



Kern Regional Center (KRC)  
Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) Meeting Minutes  
**April 19, 2021– 5:00 pm**  
**Teleconference via Zoom Webinar**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82119806863?pwd=S3BFU2IxUXY4OVR5UeIwbDI2ZjFEZz09>

**Members Present**

Rick Wood (Chair)  
Kelly Kulzer-Reyes  
Nick Schneider  
Dian Schneider  
Mario Espinoza

**Members Absent**

**Others Attending**

Cherylle Mallinson	Cindy Cox
Celia Pinal	Christina Rockwell
Karina Proffer	Eliza Dyer
Melanie Waters	Suzanne Toothman
Michi Gates	Ana Guerra
Sara Keeter	Edwin Pineda
Kristine Khuu	Katie Ramirez
Amy McNinch	Yolanda Cruz
Sarah Fechner	Alma Morales
Omelia Trigueros	Lisa Sasser
Andrea Conetto	Tiffany Gonzalez
Dustlyne Beavers	Yesenia Mackie

- 1) **Call to Order**  
*5:09 pm (Wood)*
- 2) **Establish of Quorum** *Quorum was established*
- 3) **Additional Agenda Items (Wood)**- *We need to move things around it will go agenda item 7, 6, RFP, and then 8.*
- 4) **Public Comment**
- 5) **Approval of Minutes – March 22, 2021**  
*(Kulzer-Reyes)I have not had time to read them. (Wood) Then we will wait until the next meeting to approve them.*

**6) KRC Updates (Pinal)**

**KRC SD Update** – (Pinal) Kern regional Center (KRC) has some program managers (PM) that are going to share with you their numbers from the transition program. (Romero) In unit 80, we have one client that has not transitioned to SDP. For several months, the client's conservator did not respond to the Service Coordinators (SC) attempts to schedule the initial SDP meeting. The conservator finally agreed to a meeting that was scheduled for 4/9/2021. The conservator rescheduled the meeting for 4/19/2021. After waiting 20 minutes on Zoom at the scheduled meeting time, the conservator never joined the meeting. The client has attempted to reach the conservator to discuss their intention to participate in SDP, however the conservator has not responded. We will also inform the conservator they can request SDP when it becomes available to all clients in June. (Pinal) In Ed Romero's unit, one individual has yet to transition. The Service Coordinator along with the Program Manager have made efforts to meet with the conservator, the next meeting is scheduled in the following week to review the Individual Budget and if all goes well, KRC will certify the budget then development of the spending plan will begin. (Trigueros) Unit 40 update on SDP; I currently have one client who we are working on certifying the budget. In Unit 40, I have transitioned 5 clients into SDP. The one client remaining in my unit to transition to SDP is working with Ally, Katie Ramirez and is in the coaching phase. Ally is also assisting the family with developing the individual budget with KRC and are hoping to certify the budget within the month. Following this process, with the assistance of an Independent Facilitator and once the individual budget is certified, the spending plan will be developed. The transition into SDP is anticipated to be prior to June 30, 2021. (Mackie) Unit 50 has 3 SDP families; 1 is very close to transition, 1 is setting up time for spending plan, and 1 is beginning to have conversations. (Gonzalez) Out of 13 clients, 4 have transitioned in to SDP. 4 working with Katie from Ally; 2 of the 4 working on their PCP. 1 other is working with Cindy Cox, transition assistance provider, budget meetings have begun. 1 is deciding on an IF. 1 hasn't been responsive to SC outreach and 2 have withdrawn from SDP. (Guerra) I only have 1 family going through SDP. We are currently finishing the budget and we are meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> to approve budget and start on the spending plan. We have hopes this family will transition in May. (Sasser) One of my clients were scheduled to certify the budget but the family cancelled. My other client wants to wait until COVID is over. They transferred to the adult unit. (Pinal) These are just the clients that we are working on right now. This does not include the clients that we have already transferred into the SDP program.

**7) RFP- (Kulzer-Reyes/Wood)**

- a) Aveanna is maybe-(Cruz) it feels like a conflict. (Morales) We would be more than happy to answer some questions. We are working on a very similar project in Orange County. (Kulzer-Reyes) I don't think 50 people is realistic with the small amount of funds that we have. I don't want families to feel that they don't have a choice with Aviana. (Wood) Victor knows the process because he was in it for 7 years. Aveanna is not an IF. (Kulzer-Reyes) Let us put that as a soft maybe.
- b) Valley Achievement-(Wood) what do you think about Valley Achievement? (Schneider) They are looking to service 15 people. Are they only looking to service their clients? (Kulzer-Reyes) Where has their training on self-determination has come from? Is there someone from Valley achievement on a regular basis with us or are they connected to state council? What do they know about Self Determination? (Schneider) When I read it, it said that the person

