



# STATE PLAN ACTIVITIES

## FEBRUARY 2016

## Emerging Issues

- Educating parents in alternatives to conservatorship preserves the rights of the family member. Court appointed conservatorships can be very costly and timely.
- There continues to be widespread issues and concerns from families trying to obtain appropriate special education services for their children. Parents continue to request assistance regarding the IEP. Advocacy and support for families is needed. The laws are extensive and complicated and most family members are unable to comprehend the entire law and be able to advocate for themselves. Few other agencies provide this support. We encourage them to contact other agencies who can provide some level of support and we continue to contact other community agencies to learn about resources for families.
- The EFMP Outreach Coordinator reported that they serve a caseload of approximately 2,500 people with developmental and medical disabilities. They have 10 case workers and due to the large number of families enrolled and the geographic spread of where these people are located, most contact is done by email or phone only (at minimum a quarterly phone call). She acknowledges that many families need more support and they are trying to develop collaborations, such as this one, to help families access the services they desperately need.
- Districts continue to avoid assessing children who may require special education and related services. Districts claim that they never got the request, etc.
- The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) expressed concern that, from her experience, many regional center service coordinators do not have knowledge of the dependency court and changes in regulations.
- CMS' New Federal Rules for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services will be in effect in 2019. Staff and Far Northern Regional Center are committed to organizing more training to support service providers, consumers and families to be educated and prepared for the upcoming changes in services.
- Families have expressed concern they are not made aware of the resources within the community. Parents are feeling as though they are not adequately trained on how to advocate for their child. They have also expressed concerns regarding the school assessment process for their child and they do not think they are receiving a thorough assessment in all areas of their child's disability.
- The Kern Regional Center continues to struggle with providing families their IPP in a language they can understand. Families are asked to sign off agreeing to the IPP but do not read English and they feel forced to sign in agreement. During the training a discussion took place regarding signing only for attendance instead of in agreement.

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- Several of the case workers and care management staff reported issues with Regional Center of Orange County finding appropriate placement for consumers who are ready for hospital discharge. These individuals are discharged at a higher level of care than they were previously and cannot return to their prior home/facility and RCOC delays in finding appropriate placement for the individual.
- State and Federal Labor Laws change periodically and it is required for service providers to stay educated on current laws. If service providers do not understand current State and Federal Labor laws, there are consequences to the business, employees and the consumers they support.
- Failure of school staff to familiarize the parent in regard to understanding of placement options and lack of sharing with the parent available resources to help her understand educational law.
- SCLARC POS Data - The lack of increases to funding in the state budget impedes the ability of RCs to hire more staff to meet ratios.
- There has been very little information regarding California's Transition Plan shared with our community. It is important to begin the conversation and also provide information and support to programs as they transition their Settings to be integrated and community based.
- No one attends POS Disparity meetings- need to shake up how these are done to get the maximum input.
- Central Valley Regional Center - Families stated that it is difficult to get services because they do not speak English and often are not told about the services available to them.
- Lack of transportation and lack of additional funding to encourage providers to come into rural areas to provide services.
- DRC Attorney and Staff discussed ways to outreach to the ethnic communities and educate them about collective advocacy. When individuals present their situation in a case-specific manner, it is handled individually versus within the larger framework of the POS disparity that exists and the lack of education and information being provided to the ethnic community.
- Due to the geographical area, the SDAC meetings are conducted via video conference and phone which presents challenges to meeting participants.
- Statewide Self-Determination - Workgroup members reported that families/consumers are still confused and think they are "signed up for SDP" if they are receiving DDS's emails or are on a "list" at their Regional Center.
- There is concern that due to the high turnover of staff at Regional Centers,

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keeping staff trained on SDP will be an ongoing issue.

- Volunteer advocates were unaware of self-determination and felt that this was great information to have for the clients that will be moving out of the DC
- The Foster Grandparents/Senior Companions for VMRC have a median age of 78. The Foster Grandparents volunteer in school setting and the senior companions volunteer at day programs in the San Joaquin County. There is a need for training on a variety of items for many reasons but generational gap is a leading one.
- Calaveras is a rural county with a very high population of veterans and a meager supply of service providers for people with any type of disability. First/emergency care responders rarely find such comprehensive (and free) training available in their own community, due to funding issues. The CHP lieutenant traveled from another rural county to take advantage of our training, which is rare.
- A lack of coordination on how to best support the Employment First Initiative. A need to encourage employers to support hiring individuals with disabilities.
- ACRC staff recognize they are developing for the first time an Enhanced Behavioral Support Home and realize the needs and complexities of the consumers transitioning from Sonoma Developmental Center. ACRC staff urged interested RFP submissions to recognize the extent of responsibility and complex issues that will arise. It was also suggested by ACRC staff that there should be considerable homework done determining the location or the Forensic/sex offender home.
- Family advocates lack understanding of benefits planning and discourage their transition-aged youth from employment opportunities. This impedes young adults from benefiting from good transition programs that can lead to successful employment outcomes. This was again brought up as a major barrier related to employment trends.
- Students in special education are sometimes limited by a lack of expectations and a lack of emphasis on employment as they progress in the educational system. When it is time to transition from educational services to adult services, these students are not prepared to locate employment or function in employment activities. Sometimes students are not given the opportunity to express their interests and abilities to those who may be able to offer support upon transition.
- Children's Home Society contracts with 2,474 childcare providers in Orange County, yet there are only approximately 122 infant preschool providers and 103 school-aged (4-12 years) providers are listed as providing "inclusive childcare,"

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even though the ADA mandates that all child care centers/programs are to make every effort to accommodate the needs of children with disabilities. The providers who attended the training said that there is "fear" in serving children with disabilities and not being able to adequately respond/provide for the child's unique needs. Some providers were also concerned that they would have to fundamentally alter their program in order to serve children with disabilities.

- EF - A lack of data in regard to who is employed in the regional center catchment. A lack of funding to appropriately service the target population. Issues at the California Department of Rehabilitation in Stockton and Modesto in regard to timely processing of referrals.
- Various employment models were discussed during this meeting in light of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) and the goals of integrated competitive employment, a parent voiced concern of her son possibly losing his job which he enjoys although it is paid at sub-minimum wage.
- Employment agencies report that they have many consumers for whom they are trying to find job placements, however they fall short on locating businesses that are willing. The Department of Rehabilitation has a program called Talent Acquisition Portal (TAP) where both a business can enter their needs and consumers can also enter their strengths and skill sets, therefore predicting some job matching. Unfortunately TAP is only currently listing 4 agencies. It is the plan of the BAC to look into this through DOR's Workforce Improvement unit.
- It is important for SCDD to be informed about managed care agencies and be able to inform them of the needs of the I/DD members in California. SCDD can play a role in informing members about their rights under managed care
- Funding for projects take time to garner and scheduling has caused delays. Recreation in a rural area is minimal. The issues is many users of the gym space and finding a time that works for all gym users There are many non-profits who compete for a small amount of funds in our area and gym space for activities
- There is a lack of in-patient psychiatric units in Orange County and prior hospitals with this capacity are gradually reducing the number of dually-diagnosed DD patients it admits. The other issue is that following a 5150, RCOC only has two crisis homes in Orange County, which are always at capacity because those consumers can't be served at any other facility (so those consumers never move). RCOC needs to resource develop for specialized rate facilities to accommodate consumers that are beyond a 4i level of care, but not acute enough to be placed at the crisis bed at the developmental center.

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- The process for building low income housing in a community is a complicated process that is often confusing. There is a need for advocate training, so the developmental services community becomes more active in housing development.
- Not enough non-ambulatory and subsidized housing in rural counties. There is concern about any new housing projects being approved in Fort Bragg in Mendocino County as the community is still unhappy about the downtown 8 units for mental health clients at the Manzanita House program. Citizens have a ballot measure on the June ballot to not have any more social services programs in the down town core.
- The DPSS discussed compiling data/stories of IHSS cases (affected adversely by overtime offenders) to present to the legislature, as determined by the commission, as well as continuing discussion about this matter in future DPSS Commission meetings.
- Discussion re: January 2015 DDS Fact Book and specifically, the number of vendors providing services decreased by 4,797 (9.6%) from FY 2012-13 to FY 2013-14. More than half of the service categories (14 of 25) showed a decrease in the number of vendors providing the service from FY 2012-13 to FY 2013- 14.
- (Tent City Homeless Issue) Stockton has a big problem with people who are homeless living under bridges. It's been reported that 80% of this population has some sort of STD. Many of them have disabilities, so the task force began a discussion to development an outreach/education plan to help with this problem.
- Overall, RCOC spends \$21,970 per White consumer (all ages), \$14,874 per Asian consumer, and \$11,625 per Hispanic consumer. SCDD staff provided the breakdown in terms of authorized services by ages as well for comparison. Many of the families knew this disparity exists due to their personal struggles to obtain services; however, no one was aware that RCOC holds an annual public meeting on the topic of POS expenditures, etc.

## Collaborative Partners

- A Better Life Together
- Access 2 Independence
- Access Services (ASI)
- Access to Independence
- Achieve School
- Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center staff
- Alta California Regional Center
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Arc- Imperial Valley
- Arc of San Diego
- ARRC Recreation Center
- Association for Behavioral Consultants
- Autism Society of Los Angeles
- Banning Unified School District
- Behavioral Health and Recovery Board
- Behavioral Health Program staff
- Best Start Athens Group
- Boys and Girls Club
- Brea-Olinda) School District
- Butte Community College
- Butte County SELPA
- Ca. Concerned Parent Association
- CA. Employment Development Department
- Calaveras County Mental Health
- California Children Services
- California Council for the Blind
- California Disability Services Association
- California Employment and Training Agency
- California Health and Wellness - managed care provider,
- California Highway Patrol
- Californians Living Independent and Free (CALIF)
- CalOptima
- Cancer Resource Center of Desert
- Canyon Springs State Developmental Center
- Capistrano School District

## Collaborative Partners

- CDCAN
- Central Valley Regional Center
- Central Valley Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- Central Valley Regional Center, Parenting Network
- Ceres USD
- Child and Family Services Agency
- Child Nurturing Project
- Children's Home Society
- Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled
- City of Irvine
- City of Sacramento Disability Advisory Committee Commissioners.
- City of Stockton
- City of Ukiah
- College 2 Career (San Diego Community College District)
- College of Adaptive Arts
- Community Builders
- Community Care Licensing Department
- Community Catalyst
- Community Center of the Blind
- Community College (Mendocino)
- Community Interface Services
- Community Partnership for Families
- County HHS Health Dept. Prevention and Planning
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- CVTC
- Dayle McIntosh Center (Independent Living Center)
- Department of Developmental Services
- Department of Developmental Services SDP Workgroup
- Department of Rehabilitation
- Department of Justice
- Desert ARC Palm Desert
- Dignity Health
- Disability Action Center
- Disability Resource Agency for Independent Living
- Disability Response.

## Collaborative Partners

- Disability Rights California (DRC)
- Disparity Task Force
- Downs Syndrome Association
- DRAIL (Independent Living Center)
- East Valley Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)
- Easter Seals
- Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center(ELARC)
- Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center, Self-Determination Committee
- Edison High School
- EFRC
- Employment and Community Options
- Exceptional Family Member Program (Camp Pendleton)
- Exceptional Family Member Program USMC-MCCS, Parents
- Exceptional Family Resource Center
- Expandability
- Family Focus Resource Center at CSUN
- Family Resource Centers Network of California (FRCNLAC)
- FamilySOUP FRC
- Far Northern Regional Center
- Fiesta Educativa
- Fiesta Educativa Orange County
- FREED
- Friends of Children of Special Needs
- FUERZA
- Fullerton School District
- Glenn County SELPA
- Golden Gate Regional Center
- Goodwill Industries
- Harbor Regional Center
- Health Plan of San Joaquin
- Help Me Grow
- Hesperia Public Library
- High School Transition Program Staff (Ukiah, Willits)
- Home of Guiding Hands
- Hope Services Mental Health Clinic

## Collaborative Partners

- Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino
- Housing Choices Coalition
- Imagine Services
- Imperial County SELPA
- Imperial Valley People First
- Imperial Valley SELPA
- InAlliance
- Inclusion Institute
- Independent Living Center of Southern California (ILCSC)
- Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative
- Innovative Business Partnerships (IBP)
- Institute For Effective Education
- Integrity House
- IRI
- Irvine School District
- Job Corp
- Kaiser Permanente
- Kern Regional Center, Self- Determination Advisory Committee members
- Kiwanis Club
- LA County Commission for Public Social Services
- Lanterman Coalition
- Lanterman Regional Center
- Learning Right Law
- Legal Aid Society of Orange County
- Lighthouse Living Services
- Lodi Unified School District
- Los Angeles County Public Counsel
- Los Angeles Jewish Abilities Center, a division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles
- Mains'l Services
- Mama Art your Heart Out
- Manzanita House
- Matrix Parent
- Mendocino College Foster and Kindship Care
- Mental Health Advocacy Services LA County

## Collaborative Partners

- Mike Summers
- Mobility Management Partners Inc.
- Modesto SELPA
- MOVE
- MTS
- My Day Counts
- MyChal's Learning Place
- National Assoc. on Mental Illness West L.A. (NAMI)
- Nevada Sierra Regional IHSS Public Authority
- Newport-Mesa School District
- Nor-Cal Center on Deafness
- North Coastal Consortium for Special Education
- North County Lifeline
- North Los Angeles County Regional Center
- Northern Los Angeles Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- OCRA (ELARC)
- OCRA (KRC)
- OCRA (NLARC)
- OCRA (SCLARC)
- Orange County Department of Education
- Orange County Health Care Agency/Behavioral Health Care Services
- Paradigm
- Parents Helping Parents
- Partnerships with Industry
- Passages - Area Agency on Aging
- Patients Right's Advocate
- PCS
- Peppermint Ridge
- Person Centered Services
- Planned Parenthood
- Porterville CRA/VAS Staff
- Premier Health
- Project Independence
- Redlands Unified School District
- Redwood Coast Regional Center

## Collaborative Partners

- Redwood Quality Management Corporation
- Regional Center of Orange County
- Regional Center Supported Employment Vendors
- ResCare
- Roseville Workability
- Rural Community Housing Development Corp
- Sacramento City Unified School District CAC
- Sacramento County Office of Education
- Sacramento County Sheriff's Department Academy
- Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA)
- Sacramento Police Department Recruit Academy
- San Andreas Regional Center
- San Diego Elder Law Center and Aging and Independence Services
- San Diego People First
- San Diego Regional Center
- San Diego State University Interwork Institute
- San Diego State University Nursing Program
- San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center
- San Joaquin County SELPA
- San Juan Unified School District CAC
- San Juan Unified School District SELPA
- San Marcos Unified School District
- Santa Ana School District
- Self- Advocates
- Service First Of CA
- SJRTD
- Social Vocational Services
- South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
- Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living (SCRS)
- Special Needs Law Group
- Special Olympics
- St. Jude Hospital, Fullerton
- St. Madeleine's
- St. Madeline Sophie Center
- Stanislaus SELPA

## Collaborative Partners

- Stockton Unified School District
- Stockton Unified School District Workability program
- Sure Helpline
- Tarjan Center at UCLA
- TASK
- Team of Advocates for Special Kids
- The Fair Housing Council of Riverside County
- The Institute for Effective Education
- TRACE
- Tracy Unified School District
- Tustin School District
- UC Davis MIND
- UCP- San Diego
- Ukiah Valley Association for Habilitation
- United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)
- United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay
- University of Southern California University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (USC UCEDD)
- University of the Pacific (UOP)
- Unyeway
- Valley Mountain Regional Center
- Vendor Consortium policy meeting
- Vocation Plus Services, Inc.
- WarmLine
- Warmline FRC
- We Care A Lot Foundation
- Westside Family Resource and Empowerment Center (WFREC)
- Westside Regional Center
- Work Training Center
- WorkFirst Easter Seals
- Yo! Disabled and Proud
- Yolo County Office of Education - Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA)
- Youth Employment Opportunity Program

### Goal #1

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.

