



Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) Meeting Agenda

February 3, 2025

5:00 PM to 7:00PM

Teleconference via Zoom Webinar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87481900522?pwd=WGpEVnRUZ283UIhqGtPSIJLaE9Udz09>

Passcode: 062916

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

Webinar ID: 874 8190 0522

Passcode: 062916

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87481900522?pwd=WGpEVnRUZ283UIhqGtPSIJLaE9Udz09>

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in the meeting should contact Isis Rasmussen at (661) 873-4575 or email at isis.rasmussen@kernrc.org

AGENDA

1) Call to Order

2) Establish of Quorum:

- This means at one more than half of the committee members needs to be present for votes to occur. That means three committee members need to be present to vote, but the committee can discuss and solve problems without voting on anything.
- There are five members of this committee:
 - Sandra Van Scotter, chair (SCDD appointee)
 - Rick Wood, co-chair (SCDD appointee)
 - Erica Clark (OCRA representative, required by statute),
 - Norma Tuiasosopo (Family Resource Center representative- Exceptional Families Center, required by statute)
 - Lorie Stewart (SCDD appointee)
- If you are interested in serving, please contact KRC's Enrique Roman, Enrique.Roman@kernrc.org or SCDD's Yolanda Cruz, Yolanda.Cruz2@scdd.ca.gov to volunteer.

3) Additional Items: Discussion items can be added. Items added here cannot be voted on today.

You can also mention things you would like focused on at a future meeting.

4) Public Comment: Comments about items not on the agenda are welcome! If your concern/topic is on the agenda, please join the discussion and add your thoughts there, too.

5) Approval of Minutes for SDLVAC Meeting December 2, 2024, (Attachment 1)
and January 6, 2025, (Attachment 2)

Action

6) Status of SDP (Wood/ Van Scotter/ all)

- Updates on SDP at KRC and statewide Discussion
 - a. Celebrations (all)
 - b. Obstacles (all)
 - c. Directives (Wood/ Van Scotter/ all)
 - d. Statewide Committee updates (Wood/ Van Scotter)

7) KRC Updates Discussion

- a) Self-Determination Program Enrollment
- b) General Updates on the Self-Determination Program
- c) *Data request: Presentation and Discussion of the obstacles in the transition to SDP –*
 - I. SDP Enrollment summary (Participant Choice Specialists)
 - II. Orientation completions (demographic data: ethnicity, location, and language group)
 - III. Fifth year funding and next RFP

8) Topics for Next Meeting Discussion

- Members of the public – suggestions welcome

Upcoming meeting 2025 SDPLVAC meeting schedule:

February 3, 2025	March 3, 2025	April 7, 2025	May 5, 2025
June 2, 2025	July 7, 2025	August 4, 2025	September 8, 2025
October 6, 2025	November 3, 2025	December 1, 2025	

9) Adjournment

Attachment 1

Attachment 1

KERN REGIONAL CENTER SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

December 2, 2024

1. Meeting called to order by Sandra Van Scotter at 5:07 p.m.
2. Quorum Established. Present were Sandra Van Scotter, Rick Wood, Erica Clark, and Norma Tuiasosopo. Lori Stewart was absent.
3. Additional Items. None.
4. Public Comment. None.
5. Approval of Minutes of November 7, 2024, meeting. On motion to approve with one addition to correct spelling of Shannon Lueck's name, by Rick and seconded by Norma, the minutes as amended were unanimously approved.
6.
 - a. Celebrations. Enrique announced that Julio Romero is the newly-hired SDP Program Manager. KRC conducted service coordinator trainings on 11-21-24. Cindy Cox reported on the joint effort of her staff and KRC staff to resolve a termination of SSI issue for a participant. SSI was reinstated. Cindy also reported that one of her clients was called by the client's service coordinator to assist in enrolling in the SDP.
 - b. Obstacles. Sandra reported no obstacles other than general difficulties, but that SDP is life-changing.
 - c. Directives. No SDP directives. However, Enrique reported that trailer bill language includes changes to the Lanterman Act which may impact the SDP. More review required.
 - d. SSDAC Updates. Rick announced that SSDAC will hold a Town Hall on 12-04-24 from 10:30 to 1:30 to receive public input on the SDP including challenges and proposed solutions.
7. KRC Updates. Adriana Antonio presented SDP data, including 212 enrollees, to be attached to these minutes (Attachment A). Enrique made a presentation on KRC appeals through 11-30-24 including 8 which were related to SDP re: denial of services and supports. Four were resolved informally by unbiased KRC staff, and 4 were resolved in mediation by an administrative judge. None went to fair hearing. A slide deck is available for details (Attachment B). Note that this data captures only those in which appeals were filed. A discussion was held regarding barriers to filing an appeal, including fear of retribution. Yolanda Cruz stated that service coordinator training needs to include training on appeals and to remove the stigma/negativity attaching to filing an appeal. Cindy Cox stated that appeals are not filed because appeal process is not in plain language, families and participants are intimidated, and lack of transparency when appeals are denied. Enrique stated that the key is training and clients knowing their rights. Changes are coming. KRC does not see appeals as punitive. The appeals numbers do not capture what "the need" is and then attempt to resolve issues. Katie Ramirez