that would be in charge of this has been working with RC for years helping with IPPs and providing service. (Cruz) I have not had any connection with them. I am not sure where their training is. (Wood) On the bottom of page to it says, "Services will provide connection to an IF" That did not really appeal to me. It seems what they want to do is introduce people into Self-determination but it ends there. Then the IF is going to take over. Which seems inconsistent with the rest of their plan. (Cruz) I have a hard time getting a list of Ifs. I want to know what list they are using to provide to families or is it someone within their organization that is going to be the IF. (Keeter) We are open to working with all clients. I would be happy to answer any questions at the next meeting. I am here tonight, if there is something I can do to help you understand as far as VAC approach to the SDP program. How we can walk with our clients to help the gain the independence they need and to make the best decisions for themselves. (Kulzer-Reyes) I have not seen someone from Valley Achievement Center at our meeting for the last 5 years. I do not know what they know about the SDP program. I am nervous that the training has been thorough. (Cruz) Would there be a component in Spanish with this proposal? (Kulzer) Yes, training is English and Spanish which is on page 3. I am curious on how the training is different from orientation session that is already provided through KRC free of charge. (Keeter) The training would dive deeper into a plan and a budget and more or less allow the clients to build their own skills. (Schneider) would this only be for VAC clients? (Keeter) No, it would be open to the community. (Wood) I do not have any more questions and I have put them in the no category.

c) Ally-(Kulzer-Reyes) I would like to talk to Katie more about it. We have an open RFP with Ally. Katie has the RC background and just has the skill for this. If there were just one choice, her program would be my choice. (Wood) My thought is Katie is already an approved commodities. The one thing that appealed to me was that the sessions are \$500 and you are able to effectively prescribe the number of sessions by capping how much they get. The most underserved community is Spanish-speaking and the way that this is presented give the opportunity to not spend the whole 77 thousand dollars. The let's talk SDP allows a coaching opportunity. Ally fit the bill for me. I put them in the yes column. (Kulzer-Reyes) I did as well. Anyone else? (Espinoza) I agree.

d) First choice by Dusties- (Kulzer-Reyes) Another yes for me is First choice. I like many parts of it but it is a ton of funds in one place. The only concern I have is the cost not anything else. (Wood) The way I broke that down was how she did it. Which was just pick one or two or three. (Kulzer-Reyes) the one that made me nervous was the administrative cost and another thing that made me nervous was the collaboration with path point. Not the collaboration its self but that she was offering to give us those sessions but then I do not understand the funding in that case. Path-point has received a grant to give those presentations. We could be having families go to those presentations right now. I do not understand how it is an offer from her organization. (Wood) I like that 1/3 of the money goes towards coaching. The way that it is presented is that it is a flat rate of \$2,000 a month. I thought that the total for the IF training was a lot of money. (Beavers) To explain the Path Point connection. What happens when COVID is no longer and issues and you need a building and space to do those sessions? Not only that but Path Point responded so positively to my SDP clients. I asked if there was a way we could work together. The idea is that if they do have those grants already that we can work together without spending additional money to find space. My goal was to locate a place beyond KRC so that we were not limited to certain times or days. In terms of the coaching sessions that is an unlimited amount of support. The cost is higher than others are because you are getting more people for support. I am training a few people who are bilingual. (Cruz) what would be the learning curve?

*(Beavers) They are getting intensive training and are shadowing on different things. Our goal is to build consistency and cohesiveness. We want to build capacity. (Wood) How do we get the people to these trainings? (Beavers) I think we need to advertise about them everywhere. (Kulzer-Reyes) I love the drop in idea and being able to hold the hands of the families. (Wood) I have the First Solutions one in my yes category.*

*e) Mentor- (Rockwell) I did not receive the emails and the RFP went to my junk folder. I am interested in continuing the work that I have been doing for you people. I want to go back to the roots of the proposal I submitted last summer. (Kulzer-Reyes) if it is working why change what you are doing? (Wood) What about Spanish. (Rockwell) I am Spanish speaking but only about 80%. Just because it depends on the situation and context. I am working on getting conversational in case management. (Wood) I am a soft no because of that issue.*

*f) (Wood) My choices would be First Choice and Allied. (Espinoza) I agree with Rick about First Choice and Allied. (Kulzer-Reyes) I think First Choice and Ally are great choices. I think we should split the fund between them. (Wood) What about 60% and 40%? (Espinoza) Why don't we do 55% and 45%?*

*Motion to allocate 55% to Ally and 45% to First Choice – M/S/C (Schneider/Kulzer-Reyes/Espinoza)*

#### **8) Topics for Next Meeting**

- 1. Call to Order*
- 2. Establishment of Quorum*
- 3. Additional Agenda Items*
- 4. Public Comments*
- 5. Approval of Minutes*
- 6. Status of SDP (Wood/Kulzer-Reyes)*
  - a) Update on SD*
  - b) KRC Plan for June*
- 7. KRC Updates (Khuu/Mallinson)*
  - a) KRC SD Updates*
  - b) General Updates*
  - c) Fast-Track Updates*
  - d) Nominations for Committee*
- 8. Topics for Next Meeting*
- 9. Date of Next Meeting*
- 10. Adjournment*

#### **9) Date of Next Meeting**

*May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00 pm via Zoom*

#### **10) Adjournment**

*Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm*

DRAFT