



Kern Regional Center (KRC)  
 Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) Meeting Minutes  
**March 14<sup>th</sup> 2022 – 5:00 pm**  
**Teleconference via Zoom Webinar**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86926853505?pwd=UU1BRkd6UEVhOkE1cXJxMFowaldXUT09>

**Members Present**

Rick Wood (Chair)  
 Virginia Gantong  
 Nick Schneider

**Others Attending**

Andrea Conetto  
 Celia Pinal  
 Michi Gates  
 Melanie Waters  
 Yolanda Cruz  
 Michele Rodriguez  
 Dustlyne Beavers  
 Katie Ramirez  
 661-301-6156  
 Call in User 1  
 Edwin Pineda

Kristine Khuu  
 Jennifer Rimer  
 Yesenia Mackie  
 Cindy Cox  
 Ana Leheny  
 Ana Guerra  
 Suzanne Toothman  
 Enrique Roman  
 Christina Rockwell  
 Omelia Trigueros  
 Corrine Rojo  
 Lori Molhook  
 Yajaira Ghity

**Members absent**

Mario Espinoza  
 Kelly Kulzer-Reyes

**1) Call to Order**

*5:22 pm (Rick Wood)*

**2) Establish of Quorum: *Quorum was not established***

**3) Additional Agenda Items:**

**4) Public Comment**

(D. Beavers) We keep evolving what we do and what we try to do to help support everyone to get transitioned over to self-determination. So, we're doing 2 things the first is we're offering individualized coaching support. SDP related. We can help you create a

spending plan in real time. We can help you understand your expenditures. We can help you understand the FMS process, the different models, those kinds of things. Really any other question you may have, this is for everybody. It includes service coordinators, other IF's, participants. So, that flyer, I think, is being distributed around and it's just you call our office, and you schedule an appointment, and then somebody will work one on one with you. The other thing we're doing is an intensive, independent facilitation training, it's going to have 6 different sessions. We tried to keep the timeframe doable, we're going to cover everything from SDP vs. traditional common terms, abbreviations, laws, regulations, KRC guidelines, budget process, spending plan and go over advocacy problems solving, IF ethics. So, for those that complete all 6 sessions will get a certificate. So, that's kind of what we're up to. (R. Wood) Does anybody have any questions about what Dustlyne has presented and are those 2 flyers are they going out? Who are they going out to? Can they go out to members of the committee as well as those on the panel? (D. Beavers) I know Melanie has them. I did send it to Yolanda and Alejandra with SCDD and I did send it to the family resource center. (R. Wood) Melanie, if you could share that with those that you feel might or should be informed that'd be great. (M. Waters) Yeah, when Dustlyne sent that to me, I forward it to our technology officer Tim to place on all KRC social media platforms. I can also forward that flyer to all the committee members as well. What Dustlyne said was part of my update as well, but I did forward the IF training because that is new, I mean they included it in their proposal, but I mean it's new that they're starting that extensive IF training. (M. Gates) Yeah, if you could forward it and then when did you give it to Tim to post? (M. Waters) I don't have the exact date, but I will follow up with Tim. (D. Beavers) The coaching one there is no start date except for now, it's wide open, but the independent facilitation training we're starting in April. We were mindful of that stretch around spring break, and then we pick it back up after spring break. From 9:30am to 11:30am space is limited. We are limiting it to just a certain number and if it's incredibly popular, we will continue to offer that in rotation. Then we can also look at offering it in Spanish as well. (M. Gates) Melanie if you send stuff like that to me, I can also have Tim posted on the website. (C. Rockwell) I have 2 different things I want to share with everybody. One is a new store has opened in Bishop, probably most of the local people already are aware that the Dollar Tree is opened. Besides the fact that is just a much-needed additional place to shop in our community that is very low cost for our clients. They have demonstrated that they are very friendly towards hiring our Regional Center Consumers, and so they have hired 2 of my clients, and believe they're pretty enthusiastic about hiring more so by all means, if you know somebody that is wishing to become employed that is one of our consumers through Regional Center, you can reach out to me and I can kind of let you know what some of those steps were or you can refer them to the Dollar Tree directly and I'm sur that they're going to be willing and able to help. The other thing is I have recently been elected as the chair for our local area for Inyo County. I am the Chair for Inyo County but I'm also the Chair now for all of the State Council for Developmental Disabilities for the San Bernardino office, which includes Inyo, Mono, Kern County, San Bernardino County, Riverside County. In addition to that, through a program that we coordinated between State Council and the State of California I was able to procure 2,000 home tests to disperse to the population that we serve right here with an additional 2,000 through IMA. So, a total of 4,000 home COVID test. We were able to bring into our community for the population that we serve, and for the people that provide services for them. It's been about 2 weeks since we received those, we have dispersed 3,000 of