(Ally) stated that her organization trains the community on appeals steps. Enrique advised that a new appeals officer has been hired by KRC and a Chief Equity Officer. Also, a new Community Services Director, Lynn Clark, has been hired. KRC is recruiting for a Director of Compliance.

Melanie Waters provided an update on current SDP implementation funding awards spending to date by Ally and Community Integration Specialists. Copies of their reports to be attached to the minutes (Attachment C).

8. Topics for Next Meeting. Fifth year funding to be discussed. Rick will ask SSDAC staff to provide a list of implementation funding from other LVACs before the next meeting. Yolanda stated that DDS has awarded disparity implementation funds which often overlap with other LVAC funding; lack of coordination; we need to coordinate with other agencies because we do not know how those other funds are being spent. Rick advised that the most recent funding total is \$22M. Enrique stated that KRC will not issue give letters of recommendation to organizations which request letters without vetting the organizations. DDS has a link to disparities funding on its website.

ISIS advised that the Client Advisory Committee will resume its meetings at a date TBD.

Next meeting 01-06-25 at 5:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment. 6:58 p.m.

Attachment A

Attachment A

SDP Progress for KRC	24-Nov
SDP LMS Orientation Enrolled	407
LMS Completed: English	199
LMS Completed:Spanish	66
LMS Completed: English(ASL)	2
Enrolled in SDP	212

