

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4th, 2023

**Opening:**

The HRC Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 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  
Kyungshil Choi – Parent  
Maria Elena Walsh – Harbor Family Resource Center  
Tim’an Ford – HRC Peer Advocate  
David Oster- Individual  
Miriam Kang- Parent

**HRC Staff Present**

**Patrick Ruppe –Executive Director HRC**

Patrick Ruppe– Executive Director  
Antoinette Perez – Director of Children and Adolescent Services  
Aurelio Lopez – Participant Choice Specialist  
Johnny Granados – Client Service Manager  
Bernie Perdomo-Chavez – Participant Choice Specialist  
Minerva Prado – Participant Choice Specialist  
Thao Mailloux – Director of Information and Development  
Jessica Sanchez- Client Service Manager

**Visitors**

Fernando Nuñez, Spanish Interpreter  
Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation  
Kim Sinclair, Autism Society of Los Angeles  
Helen Reese, Phoenix Facilitation  
Albert Feliciano, State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD)  
Santiago Villalobos, Phoenix Facilitation  
Jamie Van Dusen, Department of Developmental Services  
Reiko Umeda, Independent Facilitator  
Jacinda Pich, Parent  
Ivette Kruk, Parent  
Gail Carrier, Parent  
Chloe Carrier, Individual  
Carola Maranon, Independent Facilitator (Phoenix Facilitation)  
Wendy Clutterbuck, Parent  
Sheila Jordan Jones, Independent Facilitator  
Katherine Manriquez, Parent  
Lourdes Gomez, Independent Facilitator  
Tamra Pauly, Independent Facilitator/Person Centered Projects

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4th, 2023

Brenda Gertman, Parent  
Linda Gilmore  
Monserrat Palacios-Department of Developmental Services (DDS)  
Sonni Charness, Guidelight Group  
Yolanda Gomez, Parent  
Ana Davaa, Parent/ Independent Facilitator

**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.

Financial Management Service (FMS) presentation:

- Presentation on the responsibilities of the Financial Management Services, Employer Burden, Models, and Languages.
- Mains'l offers services in English and Spanish.
- Attendee added that Mains'l would no longer be offering Co-Employer in 2024.
- Ritz is in the process of being vendored with HRC as an FMS.

**Harbor Regional Center Monthly Updates:**

- 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 141; 25 within the soft rollout and 116 from 7/2021 to 9/2023
- Certified Budgets 220; 35 within the soft rollout and 185 from 7/2021 to 9/2023

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4th, 2023

- Spending Plans 177; 30 within the soft rollout and 147 from 7/2021 to 9/2023
- SDP Live 177; 30 within the soft rollout and 147 from 7/2021 to 9/2023

SDP by Ethnicity:

White/Caucasian	68
Latino	42
African America/Black	13
Biracial	6
Multicultural	8
Other	10
Asian Indian	7
Other Asian	5
Chinese	3
Filipino	4
Korean	3
Guamanian	1
Vietnamese	3
Japanese	4

SDP by Language

English	146
Spanish	28
Korean	2
Japanese	1

- Total Participants fully orientated 817 (101 are in the follow up stages, 276 are in the unknown stage, 263 have decided to withdraw)

**Phoenix Facilitation Updates:**

- Biggest focus is reaching under-served communities.
- Phoenix continues to have staff and consultants that speak English, Spanish, Mandarin and Korean.
- Majority of participants identify as Caucasian. They still find it difficult to connect with the Black community.
- Open to any referrals or resources that will allow them to get closer to the community.
- Less referrals this month than last month (where last month was the busiest).
- New service coordinators are seeking Phoenix’s services for their families.
- There are new referrals coming directly from the community.
- Independent facilitator outreach- ensure that cases go smoothly and ensure they understand the “Harbor Way”.
- Interviewing new IF’s and ensuring that they are educated in becoming successful Independent Facilitators.

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4th, 2023

**Comments:**

- Disagreement with HRC only granting 3 months of EDGE services instead of 12 months. Evaluations are completed because we cannot look too far ahead to determine the need at this time. This is why certain services are assessed at 3 months and others are assessed at 12 months.
- Unsure of why HRC should request so much personal information when assessing for services. Per the Lanterman Act, HRC requires information in order to determine and assess individual needs.

**Request for Proposal Updates:**

- Total amount of \$99,916.78; funds need to be expended by June of 2025.
- Review of PowerPoint with RFP information (data) and opening up the room for discussion on how to proceed with the funds.
- Review of scoring completed by all groups: 2 HRC Managers, 3 members of the Participant Choice Specialist Team, and 3 committee members.
- A breakdown of the scoring was provided to the committee members.
- A motion to vote was made by Miriam Kang.
- Options on how the funds would be split were discussed with the committee members.
- Each agency would complete their proposal breakdown.
- One vote for option number one (all funds go to Phoenix Facilitation /ASLA).
- Four votes for option number two (funds will be split between Phoenix/ASLA and Guidelight).
- Committee discussed dividing funds between Phoenix/ASLA and Guidelight.
- HRC will be reaching out to the selected groups about the next steps.
- Each program design is different; a conversation over the breakdown of the funds can be brought up for discussion.
- Chair explained that it seems that during the initial RFP submissions, there was an understanding that the funds would be broken down the middle (half of the funds for Phoenix Facilitation /ASLA and the other half for Guidelight).

**Sonni Charness for Guidelight:**

- They do not have capacity at this time to provide service in any other than English. They have successfully trained other IFs. Have worked with other community organizations that have worked with the Latino community.
- Provision of training is in English; however, there are many ways that they would be able to accommodate those that are bilingual.
- They are able to provide translation of trainings in other languages.

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4th, 2023

**Naomi Hagel for Phoenix:**

- Expressed her proposal and clarified that 2022 RFP did not include Independent Facilitation discussion and 2023 RFP did have a request for Independent Facilitation training.

**Kim Sinclair (ASLA):**

- Experience in training multicultural facilitators in their core language (English, Spanish and Korean).
- The need to provide American Sign Language (ASL) supports was brought forward for discussion. Kim clarified the need to allocate funding for those in need of ASL supports, highlighting it is one of their outreaches.
- If the budget were cut by 50%, Phoenix and ASLA would have to go back to their original breakdown of service and move funds around, affecting the scope of people being served.

**Discussion:**

- Confusion on how to split the funds that would be awarded through the RFP.
- Pending final vote during the next SDAC meeting.
- Executive Director will work with interim community service manager to determine the percentage of the funds that will be allocated to each of the entities.
- PCS team will also work closely with the community service department to determine the breakdown.

**Recruitment:**

- There are some people of interest to fill the open positions in the committee.

**Statewide updates:**

- Discussion of changing the structure of these (statewide) meetings since at this time they are taking a very long time and not much seems to be accomplished.
- Conduct was discussed and ensuring that all advisory committees have a clearer understanding of their roles.
- Working on a reporting tool so that we can have more information when collecting data.

**SCDD Updates:**

- Continues to provide statewide training every Monday at 10:00, open to the public: <https://conta.cc/3KWzCVc>
- For more information and to view a calendar of available SCDD SDP Orientations dates please visit: <https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/>

HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER  
Self Determination Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 4th, 2023

**Approval of minutes:**

September 6, 2023 minutes were posted for review. Minutes were approved.

**Public Comments:**

- Switch from FMS agency has resulted in a positive outcome.
- The 10-year anniversary of SDP is approaching.

**Next meeting:** November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 via Zoom 6PM – 8PM

**Adjournment, Conclusion**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm

Minutes submitted by Minerva Prado