- Staff met with a local advocate who is interested in doing more public speaking to individuals within the developmental disabilities community. Staff provided an overview of the developmental disabilities service system and information on Employment first and self- determination. Additionally staff engaged in a discussion on strategies and to promote himself during his outreach efforts
- Staff provided technical support to the Self Advocacy Council 6 (SAC6) at their annual February Area Meeting of Self Advocates. Over 300 people attended from all five counties (Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, & Tuolumne). Paul Billodeau, Executive Director from VMRC also attended. The speaker was Alex Queen from DRAIL (ILC) spoke about Employment and how it works with social security benefits. At this meeting- the winners for the CHOICES 2016 conference were announced by CHOICES member Jayme Florez. SCDD staff put the power point together for this announcement. SCDD also provided in-kind support to SAC6 to make copies of their agenda and other handouts for the event. Each Self Advocacy chapter gave a report on what is happening in their area. At the lunch break- there was music from a DJ who owns his own DJ business.
- Staff provided support to the SDPF officers as they held their quarterly meeting. The topics that were presented were: Strengthening Self Advocacy, How to manage your money and an update on the new policies at MTS (Metropolitan Transit System). The participants engaged in all aspects of the trainings and had the opportunity to provide input to the MTS Representative regarding not only their new policy but also existing policies. During the registration time the participants worked on a community service project and made Valentine's Day cards for Veterans that were delivered to the Wounded Warrior Program. In addition to providing support to the officers as they ran their meeting, the self-advocates were supported as they ran the registration table and prepared the packets for each participant. A voter registration table was set up and information on voting in addition to voter registration forms were distributed by one of the SDPF officers.
- Staff co- facilitated the monthly self-advocacy conference planning meeting. The planning team continued their discussions on the workshop speaker application, selection of a possible keynote speaker and entertainment options. The conversation on how to reformat the conference with a change from Saturday-Sunday to Friday-Saturday continued through the meeting.
- Staff facilitated the self-advocacy newsletter meeting with two people in attendance. 5-7 additional people who expressed interest were unable to come due to scheduling conflicts and illness. Together the group identified topics and

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some materials to include in the first edition.

- Staff collaborated with Integrity House to co-facilitate for the new self-advocacy group in Santa Ana. At the request of the self-advocates from the last meeting, staff assisted in securing the Client Assistance Program (CAP) Advocate from Disability Rights California to do a presentation on employment supports offered by DOR and the regional centers. The interactive presentation included role-playing on how to advocate at an IPP and IPE and tips on how to help obtain your employment goals. Job Developer/Associate Director from Integrity House co-presented and discussed his role in helping self-advocates obtain employment.
- Staff met with SSAN member prior to legislative workgroup call to go over materials. Staff supported the SSAN member with reading materials to make informed decisions about legislation that would be discussed during the call and prepare to provide input during the call. Staff provided notes from the call regarding assignments and tasks for committee members.
- Staff opened the conference call line for the SSAN Newsletter Work Group meeting. The chair does all the meeting logistics by sending out the agenda by email and the members all contribute to writing articles for the newsletter. The group worked on the 5th SSAN Newsletter. Staff was asked to "drop" in articles into the draft. The work group will meet again at the SSAN
- Staff registered for the SSAN Self Determination webinar to listen and provide feedback on the content, process and organization for future webinars. As a staff that provides technical support to the SSAN per HQ- I took notes and was able to provide feedback on the first time event for the three SSAN members.
- During the Strengthening Self Advocacy meeting this month the upcoming presentation schedule was reviewed. The group also discussed the quarterly meeting and the agenda. A member who sits on the SSAN reported he would be doing the presentation at their meeting in March. A training to be done at a community location was scheduled for on March 29th. The project manager will be following up on several slight changes to the power point the group agreed to.
- A review and discussion of the grant time line and budget were conducted and the group felt the project continues to be on target and will meet the goals as projected. The following organizations are participating in the strengthening self-advocacy collaborative: Arc San Diego, San Diego Regional Center, San Diego People First, TRACE, and St. Madeline's.
- SCDD staff facilitates a team of self-advocates, San Diego Regional Center Service Coordinators, SDSU Nursing program representatives and local service

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providers to meet monthly and plan the 2016 self-advocacy conference. This month they finalized all of the details for the conference. The group continued to discuss strategies to get the word out to increase the number of people who are registered for the event. The San Diego State Nursing program provided an update on what they are going to do during the resource fair as well as for their workshop. During the resource fair they will have stations and provide health information on infection control, basic anatomy, blood pressure/heart rate checks and personal hygiene. The workshop session will cover two mini training topics- weight loss/nutrition and anger management.

- SCDD staff provided facilitation support to San Diego People First officers as they held their annual retreat. During the retreat the officers spent time getting to know one another and learning how to work together despite their differences. Time was also spent reviewing the mission of the organization, learning about their roles as officers and setting goals for the upcoming year. The group identified the following goals for the upcoming year: 1. SDPF will organize and complete 4 community givebacks this year. 2. By the end of 2016, San Diego People First will make a youtube training video. 3. San Diego People First will partner with the DDPN and Toastmaster to hold a speech contest by December 2016. 4. By 2017, San Diego People First will plan, schedule and host 4 quarterly meetings to improve the information exchange with local self-advocacy groups. There was a discussion about the State Council on Developmental Disabilities sharing their Strengthening Self Advocacy presentation with others throughout the state and the group was in favor of sharing the training and additionally acknowledged that statewide distribution was a desired outcome of the grant. The officers engaged in a discussion on the developmental center closure plan and provided feedback to that will be sent to DDS.

## 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.

- SCDD staff participated in an informational forum at the UC Davis MIND Institute titled "Alternatives to Conservatorship". Disability Rights of California (DRC) staff presented information to about 100 people and even more on line. The presentation included DRC staff promoting that first and foremost, determining what the consumer wants is their focus. DRC stated that individuals are presumed competent to make decisions and/or may designate someone to help represent them. In considering alternatives to conservatorship (which is less restrictive and can be revoked by a person very easily) the following options are available: -Advance Helathcare Directive (power of attorney). This is immediate or not and the designee can change easily. -Transfer of educational decision making authority to make educational decisions. -Release forms to communicate with service providers. -Social Security representative payee (financial power of attorney). Limited Conservatorship is the type most often utilized by regional center consumers and it has 7 powers available. 1. Access to confidential records 2. Control right to marry 3. Control right to contract 4. Consent to medical treatment 5. Control social and sexual contacts 6. Make educational decisions The courts decide which of the 7 powers will be administered. DRC said the regional center can write the court and ask specifically which of the 7 powers pertain to the consumer.
- SCDD regional office received 17 calls this month regarding Regional Center services and eligibility, adult services regarding work and supported/independent living services, Social Security Income (SSI), Emergency Preparedness and Mental Health services. As appropriate, calls were referred to Disability Rights California, UC Davis MIND, and the WarmLine. Most callers received an emailed or mailed copy of our resource list.
- SCDD staff participated in Special Education training put on by Warmline Family Resource Center. During the presentation a family had many questions about services through the Regional Center for their 9 year old son with Autism. After the presentation, SCDD staff consulted with family and informed them of the benefits and structure of Regional Center services. Inclusive of those transitioning into work life after high school. SCDD staff provided written information on both the Employment First Policy and Self-Determination as well as a resource list of websites to obtain information.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff collaborated with Banning Unified School District Transition Age Youth in the city of Banning which is within Riverside County program to provide training on self-advocating within the

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individual program plan (IPP) meeting to ensure that needs, wants and desires are included in the goals. SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff created a power point presentation especially for self-advocates entitled "You & Your IPP" it is in plain language and discusses the importance of involvement and understanding of the IPP meeting, along with individual service rights and responsibilities. Each student was given a copy of the power point presentation to take home and share with his/her family or care giver. The students actively participated in the asking questions for clarity and shared specific examples of experiences to get feedback from the group.

- SCDD LA Staff provided a short presentation on the disability services system, specifically early start and Lanterman Act services, to a parent group from LAUSD formed by First Five California.
- The SCDD Office received 9, primarily calls for assistance with special education issues. All inquiries were answered by phone or email or referred to other community agencies providing resources and advocacy. All families were offered a resource in their area and when appropriate, emailed a list of community resources. All families were encouraged to join our email list and visit the SCDD website for additional information.
- Orange County and San Diego SCDD staff collaborated with Camp Pendleton's Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) to offer an advocacy clinic to military families entitled "Special Education and Regional Center Advocacy Clinic - Ask an Advocate." This free advocacy clinic was a means to support military families who are struggling to access services from the variety of service agencies serving persons with developmental disabilities, including regional center, education, IHSS, Social Security, etc.
- SCDD staff participated in a Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) consumer advisory committee (CAC) forum. The forum was for information and resource sharing for parents and advocates. There were 10 parents and 3 self-advocates in attendance and many resources were exchanged. SCDD staff presented information about Self-Determination (S-D) and was available for questions and discussion. Written information on S-D was also provided. The book From Emotions to Advocacy was presented. The book is for parents, advocates, and educators to learn effective advocacy skills. You will learn to recognize pitfalls and avoid mistakes that prevent parents from successfully advocating for their children. A presentation about the Morgan Hill Lawsuit with regards to IEP's was explained by a representative from the California Concerned

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Parent Assoc.

- SCDD received three educationally related phone calls. Three parents called regarding the same district not assessing child within the legal time-frame, three parents called because of placement, two parents called regarding speech services and an additional four parents called regarding ABA services. Gave families info on DRC and the OCRA
- Foster Kinship Care Curriculum Advisory Committee met at the local regional office. Committee members provided updates regarding current agency activities and issues. There was concern expressed regarding the knowledge and engagement of the regional center staff who have children that are in the dependency/family court system. Council staff will convene and facilitate a meeting in order to bring the involved parties together develop a plan of action to address the identified gaps in service that affect children with disabilities in the foster system.
- Staff participated in monthly planning meeting. The group discussed outreach to potential sponsors, seeking donations from our local communities and social media strategies. Members are working on acquiring more scholarships for parents. There was discussion and suggestions on how we can acknowledge the 50th Anniversary of the Lanterman Act at the conference.
- Staff assisted in the planning of 2-9-16 "Inclusion is the Heart & Soul of Community" training in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center staff. The training introduced the New Federal Rules for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services that will change our Service System effective 2019. The changes are significant as Regional Centers will no longer be able to pay for segregated services once these new rules are implemented. The goals of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) funding were reviewed: Inclusion, Opportunity, Community Participation and Employment. The history of the service system was reviewed including the recognition of its success, a dramatic improvement from the past. Now the system is ready to change and achieve the next level of progress. Person Centered Planning is the key! This planning is driven by a person's hopes and dreams, goal driven by the individual, not the service system. Person Centered Planning is about: Discovery, Exploration, Understanding what is important to someone. The training included packets filled with helpful resources for families and providers to prepare for the HCBS changes and its' implementation effective 2019. Resources included: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Information Bulletin, Fact Sheet Summary of Key

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Provisions, Regulatory Requirements for Home & Community Based Settings, Questions to Assist Non-Residential Settings, California Provider Draft Self-Survey Non Residential, Guidance on Settings that Isolate, Questions for Residential Setting, Heightened Scrutiny, and Autistic Self-Advocacy Network - Defining Community.

- Staff coordinated and facilitated the monthly planning meeting for the 2016 parent conference, a three part training series on the IEP process and a sibling event. The group continued to discuss the planning details for each of the events and specifically focused on the upcoming sibling event for children aged 7-12.
- 21 people were in attendance at the 2nd session of a three session training series on special education. The participants were very engaged in the presentation and asked numerous questions about the IEP process for students with special needs. The presentation was provided by Disability Rights of California. Additional resources and information about other parent training opportunities and resources were provided to all participants. Spanish translation was provided to 4 participants.
- As part of our ongoing effort to educate the community, SCDD SV/MB staff attended the Parent's Helping Parents, Staff met with parents who do not have cases open with the regional center but still need require services in the areas of housing and employment. Families agreed to meet on a monthly basis prior to this PHP parents group.
- Regional office staff conducted training on Preparing for the Individual Program Plan at the offices of Exceptional Family Center in collaboration with H.E.A.R.T.S Connection. Participants included 1 self-advocate and 17 family advocates. Staff provided a handout on the services available to regional center clients as well as the presentation PowerPoint. The training focus was on the following: What is the IPP, who is part of the IPP, how to prepare for it, POS Guidelines, services available through the IPP and answering participant questions
- SCDD staff participated in Yolo County's Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide training and information on the Employment First Policy and Self-Determination legislation. There were 15 attendees, including teachers, parents, school psychologist, and program specialists who advocate directly with and for students, inclusive of those transitioning into work life after high school. SCDD staff provided written information on both the Employment First Policy and Self-Determination as well as a resource list of websites to obtain information.

