
NOV 19, 2014
COUNCIL MEETING
HANDOUTS

 **Chair Report** 

- Review Written Report
- **Additional Activities**
- Represented SCDD at the Self Determination Conference
- Attended California Committee on Employment for People with Disabilities
- Presented on Project Hope at the National Association on Developmental Disabilities & Mental Health

 **Visioning**

Who We Want to Be
&
Where do We Want to Go



 **Visioning** 

Questions

1. Three Recent Council Accomplishments
2. How can the Council establish it self as a model leader in California and through the nation?
3. What uniqueness can the Council bring to improving the California Developmental Disabilities System?
4. How does the Council want to improve and impact the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families in the next 10 years?

 **California SCDD** **Visioning** 

1. Three Recent Council Accomplishments

- Self Determination
- Employment First
- AB 1595
- Strong Relationship with California Legislators
- SAAC & SSAC
- Council Grants
- Regional Offices
- National Core Indicators

 **California SCDD** **Visioning** 

2. How can the Council establish it self as a model leader in California and through the nation?

- Stay true to the DD Act
- Be role models in the 3 main subject areas
- Transparency with AIDD, the public, and stakeholders
- Effective policies, procedures, and operational structures
- Next State Plan
- Outcome Measures
- Statewideness: so everyone receives the services
- Strong Advocacy: promote individuality and equality in the system

 **California SCDD** **Visioning** 

3. What uniqueness can the Council bring to improving the California Developmental Disabilities System?

- Oversight abilities and capabilities to identify problems and create innovative solutions
- Collaborate with other state / community organizations
- Discover and utilize the talents and knowledge of council members
- Be the "convener" with leadership/stakeholders on DD System sustainability
- Be a leader in self-advocacy



Visioning



4. How does the Council want to improve and impact the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families in the next 10 years?

- Give individuals with developmental disabilities independence.
- Implementation of SCDD laws and policies
- Discover mechanisms to push developmental disabilities policies forward
- Training and Education of the General Public
- Information Highway (statewide then local)

Report to AIDD: California State Council Activities

October 2014

<p>Goal 1</p>	<p>Individuals with developmental disabilities have the information, skills, opportunities and support to advocate for their rights and services and to achieve self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.</p>
<p>Supported Life Conference: "Proactive...Productive...Progressive" - a strand of sessions addressing AAC & Communication. Titles of sessions included: "Respectful AAC Support: Guidelines We use at CTEC;" "What Happened?"; "Help AAC Users Talk About Traumatic Situations;" and "Mentoring: The Road to Free Speech."</p>	
<p>Newsletter: As a follow-up to attending the Disability Organizing Network's "Election Summit 2014: Using Technology to Increase the Rural Disability Vote in September," staff developed and sent out a newsletter with voting information to an extensive email list, encouraging people with developmental disabilities to register and vote in the upcoming election.</p>	
<p>Self-Advocacy: Staff began planning the next regional self-advocacy meeting, developing an agenda, contacting presenters, securing meeting location, and creating a flyer.</p>	
<p>Abuse Prevention Training: Staff collaborated with a local regional center to promote presentations by Nora Baladerian, PH.D., which were attended by 40 self-advocates and others. Self-advocates talked openly about abuse, molestation, rape and sexual rights in a safe environment. Staff also provided support to self-advocates during a training session entitled, "How to Lower the Risk of Abuse by Creating a Plan for Yourself."</p>	
<p>Voting: Staff created a new PowerPoint presentation about voting for the 2014 election.</p>	
<p>Facilitation: Staff met with the local Board and SCDD SSAN representative to review the SSAN role and expectations.</p>	
<p>Self-Determination: Staff assisted self-advocates research and evaluate local vendor/agency services, to make an informed choice on available programs as they proceed with an individual, self-determined planning process.</p>	
<p>Facilitated Representation: Staff is assisting a self-advocate in arranging facilitation support to participate within a statewide advocacy organization.</p>	
<p>Training Facilitation: Staff provided facilitation to a self-advocate to develop a presentation for training on employment.</p>	
<p>SSAN Meeting: SCDD staffed SSAN Self-Determination Committee Meeting, preparing meeting materials, taking notes, and supporting members' participation.</p>	
<p>Facilitated Presentation: Staff provided facilitation for a local region's SCDD Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) representative, to support his SSAN presentation to the Shasta County Chapter of People First. The Rep presented the 2013-14 SSAN Annual Report and shared current projects to 15 self-advocates and 4 staff.</p>	
<p>Strategic Planning: Staff assisted the President of the Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County in leading the group through a strategic planning process.</p>	
<p>Self-Governance: Staff led team-building activities that focused on leadership qualities during a governance meeting, which can be taken back to participants' TRACE sites and repeated with classmates. The group also discussed two vacant officer positions and reviewed the upcoming election process. The group decided it would like to have a presentation on "Healthy Relationships" and the officers will be supported in coordinating details for that training.</p>	

Goal 1 (Cont.)	Individuals with developmental disabilities have the information, skills, opportunities and support to advocate for their rights and services and to achieve self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.
2015 Self-Advocacy Conference: A team of self-advocates and support staff has begun the planning process for the 2015 Self-Advocacy Conference. Committee members will meet monthly to plan, with a focus on health and wellness.	
Employment First: Staff provided technical support to the SSAN Employment First subcommittee meeting. This subcommittee has developed a game plan to make a presentation to the SCDD Employment First Committee, with a request to partner on this issue.	
People First: Officers meet at least once a month to address current issues relating to people with disabilities and plan for future activities, trainings and projects, while continually supported by staff in developing leadership skills.	
Preparation & Facilitation: Staff met with the SCDD rep to the SSAN group and the SSAN Chair to work on a report that the rep will give at the November meeting, reviewing the SSAN PowerPoint and report, practicing the presentation, and reviewing the role of leadership and the role of a rep on SCDD and SSAN.	
Legislation/Policy: Staff provided support to existing self-advocacy groups and information on legislation and public policy matters impacting adults with developmental disabilities.	
New Self-Advocacy Development: Staff assisted local self-advocates and agency reps to develop two new self-advocacy groups - a group in Santa Barbara County and a group in Ventura County.	
Training: Staff trained local self-advocacy groups about Individual Program Plans (IPP) and Self-Determination.	

Goal 2	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families become aware of their rights and receive the supports and services they are entitled to by law across the lifespan, including early intervention, transition into school, education, transition to adult life, adult services and supports, and senior services and supports.
Bilingual Services: Staff consulted with nine parent members of CHOC's Spanish Support Group on a variety of issues, involving community and educational services and issues.	
Fiesta Educativa: Staff participated on the Fiesta Educativa planning committee, as well as making yearly conference presentations, such as 'IHSS and SSI' ("Servicios Publicos y Recursos Comunitarios"). Presentations also covered educational rights and other services, such as assistive technology, futures planning, transition, language development, nutrition, immigration, etc.	
Autism Supports: Staff addressed IHSS Eligibility, Services, and Assessment in a workshop.	
Transition Planning/Information: Staff conducted a monthly Transition Committee meeting, reviewing the training to be offered in May, and planning future trainings in other locations throughout the local region. Staff is also working on developing a single site for all information related to transition on the Exceptional Family Resource Website, as well as planning a benefits training. Updates are provided at each meeting regarding the Promise Grant, the progress made in starting up, etc. Also, in February of 2015, the Transition Alliance will have another Conference in San Diego, so the committee would like to partner in this effort.	
Legal Rights Training: Staff facilitated two different 6-hour, 2-part parent and professional training on Conservatorship, Public Benefits, and Trust Planning by Michael Pearce, Special Needs Trust Attorney. Part 1 involved "Preparing for Age 18 & Transition to Adulthood" and "Conservatorships" (understanding conservatorships, 'Will my child need one?' alternatives to conservatorship, etc.) & "Public Benefits" (obtaining SSI & Medi-Cal benefits at age 18). Part 2 included "Trust Planning for Families with Special Needs," "Trust Planning Basics," and "Special Needs Trusts: Preserving Public Benefits for Your Child with Disabilities." Staff used an email list of over 700 individuals to market the event and posted on a Facebook page and website. Other agencies also shared the flyer, reaching an additional 5,000 individuals.	