these tests already, and I still have an additional 1,000 of them that I can get out to anybody that you know could use them that's related to our population. So, if it's, a family if it's a service provider, if it's an agency that interacts with one of our clients, then by all means I'm happy to get those to you guys, so just feel free to let me know. (R. Wood) Excellent! I saw that email Christina and I'm astonished that you've been able to get 203,000 of them distributed. I mean, you know there's only about 7,000 people in Bishop. (C. Rockwell) Well, part of that is usually a family may have multiple members, so if one person needs to get tested, they may need other members to be tested. There also it's the service providers so agencies like Achieve. And even as facilitators, The Kelly Weberg's program would strive, early start programs. And these are all different agencies that we're able to also share these tests to, and the people that they serve. So, even if they are not necessarily STP or anything like that there's still regional center affiliated. And so yeah, definitely able to get those out. You know we have drivers. We have agencies or people that are just providing individual services through SDP, Caregivers, so lots of different opportunity to get these tests dispersed out there and then. People sometimes have to test more than one time when They're experiencing an exposure. (R. Wood) My wife Cheryl and mother of my son Davis has just recently published a book called the Tao of Davis. It is available on Amazon. I'm not here to promote it or sell it other than to indicate that it is the story of a mother's journey raising a child with severe developmental and intellectual disability. She was recently just in this week's edition of the Sheet, which is a local newspaper. She and Davis were interviewed, for the article and although Davis can't speak, she spoke for him. I think most people's measure and certainly those of us, who are in this field, a heartwarming story, not all terrific because it's hard but not all hard because it's terrific. So, I simply point that out, for anybody who might be interested in looking at it on Amazon. It's going to be available as spellbinder in Bishop if it isn't already and also the book of Joint in Mammoth as well.

5) **Approval of Minutes – December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022** Approval of minutes is moved to the next meeting.

6) **Status of SDP (Wood)**

(R. Wood) So, other than that meeting which occurred on February 15<sup>th</sup>, there is a lot that is going on. I have a meeting with the co-chair of SDAC as well as myself and Aaron Corrothers of State Council and Nancy Bargeman the director at DDS. I think in 2 weeks or about 10 days, to provide some updates, and I've really been thinking about you know not just the challenges, that we have had other regional centers, but maybe some a different way to sort of approach how it is that we're going to do this system because Self-determination, as everybody knows, is not unique. It's not new, we are not the first ones to do it. It exists in other states, it's not as big and the benefits in other states are not typically as generous, and we're all inclusive as they are in California, but I've really been thinking about some different approaches that I'm going to suggest at that meeting next week to make this a successful program. Secondly, I do know that the Disability Voices United (DVU) is putting together a report to DDS and to the State Council on the things that we already know. They have done so, because SDAC has not been able to get that done just yet and as everybody knows or if you don't, I'm going to tell you SDAC is not staffed although funding for a staff has now been approved \$215,000 that was done at the request

of myself and Judy Mark. It's sorely needed, and they haven't hired anybody yet but I'm hoping that it's going to be more productive in its own mission. That's required by the statutes which is to share best practices if I were to put it into 3 or 4 words and so that of course is coming. I think DVU wants to sort of beat SDAC to the punch or be first to the table and as everybody knows it's a strong advocacy group. So that is coming. So, I looked at that the very extensive minutes earlier today and you know I had in my mind that we from that the next round of funding needs to be allocated and designated if you will by June 30<sup>th</sup>. We're Now in March will not have another meeting until the end of April. So, all of a sudden this is becoming pretty important, or time sensitive. I do want to have a discussion about you know what we want to do, and after reading it I was thinking, you know how it seems to me there's a couple of things that could be done one is I wonder if we could actually hear from our independent facilitators in the next month, as to how they would like to see our funds expended, because I don't think that we have a lock on the ideas or information. The second thing that I think that I can do and will. I've got a meeting of the SDAC work group which consists now of 9 members, is to ask each of the members who are chairs of other regional centers to tell us what they're spending their money on I don't think that we're short of ideas, but I'd love to hear what other people are doing so that we can have a robust discussion at the next meeting. I think that should be the topic at the next meeting and so my thinking is input from staff, input from independent facilitators, and then input from other regional centers as to how we might expend the funds. So, In February the eleventh a funding letter. It looks me like it was a letter went out to all the Regional Center Executive directors regarding funding and I really thought it was quite good and of course it postdated our last meeting and it identified funding, both generally and by areas of priority that we as a committee will establish. But basically, it says the funding can be used to recruit and train independent facilitators with a focus on increasing the number of bilingual, by cultural and independent facilitators, which is certainly important for our read for our catchment area. Second joint training for participants, families, regional centers, the local advisory committee members, and others with the focus on training, self-advocates. Third assistance with spending plan development. Forth collaborative groups or workshops to foster ongoing, shared learning and problem-solving opportunities. So those are those are broad areas and I'm thinking about how we might spend our funds and using examples from others, it seems to me we can have a good discussion next month about how what we should direct our funds. Here's what is unclear to me I don't know why it is because I'm sure I've been told before and maybe somebody answer it. Do we have to have contract signed by? Do the funds need to be allocated? (M. Waters) So, we had this discussion at the last meeting. We thought that the allocation had to be reached. Report had to be given to DDS by June the thirtieth. I spoke with Tim Travis at our last KRC SDP call with DDS, he said no the encumbrance date was only for year one that had to be June the thirtieth year 2, and now we're what I call year 3 which is the allocation funds for 21/22 do not have an encumbered date. So, we utilized what happened year one for year 2 so we had contracts signed, we did the RFPs, and we had a really short time, because when we released the RFPs at the end of March, then the proposals were due like a couple weeks after that and then we had the meeting. So, it's nice to get it done. Have the RFP's out, get the proposals, and make that decision, because then you've got a longer time to spend that money, but there is no encumbrance date according to Tim Travis. (M. Gates) Did we get that in writing? I've just I've never heard of that an allocation doesn't have to be encumbered by us, so I would love to see that in writing. (M. Waters) I'd be more than happy to email Tim tomorrow and get it in writing and there's nothing in this new directive on February the eleventh 2022 that has a date where it needs to be encumbered by either. Yeah, give us a little bit longer time but I don't want to sit here and extend it, because you know we're having you know we've got that money we'd like to utilize those

