



STATE PLAN ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 2016

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.

- SCDD staff participated in the planning meeting of the Peer Advocacy Connection which is the planning committee for the Regional Peer Advocacy Connection (PAC). In addition SCDD staff presented Self-Determination legislation and gave a current status update. A report on chapter activities over the past month was noted. Plans for the regional meeting this spring were discussed, presentations and/or videos covering the following topics: Self-Determination, Bullying, Budget cuts and Managed Care Organization tax and elections. There were 16 self-advocates and 4 other attendees at this meeting. This committee is made up of the chair person from each People's First Advocacy group in each of our 10-counties. Many of these individuals have the assistance of a facilitator for their group. The PAC meetings are coordinated by Ed Plon of Supported Life Institute's Self-Advocacy Project (funded by the Regional Center). The self-advocates make all major decisions related to the planning of the Regional PAC meetings.
- SCDD staff promoted the People First Pizza Party in January 2016 to community and clients. SCDD gave out to clients and programs and posted the flier at the office. There were over 20 participants that attended. The People First executive committee organized and coordinated activities. Other partners who supported the event included: Redwood Coast Regional Center, Parents, facilitators, Advocates, and Rotary. The group has raised over \$640 for their activities budget to help fund future activities that people can attend and socialize.
- SCDD staff attended Alta Regional Center's Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting at ACRC. Topics of discussion were: The Governor's budget proposal noting new funding for regional centers for caseload reduction and additional service coordinators. Residential rates for 4-bed homes have increased. Self-Advocates presented follow-up regarding their various boards including: SCDD's Regional Advisory Committee, Association of Regional Center Agencies Consumer Advisory Committee, Peer Advocacy Committee, Alta California Board of Directors, and Strategies to Empower People.
- SCDD staff attended Alta California Regional Center's (ACRC) residential service providers (RSP) vendor forum on January 11th to share ideas and information, present updates on new laws and regulations, discuss best practices and any challenges and barriers. The Department of Developmental Services' Community Care Facility Rates were increased effective January 1st. These Adult Residential Model (ARM) rates have not kept up with inflation costs. Request for Proposals (RFP) are needed to develop care homes at a negotiated rate, higher than the 4I level. Additionally, ACRC realizes there are consumers living in skilled nursing

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facilities who can be served in ICF-DDN homes.

- SCDD staff attended Alta California Regional Center's (ACRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committee's (SDAC) Independent Facilitators work group meeting at ACRC. There were 5 committee members were present and collectively it was decided since we have no authority to make any decisions or move forward at this time we will not be meeting as a subcommittee until such time as it seems warranted. We reassert our previous recommendations for consideration: 1) Collaborate with Alta representative to create a powerpoint and training on SDP and the role of the Service Coordinator, Financial management service and Independent Facilitator. This will give us a chance to pilot some of the training we will use with the community and get feedback. 2) Partner with Judy Mark and possibly ask Claudia Bolton to be involved in providing a training in Alta's catchment area for Independent Facilitators in the community. Potentially looking at late January or February for this. Committee members will attend with the plan of creating a trainer of trainers model in this area. There will be a fee to attend the training- under \$185.00 3) We discussed the desire to provide ongoing trainings/meetings for Independent Facilitators to continue to expand their knowledge and as a forum for sharing needs. We thought quarterly meetings ongoing is a good idea.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted "You're invited to Educate, Advocate, Conference and Resource Fair ". On Saturday, April 9, 2016 Educate Advocate is Hosting an event Conference and Resource Fair from 9:00am- 3:00pm for all families who have children with special needs in the Inland Empire area. Various speakers as well as a resource fair at scheduled times throughout the day. Spanish translation available, Registration will tentatively open at 9:00am.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted the SSAN Self Determination webinar per the request of the SSAN member and CFILC representative assisting the SSAN to do this from the Do-Network.
- SCDD Staff facilitated the January meeting of the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County. This activity included: providing a summary of the governor's proposed budget, supporting the president in leading the meeting, note-taking, discussing the options related to establishing a social media presence, summarizing the modules completed from Partners in Policymaking, and hosting the meeting.
- SCDD Staff met with a new self-advocacy group that is using the Exceptional Family Center facility in Bakersfield to meet. Twelve young adults met to discuss the model that they want to use for purposes of becoming a self-advocacy group.

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Staff facilitated a Q&A on how to become an effective self-advocacy group.

- SCDD Staff, per the request of the Self-Advocacy Board of LA County under the facilitation agreement between SABLAC and SCDD LA Office, set up a Facebook page for this group. It will be used to reach out to younger people with disabilities, educate the broader public about disability issues, and teach parents how to raise their disabled children to be strong self-advocates. Facilitator is the page administrator with the SABLAC president as an editor.
- SCDD Staff attended a training on "Independent Living Skills Training for Clients who live in the Family Home" to gather information regarding how this service will be provided to clients residing in this regional center catchment area. As a follow up to this training, information will be shared at resource fairs for transition aged youth and self-advocacy events.
- SCDD Staff facilitated a group meeting of individuals who are interested in creating a self-advocacy newsletter. Two people came to the meeting, however 5-7 additional people were unable to come due to scheduling conflicts. Together the group discussed possible ideas for the newsletter but agreed to wait until the next meeting when the others who expressed interest are able to be in attendance. Through the initial discussion the group identified numerous ways self advocate leadership can be promoted. Access 2 Independence the local ILC and A Better Life Together were the agencies represented at the meeting.
- In collaboration with Imagine Services of Santa Cruz, State Council 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. The principles of Self Advocacy and Person Centered Planning were reviewed.
- SCDD Staff assisted and arranged for a presentation by Judy Mark from Autism Society of Los Angeles for a Self-Determination Advisory Committee. Judy Mark described self-determination services and the role of the Advisory Committee.
- SCDD and Regional Center Staff of the Self Determination Advisory Committee met with the chair and vice chair of the committee to discuss the goals of the committee for the coming year. Also discussed the best ways to communicate and conduct business
- SCDD staff appointed a 5th member of the SDAC committee. David Forderer will hold an at-large membership. His appointment to the committee assures SCDD membership is in balance with the Regional Center's (50/50) as is legislated.
- SCDD Staff collaborated with Integrity Cottages Housing to facilitate for the new

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self-advocacy group in Anaheim. This was the first meeting and self-advocates discussed logistics for the group, which will meet monthly, and topics/planned speakers for future meetings. The self-advocates would like to have SCDD facilitate and help to arrange speakers as they need. The following topics were discussed at today's meeting: 1. Next meeting date March 4, 2016 at 3pm - topic: how to speak up for yourself, how to handle difficult situations, how to be a more effective advocate, how to help others. 2. Two SA will coordinate and invite a representative from the Orange County Housing Authority to present on Section 8 vouchers and rental assistance at the April 22 @ 3pm meeting. 3. Future trainings requested: how to run your own IPP, how to obtain VA benefits, relationship and sexuality training, nutrition training, and a training on Social Security Disability Benefits. 4. Concerns noted during this meeting are community accessibility for people with mobility impairments and transportation issues, and homeless people squatting on the apartment grounds.

- SCDD Staff met with the local Statewide Self-Advocacy Network representative to discuss his participation at a resource fair at Sonoma Developmental Center on 1/8/16. We discussed handouts to take to the fair and discussed creating informational material about SSAN. Staff provided our SSAN member with background information on developmental center and community services in California, and the planned closure of SDC. Staff and SSAN member also prepared for the SSAN newsletter workgroup meeting on 1/7/16 and identified topics to discuss at our next weekly meeting.
- SCDD Staff supported the Statewide Self Advocacy Network North Coast member to review any questions they have about the Network and provided technical support and technology for the representative to continue the development of their website. The member will be working with fellow students in the transition program and other advocates to do a photography project. He will then incorporate the local photos to customize his site instead of using the standard stock photos provided by the web design business.
- SCDD Staff met with representative from the local Independent Living Center to discuss ways to collaborate, support one another and share resources. As a result of the meeting a representative from the Independent Living Center will be joining the self-advocacy newsletter project committee and attending the self-advocacy quarterly meeting.
- SCDD Staff participated in the Strengthening Self Advocacy meeting where the group reviewed and identified presenters for the upcoming presentations

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scheduled from January through April. The group also discussed the quarterly meeting and confirmed the speakers for the February meeting. A review of the January 8th presentation was conducted and the group agreed to several modifications, as a means to enhance the effectiveness of the training and ensure all speakers have an opportunity to present information to the audience. A review and discussion of the grant time line and budget were also conducted and the group felt the project is on target and will meet the goals as projected.

- SCDD staff facilitates for a team of self-advocates, San Diego Regional Center Service Coordinators, SDSU Nursing program representatives and local service providers to meet monthly and plan the 2016 self-advocacy conference. This month the group completed updating the registration form and identified several outreach strategies to bring up the number of attendees. 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 three mini training topics- weight loss, nutrition and anger management. Additionally the group further developed the content for the conference program and identified presenters to provide workshops on healthy relationships and internet safety.
- SCDD staff provided facilitation support to San Diego People First officers as they welcomed the new officers and prepared for their February quarterly meeting. The new officers set a date to for their annual retreat where they can engage in team building activities, learn about their roles as officers and set goals for the upcoming year. The group also heard updates from the Strengthening Self Advocacy grant project and an update from the DDS-CAC representative.

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- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to five callers. Two calls were regarding regional center services, one call was regarding regional center eligibility, one call was regarding In Home Supportive Services eligibility and one call was regarding In Home Supportive Services appeal process.
- SCDD Staff conducted a training on Bullying to Lanterman Regional Center's newly formed Armenian Parent Group. Eight were in attendance. An Armenian interpreter was available, but not needed as the group was bilingual. Every attendee was given a copy of SCDD L.A. office's publication "Enough is Enough: Anti-Bullying Strategies for Students with Developmental Disabilities, Their Families and Their Schools." The presentation went through selected parts of the booklet, stressing the importance of using the IEP process to address bullying, the benefits of bystander training programs, and other strategies. Staff also took the opportunity to explain the role of SCDD and reminded family members to fill out the NCI Child Survey.
- SCDD staff gave technical support to a family of a school age child regarding inclusion. A member of the SELPA CAC for District 2 was given assistance with systems navigation and a flow chart for services in California. The SELPA plans to add the flow chart to the school district's website
- SCDD staff attended the ACRC Board of Directors meeting on Jan. 29th to collaborate and stay informed about services and supports in our 10-county catchment area. SCDD staff presented an informational training on the National Core Indicators. Encouraging the support to get the word out to all families with children between the ages of 3 and 18 who live with their parents to complete the survey. SCDD presented the current status of the child/family survey and continues to work closely with ACRC for their continued support. Phil Bonnet, Executive Director gave a budget update inclusive of an increase for modest reductions in service coordinator caseloads, new enhanced rates for service providers who have licensed homes that serve 4 or fewer consumers and a small amount of funding to help service providers and regional centers prepare for transition to life under the Medi-Caid rules requiring more integrated settings for all waiver-eligible services. Mr. Bonnet presented Purchase of Service expenditures data and announced 2 public meetings will take place in March (Yuba City and Sacramento). The Sonoma Developmental Center closure plan for ACRC has transitioned 9 consumers to homes since last May when DDS announced the closure. ACRC plans to have another family meeting in the next couple of months to discuss progress and planning for the Community Placement Planning unit.

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Regarding Self-Determination, ACRC now has 400 consumers who are listed as interested in this service, they plan to have that list grow, hoping for 1000 according to Mr. Bonnet. Reported by Mr. Bonnet, DDS is currently working on training materials to be ready by March 31, 2016. ACRC staff gave a presentation regarding Transition from Education to Adult Services, noting that now on an IPP, a consumer who is transition age must have a transition goal.

- SCDD regional office received 26 calls this month regarding Regional Center services and eligibility, adult services regarding work and supported/independent living services, behavioral services, legal services regarding conservatorship, speech services, dental services and Self Determination. As appropriate, calls were referred to Disability Rights California, UC Davis, WarmLine, Alta California Regional Center, and the Department of Rehabilitation. Most callers received an emailed or mailed copy of our resource list.
- SCDD Staff E-Blasted the USC UCEED free Webinar on Early Identification and Linkage for Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities on January 28, 2016. Information included registration information and a summary of what participants will learn. In this webinar, Marian Williams, PhD, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the USC UCEDD, Program Area Lead in Early Childhood Mental Health and Co-Director of Interdisciplinary Training, will discuss:
 - A project to increase access to early screening and intervention for young children in underserved communities. Why screening is critical; What is screened.
 - Red flags for Autism Spectrum Disorder.
 - What services are recommended for young children with developmental concerns.
 - How we can keep children from falling through the cracks.
- SCDD Staff participated in the monthly planning meeting. The group reviewed the registration packet and made revisions. The packet will be ready to go out via email by the beginning of February. Confirmation letters were sent out this month to speakers. The resource fair is filling up. We have less than 20 tables left. Volunteer and speaker gifts are being made. Raffle prizes are being acquired. We were given a contact name for entertainment for the Introduction and Keynote session and will follow up on that lead. Suggestions for possible photographers were given and will be followed up. The website is currently being worked on and should be ready by the end of January. Online registration is currently being worked on and should be ready sometime in February. Our facebook page will highlight our sponsors and various aspects of the conference. This can start happening as soon as the registration packet goes out in February. We are in the

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process of firming up our translators and translation equipment. One of our committee members will reach out to the Latino community via a Spanish public radio station. Those in attendance were: San Diego Regional Center, Exceptional Family Member Program-Marine Corp, Team of Advocates for Special Kids, Neighborhood House, San Diego City Schools, South Bay Special Education Local Plan Area, Home of Guiding Hands, special education advocates and parents.