Attachment B

Attachment B



Kern Regional Center

Self-Determination Local Volunteer Advisory Committee

Appeals as of November 30, 2024

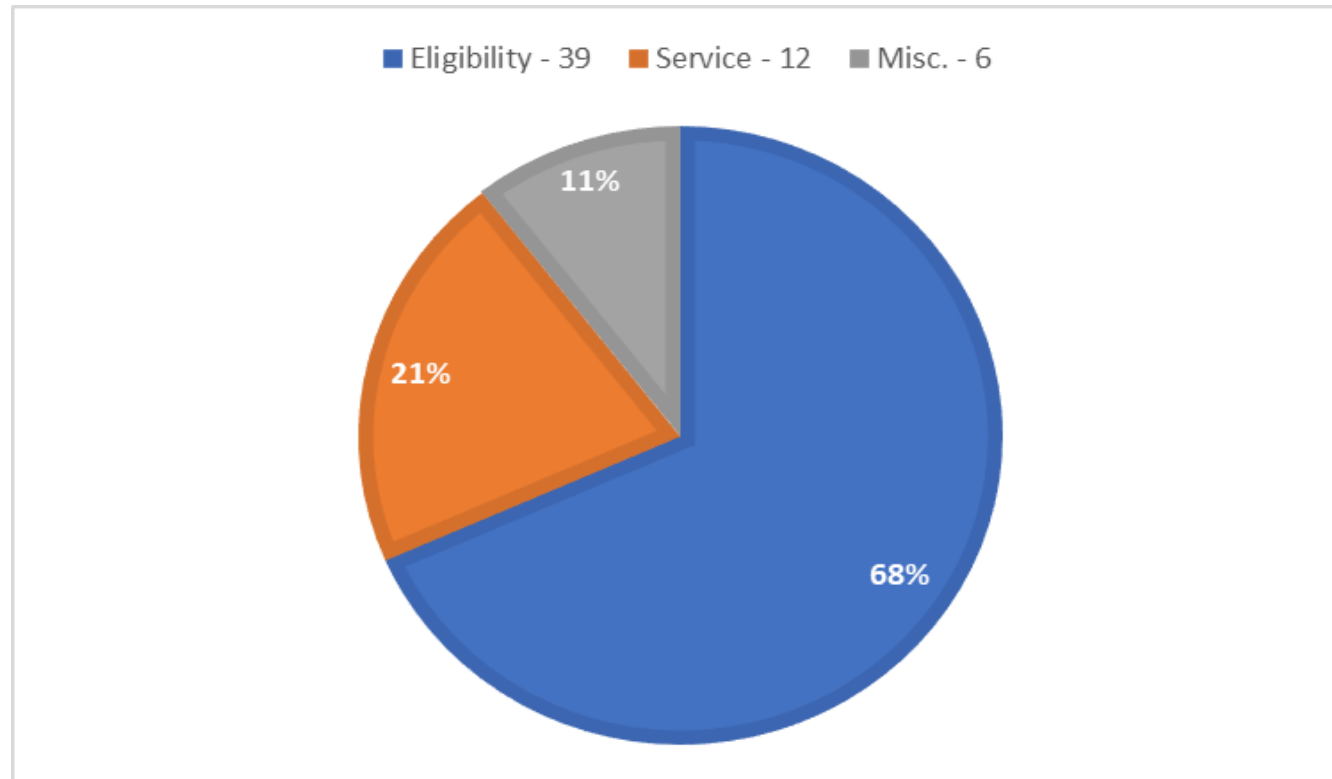
Presented: December 2, 2024

Total appeals at KRC

For the period between January 1, 2024 through November 30, 2024, KRC received a total of 57 appeals.

Appeals breakdown

These 57 appeals breakdown as follows,



Appeals: Clients in Self-Determination

Between January 1, 2024 and November 30, 2024, of the 57 appeals, eight (8; 14%) were appeals relating to clients in the Self Determination Program.

- ▶ All eight (8) appeals were concerning denial of service.

Appeal Resolution

Appeals can be resolved in one of three ways,

1. Informal meeting
2. Mediation
3. Fair Hearing

Of the eight (8) appeals,

- Four (4) were resolved at the informal level
- Four (4) were resolved at mediation

Thank You

Discussion/
Questions?

Attachment C

Attachment C



RFP 22/23 Report for November 2024

Community Integration Specialists- Cindy Cox

November 1st Transitions

-Inyo County- Participant 1 Native American (Total transition time 3 months)

December 1st Transitions

-Inyo County- Participant 2- Hispanic w/ parents bi-lingual and Participant 5- White (Total Transition time 4 months and 3 months)

Participants: Projected Transitions/**Jan. 1st** *Because of the holiday season, it is doubtful that any transitions will occur on Jan. 1st*

Participants: Projected Transitions/**Feb. 1st** (Unmet needs meeting scheduled, PCP's & Spending Plan being developed)

#3- Kern County- White

#4- Kern County- Hispanic w/parent bi-lingual

#6- Kern County/Ridgecrest- Non-White

#7- Kern County/Ridgecrest- White

#8- Kern County- Hispanic w/parents bi-lingual

#9- Kern County- White

#10- Kern County- White

#11- Inyo- Hispanic w/parent bi-lingual

#12- Inyo- Non-White w/ parents bi-lingual

New Referrals in November: 3 (We will begin working with them in Dec)

GOAL: 12 KRC clients into SDP- 100%+ of desired goal

6 Spanish Speaking KRC Clients- 67% desired goal (Parents are bi-lingual)

Good News & Challenges: 1) Transitions are not being slowed by FMS's right now. There is a bit more selection and so clients don't have to go with the "major hitters" and be put on a waiting list. 2) KRC is slowing down in regards to getting Certified Budgets completed and returned. Not sure where in the pipeline that is happening.

