****

**North Bay Regional Center**

**Special Self-Determination
Advisory Committee Meeting**

**September 9th, 2024**

**12:30 – 2 pm**

**MINUTES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CALL TO ORDER** 1. Introductions
2. Establish Quorum
 | A. Committee:* Debbie Hight, Chair
* Donald Ross Long, Self-Advocate
* Lilia Valitova, Parent
* Yulahlia Hernandez
* Teresa Scripps, Parent Advocate
* ileim moss, Self-Advocate

Community:* Ellisa Reiff, SDP Supervisor
* Beth DeWitt, Director of Client Services
* Gabriel Rogin, Executive Director
* Chris Aguire DDS
* Shonetrice Smith, Participant Choice Coordinator
* Stephany Chavez, Participant Choice Coordinator
* Paula Garcia, Participant Choice Coordinator
* Jesus Rosales, Participant Choice Coordinator
* Janelle Santana, Assistant Executive Director
* Julia LaRose, Phoenix Facilitation
* Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation
* Heather Crocker Alift
* Carin Hewitt Alift
* Yesenia Oseguera Z’s Pathway to Independence
* Kenya Martinez, SCDD Manager
* Tobias Weare, SCDD
* Sabrina Deulofeu, Autism Society of LA
* IFTA – Independent Facilitator Training Academy
* Debra Jorgensen, Guidelight Group
* Renee Howard, Parent
* Jaylen Parks, Self-Advocate
* Nicole ASL Interpreter
* Ginia ASL Interpreter
* Amber ASL Interpreter

Motion to approve minutes:All in favor – Donald Ross Long and Yulahlia HernandezB. Quorum met at 12:15PM |
| **Public Comments** | N/A |
| **Chair** Debby Hight | Making sure everyone received the Minutes from the previous meeting.  |
| **NBRC Update:** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Jesus Rosales, Participant Choice Coordinator, presented the NBRC updates and enrollment report numbers. There is now an increase in SDP clients of 69 as of September 1st. 4 of the clients are enrolled for a 10/1 start date, 1 client is transferred from a Regional Center, and 2 clients are shared cases. The team reviewed client demographics and requested more detailed data in the future.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| The team discussed the NBRC updates, enrollment report numbers, and client demographics, with a focus on improving awareness and accessibility for clients. Lastly, they discussed the establishment of the right team and processes for increased enrollment, and addressed concerns related to equity, accessibility, and user-friendliness of their programs. Rosie, from Independent Facilitator Training Academy, shared that she was chosen for the RFP process. Rosie explained that applications, along with flyers, are available for folks interested in enrolling in their courses/training. The courses are available in multiple languages and subtitles; Rosie stated if there are other accommodations needed, to let her know. ASL interpretation will be available in the future. Lilia Valitova, Parent Advocate, asked if IFTA is in compliance with DDS and asked for clarity regarding certification through DDS. IFTA is following DDS regulations. Ellisa stated that there is no specific direction from DDS about training, but will notify the team when those directions are released. Ileim moss, Self-Advocate, raised the question if visual access for graphics and text are screen reader accessible for those interested in applying and need to access further accommodations. Rosie explained they have subtitles available but will check in with her team to see if they have the screen reader accessible.Debra Jorgensen, Guidelight Group, further explained that DDS is not certifying IF training programs that currently exist. They work with a contractor outside of California to create an IF certification program, including those that are already practicing. It is unknown when that will be available. Ellisa Reiff, SDP Supervisor, finished with introducing the next few SDP outreach events. The next SDP Vendor Fair will take place early next year. On September 14th, SDP will be present during the Reunion Symposium at Becoming Independent. It will be a panel discussion with an active SDP parent of a client to share more information about the program. Then, there will be a training via Zoom on September 17th for businesses and vendors interested in learning more about SDP funding. On September 18th, the SDP team will be presenting an in-person bilingual training at Parents Can for Spanish-Speaking families. Ellisa also mentioned that she is planning with Yulahlia to start a “Cafecito Hour” in Sonoma County for families that don’t speak English as their first language to drop in and discuss SDP. On September 24th, the SDP team will present a training for bilingual Service Coordinators via Zoom. On October 22nd and 23rd, the SDP team will participate in a virtual presentation with the NBRC outreach coordinators for two parent focus groups, one in English and one in Spanish, with the sole focus on SDP. Ellisa also noted that she has been in touch with other Regional Centers and discussed having a participant/family that speaks a language other than English to speak at a SDP outreach event to share their experience and success stories. Regarding SDAC funds, out of the D1 allocation (Fiscal Year 2022-2023), $25,000 was spent on the RFP process; $21,856 was spent towards a contract with Phoenix Facilitation; $2,600 was spent on the outreach event in June of 2024. A majority of the outreach event funds went towards handouts, bags, post-it notes, and pens. The D1 allocation for fiscal year 2023-2024 is unspent at this point, but Ellisa will put together some recommendations about what to use the funds towards. Lastly, Ellisa shared that NBRC is supporting the SDP team and is hiring another Participant choice Coordinator to expand the team! |

 |
|  |  |

 |
| **SCDD Update:** |

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| Tobias from SCDD reported on introducing Kenya Martinez and sharing her experience with her involvement in advocacy with transitioning youth and early childhood. SCDD will be hosting a NBRC drop-in clinic from 3-6PM that happens on every second Monday of the month. They will also be hosting an IEP drop-in clinic that occurs on Wednesdays from 5-7PM. Both drop-in clinics will be hosted at the SCDD regional office location in Vallejo, CA. SCDD will also be hosting the Grant Showcase Training, where Disability Voices United will present their grant regarding SDP across California from 10:30-11:30AM. Then, there is a Chair training, where people involved in SDP learn about the directions covering what the goals are for the committees from 12-1PM. |
| Kenya Martinez steps and reports that one of their focus’ under the State’s Masterplan is transitioning youth. This will cover transportation, job readiness, work ability, sexuality, and other aspects that affects transitioning aged youth. The goal is to make the resources easier to access and uphold the transition aged youth, while also not disregarding other areas.  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

 |
| **Phoenix Facilitation –** Naomi Hagel & Julia LaRose | Naomi Hagel from Phoenix Facilitation reported on their recent activities, like developing materials for vendor training. Phoenix Facilitation and NBRC SDP meet once a month to review specific cases and see where help is needed. They continue to receive occasional intake forms, where they meet with the prospect and refer them to an Independent Facilitator. They refer to the CA SDP Network page, as well as make recommendations.  |
| **Old Business** | None. |
| **New Business**  | None. |
| **Public Comments** | Teresa Scripps, Parent Advocate, commented about finding employment for Sara, her stepdaughter, within their community to help enhance her social skills/independence. Sara was turned down from a job position because she did not have enough training for the office skilled position she applied for. Sara was let known she will need experience with office skills. Sara will be taking a course to learn more about office skills making. Ellisa offered to help support Teresa and meet internally to discuss businesses that accept SDP funding and assist finding employment. Lilia Valitova, Parent Advocate, shared an experience where a parent told her about a generic job opportunity where people with disabilities help clean and repair gardens. |
| **Agenda Items for future meetings** | Next SDAC scheduled November 4th, which the Board agreed to.  |
| **Announcements** | None. |
| **ADJOURNMENT** | 1:23PM |