- SCDD staff organized a collaboration with Disability Rights of California, Warmline FRC, Asperger's Support Group Chair, and a paralegal from CRL Consulting to put on a workshop: "How to Read My IEP" for 2-hours on a Saturday morning. 25 parents attended. This included 4 Spanish speaking parents. Brittnee Gillespie, OCRC/DRC gave a 1-hour presentation on how to understand the sections of the IEP document and process. Then we discussed empowerment and that "the parent knows the child best" and several parents shared their dreams for their children. During the second hour we broke into break-out sessions lead by representatives from the 4 collaborating agencies. We finished by coming back together and sharing a "take away" from each break-out group. Attendees stated that Saturday morning was a good time for them to attend a training and that they welcomed more opportunities to attend similar trainings. 1 teleconference and numerous email communications took place among collaborators to plan the workshop. We also developed a unique sign-in sheet and evaluation form that was shared with all agencies involved, so that parents would only need to complete 1 form each. Completed evaluations were photocopied and shared with all collaborators. This collaboration was very successful and empowering for the parents and agency representatives.
- SCDD Staff presented a power point training on "Getting Regional Center Services Through Your IPP". The training discussed 5 major points: what is the IPP, who is the IPP Team, how to prepare for the IPP, purchase of service guidelines and services available through the regional center. The participants included one adult consumer, two parents, one outreach coordinator for the Exceptional Family Member Program (Marine Corp) and two teachers (one teaches Transition students and the other teaches deaf/hard of hearing).
- SCDD 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. The parents at the meeting requested information on Mental Health Parity and

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upcoming webinars to be shared at the February meeting. The registration form for the sibling event was updated and distributed with the three part training series flyer. Eight people were in attendance at the meeting. In addition to parents, the following agencies participate in the conference planning: Imperial Valley SELPA, EFRC, TASK, Arc- Imperial Valley and the San Diego Regional Center.

- SCDD staff coordinated training on Special education. 22 people were in attendance at the first session of a three session training series on special education. The participants were very engaged in the presentation and asked numerous questions about the assessment and eligibility process for special education services. The presentation was provided by Disability Rights of California. Additional information about other parent raining opportunities and resources were provided to all participants. Spanish translation was provided to 7 participants.
- SCDD staff met with the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) Family Resource Center (FRC) Coordinator (interim) and provided outreach regarding SCDD role and the services we provide (including the QA project). SCDD staff answered questions and it was determined that an outreach training should be set with new incoming SCLARC FRC families in the near future. Next training scheduled for 2/2/16.
- SCDD Staff disseminated electronic and hard copies of our North Coast News newsletter. For the January issue, staff promoted the upcoming National Cores Indicator Survey, included a brief article announcing the appointment of the new Statewide Self-Advocacy Network North Coast Representative and provided health information about flu season.
- SCDD staff provided a one hour presentation to the Harbor Regional Center (HRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on 1/6/16 entitled, "Person Centered Planning: What It Is and How It Relates to Self-Determination."
- SCDD Staff conducted training on Preparing for the Individual Program Plan at the offices of H.E.A.R.T.S Connection in collaboration with Exceptional Family Center. Participants included one self-advocate and nine 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 provided technical assistance to an NBRC service coordinator on how to obtain special education resources. A family that the SC works with wants

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NBRC to pay the retainer for a special education lawyer. The lawyer is vendored with other regional centers. The family disputes the district's suggested placement of a nonpublic school. Staff provided the SC with information on special education attorneys who have worked with local families without charging a retainer. Staff also provided the SC with information on Cypress School, an NPS that several families have said helped their children to make tremendous progress. SC will assist the family to look into Cypress and follow up with attorneys.

- SCDD staff gave technical support to four adults regarding handling a notice of action from Regional Center, and making a request for tailored day services, micro-enterprises, update on the ABLE Act, and strategies for filing a 4731 complaint.
- SCDD staff met with the chair of William's Syndrome support group to develop a plan of action to build awareness throughout the community. Staff agreed to assist the chair with contacting the local representatives to have issued a proclamation that May is William's Syndrome Awareness Month. Also, SCDD will arrange for William's Syndrome support members to present to various organizations throughout the catchment area.
- SCDD staff attended the Nevada County Special Education Local Plan Area's (SELPA) Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) meeting for the purpose of informing them of the role of the SCDD. Additionally, information on the Employment First policy was offered and written materials on such was provided. SCDD staff also explained the current information on Self-Determination. There were 6 family members, 3 special education teachers, 1 regional center service coordinator and the SELPA Director at this meeting.
- SCDD staff attended the Sacramento County 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, SCDD staff presented the SCDD Then and Now flyer and explained the State Plan goals. Self-Determination information was presented and questions answered. The goal of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) is to deliver high quality special education programs and services to special needs students in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. In addition to administrative support, the SELPA helps districts comply with legal requirements concerning students with disabilities, and provides professional development activities to foster better relationships between schools and the families of special needs students.
- SCDD staff met with San Juan Unified School Districts, Special Education Local

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Plan Area's (SELPA) Director for the purpose of providing information on the role of the SCDD and goals associated with the State Plan. Information was offered on Self-Determination and questions were answered. 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.

- SCDD staff attended the Sutter County 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, SCDD staff presented the SCDD Then and Now flyer and information about the State Plan goals. The goal of the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) is to deliver high quality special education programs and services to special needs students in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. In addition to administrative support, the SELPA helps districts comply with legal requirements concerning students with disabilities, and provides professional development activities to foster better relationships between schools and the families of special needs students.
- SCDD Staff made three posts on Facebook about rights advocacy and special events in the first half of January. Titles are noted on the next page. The Los Angeles Epilepsy Foundation is holding an event on Sunday, January 10, 2016 from 12 - 3 pm. Please click on the flier below for more information. Here is a link to the Family Resource Center Network for Los Angeles County. "We are a welcoming place where you can go to speak with other parents who share your concerns." Autism Society LA is holding a conference Feb. 18 - 19. Early bird rates are about to expire. Click below to get to the registration page.
- SCDD Staff made two posts on Facebook about special education advocacy in the first half of January. "What you Should Know About Evaluations" and "We have updated our IEP Strategy Guide. If you'd like a hard copy booklet, please contact our office. We'd be happy provide! We will also come to your parent group to do a presentation on IEPs."
- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to 11 callers on special education issues. All inquiries were answered by phone or email or referred to other

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community agencies providing resources and advocacy. All families were offered a list of community resources. All families were encouraged to join our email list and visit the SCDD website for additional information.

- SCDD staff provided technical assistance to 7 callers regarding special education concerns. Families were provided with a list of resources as well as information regarding their rights. 1 family reported they had contacted the Office of Client's Rights but were told they were too busy to assist them.
- SCDD Staff provided training in collaboration with FRN to a group of people in the VMRC catchment area on special education rights and responsibilities. The group included both parents of consumers and staff from VMRC. Evaluations from the training are included. Training was hosted at SCDD/North Valley Hills office during the day time. All other trainings are typically done in the evenings and/or weekends. We decided to try a day time/weekday training and did get a good response!
- SCDD Staff coordinated with Local Special Education Attorney, Deborah Pepaj, to provide a presentation on "Special Education Disagreements - knowing when to file due process" for 10 parents and 1 professional. This workshop detailed how to resolve disagreements through the IEP process, procedural safeguards, how due process works, and discussed the jurisdiction of the ALJ.
- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to 28 unique callers: 16 calls regarding regional center eligibility, services, IPP planning; 4 calls on special education issues; 2 calls regarding Social Security disability benefits eligibility and denials; 3 IHSS questions regarding overtime, protective supervision; and 3 calls on general service delivery questions.
- SCDD Staff facilitated support at the monthly TRACE Governance meeting. The group discussed upcoming activities that are available to them. They also received and reviewed a copy of the group's version of a person driven plan. Due to the winter weather the attendance was low and the officer elections were deferred until February.
- SCDD staff gave a presentation to a parent group in Gilroy about strategies to organize and take action against the special education services provided by the district. The training included Due Process and Complaints. However, the group was informed on how to organize to promote positive change on a larger scale than just at the IEP level. The group is considering various strategies. SCDD offered to provide support as appropriate.
- As part of our ongoing effort to educate the community SCDD staff attended the

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Parent's Helping Parents, Parents of Adult Children with Disabilities monthly meeting and provided technical support for families in the area of day and employment services.

- SCDD Staff spoke with 3 parents concerning Special Education rights. Staff suggested contact with CA Department of Education and Federal Civil Rights Office. Staff also suggested contact with Valley Mountain Regional Center service coordinator and the Clients Rights Advocate.
- SCDD staff coordinated to provide Rights training to the attendees at the Desert ARC work activity program in Yucca Valley with San Bernardino County. The SB RO staff facilitated the training using the curriculum developed by Disability Rights California/DRC entitled "Rights of persons with developmental disabilities". All training participants received a copy of the training materials to keep and take home with them. The self-advocates were very engaged in the training presentation and requested that SCDD return and provide additional trainings.

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 staff co-facilitated the meeting of the Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center (FDLRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on January 7, 2015. The SDAC's role is to analyze issues, identify steps and processes, and develop recommendations for FDLRC as it goes forward with the implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP). The committee discussed the status of the Medicaid Waiver application that must be approved before the SDP can start. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) responded with a letter asking for clarification on a number of issues. The state is currently working on provided CMS with the requested information. The SDAC also discussed its plans to conduct outreach across the FDLRC catchment area. FDLRC plans to partner with parent support groups and family-run organizations. FDLRC has also developed an informational letter about the SDP that service coordinators can share with individuals on their caseload who express interest in the SDP. The next meeting of FDLRC SDAC will be on March 3, 2016.
- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance and hosted CHOICES Conf meeting at SCDD/NVHO. Topics discussed at meeting were breakout sessions, speakers panel, legislative panel, and time lines. At this meeting the committee also chose the artwork winner that will be featured on the 2016 Choices t-shirt. The committee also designed an outline for panel speakers to use in preparing their presentation for the conference. NVH staff will continue coordinating and or mentoring Self advocate from Regional Center East Bay to prepare his presentation. Staff will also assist advocate with coordination of travel arrangements for the conference. In addition staff will work with another committee member in arranging continental breakfast service for event.
- SCDD Staff participated at the monthly Coalition of Local Area Service Provider (CLASP) in which SCDD is a standing agenda item. Staff shared information about the upcoming TransCen Employment First Training (co-hosted with VMRC & SCDD), the Self Advocacy Council 6 Feb Area meeting, Self Determination update, and participated in the discussion of camera/video use at care home and day programs. VMRC staff were presented and went over the information from the VMRC Board meeting.
- SCDD Staff coordinated the January meeting of the Creating Sustainable Support Systems (CSSS) group. The CSSS group discusses challenges facing service providers due to changes in overtime laws and the upcoming Self-Determination Program. At this month's meeting the group discussed the possibility of forming a staff sharing service. The service would be piloted by Premier Healthcare

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Services. The next meeting of the CSSS will be on February 16, 2016.

- SCDD Staff participated in the Developmental Disability Provider Network meeting on January 21, 2016. Provided a report on the Satisfaction Survey results from the "Leading the Charge" Conference in December, as well as shared information and recruited members to assist with planning and implementation of the upcoming Legislative Forum to be held on May 6, 2016.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted "Free Webinar: Dialogues in Disability Pride and Culture". On Wednesday, February 10, 2016 from 10:00am-11:30am a FREE webinar Dialogues in Disability Pride and Culture Series Out of the Box: Self Determination will be offered. This is presented by members of the Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN), a program of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. This webinar will provide general information on how Self Determination will work. This is the 1st webinar giving initial information. Once the Self Determination waiver is approved for California another webinar will follow with more detailed information.
- SCDD Staff is a member of the Stockton's Mayors Task Force on People with Disabilities and was asked to send out an E- blast of nomination request for organization & individuals who have made a difference in the lives of person with disabilities. This is a cross disability task force in the city of Stockton and the Mayor does participate.
- SCDD Staff drafted and distributed E-Newsletter #50 to 1,526 subscribers on January 15, 2016. Articles included: and announcement of a seminar at our office on Self-Determination for Spanish speakers; the Governor's budget proposal; and the Self-Advocacy Board of Los Angeles County's new Facebook page. Staff also drafted and distributed a special edition E-Newsletter on January 20, 2016 with announcements about part 2 of an IEP training offered at our office and an announcement about a vacancy on the Westside Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee.
- SCDD Staff began coordinating efforts with the Family Focus Resource Center and the Inclusion Institute to conduct a jointly sponsored all-day Facilitation Training. The SCDD L.A. office received many requests to repeat this training which sold out last summer. So far, a venue at Cal State Northridge and a date, April 30, 2016, have been secured. Staff is assisting the Inclusion Institute to update its vendor status with Lanterman Regional Center for this event.
- SCDD Staff provided support at the Regional Advisory Committee meeting on 1/25/2016. Shared information about the various changes in the service delivery

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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.

system due to CMS and WIOA regulations, reviewed Governor's Budget proposal, revisited the Lanterman Act - 50 years later and the role and responsibility of LA RAC, approved the 2016 RAC meeting schedule and locations, discussed the status of Self-Determination in California, and reviewed the draft State Plan for 2017 to 2021.

- SCDD Staff met with the VMRC Executive Director to discuss a variety of topics and possible collaborations. The topics included VMRC re-organizations staff-wise, Employment Training, Self Determination Advisory Committee, Self-Advocacy Council 6 upcoming event, and VMRC Board meeting. The Executive Director asked if staff would be willing to give a presentation on self determination to his board at their February meeting. Staff agreed to do so.
- SCDD staff participated in the NLACRC self-determination advisory committee meeting. Judy Mark gave an update on the CMS waiver application. The committee also discussed the need for greater coordination with the NLACRC board. SCDD LA staff gave an update on the status of Bagley-Keene with respect to the SDACs as well as information on what other committees are doing to coordinate with their regional centers.
- SCDD Staff participated in the RCOC Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee that reviews the development and ongoing process of the self-determination program, including advancing the principles of self-determination and to ensure operation consistent with the requirements of the WIC statute. At this meeting, the following topics were discussed (1) training on self-determination by Judy Mark, Co-Chair, Government Relations for the Autism Society of America and Board Member for Disability Rights California (2) Bagley-Keene and requirement regarding public participation during meetings (3) How to outreach to the public and prioritizing our efforts to non-English speaking populations (4) Alternating meeting start times to accommodate more public participation (5) DDS Definition of random selection process
- SCDD Staff participated in the Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) Board of Directors meeting on 1-29-16 to provide updates and information about State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) and related topics that impact the developmental disability service system. Staff provided an update on the SCDD's State Plan Committee efforts since May 2015 to present on New State Plan process and proposal. The proposed New State Plan Goals were reported, including statewide outreach efforts to gather input, analytical process to achieve the draft through the facilitation and management of the State Plan Committee.