## 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.

- SCDD staff participated in the Nevada County Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) meeting for the purpose of providing information on the role of the SCDD and training on Employment First and Self-Determination. Printed information was provided to attendees. SCDD staff suggested the information be distributed to all district special education teachers so they are aware of new legislation and regional center obligations. SCDD staff determined it necessary to reach out to the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) as they deliver education programs and services to special needs students. Each SELPA has a Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) which is comprised of parents of students (general Education and special education) enrolled in public, county, or private schools within the County SELPA; teachers, pupils, administrators, and agencies who are willing to serve on the CAC. It is the goal of the SCDD Sacramento Regional office to attend the SELPA CAC meetings on a regular basis.
- Staff received 10 calls for technical assistance: 6 related to regional center services (either eligibility or the IPP), 2 related to IHSS, 1 was about conservatorships and 1 was about medical and informed consent. Families were provided with a list of resources as well as information regarding their rights.
- SCDD staff gave technical support to adults regarding fair hearing process, intake, day and employment services in Monterey County, Community placement services provided by the local SVILC, changes to the labor law, employment services through DOR for client not receiving regional center services, legislative advocacy by parents, and housing advocacy.
- SCDD staff participated the San Juan Unified School District Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting for the purpose of informing them of the role of the SCDD. In addition, staff presented on the SCDD role and State Plan goals. Additionally, SCDD staff provided training on Employment First and Self-Determination. The San Juan Unified School District CAC is comprised of parents of students (general Education and special education) enrolled in public, county, or private schools. An announcement from an adaptive Physical Education teacher included an event, 'Run with the Stars', will take place on April 24th. This event matches each special education student with a regular education student to participate. This event has been going on for a few years and is a great way to involve, inform, and promote inclusion.
- Staff received 7 calls for assistance relating to special education concerns. Families were provided with a list of resources as well as information regarding their rights.

## Goal #2

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- SCDD staff gave technical support to a family of a school age child regarding IHSS and transitional planning, non-discrimination and inclusion for a kindergarten student.
- Staff conducted a tailored training on regional center and WIC 4655 process to 18 medical case workers, registered nurses, social workers, and care management staff. Training objectives included discussion of regional center eligibility, placement options, services offered, and discussion of the WIC 4655 process regarding regional centers providing consent to medical, dental, and surgical treatment of a regional center client.
- Staff assisted in planning and organizing a State & Federal Labor Laws training, in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center staff, held on 2-10-16 in Red Bluff. The training was specifically designed for residential service providers to learn about State and Federal Labor laws and to find out which jurisdiction supersedes the other. With the implementation of Federal Labor Standards Act (FLSA) on 2-1-16 related to Overtime and other changes, residential providers were provided training and information about these new rules and other State and Federal Labor Laws.
- Staff provided technical assistance to 17 unique callers: 5 calls regarding regional center eligibility, services, IFSP/IPP 2 calls on special education issues; 2 calls regarding Social Security disability benefits eligibility and denials; 2 IHSS questions regarding overtime, protective supervision; 3 calls re DOR and employment, and 3 calls on general service delivery questions
- Facilitation support was provided at the monthly TRACE Governance meeting. The officers scheduled and held an officer meeting to plan and prepare an agenda for their March meeting in addition to creating an outline of presentation topics they would like covered in the upcoming year. During the officer meeting the officers spent time talking about leadership and ways they can develop their leadership skills.
- Staff spoke with two family advocates regarding special education services and supports.
- SCDD Los Angeles Office staff provided a two-hour training on 2/17/16 to the Los Angeles Jewish Abilities Center, a division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, as part of their "Knowledge Is Power" training series. The Jewish Abilities Center is a community resource center which facilitates trainings and support group for parents of children with developmental disabilities. The training had 13 attendees and included information about regional centers, how to obtain

## **Goal #2**

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needed services, how to appeal regional center decisions and perform a fair hearing, and disparities in the provision of regional center services. Additionally, the presentation was posted on YouTube for the benefit of those who could not attend the training.

- SCDD Los Angeles Office staff provided part two of a two-part presentation to community members on 2/10/16 entitled "IEP Meetings: How They Work and How to Get What You Need" to 14 attendees.

### 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.

- SCDD Los Angeles Staff attended the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) 2014-2015 Purchase of Service Town Hall meeting on February 26th, 2016. SCLARC presented their disparity data to community members and professionals, many of whom provided public comment. Translation services were available to Spanish-speaking attendees both during the presentation and public comment. The disparity data were presented in a way that made it difficult for many family members to understand (based on ensuing questions) and focused on who had received services as opposed to who had not. Although many questions were asked by families to gain clarity, their questions went largely unanswered as they were seeking assistance from SCLARC to understand why services they had requested were never authorized hence leading to further disparity. SCLARC only provided clarity on the disparity data. Additionally, a brief presentation was given about Self-Determination and welcomed interested parties to sign-up for consideration for the phase-in at the registration desk
- SCDD staff participated in the ACRC Board of Directors meeting to collaborate and stay informed about services and supports in our 10-county catchment area. SCDD staff gave a brief presentation on SCDD's Grant Cycle 39 and solicited input from Board members on their preferences for grant areas important to this region. Staff also thanked ACRC and its staff for helping to spread the word about the NCI Family Survey Project which has resulted in a good survey response rate. Phil Bonnet, Executive Director reported that 12 individuals have moved from Sonoma Developmental Center since July 1, 2015. ACRC has an RFP orientation for CPP RFPs on February 29th and another Developmental Center family meeting on April 19. Mr. Bonnet gave a summary of the MCO Tax bills that may be signed next week and may offer addition funds to the DD system in CA. He gave an update of the DC closures. Announced POS Disparity meetings March 15 and March 22.
- SCDD L.A. Office staff conducted a presentation on bullying prevention titled "Enough is Enough! Anti-Bullying Strategies for Students with Developmental Disabilities, Their Families, and Their Schools" for the FREE Parent Group in Whittier on Saturday, February 6, 2016. 35 parents attended. The content of the presentation comes from the SCDD L.A. Office publication of the same name. The presentation covered the following: the definition of bullying; types of bullying; signs of bullying; and strategies that research has proven to be effective in preventing bullying. Participants were given a copy of the publication that includes an extensive list of information and resources on bullying prevention.

### Goal #3

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- SCDD staff participated in The Cal-TASH Conference: Equity, Opportunity and Inclusion for People with Disabilities. This annual conference is for parents, self-advocates, policy-makers and professionals in the disability field. The purpose is to share innovative ideas and ground breaking research and to learn effective and practical strategies through attending workshops and networking. SCDD staff collaborated on a presentation on Making Waves - Self-Determination is law in California in the DD system with Ben Davidson or Premier Fiscal Management Service.
- SCDD staff participated in Central Valley Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting in Fresno, seven committee members, and four members of the public were present. The following topics on the agenda were discussed. The January 19, 2016 minutes were approved. Outreach Follow-up "Skit" committee SCDD will be participating in developing an outline for a self-determination skit to be presented by clients. This skit will also be filmed for video presentation. SCDD handed out Regional Advisory Committee flyer and asked members to pass information on to those who may be interested in serving on our RAC Advisory Committee.
- The Choices committee meeting was held at NVHO. Staff provided technical assistance for the meeting. At the meeting staff worked on tasks regarding speakers, food and legislative panel. Staff will support self-advocate to prepare a power-point presentation for the conference. In addition the committee discussed time-lines for the day of the event and began working on committee assignments for the event.
- Staff is a regular guest at the Coalition of Local Area Service Providers (CLASP) and SCDD is a standing agenda item. The minutes from the meeting are contained in the common drive. Staff shared a fact sheet on the Home and Community-Based Settings Rule and suggested it be included on their agenda next month, announced next SCDD North Valley Hills RAC meeting, passed out the CHOICES registration forms.
- SCDD staff presented information to a parent meeting about the CMS Transition Plan and how it relates to day programs and living options. There were 22 attendees, who in addition to parents, were day service vendors and teachers. The new settings rules and how the transition is going to roll out is concerning to advocates. SCDD staff provided the background information on the continuity of services during the implementation of the HCBS Settings Rule. SCDD explained to the group the 5 agencies involved in the transition plan (which to date is not

### Goal #3

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approved yet) and the 4 settings: Residential, Work, Day Program and Child Care. SCDD staff relayed that a work plan (Transition Plan) is developed and Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is monitoring the process. Additionally noted, statewide stakeholder groups met 4 times last year. Upon approval of the Transition Plan, surveys will be completed to evaluate the current status of a setting and determine if HCBS programs are compliant. The steps to compliance for HCBS settings requirements were mentioned, including the heightened scrutiny process which is when the settings do not meet the HCBS characteristics.

- SCDD staff collaborated with 2 parents who work for FamilySOUP, a Family Resource Center in Yuba City, and a Regional Center Director about organizing a community workshop on California's CMS Transition Plan to provide information and support to the community as it transitions the service delivery system to meet the new Settings Rules. Earlier in the day, SCDD staff attended a community forum presented by Laura Larson, Far Northern Regional Center's Executive Director titled: Inclusion is the Heart and Soul of Community. The presentation focused on how the new Federal Rules for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) will change our service system, how this will impact day programs, residential care, and how we can take this opportunity to create inclusive programs, living situations and employment. Ms. Larson notes that it is critical to do Person Centered Planning for exploration of what people would like in their lives. Far Northern Regional Center has issued a grant and service coordinators are being trained on Person Centered Planning in developing Individual Program Plans (IPPs) with consumers. We discussed the needs in our local community. Many families and providers are unsure what this legislation will mean for current and future services. We plan to move forward to inform our communities of the new legislation and support the programs to transition toward more inclusive models.
- SCDD staff presented information to the commissioners of the City of Sacramento Disability Advisory Committee commissioners about the CMS Transition Plan and how it relates to day programs and living options in our community. There were 10 commissioners in attendance. There was a presentation by Jason Sirney, Emergency Coordinator for Sacramento the City of Sacramento's Emergency Operations Plan Regarding People with Access and Functional Needs. SCDD staff was able to give input on several suggestions to improve the plan to serve people with behavioral and sensory issues. Challenges include a reliable Alert

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Notification System, Evacuation for people with Access and Function Needs and their pets, and Care and Shelter. The current plan is from 2005 so this plan will be an update.

- Staff assisted in the planning and outreach of upcoming event "A Native American Relational Experience" in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center staff, for March 23, 2016 in Anderson. Lynn E. Fritz, cultural competency educator, will be discussing Trust and Implications related for Service Provision. This event is a creative way to discuss cultural issues and have insight into a Native American experience. The training is targeting service providers, families, consumers and interested community members. The event will end with Native American dancing and drumming ceremony.
- Staff distributed E-Blast to 400 people about upcoming meetings organized by Far Northern Regional Center "Exploring Our Diverse Community." These meetings are in response to additions to the Lanterman Act several years ago require regional centers to share with the community how they spend purchase of service dollars. The meetings are also to gather ideas to expand and improve services in the North State region. The outreach flyer includes the date, time and location of the meetings.
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with information on : Staying Safe on the Internet--In the age of social media and the internet, what do people with developmental disabilities need to know to stay safe? Download info
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with information on : Social Security information SOCIAL SECURITY Help us Create Open Government Plan 4.0 02/18/2016 01:30 PM EST Social Security is always looking for ways to enhance your access to our information. We are preparing to publish our fourth Open Government Plan in June. Your input regarding ways to improve our programs and services is invaluable.
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with information on : VMRC's POS Disparity Report-Public Meeting. Disseminated this flyer far and wide to encourage folks to attend and give input.
- SCDD LA Staff participated in the ELARC self-determination committee. Staff presented to the committee and public on self-determination budgets (part 1).
- SCDD L.A. Office staff drafted and distributed E-Newsletter #51 to 1,612 subscribers on February 10, 2016. Topics in this edition included: an announcement of a training on IEP strategy and understanding evaluations; a Self-Determination Program Update; and an article about a new website on the

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new Medicaid Waiver rules. SCDD L.A. Office staff drafted and distributed E-Newsletter #52 to 1,612 subscribers on February 29, 2016. Topics in this edition included: the State Council's proposed 5-year State Plan; the first statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting; an upcoming training on the roles and responsibilities of the Independent Facilitator in Self-Determination; and an article about recruitment for the Department of Developmental Services Consumer Advisory Committee.

- SCDD facilitated the Spanish Disparity Meeting for CVRC. The Meeting took place at Exceptional Parents Unlimited, which happens to be the Parent Training and Information Center. There were four Spanish-speaking participants, many questions were asked regarding the data provided and the National Core Indicator survey. The following were some of the concerns that families have regarding the data and the NCI survey: - Families need to be mentored when they first find about their child's diagnosis. - Additional support groups for early intervention - Easy to read take home one-page handout of typically provided services/guide
- SCDD L.A. staff created a flyer for training on Facilitation in Self-Determination to be held April 30, 2016 at CSUN. The flyer, also translated into Spanish, is now ready for wide distribution at the beginning of March. This is a repeat of an event conducted by SCDD L.A. last year that sold out. SCDD has received many requests to repeat it. With the co-sponsorship of the Family Focus Resource Center at CSUN and the Inclusion Institute, we expect it will sell out again.
- SCDD staff participated Kern Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting at Tehachapi, five committee members, and one members of the public were present. The following topics on the agenda were discussed. - The previous minutes were approved, Quorum established, Public Comments (SCDD provided comment on workshops scheduled on self-determination with local groups. SCDD invited Kern reps to the workshops to see if we can do them together and help them obtain more names of people interested in self-determination. KRC provided updates on the two information sessions they conducted, follow-up on Bagley-Keene and possible training topics were discussed. SCDD to recruit for one of the members that we appointed to the group as that member has resigned.
- SCDD Staff provided support at the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting on 2/22/2016 at Mychal's Learning Place. Provided updates on LA Regional Office and offered information regarding Cycle 39 Grant Proposal based on State Plan Goals 2017-21 to seek public input. LA RAC members toured the facility at

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Mychal's and learned about the various programs and services including Competitive Integrated Employment opportunity and training, enrichment activities, and health & safety programs for children with developmental disabilities.

- SCDD LA Staff participated in the meeting of the NLACRC self-determination committee. A prolonged discussion was held about the role of the SDAC and who should present information from the SDAC to the NLACRC board. Currently, the SDAC member who sits on the board makes the presentation. The SDAC voted to request that the chair, Richard Dier, be permitted to present information to the board. The State Council appointees were especially in favor of this proposal.
- SCDD facilitated the Spanish Disparity Meeting for CVRC at Parenting Network. There were five Spanish-speaking participants, The information provided was on the National Core Indicator survey as well as the data collected regarding the disparity in services. Families were concerned that people are not hearing about these meetings. The following were some of the concerns that families have regarding the data and the NCI survey: - Families need to be informed about their rights to services - CVRC needs to provide all information in Spanish, even the data that is compiled by Sacramento - Families should be provided information regarding services available - Service Coordinators need to provide denial in writing - Families don't always know why they're getting a service and therefore the services need to be explained. - Service Providers should be available after regular working hours. - Service Providers should be paid for mileage (especially in rural counties)
- Staff had received information from the SCDD regional manager of San Diego/Imperial about Project College that occurs each summer in San Diego. Staff took all the materials and made folders with the information. Staff contacted two leaders in special education in San Joaquin County and scheduled a meeting to just discuss Project College as a possibility in our area. Staff provided the training with the power point and handouts. This was the first step and the group decided that this might be a worthwhile event in our area. Staff had researched the University of the Pacific as a possible partner in this but will wait to contact them until a few details are worked out. The two SELPA professionals are also going to go back to their office and gather some info and another meeting was scheduled for the end of April.
- Staff attended and participated in the 2014-15 Purchase of Service Expenditure Data Meeting to review data and discuss disparities with community stakeholders.

