

# Self-Determination Advisory Committee Harbor Regional Center Minutes, October 9, 2019



1. Meeting **convened** at 6:12pm.

**Present:** Linda Chan Rapp, Deaka McClain, Mariano Sanz

Harbor Regional Center [HRC]: Antoinette Perez, Diana Sandoval

State Council on Developmental Disabilities [SCDD]: Christopher Arroyo, Brianna Reynoso

**Absent:** Rosalinda Garcia, David Gauthier, Miriam Kang; as well as any staff representative from Disability Rights California

**Quorum** was not established.

**Guests:** Vianey Gomes, Yvette Torres, Olivia Gonzalez, parents

2. Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

3. **Minutes** from 9/11, & Election of **new chair** were not voted on because of lack of quorum.

3. **Harbor Regional Center [HRC] update** – Antoinette Perez

- a. Data on **Withdrawals** from the Self-Determination Program [SDP]: Harbor Regional Center has reported a 17% withdrawal rate as of 10/9/2019 (17 out of 99 selectees for SDP). Statewide withdrawal rates by ethnicity do not seem to vary markedly from the target ethnic percentages. However HRC clients chosen for SDP did not reflect the target age-range distribution, exceeding the targeted number of participants in the 0-21 age range (68 rather than 55 clients in this category were selected for SDP). Although the selection of participants in the 22-41 age range was generally on target (29 selected for 28 slots), only 2 out of 16 (13%) targeted participants were chosen for SDP in the 42+ age range. This disparity will be addressed in the next SDP participant selection.
- b. Withdrawal reasons: At HRC, 18 have withdrawn from SDP voluntarily either because they are comfortable with their current delivery of services, or else because they are unable to make time for SDP right now. Of the remaining participants 4 transferred to another regional center catchment area, and 2 have transferred in.
- c. **Orientation** data: Of the remaining 79 participants, 73 have fully completed orientation, 5 have completed one part of orientation and one selectee's family has noted that they do not have time to participate at this time although they are still interested in the program. November 15, 2019 appears to be the cut off date for those selected to participate in SDP to complete the Orientation process. Otherwise they will not be allowed to continue in the SDP program, although they may reapply at a future time.
- d. Comparative data statewide were also supplied for withdrawals, ethnicity, and age of selected consumers for SDP at all 21 regional centers. Note: The data mentioned above come from the Department of Developmental Services [DDS].
- e. Here are the **Financial Management Services** vended with HRC as of 10/1:  
Premiere Healthcare Service, 24 Hour Homecare, Accredited FMS, Acumen Fiscal Agent LLC, and GT Independence
- f. HRC is continuing to offer make-up orientation sessions, and scheduling ongoing information nights for prospective SDP participants.

g. Challenges: DDS system for funding had some glitches such that when one consumer cut off traditional services there was a gap before SDP payments kicked in. Also regional centers have not received all the codes needed for the paperwork.

Mariano noted that these are technical glitches that will certainly be resolved, so although there are frustrations, it is encouraging that SDP is working!

4. Office of Clients' Rights Advocates Update: Priscilla Ankarah has been hired and will start 11/4.

5. Statewide update: Linda Chan Rapp noted that there had been some discussion at the June 10-11 Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) regarding a few points that will probably come up at the upcoming SSDAC meeting in Sacramento October 18, 2019:

a. The SSDAC had voted to set up a committee to provide leadership and coordination to keep momentum and improve communication and follow-through between the 2-3 convenings/year of this body. However, at the executive committee meeting of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities on 6/18/2019, this motion was denied.

b. Another point that was raised at the June 10-11 meeting was that in the next drawing for SDP participants, self-advocates and family members of those serving on the local SDACs should be given selection priority so as to better model how SDP can/should work, and also to keep closer to the issues that arise in implementing SDP.

Antoinette Perez noted that she had heard at another meeting that this request was going to be acted on in the next selection round, which was originally slated for the beginning of October, but now seems to have been pushed back to November.

c. When follow-up discussion was opened for creating measurable goals for our local SDAC based on the priorities we identified in September, no suggestions were made.

d. It was reported that Rosalind Garcia has agreed to represent our HRC SDAC at the upcoming Statewide SDAC meeting on 10/18/2019.

6. State Council Update – Chris Arroyo introduced Brianna Reynoso, who will begin attending our SDAC meetings at HRC. When the Council next meets 10/30/2019 it will consider the vacancies to the local SDACs, and if there are qualified applicants, make appointments. HRC SDAC has two openings for State Council appointees. Note: this committee meets only a few times a year and their actions are limited by the pool of applicants. So if there are people interested in serving their local SDAC, they need to get their applications in within the next week or so (10/16) to be considered.

7. Discussion and Public Comment:

a. Linda Chan Rapp shared an emailed letter from a parent of the first "live" SDP participant.

This mother chronicled her family's journey into self-determination, especially the challenging budgeting process and all the levels of approval needed. Although they are definitely making progress, and service providers are getting paid, there are questions that remain:

- regarding transportation – how to set up an Uber account with FMS
- and liability insurance – where her son wants to volunteer, that organization requires him to be covered by insurance – but what type is needed and how to get it is not clear.

But the dream is coming together!

b. Deaka McClain shared that 24 Hour, her FMS, has already been paying for Uber for her to attend meetings, and it offers three options for doing so: cash or credit card, or a corporate card.

She is interested in helping people as an independent facilitator, partnering with someone to help her with the finance and budgeting part of her services. She would like tips or training in negotiating (wages, etc.) She was told to put her budgeting-support-person in her SDP budget, and advised to argue for a change in circumstance to cover this need in her own Person-Centered Plan [PCP].

- c. One parent asked about translators; do they need to be requested when they RSVP? [Yes]. They can tell their service coordinator, or tell the RSVP coordinator Sandra. Also the question was raised as to whether an applicant for the local SDAC had to be English-speaking. [No]
  - d. SDP Budget is based on expenditures in the last 12 months excepting one-time expenditures (such as a van conversion). SCDD is discussing this point with DDS, but what the final answer will be (and when it will be reached) is hard to tell.
  - e. An initial Person-Centered Plan can be paid to qualified PCP facilitators outside of regional center (purchase of service code 024), but this is not required
  - f. Last month some of the Spanish speaking parents in attendance were concerned about finding someone to help them with their PCPs, etc. in Spanish. This month they reported they were greatly encouraged because that they had attended a training in Spanish that Linda Chan Rapp notified them about as follow up to September's meeting. They were also encouraged that October's meeting would be in Long Beach, so it would be easier for them to attend the Harbor Regional Center SDAC.
  - g. Antoinette Perez offered to disseminate info about future trainings in Spanish or otherwise as they become known, so please let her know of any resources and trainings that we hear about.
8. Announcement: November 15-16, 2019 Taking Charge: Making Self-Determination Work For Us. Statewide conference at Double Tree by Hilton Los Angeles Westside sponsored by Disability Voices United and the Autism Society of Los Angeles. Vendor #PH0898

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

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Abbreviations

DDS Department of Developmental Services  
FMS Financial Management Service  
HRC Harbor Regional Center  
PCP Person-Centered Plan  
SDAC Self-Determination Advisory Committee  
SCDD State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
SDP Self-Determination Program

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Minutes submitted by Linda Chan Rapp