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- Staff also reviewed the Federal Labor Standard Act (FMLA) and implementation to the In-Home Supportive Services Program effective 2-1-16. An overview was provided along with a handout. A total of 16 people trained: 11 FNRC Board members (6 Self-Advocates, 5 Family Advocates) and 5 members of the public.
- SCDD Staff attended the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Board of Directors meeting on January 26th, 2016. The board discussed adding a new board member and extending a term for an existing member; approved the SCLARC 2016 performance contract; approved the POS expenditure projection summary, balance sheet, and revenue report from fiscal services; reviewed the Consumer Service Committee (CSC) and Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) reports, which included the activities for the year (Black History Month, Cinco de Mayo, movie day, holiday function, WRC/SCLARC basketball game, USC Best Buddies, Denny's); discussed the Self-Determination video (pending); updated the board on the CMS waiver; accepted the Vendor Advisory Committee report; and accepted the Executive Director's budget summary. The next meeting will be on March 22nd, 2016 from 7pm - 9pm at SCLARC.
 - SCDD Staff attended the monthly South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) and SCDD Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on January 13th, 2016. SCLARC explained that the SDAC will no longer be subject to Bagley-Keene due to legal opinion requested by ARCA from Enright & Ocheltree, LLP. The SDAC discussed the HCBS Waiver and the tentative response from CMS with many questions for DDS. SCDD LA staff provided summary of the CMS questions for DDS based on the DDS SD Taskforce teleconference on 12/10/15. The SDAC continued discussion about four new consumer profiles, which will continue into the next meeting. The agenda items discussed for the February 2016 meeting will be HCBS Waiver update (if any) and continued consumer profile discussion. The next SDAC meeting will be on February 10th, 2016.
 - SCDD Staff presented at the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) Children & Adult Services all-staff meeting on 1/21/16 regarding the role of SCDD Los Angeles and the services we offer, highlighting and detailing the National Core Indicators current projects. Attendees include program management, clinical staff, and service coordinators.
 - SCDD Staff collaborated with DRC OCRA to present a training on the self-determination program at Pace 1. 8 self-advocates and 3 staff participated in the training. Staff distributed a fact sheet on SD, as well as a regional self-advocacy newsletter and the NCI postcards. 4 self-advocates indicated that they are

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interested in receiving SD services. Staff got their names and passed the information on to the NBRC lead staff person for SD.

- SCDD Staff attended the quarterly San Diego Regional Center Coordinating meeting. The group receives updates from the chairpersons of the various subcommittees that are made up of representatives from the Regional Center and local service provider agencies. The subcommittees are: services for seniors/elders; client wellness; parents with developmental disabilities; recreation/leisure; sexual health and residential living small. Each representative provided an update on their current projects and made announcements on upcoming events. Currently, some of the committees are experiencing a lack of members and each committee will evaluate its current goals to determine if there is still a need for the committee to continue. Additionally the group will be looking at other areas that might need to be addressed through the formation of a taskforce workgroup. Collaborators are San Diego Regional Center, Home of Guiding Hands, Arc San Diego, LIFE, San Diego People First and various other community organizations.
- SCDD Staff have been collaborating with Central Valley Regional Center by providing informational sessions to obtain names of those interested in the 141 spots available for Self-Determination. 2 FA and 1 SA attended the English session, both families added their 3 names onto the interest list. The Spanish session had 1 FA that family added their child on the list.
- SCDD Staff conducted training on Self-Determination for the Kern Down Syndrome Network (KDSN) to 12 FA. 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.
- SCDD Staff have been collaborating with Central Valley Regional Center by providing informational sessions to obtain names of those interested in the 141 spots available for Self-Determination. 5 FA and 1 SA attended the English session, 2 of those families included a total of 5 names onto the interest list. The Spanish session had 3 families and none were interested in it.
- SCDD Staff attended the meeting of the San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (SGPRC) Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) on January 19, 2015. The SDAC's role is to analyze issues, identify steps and processes, and develop recommendations for SGPRC as it goes forward with the implementation of the Self-Determination Program (SDP). The SGPRC SDAC discussed the SGPRC outreach plan to inform their community about the SDP. Several family-run

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organizations were in attendance and expressed interest in partnering with them when the program begins. Committee members will provide feedback on the plan prior to implementation. The SDAC also discussed the status of the Medicaid Waiver application that must be approved before the SDP can become available. CMS sent the state a letter on December 11, 2015 outlining several issues that needed clarification. The Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Department of Health Services are working together to draft a response. Once the response is received by CMS they will have 90 days to respond. The next meeting of the SGPRC SDAC will be March 8, 2016.

- SCDD Staff continues to coordinate this Supported Living Network meeting along with VMRC staff as a collaborative effort. The goal of this network is to bring community vendors together in an open forum where they can share ideas and or solve similar problems. Currently the network is working together to put on an emergency preparedness training for individuals and vendors. NVH staff worked with local resources to secure training location and use of tables, chairs and electrical equipment. Staff is also coordinating with the DDS (Safety Net) to have someone come and present on Felling Safe -Being safe. Flier for event is attached and will be shared with consumers and local vendors.
- SCDD Staff attended United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) Ribbon Cutting and Tour of new ADA- Accessible Kitchen and Adult Development Center. Staff gave handouts to be put in their foyer on Employment First, Self Determination and upcoming CHOICES conference, as well as our regional manager's business cards as a resource for people at the agency and the event.
- SCDD Staff attended the VMRC Consumer Advisory Committee and VMRC Board Meeting that occur on the same evening. Staff shares information with board members and input on various topics. At this month's meetings, discussion regarding new problems with the transportation in San Joaquin County occurred and a plan to problem solve this situation was developed. At the board meeting, staff shared the upcoming training on Braided Services (employment) that VMRC collaborated with SCDD and the vendors association. The VMRC Board chair said she will be attending the training.
- SCDD Staff participated at meeting on behalf of regional manager. Staff reminded committee of Bagley -Keene rules during elections. Unfortunately there was not a quorum to hold elections at this meeting. Staff also supported self-advocate in providing information regarding being a Representative to the SCDD to the Statewide SDAC. The committee was also given an update by RC co-director

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about DDS and the Self-determination waiver and questions the feds still need answered. The committee will also start doing outreach and talked about using the Self Advocates local area meetings as a good place to start.

- SCDD staff investigated if Westside Regional Center (WRC) posted its statutorily required information (Welfare and Institutions Code 4519.5) regarding purchase of service data by the mandated deadline of 12/31/15. Unfortunately, it did not. When SCDD staff rechecked to see if the data had been posted to evaluate if contact must be initiated with the regional center in order to correct the oversight, the required information had been posted.
- SCDD Staff completed all the information and bound the RAC Packet and had the agenda posted. The meeting was held in Stanislaus County at the United Cerebral Palsy day program. VMRC Director of Case management was present as well as the SCDD representative from our area. Both gave a report. The packet, agenda and power point are in the common file.

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.

- SCDD staff provided training to the recruit academy Learning Domain which provides information about victims' rights, trauma response, interviewing/communication skills, functional capacity and disabilities, and includes guest speakers, all of whom have been the primary or secondary victims of criminal acts. Recruits believe themselves to be invincible and are typically unprepared to believe that they are capable of being injured in the line of duty. This class allows them to consider the life-changing events that can produce disabilities and deeply affect victims over the course of a lifetime. One of the guest speakers has a son with Down Syndrome. This is the foundational class to the course on Persons with Disabilities (LD-37), which will expand on the concepts of functional capacity, interviewing/modifications/accommodations, etc. This class has become one of the recruits' two favorite classes, although it deals with difficult stories and hard realities. This block of instruction (about people with developmental disabilities, functional capacity, officer/street tactics, and the available service/support systems) was attended by a combination of social workers, professional security, correctional, and sworn law enforcement officers, and counselors from a community college district.
- SCDD staff continues to receive from law enforcement organizations in the four county areas surveys requesting data on the number of cases involving disabilities. In January, the results will be compiled into a data base.
- Four times a year during the 3 day PERT Academy (Psychiatric Emergency Response Team), a resource fair is offered to inform the participants of the services and supports that are available to people with disabilities and the State Council hosts a table. Informational articles regarding report writing about people with disabilities and field response tips were distributed. Information about persons who have a developmental disability and flyers about The State Council on Developmental Disabilities were made available to the participants.
- SCDD Staff conducted an 8-hour (total), 2-night class for recruits who are typically working full-time at other jobs while they attend a rigorous evening academy program. They were given information about physical/medical, sensory, developmental and psychiatric disabilities, street/safety tactics, communication/interviewing tools, and modifications/accommodations necessary to effectively serve people with I/DD and other disabilities. Guest speakers (with Down Syndrome, sensory and other I/DDs) provided hands-on interviewing experience for the recruits. Although P.O.S.T. requires only 6 hours of training for

Goal #4

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this learning domain, the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department provides a total of 16 hours of instruction in this domain. Although recruits routinely admit to having some resentment about having to take such a long class on 'disabilities,' which they believe does not relate directly to law enforcement duties, those same recruits admit that this class is one of their favorites and that they learn far more than they ever expect(ed). Additionally, recruits find working directly with people with disabilities in the classroom environment is a highly effective way of learning the workbook material and understanding the difference between academic information and real-world experience.

- SCDD staff participated in the multi-agency collaboration of the Riverside County CARE/Curtailing Abuse Regarding the Elderly and Dependent Adults Team meeting. The CARE Team was developed to bring together many professional agencies as a multi-disciplinary team with the same common goal to protect and advocate for those individuals within the community who are the most vulnerable. The monthly meeting generally has a training component and this month the training was provided by the Riverside County District Attorney's office who spoke on Real Estate fraud: current trends, prevention and how to report.

Goal #5

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

- SCDD Staff participated in the quarterly Access and Functional Needs work group meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to give input to the Office of Emergency Services on how to make emergency services inclusive for persons with a disability. The group is reviewing the job descriptions for two new positions within the Office of Emergency Services. One position is for an Access and Functional Needs Technical Advisor and the other is for a Unit Leader. These will be key positions in the management of an emergency event in the San Diego County area. An overview of a recently completed Gap Analysis was given and included 5 key focus areas. A strategic plan will be developed to address these items. The work group will be updated about the next steps of this project. Members were asked to think about the structure of the work group (how often to meet, break group into smaller working groups, etc.) Members can email their response to the group leader before our next quarterly meeting and be prepared to discuss this item at the next meeting. Those in attendance were: City of San Diego Health Services, Office of Emergency Services, Office of Emergency Operations Center, American Red Cross, San Diego Center for the Blind, Heartland Fire, San Diego City, City of Escondido, City of Poway, City of Carlsbad, City of Chula Vista, In Home Supportive Services, 211 San Diego, San Diego Gas & Electric, City of Vista, City of Oceanside, Episcopal Refugee Network of San Diego.
- SCDD Staff attended the bi-monthly meeting of the City of Los Angeles' Emergency Management Disability Stakeholder Coalition. The focus remains on El Nino planning, encouraging sign-ups for mass notification registries, and transportation options for emergency evacuations. Staff commented that there is much confusion about the purpose of so many different registries. L.A. City staff will create a one-page handout explaining the difference between each. After the meeting, SCDD staff sent a follow-up email to City staff regarding possible additional transportation options for emergency situations.
- SCDD Staff partnered with Autism Society of the Inland Empire to provide training to agency employees about what to do in case of an emergency/active shooter scenario. San Bernardino City Police SWAT Team member provide information to attendees what to expect in an active shooter situation. Get Safe USA provided additional training with suggestions regarding how to best keep yourself and the individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities safe while out in the community in case of an emergency situation.

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.

- SCDD Staff participates in the quarterly meeting of agency representatives to discuss the adult transition programs in a community meeting forum. Each agency representative provides information on what they are doing to provide educational tools that support adults with disabilities as they contribute to a productive workplace, exercise self-direction and positively impact the community. Updates on current transition projects and any relevant legislation are discussed.
- SCDD Staff coordinated job shadowing in Glenn County for California State University, Chico graduate student with an internship with local ILC - Disability Action Center. The student has a disability herself and a twin brother with Autism. Student is working on project on Adult Transition and staff is connecting her to resources and experiences around Adult Transition. On January 6, 2016, staff coordinated opportunity for student to spend the day in 2 Adult Transition classrooms, one in Willows and the other in Orland. The teacher included student in presentation about Youth Leadership Forum Project. In the afternoon, student was given a tour of The Rusty Wagon which is a Vocational Day Program for individuals who are Regional Center eligible and live in the FNRC region. The Rusty Wagon provides employment, training and entrepreneurial opportunities in the areas of retail sales, marketing, customer services, food service and product development. The Rusty Wagon employs 7 Associates with developmental disabilities and paid minimum wage. Their wages come from the revenue of the store sales. The program is designed as a non-profit retail store governed by Glenn County Office of Education (GCOE) through the Glenn Adult Program and developed to create training, assessment and employment opportunities for individuals with various employment needs while growing local and regional micro-business enterprises, the Agriculture industry and regional tourism, by creating new jobs that offer growth and advancement that support the growing workforce. For more information explore: <http://www.glenncoe.org/Departments/Glenn-Adult-Program/The-Rusty-Wagon/>
- SCDD Staff developed and presented, alongside a three parent panel, a presentation on "Life After High School." This workshop covered the following topics: IDEA requirements as they relate to the adult transition process, California's developmental disability service system, and how to coordinate employment, housing, and recreation programs.
- SCDD staff participates on the Orange County Adult Transition Task Force (OCATTF) which is a monthly collaboration where leaders from education, business, service agencies and family advocacy groups come together to share

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.