### Goal #3

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RCOC sent three separate email notifications of the meeting to approximately 14,000 individuals on their mailing list and SCDD staff also sent email notice to approximately 1,000 individuals. There were roughly 50 people in attendance with simultaneous Vietnamese and Spanish translation provided to those who requested. The audience was diverse, with a good mix of Asian, Hispanic, and White; however, no one collectively advocated on behalf of their respective ethnic group and instead focused on their individual case-specific situation. While the monolingual Spanish-speaking individuals brought up very good points, it is highly unlikely that RCOC will address their concerns within the larger context of the disparity because of the way it was presented. Regarding Asian participation, no one spoke out on the disparity publicly, which aligns with the cultural framework of their communities.

- The Redwood Coast Regional Center and SCDD - North Coast Self-Determination Advisory Committee held their regularly scheduled meeting (the group has decided that they will meet quarterly until the waiver is approved). SCDD staff provided technical support regarding the election and provided information regarding the added importance of the chair in their roll as the representative to the Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC). The committee discussed their input for the upcoming SSDAC.
- The SCDD Los Angeles Office staff participated in the monthly South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) and SCDD Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on February 10th, 2016. SCDD LA staff gave a brief update of the HCBS Waiver along with some pertinent points regarding critical resolution issues from CMS. The committee watched a tentative video regarding SD involving some of the committee members so that input can be given before it is finalized and placed on the SCLARC website. Discussed upcoming events (to determined if SDAC members would be attending) such as the Autism Society Conference, Statewide SDAC, SCLARC Disparity Town Hall, SD reception at the Autism Society Conference, SD presentation at ELARC, etc. The SDAC tabled discussion about consumer profiles due to low attendance at this particular SDAC meeting. The next SDAC meeting will be on March 3rd, 2016.
- SCDD provided technical assistance and support to the Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting with Inland. Regional Center. Updates were provided on the status of an FMS/PCP presentation. Chair is to request a speaker through the upcoming SSDAC . IRC staff provided an update on Self Determination trainings and outreach of information for consumers and families.

### Goal #3

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Suggestions were made to include the letter with the IPP. IRC to collaborate with the SCDD San Bernardino Regional office to provide trainings throughout the catchment area, and provide dates to the committee. SDAC requested clarification on reporting to IRC board. SDAC is reporting to IRC board via their staff that attends the meetings as originally agreed. SDAC chair would like to report directly and be placed on the agenda, and IRC will check and report on request status at next scheduled meeting. Update on presentations for Spanish speaking parents was provided by IRC. They are working on scheduling more trainings, so that they alleviate this language barrier. SCDD provided update on trainings for the catchment area, and provided flyers for upcoming trainings on: self-determination, housing, IEP, IPP, and SSI to the group. SCDD informed the group that Riverside and San Bernardino Housing have both agreed to provide monthly trainings throughout the catchment area for consumers and their families as a collaborative effort. SCDD also provided flyer on upcoming It's a New Day, It's a New Life Self Determination Conference on March 2-3, in Culver City. During public comment, it was suggested that the SCDD still focus on early start and adult transition as state goals. Disability Rights of California staff requested an update on the disparities committee meetings. IRC to provide update.

- SCDD Staff participated in the monthly regional center client advisory committee meeting (9 people were in attendance) the group reviewed the Regional Center board meeting and clarified any questions the members had. The committee welcomed the new members and prepared to present the Employment First Policy to the regional center board of directors at the March meeting.
- Training was provided to potential facilitators on Self Determination about Self Determination at a provider level.
- In collaboration with Imagine Services of Santa Cruz, State Council SV/MB staff held the monthly meetings of the Self Determination Facilitation Learning Community. One meeting was held at the SCDD offices in San Jose, the other was held at the Imagine offices in Santa Cruz.
- As part of the SCDD effort to educate the community, staff completed training to families invited by a local Special Needs Trust Attorney on Self Determination.
- The Self Determination Advisory Committee was held this month. SCDD facilitated a discussion on the actions the committee can take. SDAC has agreed to focus its work on formalizing its community outreach and training and expand the outreach to school aged families and inform the community on person centered planning.

### Goal #3

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- SCDD staff attended the Self-Determination (S-D) workgroup meeting coordinated by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on February 11, 2016. DDS informed the workgroup of the status regarding the Self-Determination Waiver. Jim Knight, DDS, explained that CMS has provided a formal letter in response to the Waiver application. Workgroup discussed strategies for answering the questions and responding as soon as possible to CMS. DHCS staff attended the meeting. They will coordinate communication between DDS and CMS staff on a regular basis in order to satisfy the questions. Financial Management Service (FMS) workgroup gave an update. They are proposing \$95-\$150 rate per month for individual participants. Recommending oversight of a CPA at each FMS. Outreach and training materials were discussed. Training materials are still being developed and 4-5 trainings will be offered to Regional Center staff statewide in April/May. SCDD announced first Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee for March 3, 2016 in Los Angeles
- The local Self-Determination Committee met on the 22nd of February and thanks to the addition of two new members, achieved a quorum, and were able to elect a Chairperson! Additionally, the member set a regular and routine date and time for meetings, which probably was a barrier to achieving quorum in the past. This was believed to be of benefit to not only the committee, but the community as well, since the meetings can be posted in advance, and members of the public can attend. There was quite a bit of discussion regarding the Self-Determination Conference in Los Angeles that several committee members had recently attended. In addition, topics for future meetings were identified, and included a report from the San Diego Regional Center on the pilot Self-Determination program, and what was learned from it. Training materials, public meetings, how to help self-advocates and families make meaningful choices, fiscal management services, person centered planning, timelines, etc. were all identified as needing to be clarified. The next meeting will be on Friday, March 18 at 1:30.
- Staff conducted training for the volunteer advocates and staff at Porterville Developmental Center. The training focused on the following: What is self-determination? Who is eligible, how it works? There were examples provided, and participants asked questions at the end of the presentation. Material presented: Self-Determination PowerPoint
- Provided support at the Regional Advisory Committee meeting on 2/10/16. The RAC introduced and welcomed old members as well as members of the general public; some in the general public are awaiting approval for membership into the

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RAC. A quorum was established, and the agenda was approved. There were no contributions from the public. Old business included a brief overview of Self-Determination by Sidney Jackson from Central Valley Regional Center. SCDD Staff updated the RAC on what the Sequoia office is doing to meet the needs of the community. Lastly, the RAC made recommendations as to the makeup of the RAC. The Committee Members agreed to meet every other month, on the second Wednesday from 10:00am-12:00pm. The meetings will be held in a rotation of counties/locations. Elections for Committee Chairs will be held at the June meeting, with candidates selected in April.

- SCDD LA Staff participated in the monthly Special Education Task Force meeting. A discussion was held re: pending litigation against Pasadena Unified School District. SCDD LA staff indicated that we are providing intensive training for parents on IEPs and assessments.
- Staff continues working with this network to put on an emergency-preparedness training for individuals with disabilities and vendors. Staff has been working with DDS and local organizations to get materials for handouts and space for event to be held. In addition staff prepares agenda and arranges SLS network meeting location. Staff is also compiling list of registrants. In addition staff shared a flyer regarding VMRC's Annual POS variance report.
- SCDD staff is a member of the VMRC Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Advisory Committee. This committee meets 4 times a year to discuss training topics for the volunteers. SCDD presents to the 60 volunteers each October. The committee is made up of VMRC staff, School District staff/teachers, Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents and self-advocates. At this meeting- staff brought flyers for the upcoming CHOICES conference for them to be passed out to the volunteers at their next training.
- Staff attended the VMRC Consumer Services meeting and VMRC Board meeting. At the Board meeting SCDD staff along with a SSAN representative (who is also on the VMRC Board) gave training on the Self Determination Program). The SSAN Self Determination PowerPoint was shared and each person received a packet of information on this program. DDS liaison to VMRC was present for this meeting.
- SCDD San Bernardino Regional Office conducted an agency presentation on SCDD to the Coachella Valley Disabilities Collaborative. The information presented the role of SCDD, Regional Office functions, SCDD areas of focus and the state plan goals, our federal partners, and where we get funding. SCDD also

### Goal #3

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provided information on upcoming trainings on housing, IEP, IPP, Self-Determination, and SSI wages and benefits.

- SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office provided technical assistance and support to the LA Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting on 2/22/2016 at Mychal's Learning Place. The upcoming Cycle 39 Grant Proposal based on the 2017-21 State Plan Goals was discussed to seek public input and identify the unmet needs in LA County. Up to \$20,000 will be granted to fund projects that address the identified unmet needs in the Los Angeles region. LA RAC members toured the facility at Mychal's and learned about the various programs and services including Competitive Integrated Employment opportunity and training, enrichment activities, and health & safety programs for children with developmental disabilities. Mr. Lynch, owner of Mychal's Learning Place discussed the history, purpose, vision, and best practices of his organization. SCDD LA Regional Manager provided handout materials after the meeting to enhance future collaboration with all meeting attendees. Handouts include "SCDD Los Angeles Regional Office: What We Do/Training & Event Calendar", "Self Determination Information Sheet", "Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County" brochure, and "AIDD Fact Sheet".
- SCDD Los Angeles staff provided a two hour presentation in Spanish to 44 attendees at the East Los Angeles Public Library on the topic of self-determination and how they differ from traditional regional center services. The presentation was a collaboration between SCDD, Fiesta Educativa, and FUERZA, both of whom are Spanish-speaking parent support groups.

#### 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.

- Staff responded to a request from SCDD to mail letters to law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and law enforcement training agencies (LETAs) offering outreach and training/technical assistance re best practices for working with individuals with disabilities in the community. Staff completed mail merge and modifications to the letter format to include SCDD Logo and North Valley Hills Office identification. (See example letters) Staff mailed 32 letters directly to LEAs and 3 to LETAs in Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tuolumne Counties.
- SCDD Staff determined a required learning domain for all law enforcement recruits throughout California, although the actual structure and curriculum used by individual instructors may be very different (within the required framework established by POST). Instruction covers all of the disability groups, laws and protections, street tactics, communication/interviewing skills, practical/ hands-on scenario exercises, etc. The Sacramento Police Department has increased the time allotted for this training to 6.5 hours, although other academies may assign more time. POST training standards for this learning domain will result in expanded curriculum (already covered by this instructor) and additional time.
- SCDD Staff determined a tested domain (through POST), administered to the full-time day academy for the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. The 51 recruits had 'heard' that the class was 'good' from the nighttime academy and were less initially resistant than former classes have been (with the exception of approximately 7 recruits sitting in back). 3 self-advocates with I/DD (ASD, Down Syndrome, and a complex syndrome with multiple developmental, sensory, endocrinological and cognitive impairments) participated in the hands-on scenarios (e.g. interviewing, sighted guide demo, wheelchair search, etc.). The recruits struggled, initially, with the interviewing, although they warmed to the subject when the self-advocates began using humor in response to questions. Once they began laughing, the recruits settled down and began talking with the guests in a normal, conversational style. Three parents also addressed the class, explaining the social and personal challenges associated with raising a child to adulthood and beyond with significant disabilities. One parent was a retired Marine and is currently the Asst. Dep. Dir. for Homeland Security and works with TSA at multiple airports; another parent is retired from the Sacramento Police Department and is now a private investigator; and the instructor/parent has over 15 years of experience with law enforcement. The cumulative law enforcement credentials of all 3 parents enhanced the recruits' acceptance of and response to the

#### 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.

interactions and instruction and was, admittedly, helpful in engaging recruits.

- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is typically taught to law enforcement officers as a way of giving them skills in working with persons with psychiatric and/or intellectual/developmental disorders. This training, however, combined law enforcement officers with mental health and crisis workers, fire personnel, and chaplains serving a rural county and surrounding areas. The training is geared toward equipping a multi-disciplinary PERT for the area. The training covers psychiatric and I/D Disorders, in addition to co-morbid conditions (e.g. drug/alcohol addictions, etc.), veterans, PTSD, teen suicide, elder suicide, etc. Participants learn about functional capacity and street/interview/service tactics (that cross the spectrum of disorders) in the section involving I/DD and are profoundly appreciative of the cross-disciplinary nature of the material that is taught.
- The Community Care Licensing Department (CCLD) Collaborative is a quarterly collaboration that includes state agencies, non-profits, the Department of Justice, and other service providers who recognize the need for, and value of, establishing a formal working protocol to further interagency communication and collaboration to prevent and address incidents of abuse - and neglect for residents in licensed facilities. The members of the Collaborative are further committed to preventing future abuse and neglect incidents through collaborative trainings, in order to improve the delivery of assistive services and, consequently, the quality of life for Orange County's consumers and their families.
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with information on : Pathways to Justice from the Arc- info on next page of this report Pathways to Justice™ Training Chapter Application Now Available The Arc's National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability is pleased to announce the release of our Pathways to Justice™ Chapter Application for 2016-2017! Pathways to Justice is a one-day train-the-trainer educational program that targets law enforcement, legal professionals, and victim service professionals. With the Pathways to Justice program, chapters are not only able to provide quality training to criminal justice professionals in their own communities, they also receive support to establish (or strengthen pre-existing) "Disability Response Teams" or DRTs in the process. Stipends of \$2,000 will be offered to six chapters over the next two years to provide Pathways to Justice in their communities. NCCJD will also be offering the Pathways to Justice program at cost to chapters not selected for stipends. Find out more information

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about the Chapter application and Pathways to Justice here. To apply, please fill out the brief form found here. The deadline to apply is Monday, March 21, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact: Ashley Brompton, Criminal Justice Fellow at [brompton@thearc.org](mailto:brompton@thearc.org) or (202) 600-3491.

