tanya GTI: GT Independence is currently taking enrollments for December 01, 2023. To get a consultation with GTI, they require a certified budget, draft Spending Plan, and prior IPP.</p>
Co-Chair Debby Hight	<p><u>An Evaluation of Participant Experience in California's Self-Determination Program.</u></p> <p>Debby received an evaluation conducted by the California State Council of Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), Disability Rights California, Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, and Tarjan Center. The survey was between consumers enrolled in SDP and consumers who have not enrolled. The consumers enrolled in SDP are content with the program. However, their biggest concern has been the administrative burden associated with the program. Debbie has not been able to read the full evaluation and the evaluation has been added to the next SDAC meeting in November.</p>
SCDD Lisa Hooks	Families of children feel they are unrepresented in SDP. Looking forward to enhancing the answer to how SDP can benefit these families and how we can educate them. Families of individuals with autism also feel unrepresented because all the services they are looking for are therapeutic. Black families are reporting Service Coordinators are not having contact with them. When they ask questions to the SC, they are not receiving answers. Another is ethnic families due to language barriers and SCs are not being involved with them. This is a state-wide issue not just NBRC. NBRC should invite more people to ask questions and feel comfortable voicing their concerns.
NBRC Update:	<p>Enrollment Report/Update on numbers, process for enrollment</p> <p>Shonetrice: As of 09/01/2023 NBRC has 36 SDP clients. 9 consumers are pending for enrollment from now to November. 2 consumers have</p>

	<p>disenrolled from SDP. One was due to declining health and the other not a good fit. Prior to having these two leave the SDP program, NBRC had 38 enrolled. The SDP procedure has been approved and NBRC is in the process of distributing it to all staff. Eligibility diagnosis: 1 Cerebral Palsy, 2 Epilepsy, 18 Autism, 10 Intellectual Disability, 2 other, and 3 multiples. Ethnicity: 67.8% White, 10% Black, 3.5% Hispanic/Latino, 14.28% Other, and 7.14% Asian. Ages: 10 clients <18, 2 clients 18-24, 13 clients 25-34, 8 clients 35-44, and 3 clients 45-54. Gender: 20 male clients, 14 female, 1 other, and 1 declined to state. Language: 33 English, 2 Hindi, and 1 Russian.</p> <p>Debby: The CA state SDP committee is collecting information from each Regional Center Chairs, and they are asking where clients are in the process and what has been the problem having them enrolled. The state is trying to gather data to figure out the barriers and fix the issues. Debbie has asked NBRC SDP team to add slides/data to track where each client is at and length of time. Beth stated delays are with FMS's waiting lists, and reviewing Spending Plans as it takes time going back and forth with families and trying to schedule meetings. Debby asked for the graph for new enrollments by month to split it by renewals and by new enrollments. Also asked for a graph splitting original pilot program clients from other clients.</p> <p>Highlight of successful SDP participant-MH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Howard and his mother, Rene, are joining to share Michael's experience within SDP for the 3 past years. Rene presents the PowerPoint of her son and all his accomplishments since joining SDP. <p>Update on the RFP recruitment for Independent Facilitators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for Proposals (RFP): NBRC has realized that the goal was to identify local IF's that know the ins and outs of NBRC. The RFP was posted and NBRC received no applicants. Beth debriefed with the Community Resources Department and concluded NBRC should offer training for people to become an IF and the basics. By doing this, a natural pool of IF's will be built. Debbie and Beth agreed to use funds from SDAC to create a contract or consultation with companies that train people interested in becoming IF's. Beth has suggested having another SDAC meeting and researching companies that will be able to provide this training. Debby asked Phoenix Facilitation if they provide this type of training. Naomi answered their company does provide this training and has helped another RC do this along with Autism Society. Naomi offered to have a separate discussion with Beth and Debby if they are interested in Phoenix Facilitation offering the training. • Rhiannon stated she has not been paid about becoming an IF and she has started her company in the past 6 months. Reimbursement from NBRC takes 6 months-1 year for payment. Naomi interjects and says this is a state-wide problem where some IFs have not been paid for over a year. It is an ongoing issue, and it is not uncommon to wait at least 6 months to get paid. IF's have stated NBRC is one of
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	<p>the RC's where reimbursements happen quickly. Since this is a state-wide issue, it is one of the reasons 099 was created.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa comments on the presentation and how there are only certain people who can afford to become an IF. Again, this is a state-wide issue and becoming an IF is not for free. This job takes time and SDP is about sitting with the client, listening to the client, and their needs. 18 months ago, NBRC was an asterisk and now NBRC is an actual number. NBRC has done a great job hiring a team who is focused and selected qualified people who moved the needle.
Phoenix Facilitation – Naomi Hagel & Julia LaRose	<p>Highlight last month was being part of Parents Can family conference. They met families, IF's, and resources for families. Phoenix Facilitation gave a presentation regarding SDP. They are glad to offer their IF training to NBRC.</p>
Autism Society	<p>Ronda presents how Autism Society has an Advanced Independent Facilitator training and transitioning individuals into SDP. They have learned IFs need to learn about the legislative side to SDP and the ongoing changes. The training offers 16 hours of PCP training, 8 hours Lanterman Act, 8 hours SDP legislative, advanced level training on budgets and spending plans, round tables with various professionals, and starting an IF business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debby asks if there is a cost to the program. Rhona responds it is a free training offered through a grant by DDS. This program is great for anyone, not just someone interested in becoming an IF. Training is live and will be recorded as well. • Requirements: must have some knowledge of IF training. This is an advanced training so have knowledge of SDP. The Autism Society is offering a beginner program as well. They will be interviewing people who apply.
Old Business	
New Business	<p>Introduction of new NBRC SDP Supervisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elissa Reif will be the new SDP Supervisor. She has over 20 years of experience and oversees case management. • Presentation from Autism Society of Los Angeles on IF training.
Public Comments	<p>Tobias: Has been receiving successful stories about clients having more availability getting adaptive devices in SDP than in traditional.</p> <p>Debby: If you have a client in SDP, how does NBRC handle a death of the parent.</p> <p>Beth: NBRC hasn't had this happen before, but NBRC has a parent asking those questions. She is building her child's role and paying herself for her services; however, now she is stepping back and hiring someone to take over her child's SDP case.</p>

Agenda Items for future meetings	Review evaluation from UCLA.
Announcements	Next Meeting November 13
ADJOURNMENT	2:08pm