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. Discussion of the ABLE Act – AB 449 – Income Taxation: Savings Plans: Qualified Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Program – handout 2. Review of Education Subcommittee 3. Overview of Employment Community Advisory Committee Meeting on 11/19/2015 (formerly known as the Work Initiative) 4. Agency Updates/Announcements. In addition to participating in the general meeting discussions, SCDD staff provided participants with information on our upcoming events and the self-advocacy launch taking place this month. Following the meeting, two local school district personnel (Capistrano USD and Newport Mesa USD) requested that we coordinate dates to do self-advocacy training for the adult transition students.

- SCDD Staff supported young adults who assisted in mailing out the QA surveys as part of their job training opportunity. The students label the envelopes, labeled the surveys, stuffed the surveys and prepared them for posting. Staff assisted the students with reviewing their activity and making sure that they were doing it properly. They did everything correctly. This was a huge help to our office because of the need to get a great deal of surveys out quickly.
- SCDD Staff participates on The Transition Coalition which met to schedule the trainings for 2016, and determine times, location and speakers. It was decided that the first Saturday of the month would be the best day to schedule these sessions, from 10-12 at the conference room of the SCDD office. The schedule will begin in March with a panel regarding Post-Secondary Opportunities; followed by a Tech Assistive Technology Session in April, and a Benefits for students that are in Transition, in May. June is a very busy month, so the sessions will begin again in September with a session on Transition Planning, and in October the focus would be on Living Options. Additionally, the Transition Alliance is planning a statewide conference in early December, and it was announced that the Employment Coordinator from Department of Rehabilitation can now do the Windmills Trainings. Staff will confirm use of the conference room and create a flier with scheduled workshops to be distributed at the upcoming Transition Fairs at the various schools.
- SCDD Staff met with member of the Transition Committee to continue the dialog and planning of a central website for families to use when needing to navigate the system of developmental services.
- SCDD Staff created and organized the Butte Glenn Partners in Transition, a

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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.

committee that meets to improve services for transition aged youth, increase knowledge of transition resources and trends and coordinate activities to increase employer/community support for youth. On 1-14-16, the Manager of Employment Services for Butte County Office of Education, provided a training on Workability to 8 people. The training included the overview of WorkAbility Program, Program description, WorkAbility values and process. Future projects were also discussed including the "We Can Work" service contract with Department of Rehabilitation. Butte County Office of Education is one of the County Schools (BCOE) who was contacted by Department of Rehabilitation to establish a service contract to implement the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) that requires pre-employment transition services to high school students age 16-21. Services include job exploration counseling, work based learning experiences, workplace readiness training and self-advocacy instruction. As the WIOA service contract is underway, BCOE Manager of Employment Services will provide updates to the Butte Glenn Partners in Transition on progress and experiences of WIOA.

- SCDD Staff participated in a collaborative meeting where 19 regional center-supported students from Stanislaus County expressed their interests, hopes and dreams for activities after transitioning from educational programs to adult services. The intent of the meeting was to insure that the students who spoke had sufficient planning to insure a smooth transition and that all students were aware of employment as an option after completing educational programs.
- SCDD Staff participated in a teleconference where the team discussed the Social Security Ticket to Work program, Alternatives to conservators, the ABLE account and progress on the recently formed Sacramento Business Council. This information was shared with our RAC members at their January meeting.

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.

- SCDD 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 in its final draft and should be "live" next month. 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. The committee is also about to finalize a survey that will replicate the 2003 survey of child care providers, and include additional questions focused upon behavior and social/emotional development. Survey will include licensed and exempt child care providers, State Preschool and Head Start directors. The surveys will be rolled out within the next couple of weeks and data will be gathered by the California State University of Fullerton (CSUF) Social Science Research Group.
- SCDD Staff participated in the Home Visiting Pilot Program Initiative as a partner and subject matter expert. The pilot program is based on the Healthy Families America Model and the partnership would be to extend the program to our county. Other entities invited to participate in the collaborative include: First 5, Raise and Shine (Positive Parenting Program), County Health and Health Services, Partnership Health Plan of California (the area Medi-Cal Managed Care Provider), Pinoleville Tribal Health, local health clinics and medical centers. The model is a voluntary home visiting program, that is family-centered, culturally sensitive, strengths based, and proven effective in promoting healthy child, development and preventing child abuse and neglect. Professionals would be able to provide key early detection and early intervention support to families and children that cannot access centralized resources due to little or no access to public transportation.

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 Staff cosponsored a training that presented new concepts for day services in California. The event was attended by 71 participants. Funds were leveraged through Valley Mountain Regional Center and the Coalition of Local Area Services Providers each matching the \$500 contribution of SCDD. SCDD provided the concept, participated in the planning, assisted in public outreach, provided copy service and logistical support before and on the day of the event. The training was focused on supporting California's Employment First Act describing best practice and new concepts of day program design fully integrated with employment services. The presenter was Sara Murphy from TransCEN Work Link and was a grant recipient from the SCDD Cycle 37 from the SCDD/North Bay office. Her concept of braiding services between employment and day services was explained in detail.
- SCDD Staff E-blasted on employment issues- 1/11 DRC Employment Information worksheets, and 1/14- Michael Walling Social Security Workshops to our email networks.
- SCDD Staff provided support and assistance to the Chair of the Employment First Committee at both the Self-Advocate Pre-Meeting and the full committee meeting the following day. In addition, took notes and prepared the Employment First report for the chair to provide at the SCDD meeting, and additionally, reviewed three policy briefs with the Chair following the Pre-Meeting.
- SCDD staff arranged and held the Day and Employment Work Group meeting. At the meeting staff from San Jose Unified School District gave a presentation on how she invites individuals and families from the various district's post-secondary programs to go on tours of day and employment programs. The day and employment work group will develop strategies to involve more families, day programs, and more school districts on these tours.
- SCDD Staff participated in the monthly planning meeting for 2016 Jobtoberfest. Members were asked to sign up for a subcommittee. Information about the subcommittees will be emailed out to all committee member for their review. Subcommittee will be formed starting at the February meeting. Those in attendance were: Dept of Rehabilitation, San Diego Regional Center, Employment Development Dept., Arc-San Diego, Mental Health Systems, Goodwill Industries, Outreach Consulting, Deaf Community Services, San Diego Workforce Partnership, Episcopal Community Services, Career Services Inc., Cal Trans. And Access to Independence
- SCDD Staff provided technical support to the SSAN Employment workgroup

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.

conference call. Staff opened the line and was asked by the work group chair to take notes. Staff took notes and emailed to the chair after the call ended. The workgroup talked about their next steps as a work group and ideas on future outreach and projects. They will meet again at the March SSAN meeting.

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 presented information on the Able Act at the Think Transition meeting at UCD Mind Institute. The ABLE Act allows people with disabilities and their families to set up a special savings account for disability-related expenses. Earnings on an ABLE account would not be taxed, and account funds would generally not be considered for the supplemental security income (SSI) program, Medicaid, and other federal means-tested benefits. SCDD provided printed information on the Able Act. In addition, SCDD Staff offered references and resources regarding Access Leisure Services in the greater Sacramento area. Discussion continues about best practices for individuals with ID/DD transitioning into independent living and work. SCDD continues to research employment opportunities and access to inform individuals/agencies of resources. Fact noted today - All agencies/business who receive federal grant funding must include people with ID/DD and hire at least 10% on staff. Think Transition Alternatives to Conservator workshop announced to take place on February 10th.
- SCDD staff hosted the Business Advisory Council (BAC) planning meeting on January 6th. There were 10 members from various partner agencies including: UC Davis Mind Institute; InAlliance; Progressive Employment; Department of Rehabilitation; California Employment and Training Agency, Meristem and a parent advocate. The purpose of our meeting today was to plan for the January 27, 2016 Northern California Business Advisory Council's Business Partners event. This event 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. This event will take place at a family owned and operated pizza restaurant that employs individuals with ID/DD. Collaboration and networking with businesses, both private and public 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.
- SCDD staff hosted a Supported Employment Informational Training on January

Goal #9

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

- 29th for the purpose of informing the Regional Advisory Committee members and the community at large regarding supported employment services. Guest speakers were from two agencies, In Alliance and Futures Explored, Inc./VTE
- SCDD staff collaborated with East Valley Special Education Local Plan Area/SELPA to coordinate with local schools within the district to facilitate a training within the Transition Partnership Program/TPP class. Dress for Success training presentation was provided to the transition students within the Redlands East Valley High School located in San Bernardino County. The presentation put an emphasis on health, hygiene and grooming practices for job interviewing and employment retention.
 - SCDD Staff participated in Adventures in Business (AIB) quarterly meeting along with We Care A Lot Foundation staff, business owners' mentors and Far Northern Regional Center management. Currently there are 8 small business owners that are supported by a mentor through We Care A Lot Foundation. AIB is a program of We Care A Lot Foundation that began in 2006 It serves people with developmental disabilities in the nine county catchment area of Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC). The Adventures in Business Program provides supports that enable an adult with developmental disabilities to be self-employed. These supports include employing a business mentor to mentor the business owner on how to start and run a successful micro business. The ultimate goal is for the business owners to have meaningful work that they are proud of and to make enough money to make a positive difference in their lives. Currently there are eight micro businesses: •Rebekah Amick "Art Life" - •TJ Bryant "TJ's Creations" - •BJ Christenson "BJ's Art Studio" •T. Frank Smith "TF Smith Photography" - •Coby Walters "Pine Meadow Photography" - •Naomi Rose "Artwork by Naomi Rose" - •Dyvonne Washington "Flowers for You" - •David Plant's Folk Art. <http://www.wecarealot.org/adventures-in-business/> The meeting on 1-8-16 included presentations and reports from each small business owner, including updates of their business and sales status for 2015. Discussions as a group included new strategies to marketing and sales and community contacts. Staff provided observation and consultation to the business owners and recognition of the value of the mentor in success of the business. The mentors come from the field of the business which has been extremely significant.
 - SCDD Staff Eblasted "2016 No-Cost Micro enterprise Training (MET) Schedule". Training offered to Enterprising Individuals with Disabilities, Disabled Veteran Entrepreneurs, Loved Ones and Partners of the Disabled, Vocational

Goal #9

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

Rehabilitation Specialists, Career Development, Consultants/Counselors, Job Placement Counselors, Educators, Business Advisors/Consultant, Coaches and Mentors, Existing Business Owners, Sponsors, Supporters and Trustees of E&CO and the DBA. MET is a monthly, no-cost, educational program introducing you to self-employment and business ownership by individuals with disabilities. MET is sponsored by Employment & Community Options (E&CO) and the Disabled Businesspersons Association (DBA). Met is tailored for the enterprising disabled and their loved ones, professionals in vocational rehabilitation, career development, education, and business consulting.

- SCDD Staff Eblasted about job opportunities through Mains'l Services and Far Northern Regional Center's Live Well Health Initiative to 400 people. The positions are for a reporter for on-line Live Well Newsletter and to work in PASSPORT Program. The positions pay minimum wage and outline the required skills of the positions. 3 Self-Advocates responded to the E-Blast about the job opportunities and they all applied for the positions. They are awaiting the outcome of the application process.
- SCDD Staff organized a community training on Benefits & Employment 2016 on 1-27-16, in collaboration with Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) and We Care A Lot Foundation (WCALF). The presenter, Mike Walling is nationally known for his knowledge of the Social Security programs and associated medical benefits. 75 people attended training and learned a lot of information. Some of the topics addressed in training include: Can I work and still receive benefits? How does employment affect my benefits? Can I work and keep my Medi-Cal? How much can I earn? Information about the presenter and contacts: Mike Walling, M. E.d. Benefits Training and Consulting - P.O. Box 1483 - Chadds Ford, PA 19317 email: walling inc@aol.com phone number: 610 - 696 -1551
- SCDD 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: National Foundation for Autism Research (NFAR) QA Tester Vocational Training program funded by DOR to train participants for a position as an entry level Software QA Tester, RCOC Updates regarding employment and day services, planning for the Employment Conference to be held on October 13. OCEAN, established in 1991, is a professional association that assists members and employers in creating employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

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 meeting for Project College where the schedule for the week was reviewed, and it was decided to have students bring their technology with them to a session where they could download and learn about additional applications to assist them in being successful in Post-Secondary Education. Staff will also contact Get Safe to check on their availability and cost to do a safety presentation one evening for the students, and marketing materials were reviewed, and updated to be more appealing to students that might be interested in attending. The brochures, applications, and frequently asked questions will be emailed today. Grant requests are still being submitted, so there should be more information on the status of these requests at the February meeting.
- SCDD Staff made one post on Facebook about employment in the first half of January: APSE National Awards - Association of People Supporting Employment First
- SCDD staff presented information on the Able Act at the Think Transition meeting at UCD Mind Institute. The ABLE Act allows people with disabilities and their families to set up a special savings account for disability-related expenses. Earnings on an ABLE account would not be taxed, and account funds would generally not be considered for the supplemental security income (SSI) program, Medicaid, and other federal means-tested benefits. SCDD provided printed information on the Able Act. 15 agencies and individuals attended this meeting. In addition, SCDD Staff offered references and resources regarding Access Leisure Services in the greater Sacramento area. Discussion continues about best practices for individuals with ID/DD transitioning into independent living and work. SCDD continues to research employment opportunities and access to inform individuals/agencies of resources. Fact noted today - All agencies/business who receive federal grant funding must include people with ID/DD and hire at least 10% on staff. Think Transition Alternatives to Conservator workshop will take place on February 10th.
- SCDD Staff provided training and technical assistance to support workability student in the process of career exploration and skill development. Incoming students are "interviewed" which helps to hone their interview and other soft skills. Currently the student working with our office is gaining experience in computer programs: Word, Excel and Publisher; other activities include interacting with the public by answering phones, processing incoming mail, photocopying and shredding plus other typical duties that would be performed in a small office

Goal #9

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

environment. Staff provides written feedback to the student and the instructor to identify strengths and areas for improvement to better prepare for the world of work.