- Staff sent 43 letters to local law enforcement agencies and training academies located in 9 counties of North State Region to introduce the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), inform them of the mission and function of agency including, identifying trends and needs regarding law enforcement interactions with people with disabilities. The outreach letter addresses 2 questions that we are asking assistance from them to consider answering and returning: a. What is your best estimate as to the number of calls your agency handles, in regard to subjects with disabilities (whether as victims, witnesses, suspects, or citizens requesting assistance/information)? What percentage of your overall call response/caseload does this number represent? b. Does your agency have or participate in a Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) or a comparable, multi-disciplinary equivalent? (If yes, please provide us with contact information so that we may extend our training/technical assistance opportunity to that team, as well.) The letters were sent on 2-11-16 and on 2-29-16 received the first response from Tulelake Police Department. Staff will wait for more letters/responses and then will summarize the information learned from the feedback.
- SCDD staff mailed letters to all law enforcement and public safety agencies (85) throughout the 10 county catchment area to promote outreach providing information of SCDD's role. The purpose of this outreach is to assist SCDD in identifying trends and needs regarding law enforcement interactions with people with disabilities so SCDD may provide assistance to agency staff, including training, resources, technical consultation and information on best practices in serving and protecting citizens with disabilities (and their family members) within our community. Included in the mailing was a questionnaire to be returned so SCDD could gather information about their agency needs.
- Staff sent 33 letters to the local law enforcement agencies and training academies to gather information about their interactions/involvement with people with disabilities; as well as their involvement with the Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams (PERT). To date, no responses received.
- SCDD Los Angeles staff shared information about a Women and Girl's HIV festival

#### **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.

to be held in Pasadena with the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County's Facebook page. 30 people currently follow this FB page.

### Goal #5

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.

- SCDD staff produced an emergency preparedness handbook designed to help people with disabilities and their caregivers prepare for an emergency, as they may have extra planning needs and considerations. This plain-language handbook explains the different types of emergency situations to be prepared for, how to make a plan, tips for specific disabilities, and how to decide whether to stay or evacuate, the considerations for evacuation, and resources specific to California. This handbook was adapted, with permission, from the State of Alaska's Health and Disability Program toolkit "Get Ready! Alaska's emergency preparedness toolkit for people with disabilities."
- SCDD Staff co-hosted a community outreach meeting regarding emergency preparedness. The Vacaville Police Department has an "At-Risk-ID" program. If you have a family member with Alzheimer's, Dementia, Autism, Special Needs, etc., you can make an appointment to register them in the program. The Program Coordinator takes down basic information about the person, take their picture, and fingerprint them. The information gets placed in a binder in dispatch for reference in the event the person should wander off, go missing, or is lost. The information is shared with surrounding law enforcement agencies. In light of recent tragic events involving persons with mental health/intellectual disabilities, families would like to have this program expanded to include law enforcement dispatch notifying responders to the fact that a listed address is residence to a person with a known disability which may possibly limit/impair one's ability to comprehend verbal/complex instructions.

## 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.

- Staff participated in a webinar where the team discussed conservatorship and alternatives to conservatorship, A representative from ACLU lead a discussion of supported decision making and the team viewed a video and discussed person centered planning. The team also reviewed progress of the North California Business Advisory Council.
- SCDD staff participated in Alta California Regional Center's Request for Proposal (RFP) for Community Placement Planning for consumers moving from Developmental Centers. There were 58 people in attendance, including Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) staff, potential ACRC residential service providers, Behavior vendors, Dental associates, mental health professionals, and Not for Profit (NPO) agencies. ACRC has 50 consumers currently at Sonoma DC and another 10 who's family is requesting placement in ACRC's catchment area. The average age of these consumers is 55 years, 26 live in the ICF portion of SDC; 24 are living in the SNF portion of SDC. Currently, ACRC has in progress 4 Adult Residential Facilities for People with Special Health Care Needs (ARFPSHN) which are due to open by 2016-17. ACRC Community Placement Plans for fiscal year 2015-16 include: Specialized Behavioral Crisis Services, to provide support to consumers in their home 1 Specialized Residential Home for 3 adults with Autism 1 Specialized Residential Home for 4 adults with sex offense backgrounds 1 Enhanced Behavioral Supports Home (EBSH) for 4 adults; this would be a NPO owned home Dental Services (collaborate with a community partner to create specialized dental services) 2 Community Crisis Homes, each for 4 adults; this would be a NPO owned home (This RFP cycle will be for the NPO, next year's RFP cycle will be for the provider). This is ACRC's first attempt in working with an NPO. SCDD staff offered assistance to ACRC in the RFP process.
- SCDD staff met with members of the Disability Collaborative to continue planning for continued outreach and training for individuals, students, and families regarding financial needs, services, and monetary aspects of disability services. The collaborative is made up of individuals, from Expandability, Achieve School, and Parents Helping Parents
- SCDD staff attended the annual Golden Gate Regional Center Employment Summit which included featured speakers from two day service agencies which also offer job development for consumers seeking employment (Harambee and Gatepath). In addition, the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) presented facts and implementation plans for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

## Goal #6

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(WIOA). DOR's transition plan will be submitted to the Department of Labor for approval on March 3rd. Impacts to system include: • Measure success criteria • Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) • Services to youth; Students 16-21; Youth 14-24 • Pre-Employment Transition Services • Supported Employment • Limitations on use of sub minimum wage Supported Employment: • Integrated for short term (6 months), working toward CIE • Individual plans have to say CIE by July 1, 2016 • Sub minimum wage can only be accepted on a LIMITED basis, progress must be occurring in at least one or more of the following areas: Independence, Use of transportation, Advancement in role, Social Skills, Interpersonal, Work Ethic, Productivity WIOA states: Individuals with disabilities, especially youth with disabilities, must be afforded a full opportunity to prepare for, obtain, maintain, advance in, or reenter competitive integrated employment.

- Council Staff conducted follow-up activities in preparation for the transition panel which will be held in May. Staff updated the agency contact list and prepared and disseminated the Save the Date fliers to increase agency participation at the event and resource fair. This event is a vital source of information to transition age young adults, family members and older adults who want to make informed choices about work, social programs, post-secondary education, financial services and other programs as services in the community.
- The Orange County Adult Transition Task Force (OCATTF) is a monthly collaboration where leaders from education, business, service agencies and family advocacy groups come together to share resources and address programming concerns specific to the successful transition of individuals with disabilities from school to work and community living. The following topics were discussed: 1. Presentation by Orange County Health Care Agency on LGBT training and resources for school personnel and how to create inclusive environments and "safe spaces" on school campuses. 2. Glennwood Housing presentation 3. Agency announcements and upcoming events. In addition to participating in the general meeting discussions, SCDD staff provided participants with information on our upcoming events and the new self-advocacy meetings taking place this month.
- Staff organized training for the Butte-Glenn Partners in Transition Committee meeting on 2-11-16 by Vicki Shadd, Glenn County SELPA and Special Education Director, to present on Community of Practice, Transition Alliance, California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY), and Competitive Integrated Competitive (CIE). Vicki has been involved with youth to adult transition for most

## 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.

of her career and she is an active member of each group. Vicki discussed California Secondary Community of Practice (CoP), it's leadership, National Collaborative Partners, California Community of Practice Partners and Best Practices. The goals focus on capacity building within the state. The California CoP Co-Coordinator are Jennifer Bianchi, [jbianchi@cde.ca.gov](mailto:jbianchi@cde.ca.gov) and Linda Ramos, [linda.romas@dor.ca.gov](mailto:linda.romas@dor.ca.gov). California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY) was discussed [www.semel.ucla.edu/tarjan/employment](http://www.semel.ucla.edu/tarjan/employment). The California Transition Alliance supports youth-serving professionals who assist youth and families as they transition from secondary education to adult life.

[www.catransitionalliance.org](http://www.catransitionalliance.org). Transition Alliance has been members throughout California's regions, website contains many resources to utilize including a recent guide to helping young people achieve competitive, integrated employment. 15 professionals were trained who support young people and/or agencies that are developing new ways to support young people to achieve competitive integrated employment.

- SCDD staff attended the Sacramento County Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting for the purpose sharing information on Employment First legislation. Transition age students are receiving either a diploma or certificate of completion at graduation and would like to get a job therefore school districts need up to date information on Employment and opportunities. SCDD staff distributed a flyer with helpful websites for information and upcoming forums in the local area covering this topic. Sacramento County SELPA covers 10 school districts throughout the greater Sacramento area. Representation from 6 of the school districts were present today. There were 4 parents, 3 teachers, 6 professionals at today's meeting.
- Students from SUSD came to the office to learn work skills. This month they helped with opening survey envelopes, sorting surveys by language, putting them in numerical order and then binding them into bundles of 25.
- The Transition Coalition met to review the upcoming training information, and share information. In addition to the "APP" training coming up on March 5th, the Post-Secondary Education Options session will be held on April 16th, and this will include a representative from a Tailored Day Service that provides support and coaching to PSE students on a variety of cam campuses throughout the County. On May 14th we will have a presentation by one of the Department of Rehabilitation Work Incentive Planners on "Benefits for those Transitioning". There will not be a training in June due to the many activities occurring, and

## 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.

participants will be polled during the upcoming trainings to gauge if there is interest in attending further trainings in July and August. The committee also suggested moving the training location to a college campus to spark the interest of students and families, so a member volunteered to explore that option. Future topics will include a basic overview of Transition and effective Transition Plans; Employment First; Living options panel; various day services available, and possibly a "Transition Governance" training for teachers within the transition programs. The idea of holding transition fairs in the various Regional Center offices was discussed, as it would alleviate the burden of providers having to attend many local school presentations, and also offer an opportunity to do workshops, and have other important partners present as well. The Transition Alliance will be holding their Statewide Conference at the Sheraton, Harbor Island Hotel December 5-7, so the committee would like to encourage students and families to attend, as the last time it was held the notice was very short. Also, Access 2 Independence now has a Driving Simulator available for students and others to utilize!

- Staff participated in a collaborative meeting where the cases of 21 regional center supported students from San Joaquin County who are transitioning from educational to adult services in the Spring were discussed. The team reviewed the student's interests, hopes and dreams for activities after transition. The students were represented by their teachers. The intent of the meeting was to insure that the students have sufficient planning to promote a smooth transition and that all students were aware of employment as an option after completing educational programs.
- Staff participated in the regular meeting for the Stanislaus County Transition Task Force. Team discussed agency activities, recent SELIT meeting and meeting schedules for upcoming Stanislaus Transition Taskforce meetings. Discussion of day programs with braided funding supporting employment outcomes. Crafted meeting notes, emailed to team 2/23/16.

### 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.

- Staff participated in the Orange County Child Care and Development Planning Council's "Inclusion Collaborative" that meets monthly to ensure that children, age 0–12, with disabilities have equal access to all types of child care and education programs. Most notable is that the Inclusion Pathway, developed by the committee, is completed and should be "live" within the next couple of months; there was a delay due to formatting when it is programmed into the computer. This pathway serves to help all child care providers obtain the tools and resources they need to be more inclusive. The matrix will take the provider through a series of questions and they will be able to identify where they are in the process toward becoming an inclusive child care site and how to help them reach their goals. Each collaborative member will be responsible to educate child care and other providers about the Inclusion Pathway once it is "live." The first opportunity, provided it is up on the OCDE webpage, will be at the Santa Ana College Human Development Spring Conference on May 14th, attended by child care providers, ECE students, teachers, and other providers serving young children. This year's focus will be on inclusion and fostering inclusive environments. Also discussed at this meeting was an update on the progress of the survey that recently rolled out to providers to gauge their level of knowledge and skill in addressing children with behavior and social/emotional developmental concerns as well as how many of those providers are currently serving children with disabilities and has prior experiences prevented them from creating a more inclusive setting now, if they don't have one.
- SCDD staff developed and presented a PowerPoint on "Making Sense of the IEP" for 11 CHS childcare providers. The presentation focused on: (1) the IEP process; (2) documents used during an IEP; (3) how child care providers can involve themselves in the IEP, their contribution to the meetings; (4) helping parents through the process; and (5) student rights.

### 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.

- SCDD facilitated a meeting between the group and the office building where SCDD is a tenant, this led to the group being able to come into the building to sell their snack/food on the premise. The goal is to provide employment opportunities and vocational training to each client enrolled in Vocation Plus, Inc. Snacks To You program. Further, SCDD staff introduced Vocation Plus, Inc. - Snacks To You and the products/menus to all tenants that occupy the three story office building. Tenants were excited to have these services available to them. Snacks To You will now be providing services to the building Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 - 11:00 each week. They currently sell snacks, drinks and lunches to approximately 32 tenants in the three story building occupied by Sequoia Regional Office.
- SCDD Los Angeles staff developed a PowerPoint to explain in plain language the State of California Limited Examination and Employment Program (LEAP).
- Staff participated in the quarterly taskforce group meeting. The group reviewed and gave feedback on the Business Outreach Flyer being developed by the Business Partner Collaborative committee. The school district committee is working on a Transition Roadmap that can be used by school districts to orient parents to the questions and time lines that may affect their student's transition from school district support to support from Regional Center/Dept of Rehabilitation. Taskforce members in attendance were the following: Access to Independence, local adult services agencies, Dept of Rehabilitation, San Diego Regional Center, Goodwill Industries, Job Corp, Youth Employment Opportunity Program, San Marcos Unified School District, North County Lifeline, local employer and North Coastal Consortium for Special Education.
- Staff facilitated a meeting of individuals interested in improving employment practices in the Valley Mountain Regional Center catchment. Provided a meeting room and took meeting notes. Team discussed best practice in job development and job coaching methods and procedures and techniques. Regional Center offered technical assistance to vendors re job develop-.

### Goal #9

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

- SCDD staff participated in the UCD Think Transition meeting at UCD Mind Institute, Sacramento. The purpose of this meeting is to explore resources and best practices for individuals with ID/DD transitioning into independent living and work. Supported Decision-Making/Conservatorship was the featured topic and a video produced by the CEDD at the UC Davis MIND Institute was viewed. Person Centered Planning and Employment were discussed with resources and contacts noted in the agenda.
- SCDD staff hosted the Business Advisory Council (BAC) planning meeting on February 3rd. There were 8 members from various partner agencies including: UC Davis Mind Institute; InAlliance; Progressive Employment; Department of Rehabilitation; California Employment and Training Agency and parent advocate. The purpose of our meeting today was to evaluate events from the Quarterly meeting on January 27, 2016 and strategic planning for the next Northern California Business Advisory Council's Business Partners event which is a collaborative effort to promote a partnership between local businesses/employers and employment and training programs. The goal of the Northern California Business Advisory Committee is to do outreach to businesses so they can share their insight and expertise specific to their company and the industry sector they represent. In sharing this insight and expertise, the California Business Advisory Council planning team members learn what businesses need in their workforce and what skills people with ID/DD can provide. Collaboration and networking with businesses, both private and public and large and small is critical for the success of expanding employment options and opportunities for individuals with ID/DD. Current supported employment agencies benefit from collective brainstorming for outreach to businesses, it is the hope of this Northern California Business Advisory Council to provide information and describe concerns or misconceptions companies may have about employing people with disabilities.
- Fifty consumers supported in group employment sites by the Anaheim Office of Social Vocational Services was expected to lose their jobs effective 2/29/2016 due to SVS's decision to close their Anaheim office. The Program Director explained that "Contracts were never re-negotiated and with the minimum \$10.00 per hour increase, the contract sites do not want to pay new rates to cover for new wage increase." Several parents and self-advocates contacted SCDD in hopes to save the jobs and after much discussion and collaboration with SVS and RCOC, 39 of the 50 consumers will keep their jobs with re-negotiated employer contracts to reflect prevailing wages. Two of the groups (11 consumers) will terminate as a

### Goal #9

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result of the employer closing an office (due to an acquisition) and the other group was a mobile car washing that was not able to sustain due to lack of business. While the Anaheim office will still close, SVS's other locations (Diamond Bar and Santa Fe Springs) will continue to support the 11 SEP groups. RCOC Service Coordinators are working with the 11 affected consumers to link them with other vendors for job development.