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Due Process Training: Staff facilitated a 3-hour parent and professional training on “Understanding Special Education Due Process,” by Bob Varma, ALJ. Attendees learned to de-mystify the due process hearing and procedures and learned about common mistakes to avoid.	
Advocacy Requests: Staff received 64 calls for assistance with special education issues during this 1-month period. All inquiries were either answered by phone, email, or referred to other community agencies providing direct advocacy. All families were offered a list of community resources and invited to attend upcoming Special Education or Due Process training to increase knowledge and ability to advocate for their own families. Some were given or mailed additional printed materials and resources pertaining to a specific need. All families are encouraged to join our email list and visit our website for additional information. We have an extensive Links section on our website that families find useful.	
SSAN: Staff supported SSAN Self-Determination Committee Meeting and assisted Committee members in developing plan of action.	
Employment: Staff facilitated during a meeting for the Northwest Committee for Employment of People with Disabilities and completed an informational brochure to hand out during a community-wide meeting, in which a presentation regarding employment of people with disabilities was given.	
Special Education Training: Staff provided a 2-hour parent/professional training: “Introduction to Special Education Rights and Responsibilities and the IEP Process,” by Asa Standfelt, OCRA/DRC Attorney.	
Supported Life Conference: SCDD is a long-time participant in the Supported Life Conference, celebrating its 28 th year as a conference, and its staff has participated in planning meetings throughout the year, recruiting (at least) 3 session speakers and 1 vendor. This year’s conference, "Proactive – Productive - Progressive: Empowering All People with Developmental Disabilities to be Fully Included in the Community," included SCDD & DRC staff in collaboration on a session entitled "Preparing for your IPP." Staff had a vendor/information table, invited Tillie, the Therapy Dog, and handed out printed materials, sharing information and resources and encouraging individuals to sign up for our mailing list.	
Parent Empowerment/Assistance: Staff spoke with the parent of a child with high-risk special needs and referred her to Disability Rights California and Redwood Coast Regional Center for assistance with a violation of her child’s rights and ongoing issues regarding performance and health and safety concerns regarding a local vendor.	
Voting: Staff distributed ‘Ramp Up The Vote’ posters, bumper stickers, backpacks and wristbands at a local Harvest Festival. ‘Ramp Up the Vote’ is this year’s slogan to encourage folks with disabilities to go to the polls and vote. Approximately 200 pieces of information were obtained by providers who will share the material with self-advocates.	
Parent Training: Staff hosted a TASK presentation: "Reading and Writing: Tips and Tricks" for parents to help children develop reading and writing skills.	
Policy/Program Change: Staff reached out to solicit feedback from families about concerns regarding regional center eligibility issues and facilitated a meeting between parents and the local regional center executive director. This resulted in improvement recommendations for in the intake and eligibility process. As a result of feedback, this regional center revamped their eligibility process protocols for the intake psychologists and team to follow, which now includes the consistent use of the ADOS. Additionally, SARC will begin hosting intake orientations for families and making some changes to their website to allow for more transparency.	
Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff provided Lanterman Act and Rights training to families. • A self-advocate and SCDD staff gave training on self-determination at a local program. • Staff provided training to Autism Society Bay Housing conference on how to navigate the system of adult residential care. 	

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Health Resources: Staff assisted The Board Resource Center (BRC) to coordinate 2 focus groups in 2014 in order to design plain language materials to help people decide what care they want at the end of life. The BRC wants suggestions from people about user-friendly booklets and videos that can help patients express their own wishes. Access to this information is vital to making knowledgeable decisions regarding health and well-being, and health organizations appear to have an interest in delivering meaningful information to patients with limited or low literacy. These focus groups will focus on identifying user needs and preferences to facilitate informed decision-making about end-of-life options and to promote understanding.	
Annual Recognition Event: Staff participated in the planning/coordination of the 19th Annual Butte County Coordinating Council's Recognition Celebration, which recognized people who have had an impact on people with developmental disabilities or have improved the disability community through advocacy and guidance. 20 nominees received "People Who Make a Difference" awards, along with the Frank D. Lanterman "Outstanding Service" award. This year's recipient has worked with the Social Security Administration for 40 years, helping the disabled community, as did all of the nominees.	
Vendor Outreach: Staff presented about SCDD at a gathering in which local vendors were brought together to share services that each agency provides. The goal of the gathering was to share information so that we can all better serve those with disabilities.	
Community Outreach: Staff conducted outreach to parents and school staff and added 6 individuals to mail and email distribution lists.	
Inclusion Event: SCDD co-sponsored and assisted with organization for the 'Twenty-First Annual Inclusion Celebration,' with music provided by a self-advocate. Other event details were provided by students receiving special education services in a Visual Arts Program.	
Due Process Training: Staff requested and is facilitating two Special Education Due Process Trainings, given in Spanish (Conferencia Educativa Del Sur Del Condado), after identifying this as an unmet community need.	
Facilitated Elections: Staff assisted with People First elections at a monthly meeting and provided information on community events/workshops available to people on Self-Determination, new IHSS overtime rules, and Integrated Employment training ("A New Day for Day Services").	
Community Events: Staff attended a program's open house, staffed a resource table at a local Disability Awareness event and a local Fiesta Familiar de la Costa de Central, and arranged for Spanish translation.	
Focus Group: Staff convened a focus group to brainstorm/share ideas on questions posed by the SCDD Chair in regard to changes that SB 1595 will bring to local communities. The meeting opened with an overview of the SCDD, the DD Act, AIDD, and the recent MTARS Corrective Action Plan.	
Transition: Staff participated in and provided facilitation to a local Transition Task Force, where the team scheduled upcoming SELIT meetings and reviewed the results of the last SELIT meeting held locally. There was also discussion on increasing the number of agencies and school districts participating in task force meetings and the SELIT process.	
Self-Advocacy Conference: Staff was invited, as a Silver Sponsor, to present several breakout sessions at the 5th Annual Self-Advocacy Conference, with the opportunity to have table information about the Council, and BSG/CRA/VAS programs. Attendees included high school transitional students as well as adult clients, school/district staff, and staff from many local agencies and programs. Local Board member led a breakout session, "How to Sit on an Agency Board." Staff held a breakout session on "Self-Determination," using the Council's material, "A New Option! Self-Determination," an informational packet from SCDD's website. Staff was also asked to teach the cooking session again.	
Meeting Facilitation: Staff facilitated for the Interim Chair for an Executive Committee meeting and an MTARS meeting.	

Goal 2 (Cont.)	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families become aware of their rights and receive the supports and services they are entitled to by law across the lifespan, including early intervention, transition into school, education, transition to adult life, adult services and supports, and senior services and supports.
	IEP Clinics: Hold monthly IEP clinics for families of Kern County. Hearts Connection coordinates with parent attendees. Staff reviews students' current situations and concerns/issues. Parents are trained on how to advocate for their child(ren).
	Accessible Resource Fairs: Staff participates on a committee attending meetings and coordinating a local Health and Resource fair. The Fiesta Educativa is a day-long conference for Latino families with a child with a disability. Workshops are presented in Spanish or presented in English and translated into Spanish.
	IHSS Training: Staff provided a training - "IHSS Eligibility, Services, and Assessment" for family members at a local agency.
	Educational Rights Training: Staff provided local training on educational rights and responsibilities in collaboration with the local Family Resource Network.
	Community Advisory Committee: Staff represents SCDD on the USC UCEDD Community Advisory Committee, bringing up major changes in the health care delivery system and in regulations from CMS. As meeting participants were unaware of these changes, it was an opportunity to educate other leaders within the DD system. Staff has been asked to speak for a webinar. This is a collaborative activity, as our federal partners (UCEDDs, DRC and SCDD) sit on this board.
	Resource Fair: Staff participated in a local resource fair to talk to families and individuals and distribute written information regarding the Council.
	Parent Training: Staff coordinated the planning committee for a local Parent Training Conference. In addition, staff coordinated the health and resource fair, an event in which 34 organizations committed to participate, titled "Putting The Pieces Together." Workshops were offered on the topic of Adolescence and Sexuality, Safety, Advocating for Yourself, IEP Issues and How to Keep Balance in Your Life. The resource/exhibitor area included 32 agencies that shared information about their services and supports. The conference opened with "Advocating for Yourself," followed by breakout sessions.
	LRE Issues: Staff participated in a local SELPA community advisory meeting, attended by 12 CAC and public members. The meeting was a response to a unilateral County proposal to purchase an elementary school site in an outlying area, which would solve the District's transportation difficulties and constitute an isolative, restrictive environment for students receiving special education services. The team discussed the role of the CAC and reviewed pertinent sections of the CAC bylaws.
	Accessible Community Outreach: Staff participated in a free local community event in a low-income, diverse community. Over 1,000 people attended. SCDD, alongside DRC, had contact with over 350 people. The Self-Advocacy and SSAN rep (who speaks Spanish) handed out materials and talked to people in their own language. Staff also MC'd the event.
	Community Support Training: Staff made 2 presentations regarding community supports, given to self-advocates, family members and vendors (at the Abilities Exposition) and, later, to family advocates of children with autism spectrum disorders.
	Providing Information: Staff gathered information/resources about personal safety and legislative advocacy. The information will be shared with self-advocates, families, the SLS network, IHSS advisory committee and other vendors.
	Supported Life Participation: Staff attended the first day of the Supported Life Conference, attending 3 sessions: Changes to Supported Living and IHSS, Personal Safety, and Self-Determination Tools for Better, Safer Self-Advocates.