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 participates on the Ability Resource Fair & Assistive Technology Expo planning committee. Currently the committee is working on date, location and time of next event for 2016. After reviewing evaluations for the last AT fair. The committee decided that the location we used before was not very accessible in terms of parking and vendors who need to have their AT booths outdoors. The committee will continue planning the the 2016 Ability Resource fair.
- SCDD Staff is part of planning committee for the 2nd annual Brain Health 5K run/walk. The event will take place on June 25th 2016. The goal of the event is to provide awareness about stroke prevention. To educate our communities about the signs and symptoms of stroke. Staff will outreach to local self-advocates and their families for participation with planning and or information to attend the event. Staff will also be assisting to find meeting locations, gather supporters, and providing contacts for other collaborations within the DD system. The committee is a cross disability and relies on its members from the various agencies to share their knowledge and expertise accordingly.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted information about The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) announced the federal government's approval of California's 1115 waiver renewal, which includes \$6.2 billion of initial federal funding to support the state's Medi-Cal program and its health care coverage of more than 12.8 million individuals. The waiver renewal, called Medi-Cal 2020 continues to build on Bridge to Reform waiver in 2010 and opens the door to innovative changes in the way Medi-Cal provides services to its members.
- SCDD Staff attended the monthly wellness committee meeting. The group discussed upcoming wellness symposiums and shared various materials relating to health and wellness. Announcements regarding upcoming trainings were provided to all participants. The latest version of the YeHaw! newsletter was distributed. Collaborators are San Diego Regional Center, Home of Guiding Hands, Arc San Diego, LIFE, San Diego People First and various other community organizations.
- SCDD Staff coordinated a telephone conference with the regional center dental coordinators and dental consultants from throughout southern California. Our purpose was to learn more about the issues involved in providing dental care to people with developmental disabilities. Concerns included longstanding problems recruiting trained dentists, inadequate Denti-Cal reimbursements rates, insufficient surgical centers where dental anesthesia can be done, unwieldy administrative paperwork and rules, and long waiting lists for hospital dentistry, among others.

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.

Paul Glassman, DDS from University of the Pacific participated on the call. He has been a national and statewide leader in policy development and systems change to improve oral health for vulnerable populations. In a follow-up call with him, he provided several ideas for collaborating with SCDD. Staff began researching the feasibility of a Special Needs Code which would pay specially trained dentists a higher Denti-Cal reimbursement rate for providing specialized services to people with developmental disabilities.

- SCDD Staff attended their first meeting with a planning committee for a Transition Planning Symposium for Medically Fragile. This group is in the beginning planning stages. They are in the process of developing a Mission Statement. A broad range of topic areas were brought up. The group decided on a tentative symposium date in October 2016. Possible meeting location sites were discussed. There was a brief discussion on finances before the meeting ended. Those in attendance were: California Children's Services, San Diego Regional Center, Arc-San Diego, local health organizations, local service agencies & organizations, Exceptional Family Member Services (Marine Corp) and parents.
- SCDD staff attended the Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee (MCDAC) meeting at First 5 Sacramento Commission. About 25 agencies, medical establishments, dentists, family members, and advocates attend. About 33 individuals and 2 family members are active on the committee. DHCS representatives stated they are communicating with Anthem Blue Cross to correct the situation with them denying all hospital dentistry requests. All 3 health plans: Access Dental, Health Net Dental, and Liberty Dental are all sending out postcards to beneficiaries reminding them to contact their dentist for routine treatment. They are trying to increase utilization rates which are lower than fee-for-service utilization rates in Sacramento County. Utilization has doubled over the past 4 years. There is still an issue with approvals for anesthesia dentistry approvals taking 2-3 weeks to be approved by the department. This situation has gotten worse over the past few months. Delays in approvals and "random" denials are causing problems in dental offices, schools, etc. Plans usually approve in 2-4 days. There is a 35% cancellation rate of patients using Medi-Cal, which makes many dentists not want to accept Medi-Cal or overbook. Two surgery centers are refusing to provide any care and are referring to other dentists due to complexity of TAR and reimbursement process. DHCS reports they are reviewing their forms to simplify them. DHCS reported that you cannot receive a pre-authorization for "emergency dental care", however, if there is visible injury or trauma, treatment should be

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.

provided and it should be reimbursed. Some providers expressed concern about whether their treatment would be reimbursed and exactly what "visible trauma" meant. The MCDAC acknowledged that their committee now represents the interests of both children AND adults on Medi-Cal/Denti-Cal. SCDD being a part of this committee is important to represent the needs of children and adults with developmental disabilities. Otherwise, much of the focus is just on children on Medi-Cal.

- SCDD Staff facilitated the development of the Partnership for Healthy Babies Blogspot that will be utilized by the collaborative to provide a forum for the dissemination and exchange of information. Partnership members, who include: County Health and Health Services, Partnership Health Plan of California (the area Medi-Cal Managed Care Provider) Community College, First 5, and community members, requested that SCDD staff provide an overview presentation to group members regarding the layout, design features and posting and blog maintenance fundamentals. Staff developed a step-by-step "How-to Posting" guide for the group and held a Question and Answer session after the overview. This is an evolving project, SCDD staff will provide requested support once the committee members are more proficient in managing and navigating the Blog. The group will roll-out notice of the blog's existence to the general public.

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 Staff Eblasted "Special Announcement: Information on Available Housing for San Bernardino". The Housing Authority is accepting applications for our Project Based senior communities located in the cities of San Bernardino, Twin Peaks, Yucaipa, and Victorville. Currently, the Housing Authority is conducting an open enrollment to accept pre-applications for specific bedroom sizes for the Public Housing program waiting lists. Applications were offered in both English and in Spanish links.
- SCDD Staff participated in a meeting about developing affordable housing and the need for development of coalitions to be successful. Many entities were present including those involved in finance, architects, structural engineers, non-profit housing advocates, real estate professionals et.al. During a round table discussion, SCDD LA staff brought up the issue of accessibility and universal design as a critical aspect of housing development. Staff noted that many families will experience disability at some point in their lifetimes and that it is easier to design housing to be fully accessible at the front end rather than trying to modify housing later. Many in the room agreed that this is an important issue and one that is not often considered by affordable housing advocates. Staff established a connection with two staff from Community of Friends, an affordable housing entity that has developed "special needs" housing in the past.

Goal #12

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

- SCDD Staff participated in the Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC)'s Housing Community Advisory Council, developed to address the creation of affordable housing opportunities in Orange County. Alongside RCOC, two housing developers (Innovative Housing Opportunities and Community Housing Resources, Inc) and parent advocates sit on the committee. Discussed at the 1/14/2016 meeting: 1. Creation of user-friendly synopsis of how to create/develop a group home to be posted on the internet 2. Affinity Design priorities for the committee's housing priorities - staff selected to partake in the following four priorities: (1) develop a tool kit/guide for cities and families (public relations and community outreach); (2) More set-asides for persons with I/DD in designing housing; (3) stop allowing developers to "buy-out" of providing affordable housing; and (4) develop a formal planning process/tool for families to plan for the future (services/how they fit). 3. Presentation by Orange County Housing Authority on HUD program updates and special housing programs available Orange County RAC member, Lisa Stanton, also sits as a committee member on this Housing Advisory Council.
- The Behavioral Health and Recovery Board reappointed SCDD 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. There were 12 board members, family-advocates, 5 self-advocates and 10 community members at the board meeting in Fort Bragg. Collaborators were Behavioral Health and Recovery Board, Rural Community Housing Development Corp., Redwood Quality Management Corporation, City of Ukiah, Community Advocates, Manzanita House. The group took a tour of the controversial housing 8 units in construction at the Manzanita House. The 42 unit project in Ukiah is in the demolishing process of removing an old house on the property in order to build. We have continued to inform clients interested in the various projects so they can apply for units when available. The Tiny House project received 1,000,015,000 and is moving forward through the County Planning Zoning and Building Department approval process. Redwood Quality Management Corporation is the lead agency for the Tiny House project and brought the proposal to the Behavioral Health and Recovery Board to get support and funding for the project. The Rural Community Housing Development Corp. is also being funded with 1.3 million to provide housing for special needs and individuals with mental illness. A piece of property in downtown Ukiah and owned by the City is being considered as a trade for a piece of property that the Rural Community Housing Development Corp. owns. This would help with

Goal #12

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

funding the match as well as providing a new 40 unit low income housing project in Mendocino County. The land has already been approved for housing units and was paid for by redevelopment funds. Staff will oversee the progress as part of the housing committee of the Rural Community Housing Development Corp. and the Tiny House projects in Mendocino County for 2016. North Coast staff is assisting the board and the housing committee to advocate for more accessible housing and watching NIMBYISM issues as they arise. Fort Bragg business owners are against any social services or Mental Health facilities being located in the downtown core in Fort Bragg. North Coast staff will help circulate a survey of housing needs.

- SCDD Staff drafted a letter of support regarding R. Morgan Corporation and Innovative Housing's development plan to create affordable housing in the City of Irvine that will include opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities (a number of units at this inclusive apartment complex will be designated for persons with disabilities).
- SCDD staff attended a public hearing on the City of San Jose housing plan known as Envision. The housing needs of the IDD community are critical. SCDD attended to insure that members of the task force are aware of the housing needs of the community.

Goal #13

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.

- SCDD Staff Eblasted "DRC Notice about a CDSS policy". Beginning February 1, 2016, state law limits the maximum weekly number of hours an IHSS/Waiver Personal Care Services (WPCS) provider can work in a workweek. Providers who work in IHSS/WPCS will be paid overtime if they work more than 40 hours a week, but providers shall not work more than 66 hours a week for IHSS and WPCS combined. The California Department of Social Services is creating two policies so that some providers can work more than those limits: A) CDSS now has an exemption policy for IHSS providers who meet all the following conditions on or before January 31, 2016: 1. Provide IHSS services to two or more IHSS recipients; 2. Live in the same home as all of the IHSS recipients for whom they provide services; and 3. Are related to the IHSS recipients to whom they provide services as his/her parent, stepparent, adoptive parent or grandparent or are his/her legal guardian. Providers who meet the conditions in 1, 2 and 3 above will be allowed to work up to a maximum of 90 hours per workweek and up to a maximum of 360 hours a month under this exemption. However, even with this exemption, providers cannot work more than 90 hours per workweek or more than 360 hours per month. If the hours for the provider's recipients are more than that, one or more of the IHSS recipients will have to hire another IHSS provider to work the rest of their IHSS hours.
- SCDD Staff collaborated with Department of Rehabilitation/DOR Staff to meet at SCDD SB Regional Office. The meeting was regarding the upcoming Employment Summit, community outreach trainings and other events that our agencies could work together on to bring as much information to the community that we both serve.
- SCDD Staff initiated a tele-conference collaboration with the Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy/OCRA regarding opportunities our agencies could coordinate to provide community outreach training presentations to the self & family advocates that we both serve. We discussed recent requests for Social Security benefits and wages training. Our agencies agreed to collaborate on three trainings together throughout the area that we both serve.
- SCDD Staff coordinated to meet with the Executive Director of Rolling Start Community Living Center to discuss inter-agency collaboration regarding working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to provide community outreach training and improve communication between both agencies.
- SCDD Staff met with Director of Client Services and the Program Manager regarding training services and supports they are needing for the Desert Arc

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program. They requested a Letter of Support regarding transportation from SCDD on the systemic issue of transportation (if needed) after Program Manager attends the first meeting with the City of Palm Desert, and per the outcome the Regional Office Manager will provide. They will let the SCDD Regional Office 12 know if this letter is needed after the meeting. During the meeting, it was requested that a Social Security and Benefits training be provided in March, during the evening, and on a Thursday. I spoke to Irene Padilla at Office of Clients Rights Advocacy (OCRA), and we will collaborate on a training session for the Coachella Valley area in the month of March, on the 17th in the evening. Both SCDD and OCRA will present. Presentations are to be completed in English and Spanish to reflect the demographic needs of the area. Suggested times are one from 4:30pm-6pm, and the other 7-8:30pm. We are just awaiting confirmation on the date and times from Desert Arc staff, so that the event can be confirmed. Desert Arc also requested subsequent trainings that are reflected on the SCDD Regional Office (RO) 12 Flyer, and those are to be scheduled after the March training. The self-determination groups held monthly at the location are going well per the Program Manager. The consumers are becoming more involved, and the facilitator from SCDD RO 12 is transferring responsibility. It is progressing well, and SCDD RO 12 staff will still attend meetings to assist with training and technical assistance.

- SCDD Staff Eblasted informing community of an upcoming presentation on Alternatives to Conservatorship, upcoming celebration on the 50th year of Lanterman Act, and an upcoming training on dementia and developmental disability. An email was sent to SCDD SV/MB mailing list about a public meeting about the City of San Jose Housing Plan called Envision. An email was sent to SCDD SV/MB provider mailing list of a request for Employment Stories that can be added to the DDS Employment First Newsletter. SCDD SV/MB sent to members on the mailing list a notice that all families of children under the age 18 were likely to receive a NCI survey and completion of the survey will be appreciated.
- SCDD staff attended the San Andreas Regional Center Board meeting to report progress of the SV/MB office and to participate in discussion of SARC business including the recent adoption of the SARC Employment First policy.
- The SCDD Staff attended the Department of Social Services, Pasadena & San Fernando District Community Meeting on January 28, 2016. The DPSS Pasadena & San Fernando District Community Meetings offer professionals in the field of healthcare and social services an opportunity to share valuable information and

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resources. DPSS reported that they are in the process of converting to a new web-based system. It is expected to launch in March or April. DPSS homeless services are currently conducting a count of the homeless in Los Angeles. They are also hoping to identify homeless people who are at risk for drowning and or injury due to the current El Nino. A Winter Shelter program is in place to temporarily house these individuals and families during storms. They are also offering hotel and motel vouchers. The other members of the group shared information and resources. SCDD L.A. Office staff will include any pertinent information in the e-newsletter. The next meeting of the DPSS District Community Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2016.