SDP Implementation Funding Report

FY 22/23 (Year 4)– November 2024

Total of invoices submitted to KRC's accounting department is as follows:

- **ALLY – \$33,572.50 (as of 11-26-24)**
 - Total awarded - \$51,524.99

- **Community Integration Specialists/CIS - \$9,837.50 (as of 11-26-24)**
 - Total awarded - \$26,500.00

Attachment 2

Attachment 2

KERN REGIONAL CENTER SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

January 6, 2025

1. Meeting called to order by Sandra Van Scotter at 5:04 p.m.
2. Quorum Established. Present were Sandra Van Scotter, Erica Clark, and Norma Tuiasosopo. Lori Stewart and Rick Wood were absent.
3. Additional Items. None.
4. Public Comment. None.
5. Sandar Van Scooter proposes to move the approval of minutes to February, to give member's more time to review the proposed minutes.
6.
 - a. Celebrations. Sandar Van Scooter celebrates the implantation of the new Individual Program Plan (IPP) as it is much more person centered. The new IPP should be available statewide January 21, 2025. Sandra hopes that the new IPP will introduce more individuals to the Self Determination Program. Sandra is very excited that it is shifting more towards a person-centered approach. Enrique would like to celebrate and introduce Julio Romero new Program Manager of the Self Determination Program unit. Julio Romero shares that Self Determination Program is interviewing for a lead service coordinator. Sandra celebrates the growth of the Consumer Advisory Committee, had amazing turnout in Bakersfield and Bishop. The next Consumer Advisory Committee is January 24, 2025. Enrique has a celebration, the department issued a directive in June 2024, to have Regional Center's input certain data for self-determination clients, incentives were attached to meet the deadline. Kern Regional Center was able to meet the August 31, 2024, deadline and was able to secure \$362,000.00, that would go towards operations. Cynthia Cox would like to celebrate that First Choice Solutions and Community Integration Services in renting out the Bishop Twin Theater and were able to have movie day for all our clients, families and providers in the area.
 - b. Obstacles. Sandra reported that the State Self-Determination Advisory Committee met last month with the new ombuds person her name is Marlene. Excited to have a designated ombuds person. At the end of 2023 the state SDAC hosted a town hall regarding FMS (Financial Management Services) as an area for growth and improvement. Changes are happening now to where FMS need to be certified they are looking for areas that can be streamlined. Sandra added to the chat the SDAC page where you can find the recordings of the previous meetings for the state self-determination advisory committee, <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac/>. Sandra also shared that DDS has a section for the new IPP, you can view previous recordings of presentations on the new IP as well as links to booklets (<https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/ipp/>).
 - c. Directives. There are 14 new directives two that were self-determination specific. One is the information Enrique shared earlier. The other directive is that FMS need to be paid weekly. A new SDP implementation funds directive for money to be spent by March 2027, the money received is based-on people served.

7. KRC Updates. Julio Romero presents SDP data, including 216 enrollees, to be attached to these minutes (attachment 2A). Enrique would like to share 188 individuals took the orientation in one month.

Melanie Waters provides an update on current SDP implementation funding awards spending to date by Ally and Community Integration Specialists. Copies of their reports to be attached to the minutes (attachment 2b).

Sandra asks Melanie about the next RFP and starting the process of a subcommittee, waiting to February for more committee members to be present and discuss.

Tomas Cubias provides update on video project subcommittee has agreed on content topics for the SDP videos. Currently working on a rough draft of script, subcommittee will meet to review and changes things as needed.

Enrique introduces Omelia Trigueros, is now the Director of Client Services. Omelia introduces Gabriela Rodriguez, Gabriela is the new Assistant Director for Transition.

Enrique introduces, Michael Cummings as Chief Equity Officer.

8. Topics for Next Meeting. Next RFP cycle to be discussed.

9. Adjournment. 5:56 p.m.

Attachment 2A

Attachment 2A

SDP Progress for KRC
SDP LMS Orientation Enrolled
LMS Completed: English
LMS Completed:Spanish
LMS Completed: English(ASL)
Enrolled in SDP

24-Nov 24-Dec.	
407	595
199	304
66	78
2	7
212	216

Attachment 2B

Attachment 2B



RFP 22/23 Report for December 2024

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December 1st Transitions

-Inyo County- Participant 2- Hispanic w/ parents bi-lingual and Participant 5- White (Total Transition time 4 months and 3 months)

January 1st Transitions

-Kern/Bakersfield- Participant 4- Hispanic 2/parent bilingual (Total Transition time 5 months)

Participants: Projected Transitions/**Jan. 1st** *Because of the holiday season, it is doubtful that any transitions will occur on Jan. 1st*

Participants: Projected Transitions/**Feb. 1st** (Unmet needs meeting scheduled, PCP's & Spending Plan being developed)

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