funds so the sooner the Committee makes a decision than those individuals can go to work. (M. Gates) So yeah, it's just I think we have certain timelines; we have to follow with RFPs notice, and all of that stuff that's really cutting our time short. So, if we can encumber it by July, end of July or August, I would really be helpful. (R. Wood) So, to be clear on the meaning of the term encumber, I take it that that means that contracts need to be signed. Okay yeah, well I that makes me feel a little happier especially because Kelly's not here. I'm going to be having this meeting with the SDAC work group which is almost half the committee, that I've got a phone call with Aaron Corrothers we're going to pick the date here in the next week or 2, and so this going to happen this month, and if I can't have an exchange of best practices and ideas at the entire committee level, it's killing me that I'm not able to do that. I want to at least get the 9 members that are very active and very passionate and committed to shoot an email maybe even shoot copies of contracts whatever it is going to take to see what other people are doing, because I don't think that we have, you know, a lock on all the information. So, my thought for next meeting is that I bring that in advance as well as we can distribute this February eleventh letter to everybody's, because it's got this attachment which is enclosure one which is really good, and also indicates of course, how much money were to receive, which is 77,000. Again, the idea is just to be to begin the process of thinking about what we want to do. Put an RFP out for either generally or specifically. But again, for those IFs that are on this call I know that you're financially interested in this stuff there's money to be spent. So, your own creativity be really good as well. Okay, so that's that on the on the funding Oh, you know there's one other piece on that funding. It was in the letter I want to make sure everybody knew, and it says DDS will provide funding separately to SDAC to implement the SDP. That funding Nancy bargeman has told me informally that's not just the \$215,000 for staff that \$215,000 goes to the State Council to hire staff and I would like to have had SDAC be able to hire some staff, but I didn't prevail that. The additional funding that is going to become available is for implementation and that's going to be the subject of our call in about 10 days or so, so all that is really good because I'm not necessarily interested in just having everybody know what we're doing. I'm really interested in knowing what everybody else is doing and it'd be good comparison for us. On the same day there was a direct FAQ put out by the Department on the participant choice specialists so, I wonder when we get to the staff reports if you could let us know where we are on the hiring of those. Let me give you a brief update on the February the fifteenth meeting. As you guys know, I share that. I co-chair that committee State Council has appointed for a two-year term. The other co-chair from the state council a person named Herald Fujita, who's just a real good Guy and however, he's not a self-advocate and he is the father of 2 severely autistic children. One, I believe, is 26, and the other is 24. He was offered an opportunity from Elark to participate in the self-determination pilot so many years ago and declined he didn't really want to be a guinea pig and had his hands full, and I don't blame him but he's going to be a wonderful edition. The reason that he was appointed is that the chair of the State Council gets to do that and so he was appointed for I don't know if it's one or 2 years. My term as chair or co-chair expires in May, we're going to have a new election. I cannot handicap whether I would be reelected if I were to decide to run again. But I do feel like there's a lot of unfinished business. I've not been able to accomplish and could if we were only to have staff. But I tell you all that because the meetings that we have quarterly or so are difficult to manage. There are 150 or more people are in the meetings, and Bagley Keen apparently requires that anybody who wants to provide comment. public comment at the end of each agenda item gets to do so. So, what do you think happens? It turns into a whining fest. I would use another term but I'm not going to and so person after person, after person, after person, just complains about their specific circumstances, or things that they're hearing about and I'm kind of over it, because you know in our meetings, we don't have