- SCDD Staff Eblasted "2016 CALIFORNIA YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM (YLF) - APPLICATION EXTENDED TO JANUARY 31". The The deadline to apply for the 2016 California Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) for Student with Disabilities has been extended Sunday, January 31, 2016. Spanish application instructions were provided, along with an Delegate application and Parents-Guardian-Delegate informational guide.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted "AFAA Applauds 2016 -- Funding". An opportunity for up to \$5,000 – that is being offered by Advancing Futures for Adults with Autism (AFAA). AFAA is a national consortium of organizations (HGH is an Affiliate member) working together, led by the vision of individuals with autism and their families, to promote a collaborative spirit and develop both public and private sector support that improve the lives of adults living with autism. This national recognition initiative will award grants up to \$5000 for promising practices related to the needs of adults with autism. Priority areas include employment, housing, community living, and the utilization of technology supports. Deadline: February 17, 2016.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted "Disability Scoop: ABLE Accounts May Be Available Sooner Than Expected". A tweak to federal law is poised to greatly expand choice and speed up availability of accounts allowing people with disabilities to save money without risking their government benefits. The provision will permit individuals with disabilities to open new accounts established under the Achieving a Better Life Experience, or ABLE, Act in any state, regardless of where they reside. The change means that people with disabilities across the country will be able to open ABLE accounts when the first state programs are up and running which could happen as soon as February or March, advocates say. For the first time people with disabilities will be able to accrue up to \$100,000 in savings without losing

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access to Social Security and other government benefits. Medicaid coverage will remain intact no matter how much money is saved in an individual's ABLE account. To be eligible for an ABLE account, an individual must have a disability that originated before the age of 26.

- SCDD Staff Eblasted "Disability Sports Festival in Coachella Valley". On January 30, 2016 Where: Palm Desert Civic Center Park 43900 San Pablo Ave, Palm Desert, CA 92260, USA. Registration is FREE and will be a day full of fun activities for people of all abilities and ages. It is free to the public with lunch provided only for participants. So of the events will be Archery, basketball (wheelchair and stand-up), beep baseball (blind baseball for all to try), standup/wheelchair baseball (for severely disabled), bocce (all abilities), cycling (includes tandem, quadracycles, handcycles and recumbents), golf, kayaking, martial arts, rowing, skateboarding, soccer, tennis (wheelchair and stand-up), throwing (javelin and shot put), wall climbing (all abilities), and yoga. Registration opens at 8 a.m. Pre-registration is preferred to ensure ordering of adequate number of lunches. Opening ceremony begins at 9 a.m. on the outdoor basketball court behind the Palm Desert Community Center. Festivities are from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m., rain or shine.
- SCDD Staff E-blasted information on "Information About Exceptions to IHSS Overtime Restrictions" as published by Disability Rights California, to our email listserve of 1000 people. This eblast shared information on the two policies (exceptions) that enable some IHSS providers to work more than the hour/workweek limits the County imposed. "The California Department of Social Services is creating two policies so that some providers can work more than those limits: A) CDSS now has an exemption policy for IHSS providers who meet all the following conditions on or before January 31, 2016: 1. Provide IHSS services to two or more IHSS recipients; 2. Live in the same home as all of the IHSS recipients for whom they provide services; and 3. Are related to the IHSS recipients to whom they provide services as his/her parent, stepparent, adoptive parent or grandparent or are his/her legal guardian. Providers who meet the conditions in 1, 2 and 3 above will be allowed to work up to a maximum of 90 hours per workweek and up to a maximum of 360 hours a month under this exemption. However, even with this exemption, providers cannot work more than 90 hours per workweek or more than 360 hours per month. If the hours for the provider's recipients are more than that, one or more of the IHSS recipients will have to hire another IHSS provider to work the rest of their IHSS hours."

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- SCDD Staff Eblasted "Project College 2016". Project College 2016 is currently recruiting students for the week of June 19th – 24th to attend the weeklong college living experience program on the campus of the University of San Diego. sixth year of the program, and has proven to be of value to the past attendees. Some scholarship money available.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted "Reduced Fees for California ID cards". Information was given regarding getting or renewing your or your child's California ID Card. Contacting your Regional Center service coordinator to complete California DMV form DL-937 (a reduced fee application). Submit the form with application to DMV for within 60 days from form completion. Renewal fees are then reduced to \$8 from \$29. DL-937 is not available online, but service coordinator can call the DMV at 916-657-6550 to request the DL937 form. DMV will NOT send to families directly."
- SCDD Staff Eblasted "USC UCEDD - FREE webinar: Early Identification for Autism and Developmental Disabilities". On Thursday, January 28, 2016 at 10:00am a FREE webinar presentated by Marian Williams, PH D, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the USC UCEDD, Program Area Lead in Early Childhood Mental Health and Co-Director of Interdisciplinary Training, will discuss: A project to increase access to early screening and intervention for young children in underserved communities. Why screening is critical; What is screened. Red flags for Autism Spectrum Disorder. What services are recommended for young children with developmental concerns. How we can keep children from falling through the cracks.
- SCDD Staff Eblasted an Article in the Stockton Record entitled "Don't define students by their disabilities" written by the Assistant Superintendent Special Education/SELPA director at the San Joaquin County office of Education. The article was emailed to our communities as well as fellow SCDD staff to share.
- SCDD staff continued to facilitate meetings with community collaborators in January to improve access to community and recreational activities for individuals with disabilities at the Recreation Center. The collaborators include participants from the ARRC, Mendocino County Health Dept., Special Olympics, People First, ABC Program, parents & mentors. Staff attends the People First meeting in Ukiah monthly and leaves flyers about Open ARRC and explained the Open ARRC activities on Fridays Nights and Sundays. The ABC and the UVAH program started bringing 15 to 20 program participants and 10 staff weekly to the Recreation Center. Activities include: movie day, Karaoke twice a month, a sign

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language class once a week, a self advocacy workshop once a month and a skills building workshop every week. Another program requested gym time once a week as well. SCDD staff has encouraged other programs to use the ARRC facility to provide activities and socialization activities. Fliers are beginning to generate requests for use. The First 5 program is sharing their rented space for part of the activities. The Recreation Board has asked that the ABC activities be opened up to other programs not just the clients they serve. The Gym was built large enough to accommodate multiple users at the same time. The ARRC Board held a fundraising event in January to offset the costs of building usage. Some of the use will be by the Special Olympics for basketball and their annual basketball barbeque, the ABC and Ukiah Valley Habilitation Program and other day programs to recreate and have new options for daily programming.

- SCDD staff met with Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center staff in January to continue planning for the project of teaching individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to ride a bicycle. The ARRC Recreation Center Director and Board, the Health Department, Special Olympics and 3 family advocates are participating in the project planning. The "Cycle Without Limits" Bike Camp provided by United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay called "Play Without Limits" will be offered in Summer at Grace Hudson School site and the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center. It is one of the new projects that will be offered at the Open ARRC Recreation Center. This project would provide an 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. This new cycle activity will provide a variety of health benefits as well as recreational and improved social skills and will help build self-esteem for participants. To date about \$5,100 has been raised. The Recreation board asked local doctors for a donation. The Primary Redwood Medical Group donated the \$2,000 for the project. Staff from the Health Department has taken the training to be able to assist with the training course along with Sonoma County trainers using their adaptive equipment to provide the training here in Mendocino County. 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.
- SCDD Staff participated in the California In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) monthly teleconference call. Notes were taken and a report will

Goal #13

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be given at the February In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee meeting. Those in attendance were: California Alliance for Retired Americans, California Association of Public Authorities, care providers, recipients of services, professionals in the field.

- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to a parent who contacted the regional office regarding IHSS overtime rules going into effect Feb 1, 2016. The parent has two adult sons who have complex support needs and the parent provides all of their IHSS services. The parent was informed that she would be able to work a total of 66 hrs/wk, not enough to enable her to continue to care for her sons without supplementing her income with another job. Staff consulted with DRC OCRA. DRC is advising affected individuals to contact their local legislators. In addition, OCRA suggested that another family member in the home may be able to provide some of the IHSS services. Staff provided this information to the parent. Additionally, staff advised the parent that other services may provide needed services and family support, such as day care and in home ILS. Staff also informed parent about the self-determination program. The parent requested assistance to identify legislators and staff provided this link: <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>
- SCDD Staff participates at the IHSS Public Authority Advisory Committee meetings bi-monthly. At this meeting the committee discussed the changes regarding the new minimum wage, the Public Authority (PA) website, available trainings for providers and time sheet tools. The committee provided input and direction to PA regarding improving the time sheet tool and making it more user friendly. In addition the committee also talked about the outreach plan developed at the November meeting. The outreach plan was to inform providers and recipients about all the new changes happening. Since the November meeting, PA sent a letter to recipients and their providers about the changes specifically in regards to time card billing, overtime and travel. The PA has also updated their website with videos and other pertinent information to help educate the community.
- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to a new recreation service asking for assistance to get the word out about their new program. Staff gave them contact information to VMRC, Family Resource Network, Coalition of local area services providers (CLASP) and the Self Advocacy Council 6. Staff explained that perhaps those organizations would be willing to also get the word out. Staff offered to place their brochures in our foyer.

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- SCDD Staff Eblasted several articles focusing on changes for In -Home Support Services; Assistive Technology Training; Micro-Enterprise Trainings; Free Tax Preparation sites; webinars on various topics; Disability Rights legal clinic in the Imperial Valley; Sensory Storeytime at the public library; a program for people interested in becoming Rehabilitation Counselors; Mental Health 1st Aid Trainings; Downs Syndrome Support Group information; Rider Alert regarding Public Transportation; The New Day Conference in Los Angeles regarding Self-Determination; a survey sent by CICA regarding In Home Support Services; events sponsored by the Downs Syndrome Action Coalition; Information regarding the San Diego Gas & Electric Company rate hike; Involved Exceptional Parent day registration information; Project College information; Fair Housing Information and others.
- SCDD Staff participated with the Primary Advisory Committee meets every other month to discuss the needs of Central Valley Regional Center consumers. This committee is made up of fifteen Self-Advocates, and five others involved in the community. At this meeting, the SA's decided that they want to invite presenters to do training on IHSS, Self-Determination, Employment, DOR, SSI and the ABLE Act. Consumers would like to know more about these subjects. SCDD staff has offered to provide some of those training. Staff offered trainings to the Primary Advisory Committee and left a list of trainings that staff can do for them. The trainings will be included in the March meeting agenda so that consumers can look over the trainings ahead of time and then vote and schedule which trainings they would like for SCDD to present.
- SCDD Staff participates with The Vendor Advisory Committee every other month to discuss the issues that might arise for vendors of the Central Valley Regional Center. The vendors shared information about their perspective organizations. Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC) provided a budget report, and Yolanda Cruz - Regional Manager of SCDD Sequoia, was included on the March 15, 2016, agenda so that she could discuss the work the office is doing alongside CVRC.
- SCDD staff participated in a collaborative meeting held to discuss the Community Winter Formal 2015 and start the planning for the 2016 Winter Formal. Topics included were financials, facility and location, registration, invitations, food, serving process, pictures, volunteers, decorations, music, games/crafts, supplies and committee chairs responsibilities for 2016.
- SCDD staff participated in the monthly tele-conference of the Paratransit Riders' Coalition (PRC). SCDD staff and another participant gave a brief update about the

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Access Paratransit Community Meeting held earlier the same day. Most of the remaining discussion was about plans for an upcoming meeting(s) with Access' subcontractors and deciding which staff to invite from each. One participant will create draft wording for the invitation stressing that the purpose of the meeting(s) is to improve the service for both the riders and providers, to be approved at the February meeting.

- SCDD Staff arranged a meeting (to be held in January) with a local public library branch to assist with the development and implementation of a program for adults with ID/DD. Other libraries in the county have begun to express an interest as well and may be in attendance. Staff agreed to assist with both outreach and marketing as well as providing training to (a) library employees regarding disability awareness and (b) individuals with I/DD on self-advocacy
- SCDD Staff attended an informational meeting regarding a new rate system the local Gas and Electric Company is beginning. The purpose of the meeting was to review materials and information for ease of use by constituents, as well as share ideas and information regarding the best way to have this information communicated to the affected population - which is everyone.
- SCDD Staff attended the monthly meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Disability Collaborative on November 12, 2015. The San Gabriel Valley Disabilities Collaborative consists of service organizations from all over the San Gabriel Valley who are all dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities and seniors. The collaborative meets the second Thursday of each month. At this meeting the group heard a presentation about the California Coordinated Care Initiative by Care First Health Plans. The group also shared information about several upcoming disability-related resources and events. SCDD L.A. Office staff will promote these resources and events in the E-Newsletter. The next SGVDC meeting will be on February 11, 2016.
- SCDD Staff provided technical assistance to 17 self and family advocates regarding generic services such as DPSS, Cal-Fresh, Medi-cal, Housing Authority, & SSI. On Regional Center related matters: 1 call was referred to OCRA 1 call was given to Shannon Meehan CPS II SB Office. 1 call was referred to IRC for enrollment packet. On Educational matters: 4 calls were referred to T.A.S.K. 1 call Riverside County Behavioral Health Clinic & Wraparound Locations, 1 call referred to Shannon Meehan CPS II SB Office. On Housing: 1 call was referred to Catholic Churches, 1 call Referred to SB County Life Community Development , SB County Transitional Housing , & SB County Foothill family Shelter. On

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General Resources Provided in Riverside: 1 call was referred to T.A.S.K., Community Access Center, & Autism Society.