Goal 2 (Cont.)	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families become aware of their rights and receive the supports and services they are entitled to by law across the lifespan, including early intervention, transition into school, education, transition to adult life, adult services and supports, and senior services and supports.
<p>Disability Awareness: The local Mayor's Committee on Disability sponsored an Ability Awareness event to raise awareness of disability resources, offer information on available services, and provide the Mayor's staff the opportunity to issue a proclamation, designating it as 'Disability Awareness Day.' Additionally, the Mayor will elevate the committee to the status of an official Board for the City of San Diego. 25 different agencies attended the event and the proclamation was widely televised. As the committee representative, staff accepted the proclamation, was interviewed by television and newspaper staff, and had the opportunity to speak with the Chief of Police about First Responder Training offered through the SCDD grant.</p>	
<p>Fair Hearing training: Staff collaborated with DRC on training on the regional center fair hearing process. The Director of DRC's Office of Clients Rights Advocacy conducted the training, designed to empower individuals/families with the information necessary to understand their rights and effectively navigate the fair hearing process.</p>	

Goal 3	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families express the degree to which they are satisfied with their services and the extent to which they feel their needs are being met.
<p>Disability Collaborative: Staff attended a monthly meeting of the Disability Collaborative, reviewed the decision tree PowerPoint presentation on navigating the system of residential services, and discussed leadership development. In collaboration with Imagine Services, staff hosted a roundtable with providers to discuss infrastructure development for self-determination.</p>	
<p>Self-Determination: Staff distributed 170 Self-Determination Fact Sheets at a local Harvest Festival.</p>	
<p>SSAN: Staff assisted a SSAN member access a self-determination committee teleconference and provided technical assistance and an explanation of some portions of the PowerPoint presentation on which they are working.</p>	
<p>Quality Assurance: Staff completed Cycle 6 NCI training, with an ODESA launch date in October. The final webinar for the ODESA training will be held in November. QAP has assigned 107 interviews and mailed introductory letters and brochures so that surveys can start immediately, once training is complete.</p>	
<p>Self-Determination Advisory Committee: Staff has been recruiting, interviewing and selecting volunteers to serve on a regional center Self-Determination Advisory Committee, depending upon the size and logistics of the proposed Advisory Groups, as well as communicating with the community about next steps in launching Self-Determination.</p>	
<p>SSAN and Self-Determination: Staff provides technical support to the SSAN and its subcommittees, with the goal of the first meeting to work on an action plan to develop a PowerPoint presentation and give information regarding Self-Determination to SSAN members, who will then spread that information to local communities throughout the state.</p>	
<p>Facilitated Presentation: Staff collaborated with two self-advocates to give a Self-Determination presentation at the Supported Life Conference, which included an overview of recent legislation (SB 468) and discussion of its potential impact on individuals, families, service providers and regional centers.</p>	

Goal 4	Public safety agencies, other first responders and the justice system get information and assistance to be knowledgeable and aware of the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities so they can respond appropriately when individuals with developmental disabilities may have experienced abuse, neglect, sexual or financial exploitation or violation of legal or human rights.
<p>Psychiatric Emergency Response Team: Staff provides an information table at 4 resource fairs a year during the 3-day PERT Academy, which is offered to inform participants of services and supports that are available to people with disabilities. Articles regarding report-writing about people with disabilities and field response tips are distributed. Personal anecdotes, information about people who have a developmental disability and brochures about SCDD are also made available to participants.</p> <p>In one local region of California, there are 23 PERT teams, consisting of specially trained officers/deputies who are paired with licensed mental health professionals. Together, they respond to on-scene situations involving people with a mental health-related crisis, with the goal of providing a clinically appropriate resolution to the crisis by linking people to a level of care that is appropriate and least restrictive and to prevent involuntary hospitalizations and unnecessary incarcerations/detentions.</p> <p>PERT's primary purposes are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide clinical support to law enforcement and the community for calls involving persons having a mental health crisis via PERT teams • Provide education and training to law enforcement on issues related to mental health and mental health-related crises • Provide collaboration between law enforcement and the mental health system of care and mental health community. 	

Goal 5	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.
<p>Disability Rights Workshop: Staff co-chairs the Disability Rights Workshop, a collaborative consisting of community partners, in order to plan/present the 11th annual all-day event for older adults and people with disabilities, featuring speakers and workshops on personal emergency preparedness and safety.</p> <p>Cycle 37 grants: Staff conducted Emergency Preparedness trainings, raising local interest and awareness in the reality that California is earthquake country. Training provided a level of preparedness and the opportunity to practice drills, check supplies, etc. Staff also committed to notifying the public about the annual 'The Great California Shakeout' and distributed a recently published the <i>Earthquake Preparedness Guide for People with Disabilities and Other Access or Functional Needs</i>, which was developed by the Earthquake Country Alliance, to the regional office's distribution list.</p> <p>Disaster Preparedness Training: The Wellness Committee coordinated and implemented one of two trainings for self-advocates on the topic of disaster preparedness, which is divided into 4 sections. Presentations were provided by first responders and public utility companies. Feeling Safe, Being Safe materials created by DDS were reviewed and provided to all in attendance. The second Disaster Preparedness training is scheduled and outreach conducted via e-mail distribution lists and fliers distributed at meetings and events throughout the month. There are currently 67 people registered for the next event.</p>	

Goal 6	Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.
<p>Collaborative Partnerships: In training all special education educators and schools, SCDD staff and the Departments of Rehabilitation and Developmental Services (Regional Centers) collaborated to give an overview of agency services and eligibility, roles, financial responsibility, benefits to student/youth, and referral process. Staff discussed plans used when working with students and program participants (IPE, IEP/ITP, & IPP). The Council rep gave information to educators and answered questions about the Employment First Policy. After the panel, employees from all agencies conducted small group sessions to discuss 3 best practices/what's working, 3 challenges/blocks to collaboration, and 3 solutions.</p>	
<p>Outreach: Staff managed an information table at the "Transition Faire 2014: Learn about programs & services available to special needs students during and after high school: job training, post-secondary education, independent or assisted living, recreation and leisure information, vocational rehabilitation and much more!" Staff spoke with students and parents, explaining SCDD's role, giving handouts, signing up people for the email list receive information about future trainings/events.</p>	

Goal 7	Children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their families receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential.
<p>FAS Public Outreach: Staff, as part of the Partnership for Healthy Babies collaborative, participated in the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Public Awareness Campaign during the fall festival.</p>	
<p>STAR Conference: Staff helped to plan/implement the 7th annual STAR Conference, designed to educate parents on autism treatment, intervention strategies, therapies, advocacy and research. It included multiple presenters and workshops, as well as facilitated small group discussions. The conference also provided an opportunity for parents to meet local service providers and network with each other.</p>	

Goal 8	The State of California will adopt an Employment First policy which reflects inclusive and gainful employment as the preferred outcome for working age individuals with developmental disabilities.
<p>Vendor Training: Staff distributed information about training for service providers on transitioning from site-based to community-based services.</p>	
<p>Supported Life Presentation: Staff collaborated with 2 SCDD Employment First Committee members to give an Employment First presentation at the Supported Life Conference, which included the history and rationale for the Employment First Policy and best practices related to improving employment outcomes.</p>	

<p>Goal 9</p>	<p>Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.</p>
<p>Collaborative Networking: Staff attended mini-conferences and established connection with a local APSE Policy Coordinator and potential Policy Committee members for future collaboration on employment legislation and initiatives. Other interested parties included regional center staff and vendors.</p>	
<p>Cycle 37 Grant: Staff selected AMJaMB's Call Connection - Phase 2, to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build a customer base by community advertising, aimed at increasing the number of employed self-advocates from 6 to 10 employees within the first year. According to the 2010 census, 27.2% of the local population are people 65 years of age or older, which makes The Call Connection an attractive free service to people who may be aging and lonely. 2. Develop a mentorship program (JaMB'n) for high school students with local districts to support students with disabilities preparing for work in the community. The program will mentor adult students to develop a work ethic, explore employment options through The Call Connection, and access professional development opportunities. 	
<p>CECY Survey: SCDD disseminated the CECY online survey via Mailchimp and other email lists, reaching 3,575 people directly and 11,245 people indirectly. Additionally, staff reported that later batches of surveys reached over 20,000 people in the community. The survey has open-ended, multiple choice, and yes/no questions. Some examples of the questions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How important is it to you that your son or daughter begins college within one to two years of completing high school? • Has a teacher or counselor from your son or daughter's school worked with them to plan for their life after high school? • Is work a goal in your youth/young adult's Individual Program Plan (IPP) with the Regional Center? <p>The survey results will help CECY to create tools and materials to help young adults find services for going to college and getting a job. Please take our survey to help us increase choices for young adults. Click here to take the survey: (https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7DJPTGT)</p>	
<p>Employment First Training: Staff provided consultation and resources to a program regarding soft skills and staff training to implement Employment First</p>	
<p>Supported Life Presentation: Staff and SCDD's partners presented at the Supported Life Conference in a breakout session entitled "Creating A Place In The World," which highlighted collaborative projects and business enterprises that have provided employment for self-advocates. The Call Connection presented on their program and the number of self-advocates who are employed and earning a full minimum wage.</p>	
<p>Jobtoberfest: This event drew up to 1,200 people with disabilities, who attended workshops and spoke to employers about company job prospects. Staff provided information on the Limited Examination and Appointment Program (LEAP), which allows people with disabilities to apply for jobs with the state of California. Staff handed out brochures and provided computer access to demonstrate the on-line system, training on how to provide information to receive job opening notifications, and provided a list of jobs for LEAP-certified candidates.</p>	
<p>Employment Grant: With staff's support and collaboration with local agencies, Mendocino College received the <i>Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Paraprofessionals</i> grant.</p>	
<p>Workability: A high school student receives job coaching through the local school district and a wage through the Department of Rehabilitation Workability funding to work 2 hours per week, completing office tasks for staff.</p>	

Goal 9 (Cont.)	Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.
Community Conversation: Staff participated in the planning/coordination of the California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY) Community Conversation Project, requiring many conference calls, meetings and a Local (Event) Planning Team. Round table discussions will focus on diverse perspectives, new ideas, strategies and hiring incentives for individuals with disabilities.	
Video Outreach Project: Staff is coordinating a project with its collaborative partners to create a production of 3 short videos related to SSI and Work Incentives. The 3 (10-15 minute) videos will be in an interview style in both English and Spanish for youth, staff, and family advocates/parents. 3-5 self-advocates (and 3 support staff) with video production skills through program training will be producing these videos and paid minimum wage for the work.	
Employment First Outreach: Staff distributed 170 Employment First Policy Information Sheets at a local Harvest Festival.	
Regional Employment Strategies: Staff recently planned/implemented a regional Community Conversation on employment and strategic planning sessions for 2 local DD Councils. As a result, participants decided to prioritize an increase in employment opportunities collaborate on the formation of an Employment Committee, with concrete goals resulting in meaningful regional outcomes.	