that principle because people don't come and whine what will that tell you? That tells you something, I think, but it was a particularly difficult meeting for me, because the appointment of the co-chair was someone who was not a self-advocate. There was a person who indicated that it's a crime that we don't have a self-advocate as a co-chair, and I did not expect that at all and try to keep the meeting in order. But, boy, did I get slammed and I'm a very thick-skinned individual I'm a lawyer, and a former politician. I can take just about anything you throw at me. But I thought it was really unfair to those people like me who speak on behalf of those who have no voice at all. When self-advocates indeed have a voice, and that their voice may not be heard as loudly and clearly as others. But I only tell you guys that because clearly what's going on at the State level is that there is a push from those within and out to elect a self-advocate, and so could very well be that my ten year there is going to, as Co-chair, anyway, is going to end soon. But if this committee continues to want to have me serve as the chair, need this to say, I will still be a part. And so, what was accomplished at that meeting, as intended, was a discussion of what the most important things were that is the most important specific things were that we could work on in this next year as a statewide body, and they are of interest to everybody because everybody's got the same problem, same issues, some are better, some are worse, and I would the work group is going to sort through the priorities based upon the votes and indications by people as to what's most important for us to accomplish this year and we're going to report out in May, and then decide what the next the rest of the year looks like. There will be either 3 or 4 more meetings during that year. So that's what's going on there.

(C) I know that last time Dustlyne had a I thought, a really good presentation on the FMS crisis, and I wonder, during the staff time, whether you could give us a report on what you are experiencing because clearly what we're experiencing throughout the state is that the linchpin and it truly is the linchpin of the program is the ability of the FMS is to serve the needs of those that are participating and I know they're back of the house issues. I know that one of 3 participant choice specialists is going to have the opportunity to deal with those. But the crisis is that we've got one FMS that is half the people in the state, and we've got others that have pulled out and we've got others that are in a sort of halfway one foot in and one foot out, and the biggest single crisis I think right now is not getting people in I think it's making sure that they are well served once they're in. I'll be talking to Nancy Bargeman about my thoughts on that. But the crisis hasn't gone away and so when you guys are up at the regional center in this, I'd love to have you talk about what your experiences are with sort of the well, what the state of the FMS is in our regional center. I had a discussion with somebody about the possibility of a parent becoming an FMS for a child. Their child which would not be a paid position because a parent can't do that, and I don't I don't think the staff should allow it. But I think the FMS actually has to be independent and obviously a vendor. But we need to solve the FMS problem and it may be that we're going to need to restructure this thing and do it. So that's just really a point of information.

(D) We didn't have time was this directive that came out in January, the thirteenth regarding self-determination program goods and services. And of all the things that have come out I really liked it, and I don't know Michelle. If that directive on January, the thirteenth was included in the I don't think it was in this packet. I don't know if it was in last packet and so big be. This is something I really wanted to walk through, and I have not been as diligent as I could be by suggesting that this thing be included, so that we can have a discussion about it. But I think in light of that what I'm going to suggest, is this the idea I'd love to hear from staff on this as well, at your report, is there's these factors or this approach, I guess. Step one, step 2, step 3, step 4, that the families and the regional center staff should go through it or at least as a suggestion as to determine what it is that can be purchased, because there's a lot of 10 uncertainty about what can be purchased and you know if you look at I think it's 3, 3, 3. There's stuff in there that there are

categories that are broad, and there's stuff within the categories that I think can inform people that are thinking about self-determination and then really regional center staff as they're having that discussion and that's why I really wanted to have all of that in front of us to walk through that this time and as a sort of a preview I'll indicate it says, I mean, these things are obvious. Step one is the good or service related to the self-determination. Persistence needs and IPP goals. It has to relate to goal. Everything has to relate to a goal is sort of That's sort of a fundamental principle. And so, you know ultimately the question is, well how do we make sure that the IPP has goals that could qualify for services for a self-determination. just seems to me they sort of go. Hey? and in hand. second is there a natural support or generic service that can be used. Well, that's in the statute and you know we need to walk through what is a natural support, and whether it would take the place of something that somebody might think that they want or are deserving of the third one is also in statute, and that is, are the goods and services allowed under the SDP. And Medicaid, and because, after all, these are Federal dollars so ultimately, it's Federal government. It tells us. but there's these 3 big broad categories of goods and services, with a whole bunch of little ones, about 15 or 20 in each category that can be included as those things that are eligible for self-determination. And so, you know, this seems like a very natural progress process, for which is why I just loved this thing when it came out. The next one step, 4 in their 5 steps is, who can be paid to provide services in the spending plan? And what are the provider qualifications so this this this sometimes is tricky, and I think we probably ought to have a discussion about it, so that we're all on the same page. And I would hope, you guys at the regional center that once the participant choice specialists come on, that these are the kinds of you know. Informative trainings that can occur on regional center staff. Because this stuff is not rocket science. But there is a lot of discretion, as you know, and interpretation, as you know, and we seem to be better off than any other. A lot of other regional centers because we don't have the conflicts that I see in many others. And then, finally, the last step is use of for participant directed goods and services. So really, you know it's sort of the final step to determine what it is that's going to be received. And then, finally, how does that fit into the spending plan? Because everything has to fit within the budget so I think it's a really meteor weighty subject, and that, and the thing is, you know, I think we could spend an hour on this as I intended. But I want I really want everybody here and I equally is important we're going to compete next time with the funding issues. And so maybe what we'll do in advance is make sure that this thing gets even into the packet. And so that we can have a discussion among everybody. I one could argue that you know this committee doesn't really know all this doesn't need to know all this detail. Did detail. But what I want to know, or be confident of is that as we move forward in particular, as these participant choice specialists come on that, this becomes a priority, because I don't think the participant choice specialist can fix the FMS problem I don't wish it systemic I Don't think that that they can do you know necessarily back in the house stuff other than the one who would be you know allocated to that endeavor but they can help in educating and informing those that are going to be dealing with the consumers, because in the end, really, what are we trying to do? We're trying to make it easy, and understandable for people to figure out what it is that this thing is all about, and what how it might benefit them, and what and which will determine whether they participate or not So the second meeting, in a row, I'm going to suggest that we take that up in the fashion and that the information that we have be included in the packet.

