

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2023

**Opening:**

The regular meeting of HRC Self Determination Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:05 PM on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 via Zoom. Quorum was established.

**Committee Member Present**

Rosalinda Garcia – Self-Determination Advisory Committee Chair  
Deaka McClain – Individual, Self-Determination Advisory Committee Co-Chair  
Maria Elena Walsh – Harbor Family Resource Center  
Tim’an Ford – HRC Peer Advocate  
David Oster – Individual  
Miriam Kang – Parent  
Wendy Clutterbuck – Parent  
Sunghee Park – Parent  
Jamie Temple – OCRA

**HRC Staff Present**

Patrick Ruppe – Executive Director  
Antoinette Perez – Director of Children and Adolescent Services  
Aurelio Lopez – Participant Choice Specialist  
Johnny Granados – Client Service Manager  
Bernice Perdomo-Chavez – Participant Choice Specialist  
Minerva Prado – Participant Choice Specialist  
Jessica Sanchez – Client Service Manager  
Erika Segovia – Manager of Diversity and Inclusion  
Bryan Sanchez – Client Service Manager

**Visitors**

Lucy Paz, Spanish Interpreter  
Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation  
Helen Reese, Phoenix Facilitation  
Santiago Villalobos, Phoenix Facilitation  
Kim Sinclair, Autism Society of Los Angeles  
Hong Dang  
Gilberto Padilla, Parent  
Lourdes Gomez, IF  
Tami Cardenas  
Debra Jorgensen, Guidelight Group  
Rossy Seriati  
Reiko Umeda, Independent Facilitator  
Tamra Pauly, Independent Facilitator  
Selvin Arevalo, GT Independence  
Montserrat Palacios, DDS  
Stella Ramirez

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Mariora Filipovich, Parent

**Abbreviations**

HRC: Harbor Regional Center

IF: Independent Facilitator

PCP: Person-Centered Plan

SCDD: State Council on Developmental Disabilities

SDP: Self-Determination Program

DVU: Disability Voices United

FMS: Financial Management Service

DDS: Department of Developmental Services

RFP: Request for Proposal

SDAC: Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee

OCRA: Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy

ASLA: Autism Society of Los Angeles

**Welcome:**

Introductions of committee members and guests via the chat.

**Approval of Minutes:**

October 4, 2023 minutes were posted for review. Minutes were approved.

**Implementation Funds (2022/2023) Updates:**

- Implementation Funds for year four (2022-2023) totaling \$99,916.78.
- Guidelight Group decided to continue with their original proposal amount of \$38,850.
- Autism Society of Los Angeles (ASLA) collaborating with Phoenix Facilitation's proposal amount will be adjusted to the remaining funds of \$61,066.78.

**Kim Sinclair, ASLA**

ASLA/Phoenix Facilitation adjusted their proposal to \$61,066.78, which includes the following components:

1. SDP Fundamentals
2. Navigating Technology for the Independent Facilitator
3. Self-Determination Law & Directives for IF's
4. Person-Centered Thinking
5. Advanced Training on Budgets, Spending Plans, And the Financial Management Services (FMS).
6. 099 Vendorization & Requirements
7. On-going IF Services (scaled down)
  - Participants who self-identify as non-White and/or as speaking a language other than English will be prioritized.

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- Spanish will be the only language supported by either translators or CORE instruction, with supporting material.
- Goal is 12-15 Spanish-speaking trainees and 12-15 English Speaking trainees, this split may vary depending on the level of community engagement.

They have removed:

- Coaching services will end on June 30, 2024.
- Korean Language Track - if an English/Korean person registers, and if they require materials in Korean, they will provide some materials but will not have Korean Language translation/CORE Korean Language instruction.
- Lanterman Module - removed/deleted, encourage HRC community to go to Lanterman training offered in November 2023 with Korean and Spanish Translation.
- Adjusted the number to between 24-30 participants.