Goal 10	Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.
Cultural Diversity: Staff, on behalf of the Mental Health Advisory Board, invited the community to attend quarterly Cultural Diversity Committee meetings, which will address specific topics focused on a culture celebrated during each month and will assist staff in reaching out to diverse and underserved populations. Cultural differences that may have affected access to health care services will be discussed. Participants will gain knowledge and awareness of local health resources, SCDD assets, and how staff may assess needs and assist; staff will benefit by gaining information about cultural traditions and reducing the stigma associated with cultural myths/stereotypes.	
Denti-Cal Workshop: Staff hosted a 1-hour Denti-Cal Workshop with DRC to learn about the program and its services, anesthesia /hospital dentistry and who needs it, and to ask questions and share dentistry service access problems for people of any age with a disability. There is a crisis in Northern California regarding access to hospital locations willing to allow dentists to provide anesthesia-based dental care. This workshop gave families the opportunity to learn about the current service void, share stories with legislators, politicians, and decision-makers, provide public input to change policies, and increase access to vital services.	
Accessible Managed Care: Staff attended a local advisory meeting to learn about the new managed care pilot programs and educate staff about the needs of people with intellectual disabilities, as their informational materials are not easy to understand and do not clearly identify the distinction between initiatives that target different populations.	
SB 855: Staff facilitated a local meeting of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Committee and reviewed legislative (FLSA) updates regarding SB 855 and upcoming In-Home Care changes. The State will be mailing informational notices, new timesheets, and other forms to IHSS recipients and providers, all of which must be returned by early December, to avoid jeopardizing service eligibility once new laws go into effect. The community is concerned about the overwhelming amount of paperwork required with the FLSA changes and the fact that recipients with DD may not be able to manage the new information and/or forms. Training recommendations for those who need assistance were transmitted to the IHSS/PA SB855 work group.	

Goal 10 (Cont.)	Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.
<p>Rural Managed Care: Due to concerns about the rollout of Rural Expansion Managed Care in 28 counties in northern California, staff held 2 meetings with local service providers, advocacy agencies, medical providers, and health care plans. The health care plans agreed to underwrite a community education event and underwrote event costs. Staff and agencies spread marketed the event via email lists, websites, and Facebook, and mailed hundreds of flyers. Flyers were also given to recipients of Meals-on-Wheels. The local regional center mailed the flyer to self-advocates in several counties who are receive straight Medi-Cal and Managed Care Workshops for seniors and people with disabilities were held locally.</p>	
<p>Homeless Youth - Service Gaps: Staff toured a local facility for Bullying Prevention Month and was asked for support against bullying. Statics gathered by staff of the homeless shelter showed that 17% of the clients served have developmental disabilities and are without a home and resources, with nowhere to go. The program is now facing the impact of closure, seeing more homeless youth without housing, food and jobs, some of whom have multiple (physical, developmental, &/or psychiatric) disabilities, many of whom were (formerly) referred for services and received counseling at a now-closed homeless shelter. Staff now participates on the Mental Health Advisory Council, Housing sub-committee, and the multi-agency Children's Council that addresses accessible housing needs.</p>	
<p>Managed Care Outreach: Staff participated in the 3rd of 3 outreach forums in rural California counties as a member of the Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN). Topics included: What is Managed Care? What are your rights? How will it work for you? These forums are for people with disabilities (including people with developmental disabilities) and seniors who have Medi-Cal only, their caregivers and service providers.</p>	
<p>Specialized Dental Services: Staff is continuing to work closely with regional centers and people impacted by recent termination of hospital dentistry services due to low Medi-Cal reimbursements. Given the serious impact this issue has on regional center clients, a California senator convened 3 work groups to address major concerns that hospitals and surgery centers have about providing such services, the most significant of which has been lack of adequate reimbursement for hospital facility and operating room fees for the people represented by SCDD. The hospital has agreed to an extension of closure dates (12/31/14), pending significant progress toward obtaining rate increases, as well as revisions to hospital dental protocols.</p> <p>Staff is collaborating and has developed a document to gather stories of children and adults with disabilities who require this specialized level of dental care, and will be share anecdotal data with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and other government and private agencies working to improve access to care for those who need specialized dental care.</p>	
<p>Informed Consent: Staff organized local stakeholders to ways to ensure that people with disabilities receiving end-of-life care have the opportunity to provide informed consent for treatment. The group discussed how to 1) create accessible materials, 2) better educate self-advocates, families and health care providers, 3) encourage individuals to complete Advance Directives, etc. The group identified best practices and will proactively and collaboratively implement them going forward, in order to ensure that individual rights are respected and improve coordination during crisis.</p>	

Goal 11	Individuals with developmental disabilities have access to affordable and accessible housing that provides control, choice and flexibility regarding where and with whom they live.
Housing Outreach: Staff distributed 170 Home Ownership Resource Guides (developed through Cycle 35 Grant) at a local Harvest Festival.	
Service Referrals: Staff provided referrals to Legal Aid for assistance accessing services for 1) a homeless self-advocate just released from jail, and 2) the parent of a young child, all of whom are homeless and do not currently receive regional center services, and provided basic information regarding eligibility and referrals.	
Community Collaboration: Staff facilitated a meeting and discussion between a local regional center and SLS vendors, providing ideas for progressive housing options and planning for an upcoming health and safety event.	
Housing Development: Staff participates on a local Mental Health Housing Committee that initiated legislation to free up housing funds held by the state of California. In 2 months, \$1.3 million will be released from a state holding company. The planned project will then go out to bid and the eligible bidder will provide a half match. This is a long process and may take 2-3 years to complete. The funds may only pay for 1-2 accessible units (on the coast and inland), for which there will be a heavy demand. There are insufficient funds for a rural area, the wait list is long, and clients with disabilities become discouraged and depressed. Staff has worked with a self-advocate who does not want to live in a rural group home, with few opportunities to go to town or visit friends and family.	
Accessible Health Services: Staff participates in a collaborative, multi-agency effort and, as a result, local programs have become stronger and have produced new services to assist people to become more independent and get needed health services to address drug abuse and depression. This partnership is helping clients with developmental disabilities lead healthy, more productive lives.	

Goal 12	Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.
In collaboration with partners and a family member, staff is exploring integrated housing in a local county for self-advocates and others who need/want services that an assisted living community provides but may not, in fact, meet the qualifying requirements for service in such a setting in their own area(s), due to age, medical needs, etc.	

Goal 13	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.
Transportation Accessibility: Staff participated in meetings to improve quality of and access to transportation.	
Resource Lists: Staff attended a local transportation committee meeting, discussing a multi-pronged approach to improving accessible information about transportation in this area, considering resources such as 211, vendor presentations, one-page resource lists, grant opportunities, etc.	
Coalition Ballot Measure: Staff facilitated a local county Regional Center Transportation group, provided information about a potential transportation-related ballot measure, as well as updates regarding a local service provider and activities of a transportation coalition.	
Training: Staff participated in the Paratransit Riders' Coalition teleconference and continued discussion on the need for uniform training for reservation issues among subcontractors.	
Community Update: Staff attended several committee meetings with the local regional center to address recent legislative changes and discuss the shift in Council direction and focus.	
Staff facilitated for a self-advocate at a local transportation advisory committee meeting to support full participation in voting for new transit routes and extended times in various areas of the local county.	

Goal 13 (Cont.)	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.
<p>Multi-Service Accessibility: Staff attended the Mayor's Committee on Disability monthly meeting to 1) review accessibility issues throughout city's recreation centers, parks, playgrounds, etc, 2) discuss employment barriers for people with disabilities, 3) provide information and guidance when improvements are made to city facilities, 4) review plans for expansion of trolley lines regarding stops, 5) Polara installations, etc. This committee has numerous oversight and accessibility-related responsibilities and there is currently a lack of accessible, local public transportation options for people to spontaneously attend events and activities.</p>	
<p>Integrated Recreation: Staff met with the new local executive director of a national level organization to explore grant-writing opportunities and other collaborative/support opportunities to develop integrated recreation programs for people with developmental disabilities. The local agency has equipment, adjustable basketball hoops, games, and mats that can be used with funds to run a free/low cost program, which would present a perfect opportunity to make improve access to recreate and socialize locally in an area in which there are few options – especially during bad weather. Local agencies currently serving youth with disabilities do not extend those programs to people over the age of 18, further limiting opportunities.</p>	
<p>Coordinated Regional Plan: As a key stakeholder in transportation issues for people with disabilities, older adults, and people with limited incomes, staff provided input toward updating the area's Coordinated Plan for Public Transit and Human Service Transportation. Staff also issued an action alert to our constituency so the public could provide insight and input to identify service gaps and/or barriers, strategize on appropriate solutions to meet needs based on local factors, and prioritize inclusion needs within individualized plans, in addition to building capacity and initiating systems change.</p>	