## 7) KRC Updates

(C. Pinal) We already have in client services we already have the 2 participant choice coordinators. I met with them the week before last week, to kind of get an assessment of their understanding on SDP and participant choice. They gave me their information as to what they need to know, or what they'd like to know. So, we have Chloe Hayes, she is one of our participant choice coordinators. They're wrapping up their prior caseloads or I would have had them attend today so, they could introduce themselves, but we can do that at the next meeting. Adriana Antonio, she's our second participant choice coordinator and she is bilingual. So, I'm hoping to use her skills to reach out to the Spanish-speaking community, and hopefully we can get our numbers up a little higher. But that particular group in joining SDP or the participant choice route. So, I'll make sure they're invited to the next meeting. So, you can kind of get to see who they are, what they look like and welcome them into this group. The other position is going to go to the accounting department, and I think they may have already posted a position internally to see if they get any internal applicants to help out with the funding piece of SDP the service codes being put correctly in the purchase orders, and any other questions that come about with the purchase of services piece. So, I'm glad to announce that we have those 2 and hopefully, one joining soon. But I also want to add that this is a big challenge for us, we posted outside, we interviewed outside candidates, and we didn't go with an outside person, because the understanding regional centers system is very critical in these positions. And so, we went with internal individuals, and I know that they had some learning to do because you know they have not had been exposed to self-determination until it opened up recently. So, I'll be working with them hopefully getting them to start off where what is the big need to know because I wanted a self-assessment to begin. Then Karina Proffer will be joining us. I think maybe in April or later, as a program manager for she's our cultural specialist. So, she'll be addressing some of disparities and inequities and service delivery, and they will be put under her directly under her, and then she will be joining Enrique his team under community services so both Enrique and I and Karina will be working with the participant choice coordinators to give them both worlds where community services and client services connect and helping individuals of SDP. So, there's a lot of head for these individuals again. I hope I have good faith that they will learn quickly and be a good support to all of us. But again, this is all new to them as all of us so that's what we're at with a participant choice coordinator. I did share with them the directive on goods and services. I wish we had this you know way back but it's better late than ever, and so I've already kind of introduced them to this big piece and other things that we're talking about so hopefully I will connect them with the independent facilitators Dustlyne and hopefully Katie as well, because I know that they've been very helpful to us, and in navigating through self-determination. Another task that I'm going to have them look at is the individuals have enrolled in the orientation to see where they're at, and then maybe motivate the individual to have not finished the orientation to finish and they get some feedback. As to you know if that people decide to move forward with SDP, and those that do not kind of get a better understand as to why there are any challenges in that we need to be aware of so hopefully they can help promote self-determination. It's a lot right now. That we have planned for them, but training is going to be very critical, so I probably will be reaching out to anyone to help support us to help our staff so that's where we're at with them.

(R. Wood) Can I ask you? Well, it's not really a question but I want to make sure you guys everybody is aware of not necessarily concern of mine, but I know I hear some concerns out there. And that is this in case you haven't noticed. I'm an incrementalist meaning that I'm happier to work within the system and achieve small change in the progress one step at a time as opposed blowing up the system. and there are a lot of people who want to blow this system up. Maybe not