- Staff participated in the Orange County Employment Advocacy Network (OCEAN) collaborative that meets monthly to identify issues and develop solutions to the changes that are occurring with respect to employment and day services. At this meeting, the following topics were discussed: (1) OCTA elimination of bus routes affecting consumer employment, (2) DOR services that are not commonly known and therefore requested by clients (e.g. tattoo removal, funding for computer equipment, funding for PO boxes) (3) information about upcoming OCEAN Fall "Employment Conference and Resource Fair". OCEAN, established in 1991, is a professional association that assists members and employers in creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.
- The Project College committee reviewed marketing efforts to date, and identified new avenues to send the information through. The new brochures are ready also. To date we have received 5 applications, and the deadline of April 1 is fast approaching. Interviews will take place during April, with students selected by May 1, 2016. It is a goal of the committee to have the application available for completion on-line, and the supporting documentation uploaded. The contract with USD has been signed, and two foundations have notified the committee of their support. The question was raised if there would be enough scholarship money to go around, and it was stated that we will award scholarships as requested, and UCP will figure out a way to cover any shortfalls that may occur. The schedule for the week was reviewed and changed a bit, and the Friday morning activity at the end of the week was refined a bit more. There is also a PhD Candidate at USD that is interested in joining our committee, and will be at our next meetings. The focus on including this student would be to solidify a process that would encourage parents to follow-up on the gains students make during the week. We are looking at ways that the gains in student leadership and independence we observe during the week can be supported on an ongoing basis by the family. A cohort reunion was scheduled for April 23rd, at the office of the State Council.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff coordinated with the Redlands

### **Goal #9**

Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

Unified School District along with East Valley Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) to provide pre-employment training to the transitional partnership program (TPP) students at the Redlands East Valley High School TPP class within San Bernardino County. The curriculum was developed by SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff and the presentation is designed to provide the students informational tips on appropriate attire and hygiene when job searching, during the interview process and ultimately to maintain employment.

- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office Manager and staff attended the Giving Opportunities to All "G.O.A.L" Luncheon with the Mayor of Temecula. The objective of the luncheon is for businesses to learn about the benefits of hiring, retaining and advancing people with disabilities. Guest speakers from EXCEED, Albertsons, LOWE's and DOR discussed businesses that are inclusive of people with disabilities in recruitment, retention, and advancement benefit from a wider pool of talent, skills, and creative business solutions and actually promote workplace success for everyone. SCDD provided handout materials after presentation in the vendor portion of the luncheon such as "What is Self Determination" 60 English 60 Spanish, "Then & Now Area Board Name Change" 60 English & Spanish, "SCDD Upcoming Trainings Flyer" 60 English, and "Free Training Opportunities" 60 English.

### 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.

- SCDD staff was asked to discuss Winter Health at the People First Meeting in February 2016 to community and clients. SCDD reviewed the material sent out in the SCDD newsletter. There were over 24 participants that attended. The participants were actively engaged in how to stay healthy during flu season and how to take precautions for germ exposure.
- SCDD staff participated in the Disability Advisory Committee for CA Health & Wellness to assist their managed care agency to meet the needs of people with disabilities to better access medical services under their plan. Due to the efforts of this committee, all Treatment Authorization Requests to Medi-Cal for hospital dentistry are being approved. The committee reviewed the results of the 2015 Member Satisfaction Survey and made suggestions to improve the survey or the methods of contacting members. The survey was only available in English and Spanish and not in plain language. This is a federal survey so they have limited ability to make changes. Based on the results of the 2015, the committee also made recommendations for improving health services to members. CA H&W staff discussed a Telehealth Pilot through Ampla in Chico and Yuba City called Video Remote Interpretation (VRI). Members will be able to go to these clinics for drop-in appointments and access a language and sign language interpreting video system. This system was demonstrated during the meeting. There are other clinics where members can access specialists who are not located in that clinic. These are both pilot projects that take into consideration the rural communities they serve and the large distances to access specialty care. CA H&W discussed a merger with Health Net. Centene (parent company of CA H&W) is in the process of purchasing Health Net which serves 1.8 million members, mostly in the central valley and southern CA. CA H&W currently has 186,000 members in California.
- Staff participating in planning project for Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN) to organize a community forum on June 23, 2016. The planning committee includes representatives from Disability Action Center (DAC), Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy (OCRA), Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) and Passages - Area Agency on Aging. The structure has been decided and we are planning to have two parts for the day's program. The morning portion will focus on understanding mandated changes to healthcare, as exemplified by the 1115 waiver. Margaret Tatar, Managing Principal with Health Management Associates and formerly with Department of Health Care Services, has accepted our invitation and will be the lead presenter, followed by an opportunity for our audience to engage with Margaret Tatar a Q-and-A session. The afternoon session would be structured as

## **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.

presenting a local model of integrated care. The planning committee is considering contacting Lynn Dorrah, director of the Hill Country Health & Wellness Center, located in Round Valley and now in Redding. Information about integrated model care: <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/what-is-integrated-care> The planning committee is meeting regularly for the next several months to finalize speakers, program, resources, survey tool, refreshments, etc. It is important to note that through our relationships with California Health & Wellness, we were able to approach Margaret Tatar who willingly accepted our request for her to speak on 1115 Waiver. It is important because she was one of the main people at Department of Health Care Services who was involved in writing the waiver that was ultimately approved by the Federal Government for California. Margaret has been involved with development and implementation of Medi-Cal Managed Care Program in the state.

- Upon receiving a letter from a local dentist describing their willingness and ability to treat clients with developmental disabilities, SCDD staff forwarded the information to the local Family Resource Center requesting they add the information to their service directory.
- Staff distributed information about changes to In-Home Supportive Services Program (IHSS) via E-Blast on 2-1-16 to 400 people. Titled "New Rules for IHSS: Overtime and Related Changes - January 25, 2016" by Elissa Gershon, Senior Counsel Deborah Doctor, Legislative Advocate - Disability Rights California, provides a detailed overview of the changes in an easy to understand guide. This has been a huge change for IHSS Program as overtime did not apply. This has caused a lot of fear and concern for recipients and providers. Staff is a committee member of Butte County IHSS Advisory Committee, and has contributed to educating the North State Region on these changes that were coming, but it will take some time and adjustments for the overall IHSS Program. The Public Authorities are providing trainings, the website contains all the information and videos/materials in numerous languages, Disability Rights California and many other Statewide Coalitions and networks have been getting the information out. The complexity of system changes takes time and training. However, the reassuring fact is, "for the great majority of consumers, these new limits will not change how things work now."
- Sent info on the following webinar: RRTCDD 2016 Health and Wellness Series Webinar: The Experience of and Outcomes for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Families in Managed Health Care: Lessons

## 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.

Learned February, 18th, 2016, 3-4PM EST This webinar will present results from a four year evaluation of an integrated care program in which people transferred from fee-for-service Medicaid to managed health care, and will include innovative ways to assess the views of people with I/DD regarding their health and healthcare, outcomes of the transition, and strategies resulting in better health care outcomes. Lessons learned will address the role of continuity of care, care coordination, consumer choice, and family involvement in meeting the health care needs of people with I/DD and ways to improve these aspects. Learn more about the presenters and register here. Presenters: Tamar Heller, PhD and Randall Owen, PhD

- Staff sent out an E-Blast: Article on Justice For Jeremy- from our area: STOCKTON — Wearing a white T-shirt with the words “Justice For Jeremy” on his back, the father of a man who was found drowned in the San Joaquin River days after being released from the San Joaquin County Jail in 2009 told the county supervisors Tuesday that there is a need for society to make advances in the mental health field.
- North Coast SCDD staff met with Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center staff and Board in February to continue planning for the "Cycle Without Limits" Bike Camp project of teaching intellectually and developmentally disabled to ride a bicycle. The ARRC Recreation Center Director and Board, the Health Department staff, United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay and 3 family advocates are participating in the project planning. It was to occur in March but will now be scheduled to July. The "Cycle Without Limits" Bike Camp provided by United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay called "Play Without Limits will be offered in the summer at Grace Hudson School. It is one of the new projects that will be offered at the Open ARRC Recreation Center. This project would provide an 5 day instructional program that teaches children with a variety of disabilities on how to ride a conventional two wheeled bicycle without the use of training wheels. The Recreation Center will be the sponsor and host for the training. This activity would provide an opportunity for many youth and adults to engage in learning to ride a bicycle. This activity has never been offered before in our service catchment area. The closest is in Sonoma County.
- In collaboration with its community health partners, SCDD called and hosted its task force's behavioral health committee meeting with County healthcare officials; CalOptima's Behavioral Healthcare CMO; Legal Aid Society of Orange County's Healthcare Attorney; RCOC; DRC; and a self-advocate and family

## **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.

member/advocate. Members met to address the critical lack of appropriate and timely care for dually-diagnosed Orange County residents in need of behavioral healthcare crisis intervention, services, and placement. Also discussed was the dental care survey created by a family advocate, with assistance from RCOC and other healthcare officials, that went out to over 19,000 RCOC consumers via their quarterly publication "The Dialogue." Sadly, only 10 responses were received and it is not statistically significant to write to legislators and State Medi-Cal officials. While the issue of dental care is addressed Statewide through other means, the purpose of this survey was to elicit responses and feedback from Orange County residents due to the limited number of dentists providing treatment to our population in this area. CalOptima's Medical Director of Behavioral Health Integration discussed the transition of ABA funding from the regional center system to CalOptima, which just rolled out this month in February 2016. The majority of the RCOC-vendored ABA agencies have vendored with CalOptima for consumer continuity of care; however, there are about 10 vendors who opted not to vendor and those consumers will be forced to switch providers.

- This was the first year that the State Council participated in the Health and Wellness Resource Fair. The Annual Health, Wellness and Resource Fair features booths from various departments at the hospitals and community partners offering health testing, and health information. Staff provided plain language information about health advocacy: the Medical One Page Person Centered Profile tool, pocket Medication cards and Emergency Contact Cards and anti-bullying literature.
- Staff attended the monthly planning meeting for the Medically Fragile Symposium. The committee wants to focus on transition periods from child to adult. It is not clear yet if the committee wants to focus on a specific age range or not. That will be determined over the next couple meetings. The committee decided to form subcommittees to work on specific tasks. A list of tasks was made and will be sent out via email for committee members to review and make a selection for which one to work on. The subcommittees will be formed and ready to begin meeting after the March meeting. The group reviewed 3 drafts for a possible mission statement. After discussion and revision a single statement was developed. This final draft will be approved at the next meeting. The group decided on doing a half day symposium since this will be the first time planning this event. There is still a tentative date of October, 2016 to host this symposium. Those in attendance were the following: California Children Services, San Diego

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Regional Center, San Diego County Office of Education, Arc of San Diego, United Cerebral Palsy Assoc. and Kaiser Permanente.

- SCDD staff discussed with Hope Services about collaboration with Behavioral Health Services of Santa Clara County to expand mental health services for people with developmental disability. SCDD and Hope staff researched statistical data to develop a profile of the mental health needs for Santa Clara County. Hope reports having a good relationship with the mental health providers within the county and are the number one resource for services for people with developmental disability. Hope wants to insure the good relationship continues and as best possible, maximize funding opportunities. SCDD staff contacted the staff from Alameda County DD Council to learn more of clinic developed through their county services and their collaboration with the developmental services community.
- SCDD Los Angeles office Manager and staff participated as a federal partner in USC UCEDD's Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit input from the CAC on some of the UCEDD's projects, including: training about the regional center disparity data for diverse communities, an upcoming dual diagnosis conference, upcoming webinar topics, and a project to address anxiety and depression in youth with autism and other developmental disabilities. There was much interest and discussion about each project. Regarding the diversity project. SCDD staff shared our willingness to provide simplified summaries of the data for the community, and to provide Chinese translation for training materials as needed and as time permits.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Office collaborated with Desert ARC in Palm Desert of Riverside County to provide a training during the self-advocacy group regarding profile information a self-advocate may give to a medical professional, regional center worker, department of rehabilitation counselor regarding specific personality characteristics, important information about self and some pre-existing medical conditions. This (part 1 training) is designed to have the self-advocate begin to identify, acknowledge and understand specific personality traits as well as medical needs they may have with the hopes of having better personal insight into themselves.

### 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.

- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office Manager and staff met with the Fair Housing Council of Riverside County to discuss a collaboration within agencies to provide information in the form of community outreach presentations about affordable housing, programs and service to increase independent living within the county of Riverside. The discussion resulted in an agreement to hold (1) one Affordable Housing and Independent Living Skills and Services presentation each month throughout the county beginning in March and ending in September. Future dates to be scheduled for the next federal fiscal year. In addition to the trainings, the Housing Council will provide the opportunity for consumers and families to receive one-on-one counseling with a representative to discuss individual housing needs and concerns.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office Manager and Staff met with the Director of Policy and Community Affairs of the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino to discuss a collaboration within agencies to provide information in the form of community outreach presentations about affordable housing, programs and service to increase independent living within the county of San Bernardino. The discussion resulted in an agreement to hold (1) one Affordable Housing and Independent Living Skills and Services presentation each month beginning in March and ending in September. Future dates to be scheduled for the next federal fiscal year. The catchment areas throughout the county are to be targeted to ensure that the training is offered and accessible by all consumers and families.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff coordinated training opportunities regarding a variety of living options for individual self-advocates who attended the program Innovative Business Partnership (IBP) in Victorville within San Bernardino County. In the past, during the Self-Advocacy groups the discussion has often turned to what are the living options for those individuals who reside within the high desert. The presentation began with a viewing of the DVD produced by CA. Employment Development Department and entitled "A day in the life of Richard Devylder". The DVD chronicles Mr. Devylder, who has no arms or legs and shows how he is able to live independently regardless of his severe disabilities. Then the presentation portions of the group discussed the different living options for individuals who are Regional Center consumer/ self-advocates. Discussed were living options such as the family home, community care facilities (CCF) and the various levels of CCF's. In addition, Family Home Agency options were discussed as well as Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) and (SNF) Skilled Nursing Facilities. Ultimately, a lot of focus and interest was surrounding (SLS)

**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.

Supportive Living Services to provide individuals who wanted to live independently within the community services and supports within their own living environment.