Goal 14	Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families
<p>Public Information: Staff drafted/distributed e-newsletters (#35 and #36) to 1,318 subscribers. Topics included information regarding a Senate hearing on the future of regional center services; new federal regulations that will enhance community inclusion; a report citing the need for more mental health crisis response training for law enforcement personnel; the Council's effort to gather stories about lack of access to specialized dental care; a new study showing that hiring people with IDD is good for business; and the recent Social Security monthly payment increase.</p>	
<p>Inclusive Child Care: The local county Child Care Planning Council (CCPC) is concerned about an announced decrease and redistribution of the Afterschool Technical Assistance and leadership funds to the local region and contacted the Department of Education to request that funds be reinstated. This funding loss has the potential of completely eliminating the high quality technical assistance, support, and training that after-school staff receives within the local rural region. It is important that child care providers have the training to be supportive and knowledgeable about children with developmental disabilities and the increase in children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, so that these children (who often struggle with difficult behaviors) are able to fully participate in inclusive after-school programs.</p>	
<p>Legislation: Staff and the local Board took action on the federal ABLA bill, California's draft CMS Transition Plan, and provided input to the Senate Human Services Committee hearing on the Lanterman Act.</p>	
<p>Governor's Task Force: Staff met with local members of the Governor's Task Force to discuss the crisis in supported living services funding, residential services, and the funding of services in general. The group also discussed strategies to inform DDS and the Governor's administration about the cost of delivering services exceeding the ability for providers to offer appropriate care.</p>	

Goal 14 (Cont.)	Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families
<p>Social Media Outreach/Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff sent out emails educating the community about important legal changes and programs impacting/serving people with developmental disabilities. • Staff issued an eBlast through the community distribution list, which included an article regarding “The Best and Worst Cities for People with Disabilities,” by WalletHub and KPPC. A local California city ranked 11th across the country. • Staff issued an eBlast with an electronic survey for the California Employment Consortium for Youth and Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (CECY). • Staff issued an eBlast with an article by Michelle Diament (Disability Scoop), entitled "Feds Warn Schools on Bullying of Kids with Disabilities," and provided a link to the US Department of Education's letter to educators on federal law to stop bullying. • Staff eMailed a new article regarding the upcoming White House Disability Summit to promote regular physical activity and healthy eating habits of individuals with disabilities. A recent CDC study found adults with disabilities are inactive, putting them at greater risk for adverse health conditions. Information was sent to family and self-advocates and professionals. • Staff posted an article on Facebook and Linked-In about a study outlining the business benefits of hiring people with disabilities (Daily Beast) and posted a link on FB to special education training by Wrightslaw. 	
<p>Website Updates: Staff maintains a website, which highlights relevant news and legislative updates, and frequently updates the extensive section with links to resources that may be helpful to improving the lives of families with children and adults with disabilities throughout the local catchment area and the state. In October, 35 new resources were posted to the website and posts were made in the following areas: employment (7), self-advocacy (2), developmental disabilities (8), conferences/trainings (3), housing (1), health (9), legislation/budget/voting (5).</p>	
<p>Collaborative Networking: Staff frequently posts flyers and information forwarded from other agencies which, in turn, post our flyers on request. These reciprocal marketing efforts have created a local environment of support and collaboration among agencies serving people with disabilities.</p>	
<p>Film Festival: Staff sponsors and volunteers for the FOCUS Film Festival, which is a project of the local regional center and features narrative and documentary films that explore the human experience and celebrate diversity and inclusion. The overall vision of the festival is that of building a community that embraces diversity, not as difference, but as a blend of varied and valuable contributions. Featuring a variety of topics focused on human dignity and understanding diversity, the FOCUS Film Festival is showcasing such themes as developmental disabilities, education, and other complex issues.</p>	

Goal 15	Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to information and resources in ways that reflect their language and cultural preferences.
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Questions/Issues of Concern

**Region
1**

- **Employment:** The employment rate for individuals in the Humboldt/Del Norte area is very low. Public education on the benefits of hiring persons with disabilities is necessary.
- **Staff Training:** Staff of local agencies offering respite/support to individuals with disabilities is not being properly trained, which can jeopardize the health and well-being of the individual they are serving.
- **Transportation:** Public transportation has been and continues to be a challenge in rural areas: service times and limited routes limit opportunities for community participation for people who must rely on public transportation service. Accessing services becomes an issue because there is no bus service available in remote areas.
- **Mental Health:** Crisis services are not available in all areas of the counties in which we serve. Many clients have to be sent out of county for treatment, away from their families. Youth services are desperately trying to create wraparound services for youth, including housing options.
- **Language Accessibility:** Ensuring that each activity has translators and that materials are translated is an ongoing issue.
- **Cultural Diversity:** Native American families living on reservations are often very isolated. Staff must go where they are in order to educate and inform them of available services. Native American communities are frequently closed and staff must do extensive relationship development in order to gain access to families. Transportation and providing accessible information to families are both major issues in serving the Latino community.
- **Transition:** There is a lack of employers and/or paid positions in the community for our students
- **Post-Secondary Options:** There is a mismatch between student skills and post-high school goals and expectations (e.g. community college, 4-year university, or early graduation) –there is a push for entering a 4-year college straight out of high school for many, but it is not a good fit for all self-advocates.
- **At-Risk Substance Abuse:** Region One is in a wine-growing area - in addition to being within a region that produces marijuana. There is often a misperception that drugs and alcohol are not a problem and small amounts or moderate use will not negatively impact a fetus when, in fact, there is "no safe time, no safe amount" when pregnant.
- **Health Care Changes:** Many recipients with developmental disabilities will need assistance to complete and understand upcoming health care changes. All correspondence to recipients and care providers must be written in accessible, plain language. It must also identify the need to complete new paperwork to avoid a loss in benefits. Help is available, but people must seek it.
- **Affordable Housing:** The biggest barriers to housing are drug/alcohol abuse, physical/psychiatric/developmental disabilities, chronic health conditions, and HIV/AIDS. Permanent housing and/or apartments are typically not affordable and/or accessible. Government funding is limited and it is a daunting process to attempt to access government dollars.
- **Housing barriers:** Destigmatization education regarding people with psychiatric disabilities is important for landlords and the general community. For Transitional Age Youth (TAY), transitioning from a more restrictive environment to an apartment is challenging because it is difficult to find landlords willing to rent to them.
- **Homeless safety:** Receiving 3 misdemeanor citations for sleeping on private property is now converting to a felony charge. One of the program sites providing assistance to clients we serve is in jeopardy. There are a variety of groups who do not want the homeless in the community, especially in shopping centers and business areas where the homeless are typically found. There are more NIMBY proponents in our community than there are advocates for homeless shelters.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Options: Funding (especially for housing clients with mental health needs) has been frozen for a year in California. Access to funding often requires legislation. Long wait lists for accessible housing forces clients to move to other counties and away from families and support systems. Although we are depopulating the Developmental Centers, clients already living in the community have few housing options and long wait lists. Finding housing or getting permits to develop/build has been a huge barrier because of the NIMBY stance in the coast and inland areas. There are few housing purchase or renovation options. Neighbors and businesses do not want such housing in their own neighborhoods, which creates opposition that increases the length of the development process. The location of housing is often not optimal for people with disabilities as sites may be too far from existing services and no transportation is available to access community services. • Recreation: Overlooked populations, when talking about inclusive environments, are children and adults with developmental disabilities who want recreational opportunities. Community focus has been on developing recreational programs for youth and adults, but it has focused more on ethnicity issues, gang diversion and expansion of existing recreation programs. Transportation to get around is also a big issue on weekends and evenings. The cost for using services at the local center is too high for people with a disability. Even the nonprofit rate is too expensive. The former Executive Director was not responding to requests to develop a more economically inclusive program and that administrative support is critical.
<p style="text-align: center;">Region 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Services: AMJaMB - The Call Connection was expected to receive numerous referrals from local regional center service coordinators, but the idea was so new that it has taken time to build credibility. It did not come automatically which is, of course, what we had hoped for – now, in looking back, it was not a reasonable expectation. Building the program has been a challenge. • Employment Opportunities: Creating innovative employment opportunities requires collaboration and a strong business approach. The leadership of the local regional center and vendor community need to work together to create opportunities through available funding sources. Education and awareness remains a barrier in the hiring of people with developmental disabilities. Mobility, dependability, respectability and responsibility remain the issues that employers need to be educated about and be made of resources to support them in the hiring practices. • Transition: Improving employment and post-secondary opportunities for youth with disabilities is a priority in California's communities. Barriers include education, resources awareness, and opportunities. • Outreach: Reaching community members in rural counties is challenging, despite excessive marketing. Information dissemination remains a barrier as people often do not respond to changes until they have problems accessing services, such as health care. • Disappearing Services: Medi-Cal reimbursements are very low and there are no providers willing to lose that much money, so services are becoming extinct. This is a system issue around rates and access.
<p style="text-align: center;">Region 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Advocacy: There is a tremendous need for parent training and support. Family advocates often call several days before an IEP (or on their way to one) and want an advocate to answer immediate questions or even attend the meeting with them. Many parents seek someone who can go with them to IEP meetings to provide direct, hands-on assistance in advocating for their child. Special Education laws are overwhelming to many parents - especially when negotiations with a school district and the IEP process become difficult and the child's needs are not being met. Based on the number of calls received monthly, we know that there continues to be a great unmet demand for 1:1 parent support. Since staff is no longer providing individual or direct advocacy, we are providing parents with training so that they can advocate for their own children effectively. • Supported Life Conference: The percentage of self-advocates to professionals at this