a lot. But there are some in there and they're quite vocal, and one of the things that I have heard a concern about is that participant choice coordinators or specialists are people that ought to be from outside of the regional center, because the theory goes if they're inside the regional center they're steeped in the traditional delivery of services and as we all know it requires paradigm shift. I'm not asking you to profile these folks, but what I am going to encourage them too not just be interested in what it is that they're going to be doing but to be creative and think outside the box because this paradigm shift just doesn't happen. You don't just come to work on a Monday, and all of a sudden you have it, but in order for them to be effective not just with the consumer and family, but also with other staff. I hope that they're going to feel empowered to experiment, and one of the things I'll end with this, which is one of the things that was so great about that pilot years ago. When we had no rules, we knew what we were doing, we would try things that had never been tried before. We didn't have all this stuff, we didn't have these directives that came out, but some of them failed, some of them were wrong, and some of them didn't make it into the new law. But it was a period I thought a really great creativity and that was the biggest fear of the pilot participants in going into self-determination, and that creativity and the opportunities that flow from that would no longer be there, and you know I don't have that fear. But I've always said it's going to be more structured, and it seems to me that if these guys really are given the authority to be creative that good stuff is going to come out. Once again, if we're lucky enough to have creative people, I see no reason why they couldn't be. I obviously wasn't involved in the hiring process. Once again, we might become a model for other regional centers. And so, I've just put that in my long-winded way, I just put that out. (M. Gates) I don't think we're the only regional center who's hired within from within and Dustlyne, thank you for your comment. I don't know rick if you saw Dustlyne comment in the chat. Yeah, but I absolutely agree there's going to be creativity, not only with the self-determination program, but I think we could use more of it in the traditional services too. So, I absolutely agree. (C. Pinal) I think that the other thing that I was discussing with the assistant director of Jennifer Rimer and Anna Leheny this morning was looking at writing out more person centered IPPs because looking at the way we used to write our IPP goals and objectives they were really seem very clinically based and very wordy. So, now we want to move into focusing on the abilities of the individuals vs. the disability. So, I think this is going to be a good chance for all of us. Not just the participant choice coordinators, the service coordinators that people in self-determination, but as a whole, even traditional services. How to write better person-centered IPPs. So, we had discussion this morning about I shared with them about what I'll be doing with the participant choice coordinators until they transition over to their new department but even myself, seeing where I've been the last year with self-determination, I think even myself, I became a little more creative, and looking at how we can move those services forward, and not just being stuck to meet a certain language or a certain diagnosis or something. We need to really look at how can we fit in something as like being able to be become more musically inclined? How does that have to do with gross motor and fine motor cognitive? They coordination between eye and hands and that kind of stuff. So, when I talk to service coordinators and program managers and I consult with them, I offer them another perspective that opens their mind. To seeing it a different way is just to focusing on a deficit. So, I think that the creativity is definitely something that we we're looking at. Think outside the box. Don't be just focus on a cedar deficit, or some kind of terminology. Really look at this beyond and really focus on the ability and the benefit of what this is going to do for the individual.

(K. Khuu) I'll go ahead so I've shared with the committee members earlier, but I'll share with everyone else. As of today's state, we have about 88 individuals enrolled in self-determination. We have about 99 individuals already, you know through the LMS Orientation. They've been

gold for the English portion We have about 49 individuals and put a Spanish portion about 12 people completed that process. We hope about like so had mentioned about a quarter of our individuals who are somewhere in the process That haven't fully completed it. So, we're actually had recommended. We want the choice specialist to reach out to follow up with the families to find out where some of the concerns and barriers for them to complete that process which is like we know the first step in moving forward and self-determined, but we are showing a steady progress in this area in the number of enrollments, so we hope to continue to see progress. (R. Wood) So, Christine I was curious about this. I think I know the answer, but I want to have you confirm it. The 99 that are in somewhere in the orientation process. I assume that those are 99 new people, in addition to the 88 or does that include the 88 that have already been through it? (K. Khuu) Oh no, this is 99 new members. I have to kind of probably break it down and see how many of our brand new, and some of them are part of the 88, so it could be a combination, but I would say more like a very small fraction, because the 88 was originally from this original selection process as well.

(M. Waters) So my report for year one as of today's date invoiced. Everybody's been invoice because we have to have invoices into accounting by this week is \$36,916 again, we were allocated 56,719, so we did not spend or fund all of our allocation funds. So, I do have a question for the committee, and it may need to think about it for year 2 funding. but I'll get to that in a minute. So, year 2 there's been no new invoices on year 2. Presently we're at \$14,655. So, with that being said, since we didn't spend all of our allocation funds for year one, I would like the committee to think about at what point in time because we spend year twos funding until March, the end of March of 2,023 I don't want to get to the point where we are now. I want to revisit. Do we need to do something else? Add another support system. So, I want to have like a timeline for the committee to think. Do we want to revisit this, say July, see where our members are, and then possibly introduce something else, and it can come from the IFs to that have the awards? Do they want to implement another support, that they were service, that they think again? They have recently implemented the one-to-one coaching, and also fast track capabilities which was not on the original proposal for year 2. So, I think we're going to see some increase in the funding allocation funds coming through as far as invoicing and reaching out to more individuals like Dustlyne said she's starting that IF intensive training so if that is successful, that would continue but I just want to put that out there and so the committee is thinking about things a couple months down the road. (R. Wood) Can we really do that? Can we revisit it? (M. Waters) Then I looked at the directive so, the directive says, let me see where it says. What once agreement has been made on the use of the funds, the LVAC and the regional center must jointly report and to tell them what the falling, what areas, then, it says changes can be made on an autoing basis as the needs of participants change. However, the use of funds must continue to remain in alignment with statute, and this guidance and decisions on any changes must be made collaboratively by the LVAC and regional center. (R. Wood) Yeah. but so, does that mean, do you? Do you interpret that to mean that? Those that have received encumbered funds when we're for funds have been encumbered simply could expand the scope or add new areas or can new can new persons who present stuff that is consistent with the parameters, or the rules that apply to how these funds are spent. I guess I'm trying to reconcile it with this whole idea that you have to encounter the funds for a and within a certain period of time. (M. Waters) I am a reading that as is the individuals that have been awarded the funds and they've encumbered can increase their scope of their proposal. This is directly from the directive date September 18, 2020, same verbiage on the new directive of February 11, 2022. Again, I could reach out to Tim Travis and make sure specifically whether or not it's the awardees that can expand their scope of how they're utilizing their services. I just don't want to run in to an issue we've got these funds maybe we should have introduced some