## Goal #12

Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

- Staff organized a presentation on Chico Cohousing by Dan Strauss, parent on 2-22-16 to 13 people at Butte County Coordinating Council meeting. The project was driven by his son and his own recognition that he will not be around forever. Dan formed a small team of people to research cohousing in hopes to build a successful cohousing project in Chico. The vision of Chico Cohousing would include a supportive, inclusive community for adults with developmental disabilities and their families for years to come. This is a model where caregivers and other family members live along with adults with developmental disabilities. The families would invest and build the home in the development project. Cohousing examples: Nevada City Cohousing <http://www.nccoho.org/> Wolf Creek Lodge <http://www.wolfcreeklodge.org/> Silver Sage Village <https://bouldersilversage.wordpress.com/> FrogSong Cohousing <http://www.cotaticohousing.org/> Pleasant Hill Cohousing <http://phch.org/> After years of research, it became difficult to find families that were willing to invest in the project. Although he believes in cohousing as a model, he concludes that it's too expensive for Chico and not enough people willing/afford to invest. Community is one of the biggest unmet needs for people with developmental disabilities and their families. Dan looks forward to working with the community to continue the quest to develop housing environments that are safe and build community.
- SCDD SV/MB staff met with Housing Choices Coalition Director and Public Outreach staff to discuss how SCDD can work in cooperation with organization to promote housing. It was agreed SCDD can be helpful with informing public about public meetings on housing where advocacy is needed as well as train Subsidized Housing and methods to advocate.
- The Behavioral Health and Recovery Board reappointed North Coast staff to the housing committee. As part of this activity staff is following the progress of the low income housing projects in the county. SCDD staff was invited to participate in two special public forum in Feb. 2016 to discuss the future of MHSA funded housing opportunities for consumers and services provided by Behavioral Health and services needed in the county. The meetings were attended by 47 family members, community, self-advocates, community health programs, contracted programs and Behavioral Health Board staff.
- SCDD staff met with housing advocate to discuss housing opportunities in the catchment area. Staff facilitated introduction between this advocate and the future director of GGRC. Advocate wants to present her concept of housing

## **Goal #12**

Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

development for men and women with developmental disability.

- SCDD L.A. Office staff represented the council as a member of the North Los Angeles County Regional Center Community Placement Plan (CPP) Request for Proposals (RFP) Review Committee on February 25, 2016. The Community Services Department of the North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC), in conjunction with NLACRC's approved Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Community Placement Plan with the Department of Developmental Services, released RFPs seeking submissions which will serve individuals who are moving into the community from the California Developmental Centers and/or require similar services but are currently residing in the community. Proposals were sought for a Specialized Adult Residential Facility for up to 4 adults, and Day or Vocational Services. NLACRC received two proposals for the Specialized Adult Residential Facility and three proposals for Day or Vocational Services. SCDD L.A. Office staff read and scored all five proposals prior to the committee meeting using a scoring sheet developed by NLACRC. At the meeting the committee discussed each proposal in detail and shared their scores. In-person interviews with the selected finalists will be held in March. SCDD L.A. Office staff will participate in the interview process.
- Developed and have approved by HCC a presentation on Housing Advocacy. SCDD SV/MB will inform community of the availability of this training.

### **Goal #13**

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- Staff assisted with the Kiwanis Aktion Club official charter night appointment of officers. The group primarily serves transition-aged youth between the ages of 16 through 25, although all ages are welcome, and essentially functions as a self-advocacy group teaching youths how to become leaders in their community and self-advocates. This group compliments the other self-advocacy groups facilitated by SCDD staff in that this group is serving those transitioning to adulthood and independence and the other two groups are primarily serving adults over the age of 30 who already live independently, have work experience, etc. At some point in the future, the hope is that some of the older self-advocates can attend an Aktion Club meeting to help mentor and offer guidance to their younger counterparts. It is the hope that the collaboration between SCDD, Project Independence, and the Kiwanis Club will generate additional interest, membership, and possible funding to increase activities that promote community integration, socialization, and self-advocacy.
- E-Blasts were sent to SCDD SV/MB mailing list informing community about:
  - SSAN Webinar sponsored by the ILC.
  - Announce upcoming performing art showcase and talent show by performers with a developmental disability.
  - Request SCDD SV/MB contact California representatives to support the MCOE tax reform and funding of developmental services.
  - Notification of the transitioning of ABS services to Medi-Cal.
  - Announcement of a school aged advocacy workshop.
  - Announcement of a person centered planning workshop hosted by local family resource center.
  - Announcement of a Wrights Law Training
  - Announcement of the appointment of new GGRC Director
  - Announcement of Regional Center POS Report Community meetings.
  - Request to RAC and community for input on SCDD SV/MB Cycle 39 Grant Funding Priorities.
  - Request to community for input on proposed 2017– 21 State Plan.
- SCDD Los Angeles staff participated as an exhibitor at the Autism Society of Los Angeles New Day Conference on 2-18-16, which hosted many community care providers, advocates, vendors, families, and consumers/self-advocates. Exhibitors offered information on advocacy, training, FMS services, ILS/SLS services, developmental screenings, residential options, and self-advocacy to name a few. SCDD staff provided information on upcoming trainings (SD facilitator, Special Education), distributed the SCDD brochure, applications for SD committee participation, bullying guide, IEP/IPP strategy guides, and provided referral to community resources and technical assistance for many family members and professionals. Additionally, about 35 people requested to be added to our e-

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newsletter.

- Staff met with a local family advocate and self-advocate to discuss new and innovative ways that family and self-advocates are able to collaborate, navigate, and advocate the complicated service delivery system with a request that SCDD staff join their board of directors. We discussed outreaching to & training the underserved ethnic communities and providing pro-bono and/or sliding scale representation; community disability awareness and training community organizations on implementation of inclusive practices; and the self-advocate component of creating a psychologist-led self-advocate support group to address issues such as relationships and sexuality that are rarely addressed in order forums. The self-advocate component would also promote empowerment, opportunity, and inclusion, and ways for self-advocates to give back to the community, which again ties in with the community awareness component. The SA and FA are in process of obtaining their 501c3 status and currently networking with community partners/agencies toward the realization of creating a company where inclusion is a philosophy.
- SCDD attended Dayle McIntosh Center's Open House to see their new facility and meet with their staff, including their new Executive Director. During this Open House, SCDD staff and the DMC Executive Director discussed future collaboration ideas and ways that our agencies can partner on issues of mutual interest, such as self-advocacy and bullying prevention and education. We also discussed reviving/reinvigorating a prior collaboration started by SCDD and DMC called the Disability Rights Workshop (DRW), to help educate persons with disabilities on emergency preparedness, health care, and abuse prevention. The last DRW conference was in April 2014 and featured keynote speakers Richard Devylder, CalOES Office for Access and Functional Needs, and Brenda Primo, Founding Director of Western University's Center for Disability Issues and the Health Professions. Unfortunately, due to changes in the collaborating partners, the event in 2015 was cancelled and the collaborative has yet to meet to discuss future plans.
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with the camp information to Tuolumne Trails, an accessible camp in the beautiful hills of Tuolumne County.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff participated in a community outreach event entitled "Fiesta Educativa" coordinated by the Festival of Education Group where several local agencies provided information and disseminated materials. SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff spoke with several agencies at the

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event and provided handouts. and event attendees regarding SCDD outreach and systemic change involvement. At which time we distributed to the attendees the following materials; "A note from your Regional Center Service Coordinator", the brochure entitled "SCDDisability Advisory Committee", "SCDD What is Self-Determination?" & the Spanish equivalent "Que Es La Autodeterminacion?", SCDD "Self-Determination The Main Ideas", SCDD, San Bernardino Office one-pager "What is the State Council on Developmental Disabilities?", SCDD "Employment First Policy", SCDD "Then & Now", SCDD, San Bernardino office flyer "Free training opportunities available", SCDD "IPP Basics" one pager, SCDD one pager "Lo Basico del IPP", SCDD one pager "IEP BASICS", SCDD one pager "Lo Basico Del IEP", OAH tri-fold "Solving Special Education Disputes Between Parents and School District", What can you do campaign, "Fostering CAN-DO Attitudes at Work".

- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance via phone to a self-advocate who is currently in a group home but feels that her concerns are not being addressed by her service coordinator and the group home staff. The self-advocate wants to move from her current group home either into another group home or on her own with a roommate if possible.
- North Coast staff facilitated the free use of the ARRC for the Special Olympics to have their annual basketball barbecue at the ARRC in March. This helps to improve access to community and recreational activities for individuals with disabilities at the "ARRC" Center. The collaborators included participants from the ARRC, Special Olympics, and the City of Ukiah. Normally there is a charge for the facility use. As they will be using the whole facility the ARRC Board is providing a scholarship of \$1,500 for the use of the 20,000 square foot building. The basketball teams include 85 participants and their families. The ARRC Board held a fundraising event in January to be able to scholarship programs to be able to use the building and not have to pay for cleaning fees and rent.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff coordinated with the City of Hesperia to utilize their public library, created and disseminated event flyers, collaborated and adapted the Department of Rehabilitation power point and facilitated the community outreach training on "Understanding Social Security Benefits & Wages" within the San Bernardino County. The presentation gave attendees information regarding how wages affect public benefits such as; Social Security Income, Social Security Disability Insurance, Medi-Cal and Medicare. In addition, many work incentives programs were discussed and presented in an overview

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format.

- Staff participated in the monthly In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee meeting. A presentation on an "Overview of Elder Law" was given by an attorney from the San Diego Elder Law Center. An update was given on the Fair Labor Standards Act regarding In Home Supportive Services and overtime, travel time, wait time and the status of exemptions for family members. Staff gave a report on the monthly California In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance teleconference call. Those in attendance were the following: Public Authority, In Home Supportive Services, United Domestic Workers Union, consumer, care givers, family members, San Diego Elder Law Center and Aging and Independence Services.
- SCDD staff spoke with director of local service provider about drafting a letter of support for a possible funding request from Palo Alto Medical Foundation to provide support and consultation to potential advocates wanting to develop innovative services.
- Throughout the month of February, the local office of the State Council in San Diego and Imperial sent a variety of informational pieces to the various distribution lists, such as Transition information; Autism related information; etc. Some of these materials included a variety of organization willing to assist with tax preparation; Parents Advocating Together meetings Post-Secondary Education information regarding Universal Design; Various articles related to Employment and People with Disabilities; People First Conference information for both the Imperial Valley Conference and the San Diego Conference; Involved Exceptional Parent Day registration information; Project College information; Youth in Transition information; Kids Included Together training information; CDCAN newsletters sent by Marty Omoto; the Conference sponsored by University of Southern CA; Budget information and requests to reach out to legislators; THINK College Webinar information; Micro-Enterprise Training information; Work Incentive Planning information; and many other local meetings and events that were being conducted throughout the month of February, 2016.
- Staff assisted SSAN member to participate at local transit meeting. Staff supported self-advocate with reading materials and giving feedback during the meeting.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff coordinated and scheduled the event, created and disseminated the flyer for the event, adapted the curriculum from Disability Rights California Office of Clients Rights Advocacy presentation

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and facilitated the "Preparing for the IPP/Individual Program Plan Basic Trg" community outreach event within the Hesperia Public Library in San Bernardino County. The curriculum provided information on preparing for the IPP, important tips on getting quality services from the Regional Center and what to do if things go wrong.

- The SCDD Los Angeles Office staff attended the monthly LA County Commission for Public Social Services on February 11th, 2016. The main topics of discussion were homelessness, CalWORKs and the new IHSS overtime regulations. The discussion about IHSS overtime was fueled by the approach for any "offenders" to the new requirements, citing that when working with people there will likely be unintentional mistakes. The concern from some on the Commission was that it was too punitive (3 mistakes/strikes and then ineligible to be an IHSS worker), which would leave many without essential IHSS services. Additionally as reviewed from the January 2016 meeting, The Whole Child, a resource specific for the Los Angeles area provides free developmental screenings, mental health services, and housing. The next DPSS meeting will be on March 10th, 2016.
- After reading an article that was sent to staff from the SCDD Legislative Deputy-staff wrote the journalist about people first language and reporting standards when writing/reporting on people with intellectual/ developmental disabilities. Email is as follows: Hi Jim- Thanks for this article! Just wanted to share information about writing about folks with developmental disabilities- using people first language. Meaning people are people first – example from your article “Advocates for the developmentally disabled” could read “Advocates for individuals with developmental disabilities” or “arrange services to 300,000 developmentally disabled people” could read “ arrange services to 300,000 people with developmental disabilities”. It may sound trivial- but being in this field- I have heard from many who have a developmental disability that people first language is more respectful. From the National Center on Disability (ncdj.org) The National Center on Disability and Journalism at Arizona State University has released a second, expanded edition of their “one-of-a-kind” style guide for professionals who write about people living with disabilities. The guide provides readers with advice on almost 70 disability-related terms, such as “people-first language” and “able-bodied,” and mentions instances in which disability organizations disagree on the usage of a particular term. The NCDJ also released a companion piece titled, “Terms to Avoid When Writing About Disability.” The style guide can be accessed here <http://ncdj.org/style-guide/> on the web or as a printable PDF, and the

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companion piece can be accessed here. <http://ncdj.org/2015/09/terms-to-avoid-when-writing-about-disability/>

- SCDD Los Angeles office staff participated in the monthly tele-conference of the Paratransit Riders' Coalition (PRC). The two primary discussion items were: 1) to finalize the wording of an invitation to Access Paratransit sub-contractors to attend a future PRC meeting to share concerns and solutions, and; 2) to update the group on ASI's plans to contract-out their Customer Service contract to a private agency. SCDD staff gave some suggestions regarding both items.
- SCDD L.A. staff sent out information about a federal transportation grant to 12 individuals representing 9 agencies. The grant is to fund transportation projects that demonstrate inclusion, coordination, and community collaboration for people with disabilities and older adults. More details can be found at: <http://web1.ctaa.org/webmodules/webarticles/anmviewer.asp?a=3265>
- Staff participated in the Virtual Dental Home Expansion Advisory Committee Meeting in San Francisco on Friday, February 26, 2016. It was held at the UOP School of Dentistry and they requested input into expand their Virtual Dental Home model. They invited many people and organizations and particularly wanted feedback from the intellectual/developmental disabilities communities. They had breakout groups and staff represented SCDD well by giving input and feedback. Staff was able to give an overview of the regional center system as well as the Department of Developmental Services system. This Virtual Dental Home would be a positive generic services to our population.
- Staff attended the RCOC Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) meeting to discuss (1) POS disparity information in Orange County and upcoming public meeting on Feb. 25; and (2) the newly-established self-advocacy groups in Orange County and to encourage vendors to share the information with the consumers they serve. Additionally, staff went to gather information about community issues from the vendor perspective. In addition to staff comments/feedback noted above, the following topics were discussed at this meeting: (1) RCOC is currently developing 6-13 new facilities specifically for residents of Fairview Developmental Center; (2) OCTA recently held the final of the four public meetings regarding the elimination of bus routes; (3) National Core Indicators presentation; and (4) vendor updates. The VAC is comprised of service providers who volunteer their time to attend meetings where service provider needs, issues and concerns are shared and discussed with RCOC. The VAC members serve a vital function as representatives of the service provider community as a whole, providing advice

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and counsel to the Board.

- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff attended the multi-agency collaboration of the Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative (IEDC) meeting. This multi-agency collaboration team meets monthly and generally has a presentation component providing training information regarding a particular agency of the team and highlights the agency and services. This month's training was regarding Exceptional Parents Unlimited (EPU) Children's Center that is a new vendor of the Regional Center and is providing trainings and informational advocacy services regarding educational rights.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff coordinated the event space, created and disseminated flyer's for the event and facilitated 3 community outreach presentations on "Preparing for the IEP" a basic training on the Individual Education Plan adapted from the Disability Rights California presentation "18 Tips for getting Quality Special Education for your Child" at the SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office in San Bernardino County. The presentation is designed to provide information to prepare the attendee for IEP meeting, understanding the process and know what your educational rights are if things go wrong.
- SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff participated in a community outreach event entitled "Life After High School" and coordinated by the Colton Redlands Yucaipa Regional Occupational Program (CRY-ROP) where several local agencies provided information and disseminated materials. SCDD, San Bernardino Regional Office staff spoke with several agencies and event attendees regarding SCDD outreach and systemic change involvement. At which time we distributed to the attendees the following materials; "A note from your Regional Center Service Coordinator", the brochure entitled "SCDDisability Advisory Committee", "SCDD What is Self-Determination?" & the Spanish equivalent "Que Es La Autodeterminacion?", SCDD "Self-Determination The Main Ideas", SCDD, San Bernardino Office one-pager "What is the State Council on Developmental Disabilities?", SCDD "Employment First Policy", SCDD "Then & Now", SCDD, San Bernardino office flyer "Free training opportunities available", SCDD "IPP Basics" one pager, SCDD one pager "Lo Basico del IPP", SCDD one pager "IEP BASICS", SCDD one pager "Lo Basico Del IEP", OAH tri-fold "Solving Special Education Disputes Between Parents and School District", What can you do campaign, "Fostering CAN-DO Attitudes at Work", California Bar Association, "When you Turn 18", & the Spanish equivalent "Cuando ilegas a los 18".

### Goal #14

Public policy in California promotes the independence, productivity, inclusion and self-determination of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

- SCDD staff participated in two discussions hosted by Marty Omoto. One call was with Governor's staff regarding the passage of the MCO Tax Reform and funding for developmental services and strategies to support the passage of law. Information was forwarded to SCDD policy analyst.
- Staff participated on the CHOICES Planning meeting and updated the committee on the artwork, video and t-shirt items. Staff also participated on the subcommittee on the Legislative Panel to be held at the CHOICES 2016 conference. The Legislators have been invited per letter and a follow up will occur. The Self Advocacy Council 6 will be making video "testimony" asking Legislators for their support in finding the system.
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with information on the HCBS Settings Rule: The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, together with other disability and aging advocacy groups, today issued a toolkit to help advocates push for strong implementation of the new Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rules in their states. The new HCBS Settings Rules require all settings funded by Medicaid HCBS programs to, among other things, provide opportunities for participants to be integrated in and engage in community life, have access to the community, control their personal resources, and seek employment and work in competitive settings. States have until March 2019 to transition their HCBS programs into full compliance with the new settings requirements.
- Staff sent out an E-Blast with information on : The Lanterman Coalition urging people to support their efforts. Several of these were sent over the course of the month The Lanterman Coalition has been in a fight for the survival of the California Developmental Services system for well over a year now and yesterday we finally came to an agreement for the best way forward. While the agreement doesn't achieve everything needed, it is a critically important step to provide relief and recovery now to move towards a future of hope and full participation in communities across this state. However, we're not even there yet to take that step for our future, and we need YOU more than any other time during this campaign. The California legislature is likely voting today and or soon after and your representative wants to hear from you, so let's finish strong!
- Staff sent an email with information on SB 1093 to the regional centers and the vendor community. Also sent out the info sheet developed by SCDD to the Self Advocacy Council 6. Hi all- It is my understanding that at the last San Joaquin SELIT meeting there was discussion about people living at home and receiving Independent Living Services. Attached is information that SCDD sent out last year

### Goal #14

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as the bill went into effect January 2015 and the Senate Bill 1093 language as authored by Senator Liu. My concern is that service coordinators are not aware of this change in law and are still under the assumption that people can't get this service unless they are moving out of their family home. My hope is that this information can get to the service coordinators, teachers, individuals and parents, as well as service providers. This service may be of help to many families and assist individuals to become more independent while living at home. There has been minimal growth in the number of people receiving either Independent Living Services and Supported Living Services over the last 4 years (perhaps longer but the data isn't available) at VMRC. Looking at the 2015 Purchase of Service (POS) data – I would have assumed that the ILS number would have risen with this new law in effect. It did not. Please let me know if SCDD can be any help in this area or if you have any questions!

- The Future of Day Services Committee met to discuss the CMS regulations, and how these, and Employment First policy will change the face of day services in our community. As a participant in this committee, I shared information provided by Serena Lowe from the Administration on Community Living at the Self-Determination Conference recently attended. As Sere Serena suggested, agencies need to look at "closing the front door" for starters, so that individuals entering the adult services delivery system are not directed to center based centers, but that other options are explored. Some of her other comments suggested that there might be a pay for performance rate setting system in the future, and that agencies and services needed to explore blended/braided funding options, and that workshops needed to convert to something more integrated, and community based. Discussion was held about how residential services will be affected by these changes, so it was decided to invite and encourage their participation in these meetings as well, and call the the "Future of Services" meetings. Again, the need for Department of Rehabilitation and Transition school programs was addressed, and more outreach will be done to include them. The surveys that are available by the HCBS Advocacy Coalition were discussed, and agencies were asked to complete these prior to the next meeting, so that common areas of concern can be prioritized and addressed at future meetings. Stories of other states were discussed, both the success and failure, but it might be an option to call in some of the other state leadership for discussion, tips and strategies on how they achieved success and the pitfalls they could recommend be avoided in our own venture into system change efforts. The next meeting will take place on April 26th at 1:30.

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- SCDD Staff participated in the planning committee for the Legislative Forum and reviewed the sponsorship letter to be sent immediately; reviewed the surveys from last year's event, and decided that to make the room less "sterile", we would have screens showing a continuous loop of photos of self-advocates in various locations throughout the community, and we strategized on how we would obtain these, releases, etc. It was also decided that we would live "tweet" from the event, and would give a "Change Maker" award to Senator Marty Block. (The title of the forum is "Be the Change..."). The panel participants were decided upon, and staff will ask the SSAN representative to man the Voter Registration table. Media contacts were also discussed, as were the questions that would be provided to the panel members so they would be prepared to answer. The panel will consist of the Executive Director of the San Diego Regional Center; the Superintendent for the San Diego Unified School District; a parent (and former AB XIII member), and a self-advocate. On the Legislative Panel, we will ask Joel Anderson (his district has the largest population of residents with disabilities), Toni Atkins, Brian Maienschein; and Marty Block. Next meeting was scheduled for March 10th at the SCDD office.
- In cooperation with a SCDD SV/MB RAC member, staff completed an Issue Advocacy Report Form and submitted it to the Council LPPC Committee. The report described the need to promote legislation to allow special education records as evidence when students with an IEP face disciplinary action.
- The SCDD Sacramento Office sends informational emails via MailChimp on various topics to connect with our local community and inform them of resources, trainings, events, legislative issues, policy changes, and various issues pertaining to people with I/DD and their families in our 10-county catchment area. SCDD promotes community awareness in all State Plan goal areas. MailChimp information sent this month included the following: Requesting input for Grant Regional Center Request for Proposals Capital Hearing/contact legislator School district seeking feedback and involvement Conservator workshops announcement NCI Survey - DDS wants input.
- Staff gave an update at MTF meeting for Youth, Community Development and Outreach group. Staff participates on this subcommittee. They are working with another organization, Healings in Motion, to put on the second annual Brain walk/run for Stroke awareness. Committee members were also sworn in at this meeting for another 1 year term on the MTF.
- Staff disseminated E-Blasts to self-advocates, family advocates and the general

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public to encourage citizen participation and advocacy: E-blast 1: The UC Davis California Civic Engagement Project (CCEP)/Disability Organizing Network (DONetwork) research study to examine the experience of voters in California. This research will be an important detailed examination of how voters engage in the electoral process, providing needed data on how voters make their ballot choices. A key part of this research study involves a survey, which is being distributed to voters with disabilities. Survey findings will be made available through published reports. E-Blast 2 The Lanterman Coalition Notice - informing the public that an agreement had been reached to provide relief and recovery to the disability service system. The e-blast encouraged constituents to speak to their legislators about the importance of supporting the agreement.

- SCDD LA Staff presented in a panel discussion to a consortium of service providers on the role of self-advocates in persuading legislators to take interest in issues of concern to the disability community. This was one of many presentations on current policy issues.
- SCDD Los Angeles office staff provided a one-hour training to 34 students in the California Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disorders (CA-LEND) Program, sponsored and conducted by the University of Southern California University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (USC UCEDD). The purpose of the training was to provide students with a broad background of current issues impacting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. While some of the students were family advocates, many were professionals that would serve individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in numerous contexts. Issues reviewed in the training included but weren't limited to self-advocacy, self-determination, Employment First, CMS/HCBS regulations, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), development of the California state budget, disparity in the provision of regional center services, and developmental center closures.
- SCDD Los Angeles office staff trained 50 service providers on how to conduct effective legislative advocacy, present issues in a compelling way to legislators, and effectively participate in the development of the state budget.
- Visited all 120 legislative offices to drop off floor alert on Governor Brown's DD funding package and MCO tax.

### Goal #15

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to information and resources in ways that reflect their language and cultural preferences.

- SCDD staff in cooperation with Office of Clients Rights hosted an information and resource table at the Flag Raising Ceremony at San Jose City Hall to Commence Black History Month. Hosting the table is part of the outreach effort to the African American Community to better inform them of the special education and regional center services available to men and women with developmental disability.
- On behalf of the Disparity Task Force SCDD staff sent out notification of the upcoming San Andreas Regional Center POS Report Community Meetings informing the members of the public the importance of these meetings.
- In preparation for the San Andreas Regional Center POS report Community Meetings, flyers informing the public about the Task Force Activities and need for Volunteers were prepared in English, Spanish, Mandarin, and Vietnamese.
- SCDD hosted a Regional Center training for the monolingual Spanish support group, Fiesta Familiar. Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC) staff conducted the training covering eligibility, services offered, and time for questions and answers. SCDD staff also presented on the upcoming RCOC POS Disparity meeting and informed the families why their presence is important at the meeting and explained the "highlights" or the disparity in RCOC's authorization data. Fiesta Educativa was founded in California in 1978 to inform and assist Latino families in obtaining services and in caring for their children with special needs. Fiesta Educativa was formed by family members and professionals who recognized the need to provide assistance and advocacy to these Spanish-speaking families. As an ongoing collaboration between the two agencies in an effort to serve monolingual Spanish-speaking families in Orange County, the SCDD Orange County Office hosts all of Fiesta Educativa's parent support group and committee meetings.
- SCDD SV/MB staff in cooperation with families self-advocates and providers completed the filming of clips to be used in a training for families on how best to advocate for developmental services. The film clips were completed in Spanish and Mandarin and translated into English. Staff will continue to work with filming crew to complete the presentation material.
- SCDD SV/MB staff met with a family member to discuss difficulty with special education services in Gilroy, California. We agreed to work on hosting a Special Education clinic and train the trainer presentations.
- Met with staff members from the Language Line Service to share information regarding the process of utilizing this service most effectively, and make this a more comfortable engagement for both families and staff. With the recent

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increased usage of the Language Line service, staff felt it critical to engage with representatives to try to make this a more user friendly and smooth process. When families are directed to call our local office when they need interpreting services, it is sometime difficult to communicate to them that we need to put them on hold while we call someone that can assist. The staff of the service suggested setting up an 800 number for the family to contact them directly, and then they could call us - which just seems to make more sense for everyone. Additionally, we reviewed the pricing, and ways in which the calls could be handled more efficiently. The proposal was made that their staff be given a glossary of terms in advance so they would better be able to explain all the various terminology used, that families sometimes do not understand, such as ITP, IPP, IEP, etc. It was determined that they have too many staff to make this possible, so other ideas were talked about. Overall, we now have a mutual understanding of the needs and the audience involved, so hopefully we can use this service more effectively. It is very frustrating to spend 45 minutes on a call with someone, to eventually have them say it is taking too long and hang up.

- Staff participates on the annual planning committee for the Multicultural Health and Community Fair. NVH staff has been part of the planning team for the past 5 years. Today was the 1st planning meeting for the October 8th 2016 event. At this meeting we reviewed surveys and comments gathered from the community members whom attended last year. We discussed what worked well and what didn't work well, and how we might improve our community outreach this year. We also begin planning for entertainment and media outreach. This committee will meet once monthly and continue planning for this year's event.
- SCDD staff in collaboration with the Disparity Task Force forwarded its final draft of the data base of parent groups within the four counties. The data base was sent to the SCDD SV/MB family, individual and provider community. The data base was added to the regional center website and Facebook page.
- Staff forwarded to regional center staff a public comment received by office about POS Disparity. The comment was received in response to the announcement sent out by the SCDD SV/MB.
- Translated "Self-Determination Information Sheet" developed by Los Angeles Regional Office into Chinese to outreach to Regional Center Asian customers. The 2-page info sheet provides overview in English/Chinese about the new Self-Determination movement and how to prepare and participate in the activities once it is rolled out.

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- SCDD L.A. office staff presented a seminar providing an overview of Self-Determination for Spanish speakers. Staff collaborated with 3 community agencies to reach the Spanish community. SCDD created the flyer in English and provided the speaker and handouts. Fiesta Educativa translated the flyer, provided the venue, and RSVP-taker. FUERZA participated on the planning team and provided check-in helpers at the event. The Inclusion Institute funded refreshments. A total of 44 people attended.
- The Disparity Taskforce met to report on its ongoing projects, including researching the promotora model, scheduling video shoots for the training program being developed, and coordinating attendance at the upcoming meetings about 2015 SARC Disparity Report.