	<p>conference has changed over the years. More professionals used to attend, funded by agencies and programs. Since agency rates have been reduced over the years, it is difficult for agencies to pay staff registration fees to attend conferences and training. New staff learned a great deal at this conference, which they then applied in working with clients. More than half of attendees are now self-advocates, which is good, but it changes the focus of the conference and sessions, some of which are targeted to professionals/staff/parents and others to self-advocates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialized Dentistry: Denti-Cal has become a very serious issue for northern California. A major hospital-based dental service is closing and will no longer allow dentists to provide preventive and comprehensive dental care to children and adults with developmental disabilities within that hospital setting • Managed Care: The transition to Managed Care in 28 counties may still catch elders and people with disabilities unprepared. If they do not select a plan, they will be defaulted into a plan and notified by the default health plan of that coverage, creating much confusion in the coming months.
<p>Region 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Training: Several family members have stated that fair hearing trainings are needed locally and should be held in the evening, when working parents can attend. • Self-Determination: Much more training is needed for individuals and family members to understand the differences between Self-Determination and traditional service delivery. • Employment Barriers: Based on questions, following a presentation, it is clear that many regions of the state do not have adequate resources to assist people to find and maintain community-based employment (e.g. supported employment agencies that understand how to successfully support people with customized employment needs). Many people are "stuck" in segregated day programs and there are many major barriers to employment that exist - lack of coordination between bureaucracies (e.g. regional centers and school districts), lack of adequate resources, insufficient employer engagement, etc. • End-of-Life Transition/Care: It has been difficult to get individuals and families to actively engage in discussions regarding end-of-life care, which will require some creative approaches to increase community engagement.
<p>Region 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment First: Getting the word out across the state on Employment First and finding ways to do this is a challenge. • Special Education: Lack of understanding by the public on how special education laws are administered and how the IEP process works is an ongoing issue. • Unmet Needs: Regional centers' failure to acknowledge and provide for a child's needed mobility devices to allow more full access to the community is creating a barrier. • Education Barriers: Long transportation times, a lack of classroom space projected for the near future, and a lack of funding necessary to even maintain the current system prevents access to a free, appropriate public education (FAPE).
<p>Region 7</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemic Challenges: Navigation of a complex service system remains a significant barrier to people. • Least Restrictive Environments: School districts tend to funnel students in special education from preschool to SDC kindergarten without truly adhering to LRE. • Advocacy Requests: As a result of contacts made through the Fiesta resource fair in Salinas, staff received 5 phone calls from families requesting assistance with services from providers and regional center. • Needs Assessment: The community has identified 3 needs - how to navigate' the system,' developing/accessing a service directory, and developing leadership among individuals and families to best know how to make systems change. • Service Costs: With an increase in minimum wage, overtime payments, and paid sick leave, the Affordable Health Care Act is driving the cost of services up. Supported living and residential care are hit hard because of inadequate reimbursement rates. • With the passage of 1595, the changing identity and role of local Area Boards are both being

	discussed in community.
Region 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Advocacy Supports: State funding cuts have left self-advocacy support groups without staff supports they need to be successful. The barrier that we face in supporting groups is that there is uneven support to become more effective.
Region 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Advocacy Requests: The barriers we face in supporting the public is that there are not enough advocacy agencies dedicated to serving this population. Every caller asks for direct representation at a meeting or hearing. We get up to 27 requests like this a week. • Accessibility: Not all groups have access to the internet and/or have English as their primary language.
Region 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Care Information Accessibility: MediConnect and the Coordinated Care Initiative are very complicated for people to understand and the existing informational materials are not very user-friendly. • Self-Determination: There is uncertainty about the implementation timeline for the Initiative. Some regional centers are less than enthusiastic about the project and are conveying perceived drawbacks to their community. Many of the barriers and disputes associated with the implementation of this new initiative could be avoided if families and consumers were able to spend funds allocated for services without first having to get approval from the local regional center. • Health Care Progress: Staff needs to reach out to more senior managers, in regard to health care changes, to be heard by those in a position to act. • Transportation: Since the local paratransit system does not have centralized reservations, it is a challenge to create uniform training and the opportunity to access all subcontractors. Making this a contractual requirement with Access Services may become be a long-term solution. • Service Reduction and Restoration: The Senate Human Services Committee has recommended injecting additional funds into the DD system for increased provider rates and for regional center operations but has said nothing about restoring services that have been suspended or reduced.
Region 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUD Housing Availability: California has limited shelter housing and people may be on HUD affordable housing wait lists for years. This is especially difficult for people with developmental disabilities who have not yet gained regional center eligibility and associated services. • Alternative Housing Options: Many self-advocates currently living in the community with aging parents have few alternatives outside of skilled nursing facilities once family members are no longer able to directly provide residential placement and care. Staff is exploring - with community partners - the possibility of housing options housing with integrated, on-site medical care for people who are not eligible for available local living arrangements, as self-advocates may benefit and flourish in an integrated service setting.
Region 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Advocacy Leadership: With the start of a new school year and schedule changes, officers are having a hard time getting together to plan the next committee meeting. • Accessible Curriculum: Some students have limited reading skills and materials need to be adapted to be accessible to everyone. Many school districts discriminate against minority groups - families where English is a second language and families have low income. • Service Delays: Referral for behavior intervention services had to be processed (applied and denied) through private insurance before the local regional center would consider funding, even though the program is vendorized through the regional center. • Regional Center: Caseloads are currently too large, which impacts service coordinators' abilities to know and understand client needs and return phone calls in a timely manner. New service coordinators receive minimal training or time to learn about community resources to help clients, and some don't have a foundational understanding of developmental disabilities and the impact on an individual, as well as an entire family system. The local regional center also develops and implements ('guidelines') policies that are imposed as if law, which means

that clients do not always get timely or necessary levels of service.

- **In-Home Support Services:** Caseloads are too high. Many social workers don't have a good understanding of developmental disabilities. Social workers are overwhelmed with caseloads, which causes many to be rude, and unresponsive to clients & families. Some social workers don't know or understand the In-Home Support Service policies/rules, so they aren't aware of what is considered allowable and what is not allowable. This situation may worsen with implementation of the new overtime rules, social workers will be required to do more monitoring with already overwhelming workloads.
- **Supported Life Conference:** For some participants, the cost to attend this event is prohibitive.
- **Language/Service Accessibility:** We do not currently have Spanish-speaking staff. The use of translators and other professionals to overcome a language barrier within the Spanish-speaking community requires some creativity and more funding. Getting information out to families is difficult, as most agencies lack the ability/money to advertise and rely on local resource fairs to spread awareness. Many families in this area are low-income or minority group members and lack internet access or are not fluent in English and don't know how to solicit necessary assistance.
- **Travel Restrictions:** Staff is not always able to attend planning meetings, which makes some aspects challenging.
- **Parent Outreach:** Due to geography, it is sometimes difficult to connect to parents in remote areas. As a result of a conference and the community connections made at next year's conference is planned, there should be a larger group of parents –both as part of the planning and in attendance at the event.
- **QA Issues:**
 1. Launch of ODESA not in alignment with ODESA training which delays the ability to start interviews.
 2. Lack of flexibility with training dates.
 3. Rigidity in data collection process.
 4. Seasoned, experienced interviewers were not consulted as to the data collection procedures thus the continued rigidity in the process.
 5. Some of the material presented was presented in a manner that was difficult for some to understand.
- There is an ongoing lack of accessible public transportation throughout this region. Barriers to implementation of a local transportation service include the lack of individual providers willing to provide their own personal and/or accessible vehicles (e.g. no tie-downs, etc.), the inability to secure passengers, insurance issues, etc. A local program is trying to cultivate resources, but has had poor community response. For families that own these types of vehicles, there is no interest in providing such services, as many of them are exhausted from their days.

SCDD Collaborative Partners

211	City of San Andreas
7th Street Centre for the Arts Program	City of San Diego
Abilities United	City of San Jose
Able/Disabled	Clovis Unified Special Ed Director
Access Paratransit	College of the Redwoods
Autism Comprehensive Educational Services (ASES)	College of the Redwoods - Daily Living Skills Classes
Achieve Schools	Communication Technology Education Center
Alameda and Contra Costa DD Councils	Consolidated Tribal Health
Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center	County of Nevada
Allen, Shea and Associates	Crisis Intervention Team
Alta California Regional Center	Crumpton School
AMJaMB Agency (Call Connection)	Daily Beast
Ampla Health Center	Dayle McIntosh Center for Independent Living
Anaheim Community Center	Deaf Community Services
Anthem Blue Cross,	Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
Arbor	Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)
ARC	Department of Social Services (DSS)
Arc - Imperial Valley	Disability Help Center
Arc - San Diego	Disability Organizing (CA Independent Living Centers)
Area 1 Agency on Aging	Disability Rights California (DRC)
Area 4 Agency on Aging	Disability Scoop
AT&T	Down Syndrome Association
Autism Comprehensive Educational Services	East County Special Education Local Plan Area
Becoming Independent	Easter Seals - Applied Behavioral Analysis Therapy Program
Behavioral Health & Wellness Center	El Dorado County Office of Education
Board Resource Center	El Dorado County Transition Team
Boys and Girls Club	El Dorado Savings Bank
California Employment Consortium for Youth and Young Adults with IDD (CECY)	El Dorado Union High School District
California Health and Wellness	Eureka Unified School District
California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA)	Exceptional Family Resource Center
California State Senate	Exceptional Parents Unlimited
California State University - Chico Office of Diversity and Inclusion	Facebook
California Vocations, Inc.	Family Resource Centers
CalOptima	Family Resource Network of Stockton
Canine Companions for Independence	FamilySoup FRC
Carlsbad Fire Department	Far Northern Regional Center
Carol Sun Center	Far Northern Regional Center Clients
Center for the Blind	Fiesta Educativa
Central Valley Regional Center	Fiesta Familiar de la Costa de Central
Ceres SELPA	First 5 of Amador
Chapa De Indian Health Care	FREED Center for Independent Living
Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC)	Friends of Children with Special Needs
	George Kelso Foundation
	Glenn County Office of Education