- SCDD Staff attended the first of six community meetings sponsored by Access Paratransit (ASI). ASI provided three brief presentations about: 1) the resolution of their fare structure which will fortunately remain unchanged for now following language inserted into the federal Surface Transportation Act recently signed by President Obama, 2) a Mobility Management Program update on available non-paratransit options, and 3) an Operations overview including rider tips about planning rides and avoiding peak hours for reservations and rides when possible. Questions and answers from the mostly rider audience were then taken. SCDD staff asked about when the law pertaining to fares will sunset (5 years) and about when to expect the option for online reservations (no date given, though in development). SCDD staff will share this information with the Paratransit Riders' Coalition.
- SCDD Staff attended the RCOC Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) meeting to discuss the self-advocacy launch 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 is holding 4 public hearings to discuss the fixed route reductions that will in turn affect paratransit users; (3) RCOC currently has 450 students who will be exiting from special education in June 2016; 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 and counsel to the Board.
- SCDD Staff met with Project Independence Executive Director and the local Kiwanis Club Coordinator to discuss increasing social/recreational opportunities in Orange County, as Project Independence recently had to eliminate their Access to Adventure (A2A) Program due to lack of funding. This program was one of very few places that offered recreation and socialization for adults with developmental disabilities in Orange County (aside from the YMCA New Horizons which still continues). Project Independence supports over 600 consumers in Orange County and it is crucial to supplement the standard support programs (ILS/SLS,

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day program, employment programming) with recreation ones promoting community integration. The local Kiwanis Club has an active Aktion Club, which is a service club for adults with disabilities, and as a first step in increasing recreational opportunities in Orange County, they will be hosting the Club meetings at the Project Independence office on the second Thursday of each month. 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 and socialization.

- SCDD staff met with Executive Director and Staff with the Riverside County Community Access Center/CAC to collaborate on the type of services the agency provides and to coordinate possible group training and community outreach presentations among our agencies and the community that we both serve.

Goal #14

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

- SCDD Staff created a self-advocate and family-friendly summary of the Governor's 2016-2017 Proposed Budget. It was shared with over 1500 individuals via email.
- SCDD Staff sent out E-blasts regarding the State of CA Budget 1/4- CA.GOV article on the Budget, 1/7 Gov's Budget for DDS, 1/15- Information on the budget from Marty Omoto.
- SCDD Staff coordinated the wrap-up meeting for the "Leading the Charge" conference that was held in early December, 2015. The committee reviewed the surveys, and provided anecdotal feedback they received. Overall, the conference was very well received. There were 210 people registered, with only 80 people paid, and the rest were scholarships. The registration went smoothly, with one suggestion to have two locations for parking permits. There were not enough programs, and even though all presentations were given on flashdrives when people registered, one person suggested using WHOVA next year, so they could follow the presentation on their smart device. The location was good, as was the signage, etc. Some felt the speakers did not have enough time, and a comment was given that one of the panel presentations could have been a stand-alone breakout session. The keynote speaker did an outstanding job, as did the ADA - 25th Anniversary speaker, Advocating With Your Elected Official was very well reviewed, as were most all sessions. A suggestion was made to have something specific to the more difficult to serve individual, and more programs that showcase goods made by self-advocates was also suggested. Next year a "Directors Forum" might be added to encourage more agency directors to attend, and sending the "Save the Date" cards out earlier was suggested. Given that the shootings in San Bernardino were the day prior to this event, we did not lose too many people, but only had three staff of the San Diego Regional Center in attendance, as the management team called an emergency meeting to address active shooter situations.
- SCDD Staff had a preliminary meeting with the Chair of the local Legislative Forum on January 13, 2016 (staff was asked to co-chair this event). Following our initial meeting, staff and Chair provided ideas and information to the Developmental Disability Provider Network on 1-21-16, and sought out additional members for the committee. On 1-28-16, met with the person identified to serve in the capacity of Moderator for the forum, and fleshed out the details of the event, selected a name ("Be The Change") identified potential panel members, decided which legislators should be on the legislative panel, identified AV needs, etc.

Goal #14

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- SCDD staff participated in a legislative discussion hosted by Marty Omoto of CDCAN regarding the upcoming budget cycle and strategies to approach the legislators to improve funding of developmental services. Identifying more detailed understanding of crisis in services and designating funds towards those services were discussed.
- SCDD Staff participated at MTF by providing feedback regarding local issues and how persons with disabilities could be affected. One of the issues brought up at a prior meeting was in regards to a new cross walk being installed at an intersection in town near the mental health building.
- SCDD staff participated in Mendocino County Child Care Planning Council meetings on Jan.6th and Jan. 26th 2016. There were 6 Collaborators and included Mendocino College Child Development, County Office of Education, North Coast Opportunities Lake & Mendocino Counties, Mendocino County Office of Education, State Preschool, and Head Start-Lake and Mendocino. The Child Care Planning Council advocates for more child care slots to help families in need. The Council met to continue to work on goals and objectives for new year and to plan for child care needs, early intervention services, child care needs assessment, the First 5 State Grant and review any newly proposed legislation effecting the child care community and families. Committees are to review and then send comments and proposed solutions to emerging needs and or identify areas to focus on for the year. The disaster in Lake County has made the group rethink this years goals. Providers did an excellent job of evacuating children during the fire and no lives were lost in the child care community.
- SCDD staff presented a summary of the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2016-17 to the Westside Regional Center (WRC) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC). Staff answered questions and assisted the WRC CAC in formulating strategies and understanding the budget development and approval process.
- SCDD staff presented a summary of the Governor's Proposed Budget for 2016-17 to the Westside Regional Center (WRC) Political Action and Outreach Committee (PAOC) on 1/13/16. Staff answered questions and assisted the WRC PAOC in formulating strategies and understanding the budget development and approval process.
- SCDD Staff facilitated the San Diego Imperial Self-Determination Advisory Committee which met on Friday, January 29, 2016, but again lacked a quorum of members. Since there were 3 members of the public in attendance, the committee members shared the information received from the CMS office in late

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December, which requested 12 pages of questions regarding the waiver application to be answered prior to there being further movement of this request. Discussion was had regarding the amount of time this will take, the situation at the Department of Developmental Services with the Executive Director position vacant, etc. Discussion also occurred with possible reasons why the last two meetings have not had a quorum - transportation, lack of facilitation, poor communication, etc. - and several dates were selected to be posed to the absent members so that another meeting could be scheduled for February. Staff sent the email, with a request for feedback regarding meeting days, times, locations, barriers, etc. There is an upcoming Statewide meeting on March 3, 2016, and it would be good if a representative from our area could attend. The SCDD will be providing assistance with travel costs, etc., so hopefully someone from the local Advisory Committee will be able to attend.

- SCDD Staff made two posts on Facebook about public policy in the first half of January. Clinton Unveils Plan To Increase Autism Services - We plan to keep track of what the candidates say about people with disabilities. Tomorrow Governor Brown will present his initial budget for California. Do you understand what this means? The California Budget and Policy Center has published an excellent guide to how the budget process works.
- SCDD Staff posted 8 facebook posts which were seen by a total of 938 individuals. Posts were in the following topic areas: Governor Browns budget update, Consumer Advisory Committee general meeting, Getting 'Down video series on live with Down Syndrome, Wrights Law Special Educ. Link, Employment in Oregon, California Covered Parents' meeting, and Closures of Services.
- SCDD Staff facilitated the CHOICES Conference Legislative work group to coordinate and organize the Legislative Panel at the April 2016 conference. The group wants to try a difference model at this year's Legislative Panel. The plan will include a presentation given to the legislators along with a packet of information and materials they can take with them. Work group members will be gathering input to this plan at the Self Advocacy Council 6 Area meeting of Self Advocates in February. The work group will compile the feedback and put the final touches on the presentation in February.

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 conducted a targeted mailing to 37 Chinese pediatricians and 76 Chinese community organizations which included a cover letter with: 1) our newly created "Pediatrician Flyer" which lists signs of potential developmental delay and stresses the importance of referring for Early Start services, 2) our newly created and translated-to-Chinese "Support for Parents" brochure (also some in English enclosed), and 3) Disability Rights' California's publication translated into Chinese entitled "Your Baby and Toddler's Rights (0 to 3 years) to Receive Information and Services in Your Native Language from the Regional Center under the Early Start Program" (also some in English enclosed). The Chinese pediatricians and Chinese community organizations were identified from the Los Angeles Chinese community phone book. The organizations included: 6 civic associations, 21 child care centers, 36 community service agencies, 11 maternity care services, and 2 special education organizations=76.
- SCDD Staff met with family member to discuss difficulty with special education services in Gilroy, California. Agreed to work with family member to organize with other families, and approach district on need to improve special education services.
- SCDD Staff facilitated the Disparity Taskforce meeting and reported 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.
- SCDD staff and another member of the Disparity Task Force spoke with staff and instructors at the Middlebury Institute, a post-graduate language university. Arrangements were made for SCDD SV/MB to be available to accept requests for interpretation and arrange for translation services for organizations in the Monterey Bay Area. SCDD will coordinate requests and assist as appropriate with any necessary arrangements. Middlebury stated, they are likely to offer assistance for two to four events over the course of an academic year.
- SCDD staff in collaboration with the Disparity Task Force put together a database of parent groups within the four counties. The data base was shared with members of the task force and those on the data base. Those receiving the database were asked to review and make any necessary corrections. Once reviewed, SCDD will forward the database to the provider community and its larger mailing list.
- SCDD staff and The Fiesta Educativa Advisory Committee recapped the December Fiesta Navidena event - areas of improvement and success. It is

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recommended that all members increase their participation in seeking out private and store donations, as early as possible, in an attempt to break even for the next annual event this December 2016. The Committee discussed who will assume which responsibilities in trying to coordinate the Fiesta Educativa sponsored events this year (the annual conference and Fiesta Navidena both). This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

- SCDD staff hosted an IHSS training for the monolingual Spanish support group, Fiesta Familiar. Cecilia Mercado, Fiesta Educativa Orange County Coordinator, conducted the training covering hours, services offered, timesheets, and with SCDD assistance, she provided information about the new overtime laws and exceptions. 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 staff contacted four leaders of Spanish-speaking parent support groups in order to promote a presentation SCDD Los Angeles staff was conducting nearby in Spanish in the near future entitled, "IEP Meetings: How They Work and How to Get What You Need". These leaders then conveyed the information and promoted the presentation to their groups.
- SCDD staff worked extensively to coordinate with the Inclusion Institute, FUERZA and the "Opening Doors" Coalition to select a date and venue and to resolve many logistical challenges in presenting a seminar on Self-Determination in multiple Asian languages. The Opening Doors Coalition has representatives from the Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, and Korean parent groups among others. Because of scheduling conflicts, SCDD next tried to do this as a session at the upcoming Asian and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities of California conference. Their agenda is full. Currently, staff is working with the Japanese Parents Association of Children with Challenges about a possible collaboration with their group and possibly others in April.
- SCDD Staff is working with Fiesta Educativa, FUERZA and the Inclusion Institute to jointly sponsor a seminar on Self-Determination for Spanish-speakers, conducted in Spanish. Fiesta Educativa secured the location at East Los Angeles

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Public Library. SCDD staff created the flyer and Fiesta Educativa staff translated it into Spanish. FUERZA will help to promote it to their constituency. SCDD promoted it through its newsletter (1520 people, unknown if SA, FA or other), and at various meetings and trainings (250) =1,770 total. The seminar will be held next month, 2/27/16.

- SCDD Staff made three posts on Facebook about regional center 2015 disparity data in the first half of January. Links to the disparity data for all seven regional centers in the Los Angeles catchment area were posted.
- SCDD Staff coordinated an in house training to regional office staff and one staff member from the Exceptional Family Resource Center. The training was offered through the Somali Family Service office. Our presenter gave us information on the Somali culture in respect to their language, religion, ethnicities within the Somali Culture, dietary regulations, their view of mental health, family structure and gender relations. Those in attendance were: Regional Office 13 staff and one staff member from the Exceptional Family Resource Center.

Collaborative Partners

- 211 San Diego
- A Better Life Together
- Access 2 Independence
- Access Paratransit
- Access to Independence
- Adult Protective Services
- Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center staff and Board
- Alta California Regional Center staff, consumer representatives, residential service providers, vendors, self and family advocates, and board of directors.
- American Red Cross
- Arc- Fresno
- Arc- Imperial Valley
- Arc- San Diego
- ARRC Recreation Center
- Asian and Pacific Islander with Disabilities of California
- Asperger's Support Group
- Association of Regional Center Agencies consumer representative,
- Association of Regional Centers
- Attorney Office
- Autism Society of the Inland Empire
- Behavioral Health and Recovery Board
- Brea-Olinda School District
- Butte County Community College
- Butte County Office of Education
- Cal Trans
- California Alliance for Retired Americans
- California Association of Public Authorities
- California Children's Services
- California Department of Education
- California Employment and Training Agency
- California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
- California Mentor
- California Office of Emergency Services
- Californians Living Independent and Free (CALIF)

Collaborative Partners

- CalOptima
- CAPC, Inc.
- Capistrano School District
- Career Services Inc.
- Central California Mennonite Residential Services
- Central Valley Regional Center
- Ceres Unified SD
- Children's Home Society
- Choices
- CHOICES
- City of Carlsbad,
- City of Chula Vista,
- City of Escondido,
- City of Fresno,
- City of Irvine
- City of Los Angeles Department on Disability
- City Of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department
- City of Oceanside,
- City of Pasadena Public Health
- City of Poway,
- City of San Diego
- City of San Diego Health Services,
- City of San Jose
- City of Stockton
- City of Ukiah
- City of Ukiah, ABC Program
- City of Vista,
- Clovis Unified Family Resource Center
- Clovis Unified School District ATP Director
- College 2 Career
- Community Advocates
- Community Builders
- Community Care Licensing
- Community Catalyst
- Community Individuals