something else whether it's I know that the awardees have really been creative, and especially I know that first choice with going to the orientations for individuals that that don't have Internet access I mean they're really striving those individuals receive the support and services so it's a thought. (C. Rockwell) I have some insight on one of the barriers that happened with Cindy, and I with at least with our contract. I'm not really sure with regard to Katie but one of the areas, and it it's a big chunk of the money where we could have build, and in some cases, we actually did build, and we weren't able to be paid was. We were under the impression, and of course, in you know, Melanie did great research, and showed us how it was meant to be, but we were under the impression that if we provided to you to regional center the training opportunities that were kind of the learning circles. If you recall to inform families about the process of transition, and what the steps specifically were going to be. That was a lot more in-depth than the orientation that then it was incumbent upon the regional center. To then disperse that information to families. Well, what was happening was the flyer was being disperse to everyone, and it turns out we could only be paid for those that were part of that 2,500 people that were initially selected. So, we had no way of knowing who part of that original group of people was, and actually technically eligible. So, people were signing up, we were providing the trainings to, and then we went and compensated not compensated for that, because we were later told that they didn't actually qualify for those trainings We didn't have any control over who was advised of those trainings so my suggestion would be to either broaden well, and now we're not limited to the 2,500 it's probably irrelevant, but it was definitely a barrier. Cindy and I ended up limiting, we we stopped providing learning circles because we felt very out of control. That situation of providing work under this program. and then we weren't compensated because we didn't have any control over who attended, and we had no way to verify. And it's possible that maybe in hindsight now that I'm saying this, maybe we could have taken our list and verified who is eligible. But we didn't know that this was being we were not informed we that the people that were being invited were not all eligible. All automatically. we were under the impression that everybody that was invited was actually technically eligible for the learning circle. So, some of those funds went unused because the services were provided, but they were not able to be paid under the way. The contract was written in the way the information was disseminated to the to the consumers. This is not a complaint in any way, shape, or form. We were really excited and happy to be able to have done what we did. We learned a lot about what information and the questions that people had, and how to best present that. So that was all very good that came out of that but it's definitely something to consider going forward for the people that have contracts through RFPs in the future to be really clear. Who's being invited to trainings and make sure that they're eligible, so that those people providing those services are able to be paid. (R. Wood) So, Melanie. My question, then, based upon what I just heard, is for the funds that are available. The ones that 14,000 of which have been spent so far, the rollout was still going on, so I take it that well, I just don't know what the restrictions are going to be on expending those funds since the since the rollout period, the 3 years ended in June of 2020/21(M. Waters) What happened? Cindy was a duo in the year, one which was specifically only for those selected individuals and right what happened when the rollout came, then it was open for everybody and it was unfortunate I, because you know, Cindy is part of Dustlyne's group for year 2, which makes it different. But with Christina and Cindy as the duo they could only build in, could only get funding from year one. And unfortunately, DDS dictated who that could be used for right. And also, you know, I did my best and you know it's everybody. I was very I mean there was another provider originally, we did have Eliza Dyer, who also was an Awardee, and so she also did get consumers on that selected list. And then things happened, and she was no longer providing that support anymore. Katie Ramirez got the Spanish speaking individuals because she could serve them, and unfortunately it was just one of those