Golden Gate Regional Center
 Greater Opportunities
 Grossmont Union High School District
 H.E.A.R.T.S Connection - Bakersfield CA
 Health & Human Services
 Health and Wellness
 Health Care Options
 Hospice Foundation of America
 Housing Choices
 Human Services Research Institute (HSRI)
 Humboldt Community Access and Resource Center -
 Bay Center
 Humboldt County Department of Health and Human
 Services/Public Authority
 Humboldt County Office of Education
 Humboldt State University
 I Can Center
 Imagine
 Imperial Valley People First
 Imperial Valley SELPA
 Independent Living Services of Northern California
 Inland Regional Center
 Kings County Mental Health
 L.A. Care Regional Advisory Committee
 Legal Aid
 Living Spinal
 Local Office of Education
 Mains'I Services Inc.
 Making Headways Center for Brain Injury Recovery
 Manzanita Health and Recovery Services
 Maximus Healthcare Options
 Mendocino Child Care Planning Council
 Mendocino Coast & Hospitality Wellness Center
 Mendocino College
 Mendocino County Foundation Grant
 Mental Health Advisory Committee
 Mental Health Advisory Council ad hoc Housing
 Committee
 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)
 Michael Pearce, Special Needs Attorney
 Modesto SELPA
 Momma Y Yo
 Monterey Bay Provider Network
 Monterey County Office of Education
 MORE Rehabilitation Program
 My Medi-Cal Choice for Healthy Care
 National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
 Neilson Construction
 Nevada Sierra

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
 North Bay Regional Center
 Northstar Services
 Oak Grove School District
 Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH)
 Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy
 Orange County Social Services
 Pajaro Unified School District
 Palo Alto Unified School District
 Paratransit Riders' Coalition
 Parents Advocating Together
 Parents Helping Parents
 Passages - Area Agency on Aging
 Patterson SELPA
 People First
 People First San Luis Obispo
 People First Santa Barbara
 People First Santa Maria
 People First Ventura County
 PERT Academy
 PG&E
 Ponderosa High School
 Poway Unified School District
 Progressive Employment Concepts
 Public Authority
 Ray Morgan Company
 Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation
 Redwood Children's Services
 Redwood Coast Regional Center
 Redwood Coast Regional Center Advocate
 Regional Center of Orange County
 Regional In-Home Supportive Services
 Resources for Independence - Central Valley
 Rowell PTI
 Rural Education Institute
 Sacramento District Dental Association
 San Andreas Regional Center
 San Diego Committee on Employment for People with
 Disabilities (SDCEPD)
 San Diego Gas & Electric
 San Diego People First
 San Diego Regional Center
 San Diego Regional Center Health and Wellness
 Committee
 San Diego State Interwork Institute
 San Diego Unified School District
 San Francisco Bay Area Autism Society
 San Jose Unified School District
 Santa Cruz City High School District

Self-Advocacy Council 6
Sierra Family Medical Clinic
SoCal APSE
Social Security Administration
Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee
(SSTAC)
Special Olympics
SSAN
St. Madeline
Stanislaus SELPA
Stanislaus Transit
Summer House, Inc.
Supported Life Institute
Supported Living Roundtable
Sutter Medical Center
Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK)
TERI behavior program
The Peg Taylor Center
Thomas Faletti
Tri-County Independent Living
Trinity Change
UCD Mind Institute
UCD Mind Institute - Transition Project
UCEDD
United Cerebral Palsy
United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater
Sacramento
University of California San Francisco
Urban Skills Center
UVAH Programs
Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC)
VMRC vendors
Warmline FRC
Western Sierra Medical Center
Wrightslaw
Yolo County Office of Education

CRA / VAS

State Developmental Center Clients' Rights Advocacy and Volunteer Advocacy Services

Population

As of November 1, 2014

Fairview 304
 Canyon Springs 51
 Lanterman 11
 Sonoma 426
 Porterville 380

Canyon Springs

CRA investigated rights violations, assisted individuals with filing Writs of Habeas Corpus. Attended 4 transition planning meetings. Advocacy training provided to 26 residents on voting information and community placement. Toured potential volunteer advocates. Recruited 2 new advocates.

Sonoma

CRA worked with consultants on Program Improvement Plan. Multiple rights presentation provided in last 2 months. VAS provided 3 clients' rights presentations to 26 residents. VAS advocates worked with team on community transition, systemic desensitization for transportation, and self advocacy. Acute admission unit is under construction for 5 ACA individuals.



(L-R) Laurie St. Pierre CRA & Gail Skvirsky-Bohn VAS Fairview Developmental Center

Laurie St. Pierre, CRA, has worked in the field of developmental disabilities since 1978. She has a BS in Special Education/Elementary Education from University of Maryland and a MSW in Social Work from Catholic University. When she lived back east, she taught special education for a few years, was a Case Manager for PSI Associates in Washington, DC and for the Prince William County Services Board. When she moved to California in 1987, she worked at the Regional Center of Orange County for 8 ½ years as a Service Coordinator, Program Evaluator and Resource Developer. After leaving RCOC, she started her own business providing such services as consultation and training to the vendor community and development of new programs through RFPs. In 1998 she began working at the State Council

Porterville

CRA attended 8 human rights meetings, 8 IPPs, 1 bio-ethics meetings, 2 People First/human rights meetings, 6 meetings for PIP process. CRA reviewed 80 human rights packets; attended incident action meetings daily; provided rights trainings to 12 new employees. VAS coordinator worked with RC to deflect DC admission.

Lanterman

LDC projects closure for beginning of December 2014. CRA attended: 26 transition meetings, 9 IPP in the community plus HRC, Behavior services, Quality Management, Executive Committee. CRA is working with DDS consultant, Del Marva. Two VAS advocates serve on the project. Recent systemic issues: LDC staff representing various disciplines in Transition meetings are unfamiliar with client history. Also, new/unknown staff working with remaining clients cannot provide insight into the client for cross-training with future community providers. Community care provider using a "blanket consent" for all medical interventions instead of obtaining written informed consent for each. Also provider not communicating with ID team (including conservator and volunteer advocate) about health status changes. Thorough discussion was held at client meeting and follow-up email sent by Coordinator to ID team members for clarity.

on Developmental Disabilities, coordinating the Life Quality Assessment Program until she became the Clients' Rights Advocate at Fairview in 2010.

Gail Skvirsky-Bohn, VAS Coordinator, began her social work career when she earned her Bachelor's of Science degree in Sociology from Boston University. After graduation she worked at the District Court of Springfield Massachusetts. Her worked side-by-side with court professionals helping people with disabilities. Gail left her employment with the court to pursue full-time aspirations of working directly with people with disabilities. This led her to a position as a psychiatric case manager for the Mental Health Association. Gail moved to Southern California securing a position at the Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC) as a Benefits Coordinator. During her time at RCOC, Gail attended California State University Long Beach where she earned a Master's Degree in Psychology, that helped her attain the position of Senior Program Coordinator. For 17 years while at RCOC, Gail worked supporting



consumers and their families as she coordinated services in a variety of settings. In 1985, she began working with consumers who resided in state Development Centers. One of Gail's many responsibilities was completing

assessments to determine level of care, service provision, and legal documentation as required. Gail left RCOC in 1997, and began working for a national service provider, Res-Care. Her primary responsibilities was developing consumer's IPPs and training staff in the implementation of consumer's program. She assisted in the downsizing of a large residential facility and the opening of several ICFDD-H and ICFDD-N facilities. In 1998, Gail did consulting, QMRP and facility administrative functions for numerous ICFDD-H facilities throughout Southern California. After three-years of consulting, Gail began working for SCDD in 2001, as the Volunteer Advocacy Coordinator at Fairview DC in Costa Mesa CA. Gail has worked with consumers in assorted roles including the Clients' Rights Advocate. Currently, Gail continues to provide advocacy for FDC consumers as the Volunteer Advocacy Services Coordinator.

Designing SCDD Future



1. Please write down three recent Council accomplishments.

2. How can the Council establish itself as a model leader in California and throughout the Nation?

3. What uniqueness can the Council bring to improving the California Developmental Disabilities System?

4. How does the Council want to improve and impact the lives of people with disabilities and their family in the next 10 years?