ASLA/Phoenix Facilitation will reach out to HRC when the recruitment process begins to ensure participants are members from the community who understand the HRC way.

Phoenix Facilitation focuses on person-centered module with ASLA bringing knowledge of the law to improve the quality of life of the individuals served.

**Comments:**

- Individual asked how money would be divided. ASLA is prime, on the contract. Phoenix is collaborating (sub-contractor) with ASLA.
- How to gage whether the implementation funds are being used for individuals and the community served by HRC. Sinclair states there are no guarantees that the trainees will serve the HRC community.
- Parent searched for IF training at HRC but signed up with another RC. Commitment was that they would have to serve the RC's community by taking individuals they serve.

**Debra Jorgensen, Guidelight**

Full and partial scholarships have been successful at other regional centers.

Guidelight will have an application to ensure people who apply are committed to serving the HRC community. With the agreement and expectation that they take 1 -2 individuals within the first year.

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**Comments:**

- Participant asked if bonuses are incorporated into the contract once they start working with individuals. Bonuses are not included.

**Harbor Regional Center Monthly Updates:**

Bernice Perdomo-Chavez presented the SDP data in a graph format via an “HRC SDP” Power Point presentation shared via Zoom.

- Soft Roll Out Participants
  - Total Participants Selected: **129**
    - Remained in SDP: **80**
    - Withdrew: **38**
    - Moved out of State: **4**
    - Inactivated/Not DD: **5**
    - Transferred Out (to another RC): **3**
- Completed PCPs 145; 25 within the soft rollout and 120 from 7/2021 to 10/2023
- Certified Budgets 226; 35 within the soft rollout and 191 from 7/2021 to 10/2023
- Spending Plans 179; 30 within the soft rollout and 149 from 7/2021 to 10/2023
- SDP Live 184; 30 within the soft rollout and 154 from 7/2021 to 10/2023

SDP by Ethnicity:

White/Caucasian	70
Latino	43
African America/Black	13
Biracial	6
Multicultural	8
Other	11
Asian Indian	7
Other Asian	5
Chinese	4
Filipino	4
Korean	4
Guamanian	1
Vietnamese	3
Japanese	5

SDP by Language

English	152
Spanish	29
Korean	2
Japanese	1

- Number of fully oriented participants: 844 (100 are in the follow-up stage, 272 have chosen to withdraw and 288 in the unknown stage).

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Directives from September 29, 2023 DDS Self-Determination Program (SDP) were shared.

- (1) Self-Determination Program (SDP) Directive (09/29/2023): Service Provider Background Checks.
  - Identifies the providers of services and supports that must obtain a DDS Department criminal background check in order to provide services for SDP participants:
    - Any employee of an SDP participant who will provide direct personal care services (excluding family members who live in the same household as the participant).
    - Any employee of a provider who is not a regional center vendor and who will provide direct personal care services.
  - The following individuals are not required to get a DDS Department criminal background check:
    - Any employee of a provider that is a regional center vendor who will provide direct personal care services (unless that vendor requires a background check).
- (2) Self-Determination Program (SDP) Directive (09/29/2023): Financial Management Services (FMS) Service Payments.
  - This guidance extends the requirement of regional centers to pay FMS providers on a weekly basis through December 31, 2024.

Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation LLC, presented data on individuals served through the coaching program by ethnicity, language, gender, and age. She talked about their outreach attempts and barriers they have encountered.

**Statewide Updates:**

- No updates at this time.

**Partner Updates:**

**Office of Clients and Rights Advocacy (OCRA)**

- No updates at this time.

**SCDD- Albert Feliciano**

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- No updates at this time.

**Public Comments:**

- IF thanked SDP CSM and team for supporting her advocates.
- Individual shared Disability Voices United (DVU) Conference is on 11/03/23.
- Participants shared that their SDP experience is improving now that they are in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

**Next meeting:** January 3, 2024 via Zoom 6PM – 8PM

**Adjournment, Conclusion**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Minutes submitted by Aurelio Lopez