things, and I know that Christina and Cindy's some of their individuals wanted to wait until the full world I mean There was lots of things that happened. We did definitely learn a lot, but unfortunately, year one had that stipulation which KRC, you know, had to work within those restrictions. (C. Rockwell) Yeah, so part of the problem, the main problem with the learning circle and Weiss Indian ice decided to withhold continuing that service was because we didn't have any control over who was invited to that. And we know that until after we build and we're denied being able to be paid, we so we didn't know that the people that were coming were not part of that really roll out regional center. Was somebody at Regional. center whether it was it I don't know what happened once. it left Melanie's desk. I don't know if it just went out to everyone or If it went out to coordinators and the coordinators were supposed to only give it to people that were part of that early rollout, and they gave it to whoever I'm not really sure what happened there but that's just something to think about in future contracts where this specific issue shouldn't happen again, because, like Ellen, he said that you it's statewide. now it anybody and everybody. but it's just something in the back of our minds that if there is a limitation on who can attend a training to make sure that there is that process for vetting the attendees. (M. Waters) As far as first choice solutions they're update, you know, Dustlyne, to get the update on their new sessions that they're having, and I will provide that flyer for everybody so they can look over that. They have held 3 trainings and have had several registrations for each, but they had the actual attendees only made the third training. They've been working with Susan and Elva hart FRC. They're interested in coordinating more trainings for family and staff. They've been helping the service coordinators out of Bishop, Ridgecrest, and Bakersfield, with lots of questions regarding SDP. And they've been working with some IFs as well, they're going to have a workshop for certified budget which is scheduled for tomorrow and then planned the intensive IF training their team has helped transition 3 Spanish speaking one English. The pending is 2 Spanish speaking, 3 English no orientation requests this past month, but they do have one pending for client who lives in Benton and is scheduled for the next reporting period so that's first choice solution. Alli. They are working with 7 participants with the individual coaching services, so that looks like that's worked out. They just started that back again. 6 of the 7 have their PCP completed. 5 of the 7 have completed their individual budget meetings with KRC. They're all in the certification process but have not been certified as of yet. One of the 7 has the initial individual budget meeting schedule with KRC. Later this month, and one is beginning the process of the PCP. They are offering 2 STP workshops, 2 in Spanish 2 in English for the month of March, which they provided flyers for that, so they're both scheduled. March the fifteenth in the morning session for Spanish. In the afternoon session for English and march the 21<sup>st</sup> same, and that's all I have to report. (C. Cox) For your faith and All of us if's out there in the world that are trying hard to make the differences, you know, in the lives of people. I will say that one of the really good things that came out of year one was we really got to really meet and work with a lot of the service coordinators and program managers and really get to know them. And honestly, it's sometimes it just felt like you know we weren't sure who was leading, who because we're all working through this right so trying to figure out the best way to serve people. But you know in the end even though there's been some rough patches. My Gosh! think about the number of clients so we've made all of us collectively have made a difference in their lives right? The you know I have you know I had one lady who told me that just having somebody come in and change the sheets on her 26-year-old Sun's bed that she's had to change every day for her whole life you know on his full life, she said. It it's such a wonderful thing that this woman just comes in and right away. You know what I mean? Does that for her and so I never want to get caught up in the you know, sort of the half empty. I wanted this to be the half full so I'm looking forward to working with everybody again. And I do have to give a shout out to the brave service

coordinator, who I will not say her name, but she called me, and she whispered this to me. She said, I have a question, and I go. okay. What can I help you with? She said, can a parent be an FMS and I literally like no, no! And she said I didn't so I didn't think so but this parent said that they were told that they could be, and it was so funny, Rick, you would bring that up because I don't know where that's circulating but I said, I just you know reproduce it I'm still glad that you called, and so let me explain to you again. You know what the directive says, and all that. But she was so great you could tell She did want to ask, so I guess she felt like she could call me so. Anyway. but in the end, I don't want to I don't want to keep you guys hung up. I just want to thank you guys for all of your hard work.

(E. Roman) o my update is short the FMS crisis if you will we haven't received any more reports of any of our providers cart cutting additional services or completely shutting down business operations. So, I Guess at least we're kind of stable at this point. The good news is that we do have a vendor out of harbor regional center called Cambrian FMS that we are getting courtesy vendor with. us. we're in the process of doing that so we'll have another FMS provider in our area, and they are providing all 3 models of SDP. So so that's a good thing for our families so hopefully We can get some of those folks who have been dropped by others. Hooked up with this new company and see if we can get that going for them again. The other thing, Rick. I did send you that committee membership agreement, if you will, with the red line, I'm not sure if you got a chance to review it. More than likely it's probably not going to be discussed today, but just want to make sure that you got it. There wasn't a lot of change it was just kind of changing the no to a yes, basically, and a few sections of it they're working out the other ones. (M. Gates) That was just a follow up from the last meeting so the committee membership could be broadened up and not restrict IFs from being committee members. (R. Wood) I saw your email, but I haven't opened it, so I Want to have you know that you know it's just one of a whole bunch that never made it in it. Never, never got open yet today. but I try to keep up on those every day.

#### **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*
7. *KRC Updates (Khuu/Roman)*
  - a) *KRC SD Updates*
  - b) *General Updates*
  - c) *Non-pilot updates*
  - d) *Nominations for Committee*
8. *Topics for Next Meeting*
9. *Date of Next Meeting*
10. *Adjournment*

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

*April 25, 2022*

#### **10) Adjournment**

*Meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm M/S/C (Nico(M) Rick(S))*

DRAFT