-
- We are here to ask the State Council to engage in the critical issue of ensuring the sustainability of community services and supports.
 - The community's network of services and supports for people with intellectual disabilities is in serious trouble.
 - Community organizations dedicated to creating and providing employment preparation, job placement and support services for people are losing their capabilities to provide services.
 - The State's failure to establish a rational reimbursement system has starved community resources for more than 20 Years.
 - Young professionals with great skills and capabilities are leaving the field at high rates and we cannot replace them with equally talented people.
 - People coming in to the field do not have the education and skills to provide good services and organizations have lost capacity to train them up and provide solid supervision and support.
 - People who need the best and most comprehensive service to succeed are being the most negatively impacted.
 - People who need access to good services are being denied access because services are not expanding to meet their needs.
 - There have been Hearings, Auditor's Reports, Taskforces, Proposals, Litigation and Legislation.
 - Everything but Action
 - Immediate Action needed is the 10% Rate Increase to prevent further erosion.
 - Major Policy Action Needed is Implementation of an economically rational reimbursement system

Costs of Things Then and Now

	1990	2014	%
Cost of a Big Mac	\$2.25	\$4.25	<u>89</u>
Cost of a loaf of bread	\$0.70	\$2.19	<u>312</u>
Cost of a gallon of gas	\$1.16	\$3.29	<u>284</u>
Cost of a gallon of milk	\$2.78	\$4.69	<u>169</u>
Cost of a dozen Eggs	\$1.00	\$3.99	<u>399</u>
Cost of 6.5 hours of integrated community employment training and support:	\$59.13	\$68.83	<u>12</u>

SSI increases over the years 1990 to 2014 = 62.9%

Social Security Cost-Of-Living Adjustments

Year	COLA	Year	COLA	Year	COLA
1975	8.0	1990	5.4	2005	4.1
1976	6.4	1991	3.7	2006	3.3
1977	5.9	1992	3.0	2007	2.3
1978	6.5	1993	2.6	2008	5.8
1979	9.9	1994	2.8	2009	0.0
1980	14.3	1995	2.6	2010	0.0
1981	11.2	1996	2.9	2011	3.6
1982	7.4	1997	2.1	2012	1.7
1983	3.5	1998	1.3	2013	1.5
1984	3.5	1999 ^a	2.5	2014	1.7
1985	3.1	2000	3.5		
1986	1.3	2001	2.6		
1987	4.2	2002	1.4		
1988	4.0	2003	2.1		
1989	4.7	2004	2.7		

^a The COLA for December 1999 was originally determined as 2.4 percent based on CPIs published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Pursuant to Public Law 106-554, however, this COLA is effectively now 2.5 percent.

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES - FACT SHEET
 UPDATED BY THE CALIFORNIA DISABILITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION (formerly CRA)
COMMUNITY REIMBURSEMENT FOR SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

The table below is based on a DDS publication through 2000/2001, the current figures are based on DDS rate publications after that period.

The following table compares funding adjustments and Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases. "Gap" is a rate adjustment based on the historic allowable costs for service providers as submitted to the Department every two years, with highest allowable rate set at 80% of the highest submitted rate. "Min. wage" indicates a pass through for mandated minimum wage increases to those rates set at minimum wage.

Starting in 2004/2005 employment programs previously run by the Department of Rehabilitation have moved to the Department of Developmental Services these programs have been added to the table.

Fiscal Year ¹	Day Program	Residential	In-Home Respite	Supported Living ²	Supported Employment ³	Work Activity Program	CPI ⁴
1987/88	0	0	0	not applicable	0	0	4.20%
1988/89	0	0	0	not applicable	0	0	4.90%
1989/90	0	0	0	not applicable	0	0	5.00%
1990/91	0	0	0	not applicable	0	0	5.30%
1991/92	Gap	0	0	not applicable	0	0	3.60%
1992/93	0	0	0	not applicable	0	Gap	3.20%
1993/94	0	0	0	not applicable	0	0	1.80%
1994/95	0	0	0	not applicable	0	Gap funded less 12% Reduction in Rate	1.70%
1995/96	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.40%
1996/97	Min. wage	Min. wage +3%	0	0	0	Gap	2.30%
1997/98	Min. wage	Min. wage +3%	Min. wage	0	0	0	2.90%
1998/99	Gap	12.30%	Gap	5%	0	0	2.50%
1999/00	0	12.80%	0	0	0	0	3.00%
2000/01	Wage/ benefits 10% Admin 5%	3%	Wage/ benefits 10% Admin 5%	Wage/ benefits 10% Admin 5%	3%	Wage/ benefits 1.6%	3.30%

Fiscal Year ¹	Day Program	Residential	In-Home Respite	Supported Living ²	Supported Employment ³	Work Activity Program	CPI ⁴
2001/02	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.50%
2002/03	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.40%
2003/04	0	0	0	0	2.5% reduction in rate	5% Reduction in Rate	3.50%
2004/05	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.60%
2005/06	0	0	0	0	0	0	2%
2006/07	3%*	3%*	3%*	3%	24%	3%*	2.1%
2007/08	Min. wage	Min. wage	Min. wage	0	0	0	2.5%
2008/09	0	0	0	0	-10%	0	3.7%
2009/10* thru 2011	(-)3%	(-)3%	(-)3%	(-)3%	-10%	-3%	
2009/10	(-)3%	(-)3%	(-)3%	(-)3%	-10%	-3%	1.0%
2010/11	-4.25%	-4.25%	-4.25%	-4.25%	-10%	-4.25%	2.0%
2011/12	-4.25%	-4.25%	-4.25%	-4.25%	-10%	-4.25%	2.8%
2012-13	-1.25	-1.25	-1.25	-1.25%	-10%	-1.25%	1.7%
2013-14	rate restored to 2008 level	-10%	rate restored to 2008 level	2.4%			
Totals	10 -13%	37%	10 -13%	7-10%	19.5%	-0.4%	73.2% CPI

Footnotes:

1. The current formal freeze started in FY 2002/03

2. Regulations for Supported Living Service were promulgated in 1995

3. Cost neutral restructuring of rate occurred in FY 1998/99, SE rates are a flat rate paid regardless of location.

4 Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

*In 2006, selected programs in some categories were eligible for an additional 3.86% rate increase to raise staff wages.

**References to minimum wage involve increases to some programs only to raise minimum wage to staff below the threshold

How Service Providers are Impacted by Inadequate Reimbursements

So far 25 agencies have replied to the informal survey emailed out.

Respondents serve approximately 10,000 consumers.
They are located from Redwood City to Orange County.
Here are the challenges they face:

- 1 Unacceptably high turnover: (25% to 50% annual turnover)
- 2 Compromising on staff qualifications to fill vacancies:
- 3 Experiencing 30 day+ vacancies in multiple key positions:
- 4 Unable to accept appropriate referrals due to insufficient well-trained staff and support systems. (employment and behavior services)
- 5 Have been unable to respond to local regional center requests to expand services to meet consumer needs
- 6 Have closed or downsized programs due to financial conditions (rates)
- 7 Are currently considering closing or downsizing programs due to level of reimbursements
- 8 Experiencing a growing dependence of insecure revenue streams (fundraising) to meet core payroll and operating expenses
- 9 A variety of other impacts.

State Plan Committee Report.

October 27, 2014.

Initially, I had planned on asking the full Council their opinions on a few specific issues. Honoring keeping committee reports short, the following indicates for you our general status at this point:

1. The Committee is working on the next State Plan. We included the timeline for developing the next plan in the packet.
2. As part of developing the next State Plan, community meetings will need to be held from January through April. Staff is preparing a Master Calendar for the community meetings.
3. Councilmembers agree that there should be at least one Councilmember at each community meeting held to get feedback from the community.
4. Also, we will develop a short, plain language survey to collect additional information.
5. Council agrees that it will be ok to ask Regional Centers and Developmental Centers to send to their clients the survey.
6. Also, staff is reviewing the current plan with ITACC to identify how it can be brought into compliance with the DD Act and reduce redundancies or overlapping goals.

If you have ideas to add to the discussion (which I, almost, request), please attend the December meeting, email, or call me directly.

Nancy L. Clyde

November 15, 2014



**Councilmember Kecia Weller Report
On the Health and Human Services Secretary Diana Dooley
Developmental Services Task Force**

On October 8, 2014 I had the pleasure of representing the State Council on Developmental Disabilities at Secretary Diana Dooley's Developmental Services Task Force, which discussed ways of making the community services stronger.

Many different community representatives engaged in a robust conversation with the Secretary. We discussed:

- The future of services
- Service rates
- Sustainability of the service system
- Regional centers
- Employment
- Higher education opportunities
- Medical, dental, and mental health services
- Housing, and
- Ensuring safety

During the conversation, I advocated the following:

- Regional Center IPPs are important, because it's where the dreams are made. Because of this, case load ratios are important. 100 or more is too high.
- Self-advocates are scared of losing cash benefits when seeking employment.
- We need whole person assessment in Regional Centers. Having a medical office inside a Regional Center is good. Can the Crisis Support Team for mental health be a model for Regional Centers?
- There needs to be a safe way to protect from abuse in housing.

The next steps are that the Secretary's staff will take the information and meet again soon. We appreciate Secretary's Dooley's leadership.



Report by David Forderer to SCDD

The SSAN Report was sent in your packets-it tells about all the work the SSAN did last year. I hope you all enjoyed reading it!

Please turn to page 25- I would like to highlight SSAN plans for the future:

SSAN Plans for the Future

- **Communication** – Identify ways to facilitate members' communication between SSAN meetings with each other, and members' communication with their regions. One idea that is being explored is publishing a SSAN newsletter.
- **Legislative Advocacy** –SCDD has provided valuable legislative information and action alerts to SSAN. SSAN would like to engage in more legislative advocacy and expand the distribution of legislative information and alerts.
- **Continue to develop training** – SSAN is developing training materials about Employment First and Self Determination. SSAN would like to continually develop updated training materials. SSAN would like to contribute to the work of SCDD's Employment First Committee by providing trainings to self advocates about EFC's mission and accomplishments.
- **Networking** - Continue networking within SSAN, and network outside of SSAN with other agencies.

SSAN would like to request the opportunity to give a brief presentation to SCDD at the January meeting if that is ok. SSAN wants to share the work they are doing with SCDD on Employment First and Self Determination.

SSAN's next meeting is in Sacramento- December 15 & 16, 2014.

Questions? Thank you!