Collaborative Partners

- Community Interface Services
- Community Rehabilitation Services(CRS)
- County HHSA Health Dept. Prevention and Planning
- County Office of Education Child Development
- CRL Consulting
- Cypress School
- Deaf Community Services
- Department of Developmental Services
- Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)
- Department of Social Services
- Department on Aging (HSA)
- Developmental Disability Provider Network
- Disability Action Center
- Disability Resource Agency for Independent Living. (Drail)
- Disability Response
- Disability Rights California
- Disability Rights California, Office of Clients Rights Advocacy
- Disabled Businessperson Association
- Disabled Resources Center (DRC)
- DRC/OCRA (Inland RC)
- DRC/OCRA (SCLARC)
- DRC/OCRA (SGPRC)
- Easter Seals
- Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC)
- Edison High School
- EFRC
- El Dorado Sheriff's Dept,
- Employment and Community Options
- Employment Development Department
- Epilepsy Foundation
- Episcopal Community Services
- Episcopal Refugee Network of San Diego.
- Etta Israel Services
- Exceptional Family Center (EFC)
- Exceptional Family Member Services (U.S. Marine Corp)

Collaborative Partners

- Exceptional Family Program (U.S. Army)
- Exceptional Family Resource Center
- Exceptional Parents Unlimited
- Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT)
- Family Focus Resource Center
- Family Resource Network (FRN)
- Far Northern Regional Center
- Fiesta Educativa
- Fiesta Educativa Orange County
- Fiesta Familia
- First 5
- FIRST 5 Mendocino
- Frank D Lanterman Regional Center
- Frank D Lanterman Regional Center, Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- Fremont Unified School District
- Fresno County Office of Education,
- Friendship Homes
- Fullerton School District
- Get Safe USA
- Glenn County Local Community Employers
- Glenn County Office of Education
- Goodwill Industries
- Grupo UVAS, a Spanish-speaking Parent Support Group
- H.E.A.R.T.S Connection
- Harbor Regional Center
- Harbor Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- Harvey and Connie Lapin
- Head Start Lake & Mendocino Unified School District
- Health and Health Services
- Healthcare Options
- Heartland Fire,
- Home of Guiding Hands
- Hope
- Imagine Services
- Imperial Valley People First

Collaborative Partners

- Imperial Valley SELPA
- In Home Supportive Services,
- Inalliance
- Inclusion Institute
- Independence for Life Choices
- Independent Living Center of Southern California (ILCSC)
- Independent Options
- Inland Regional Center
- Innovative Housing Opportunities (IHO)
- Integrity Cottages Housing Development
- Integrity House
- Interwork Institute
- IRI
- Irvine School District
- Joni and Friends
- Journey Health
- Kern Down Syndrome Network
- Kiwanis Club
- L.A. Care
- L.A. County Community & Senior Services
- L.A. County Dept. of Public Health
- L.A. Trade Tech College Office of Disability Services
- Lanterman Regional Center
- Lanterman Regional Center (LRC) Family Resource Center
- Licensing (DHCS)
- Los Rios Community College District LE and Counselors
- LRC Armenian Parent Group
- Mains'I Services
- Manzanita House
- Mendocino College Child Development
- Mendocino County Health Dept.
- Mendocino County Office of Education State Preschool
- Mental Health Systems
- Meristem
- Middlebury Institute

Collaborative Partners

- Modesto Unified SD
- Molina Healthcare
- My Day Counts
- Neighborhood House
- Newport Mesa Unified School District
- North Bay Regional Center
- North Coast Opportunities Lake & Mendocino
- North Los Angeles County Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee,
- Northern Los Angeles County Regional Center
- Office of Emergency Operations Center
- Opening Doors Coalition which includes: FUERZA, Japanese Parents Association of Children with Challenges, Chinese Parents Association, Vietnamese Parent Group, Korean Parent Group, and also Asian Pacific Islanders with Disabilities in California, Inclusion Institute
- Orange County Department of Education
- Orange County Housing Authority
- Orange County Transit Authority
- Outreach Consulting
- Pace 1
- Para Transit
- Parent Advocates
- Parents Helping Parents, San Andreas
- Partnership Health Plan of California
- Pasadena Unified School District
- Patch Farms
- Patterson Unified SD
- PCS
- Peer Advisory Connection consumer representative,
- People First
- Person Centered Services
- PERT Academy
- Pinoleville Tribal Health
- Premier Healthcare Services
- Progressive Day Services

Collaborative Partners

- Progressive Employment
- Project Independence
- R. Morgan Corporation
- Raise and Shine (Positive Parenting Program)
- RCRC
- REACH Services
- Redlands East Valley High School
- Redwood Coast Regional Center
- Redwood Quality Management Corporation
- Regional Center of Orange County
- Regional Center Supported Employment Vendors
- RICV Resources for Independence Central Valley
- Riverside County C.A.R.E. Team
- Riverside County Community Access Center ILC
- Riverside County District Attorney's Office
- Riverside County In Home Supportive Services
- Riverside County Local Code Enforcement
- Riverside County Local hospitals
- Riverside County local Law Enforcement
- Riverside County Ombudsman
- Riverside County Probate
- Riverside County Public Guardians Office
- Rolling Start Independent Living Center
- Roseville Workability
- Rosie Hall Family Home
- Rotary
- Rural Community Housing Development Corp.
- Sacramento County Office of Education
- Sacramento County Office of Education SELPA representatives
- Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA)
- Sacramento Police Department Recruit Academy
- Sacramento Police Department; Family Advocate
- San Andreas Regional Center
- San Andreas Regional Center Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- San Bernardino SWAT Team

Collaborative Partners

- San Diego Center for the Blind
- San Diego City Schools
- San Diego Gas and Electric Company
- San Diego People First
- San Diego Regional Center
- San Diego State University Nursing Program
- San Diego Unified School District
- San Diego Workforce Partnership
- San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center
- San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center, Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- San Joaquin County Office of Ed
- San Jose Public Library, Berryessa Branch
- San Jose Unified School District
- Santa Ana School District
- SCUSC CAC
- Self Advocacy Council 6
- Shepard's Door
- Social Security Administration
- Somali Family Services
- South Bay Community Services
- South Bay Special Education Local Plan Area
- South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Family Resource Center
- South Central Los Angeles Regional Center, Self-Determination Advisory Committee
- Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH)
- Special education advocates and parents.
- Special Olympics
- St Josephs Hospital
- St. Madeleine's
- Stockton Unified School District work- ability program
- Sure Helpline
- Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK)
- Thunder Valley Resort Security
- TRACE
- Transition Project

Collaborative Partners

- Turlock Unified School District
- Tustin School District
- UC Davis
- UC Davis Extension
- UCD Mind Institute
- United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)
- University of the Pacific (UOP)
- University of the Pacific Dental School
- UVAH
- Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC)
- Veterans Administration
- Vocation Plus Connection,
- WarmLine Family Resource Center
- We Care A Lot Foundation
- Westside Regional Center
- Westside Regional Center (WRC) Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)
- Westside Regional Center (WRC) Political Action and Outreach Committee (PAOC)
- William Jessup University
- Williams Syndrome Association
- Woodland Police Department
- WorkFirst
- Yolo County Mental Health (MHSA)

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- Participating in People's First Chapters is a great way for self-advocates to learn about services and learn to speak up for their rights. Members in these chapters are very active and increase their knowledge and skills as the result of each training and meeting. It is exciting to work with this group of adults who are so eager to be involved and have a voice!
- Not enough recreational activities being organized or transportation for clients to attend.
- Residential Service providers voiced a need for day programs for consumers who live in their homes as they continue to be on waiting lists. Day programs are needed that serve people with increased healthcare needs.
- Developing core competencies for those providing facilitation in self-determination remains a priority for SCDD SV/MB. Imagine Services has created curriculum to be used for the training.
- Not all self-advocates and support staff are aware of self-advocacy and the benefits it provides individuals.
- Families continue to express a need for an advocate to be present at their IEP. Often, by the time they reach out to SCDD staff, the special education issue has become more complicated and too challenging for them to effectively manage. Many families do not have the financial ability to pay private advocates or attorneys and there becomes an inherent disparity that exists between socio-economic groups and their ability to effectively advocate.
- The National Core Indicators project requires as much data and feedback from families as possible to capture a true picture of where services are being met and where there are gaps in needed services for consumers. In implementing the NCI, SCDD works to educate and train all agencies, including but not limited to regional center staff, vendors and school personnel so that families and consumers receive the support needed to complete and return the survey. To this end, providing informational trainings assists families and consumers to have a voice.
- A few callers were disappointed that the State Council can no longer do individual advocacy since Disability Rights California is very limited on what they can do for individual advocacy.
- Service providers getting out of the business have seemed to escalate throughout the year which creates a greater demand for current service providers who are already stretched thin. Reimbursement for services at the low rates does not entice service providers to stay in business or expand. Promoting positive

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outcomes for independence and self-reliance for adult consumers may be in jeopardy for many due to Independent living and supported living agencies closing their doors.

- Parents are eager to know their rights and the processes of the IEP. The legal regulations surrounding Special Education can be overwhelming to parents. They benefit from support and education and learning skills to self-advocate for their child's rights. Knowing who to call and having connections at various agencies is often more beneficial than being provided with too much detailed information which can be overwhelming. SCDD staff collaborated with 4 agency representatives to put together a list of online resources for special education that was handed out at the training. A representative from the CAC also gave a presentation encouraging parents to reach out and become involved with their SELPAs and CACs at their school district.
- Many clients and or family members don't know what services are offered through the regional center nor do they know how to find out. Regional Center service coordinators don't tell the individual/family members all the services the regional center offers. Clients/family members often feel intimidated by the process and are not sure how to handle their IPP meetings.
- 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 co-chairs of the HRC SDAC contacted SCDD Los Angeles staff and requested a training on person centered planning. In making the request, the chairs indicated that there seemed to be a lot of ignorance about person centered planning, how it relates to self-determination, and how it can be used as a tool for better planning. Additionally, they indicated they felt it was essential for the HRC SDAC to be familiar with it in order to effectively advise HRC.
- Kern Regional Center has recently lost a contract with a transportation agency that is transporting children from their after-school program to their homes. The issue was addressed during the Kern Regional Center Board Meeting. However, they have not been able to resolve it. Families are very concerned because they are unable to pick their children up due to lack of transportation. The Sequoia staff will be meeting with the community on 1/15/16 to see how we can assist both the families and the Kern Regional Center to resolve this.

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- 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 local Parent Training and Information (PTI) Center, Team of Advocates for Special Kids, reported that they have seen an influx in the number of special education eligibility denials, across all Orange County school districts, in spite of assessments clearly documenting how the student meets eligibility criteria. Staff will be meeting with the PTI next month to work together on these issues.
- Several parents expressed that they need to educate themselves in order to best advocate for their children, as the public service agencies are frequently not forthcoming with information/services that their kids may qualify to receive. Several parents expressed concerned that it is like a "battle" to obtain needed services for their children. Several of them applauded the frequent workshops/trainings our office offers to help educate parents on their rights and the services available.
- Students expressed a desire to moving out of their parent's house and were interested in finding out about living options once they are finished with school.
- Families expressed interest in receiving more training about the IEP process.
- Through reports, surveys and anecdotal reports, families and individuals often feel they are not fully informed. There are concerns regarding the quality of interactions with regional center, school, and provider staff. Transition from school to adult services is a primary concern of many families.
- Staff would suggest that people first language is used, but the committee chose to call it "Advocates for the Disabled". SCDD staff and a few vendors plan to meet with the Mayor to discuss using people first language on all material, flyers, and reports.
- As of Nov 2015, only 24 individuals in the North Bay had indicated interest in Self-Determination (SD), and most of those 24 are family members. OCRA and regional office staff want to ensure that self-advocates are informed about SD and have the opportunity to participate.
- Self-Determination is new to these families and some don't seem to understand

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the concept as well as others. Although we try to give examples they seem to fear the mistakes they can make along the way.

- Families were unaware of self-determination, many said that this is the first time they heard about Self-Determination. Additionally, Kern Regional Center is struggling with scheduling the Self-Determination Advisory Committee meetings. Due to this, the information is not being provided to the community and many people who may want to be part of the program will be unable to get on the list. SCDD has emailed the Kern Regional Center Director to try and resolve this issue.
- People with disabilities and the vendors who serve them are in need of emergency preparedness training.
- The Sacramento PD recruit academy is a stress academy, which is not necessarily conducive to promoting 'soft skills' training. The Corporals and Academy Commander have historically been resistant to reducing the pressure(s) placed on recruits in order to teach them kinder, gentler tactics for interviewing people with disabilities and crime victims.
- The MHSA funding/contract that has supported this training block for advanced officers may be slated to end at the completion of this FFY. Local jurisdictions have the need for such training, but there is insufficient funding to field a specialized team of trainers in such agencies/counties. It is a challenge for agencies to pull together POST-certified curriculum and set of qualified instructors to provide training only on an intermittent basis.
- CVRC reported that they will not be able to continue funding ABA services to children who have Autism and are encouraging families to be part of a managed healthcare plan. CVRC will stop those services as of 2/1/16 and therefore families will go without those services. SCDD inquired about their obligation as payee of last resort and CVRC rep stated that they would have to look at that on a case by case basis.
- Staff continues to develop opportunities for Intern student to gain awareness and education related to Adult Transition in North State community. A Transition Plan will be developed as a result of these experiences through community networking and support for future professional.
- The Transition Specialist that coordinated today's training said that many parents don't have/know this information and how to outreach to them. She said that the information is so valuable and parents need to know to start the adult transition process sooner, as often times they don't discuss these topics with their adult

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children until it is too late and the student already graduates.

- 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.
- Information from various surveys (NCIs and Disparity Reports) and anecdotal evidence (Disparity Task Force) indicates families of transition age children are not aware of available services or how to navigate the system. The goal for the day and the aim of the presentations is to help families be prepared and aware of what is needed to effectively plan and prepare for transition services.
- The Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) is a new law that is just being implemented. North State Region is fortunate to have a County School with the service contract with Department of Rehabilitation to learn the outcomes of this service to high school students 16-21.
- 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.
- A lack of coordination on how to best support the Employment First Initiative. A need to encourage employers to support hiring individuals with disabilities.
- There is a question on CCLD's Form 200A that asks how many non-ambulatory children the provider currently serves, in which they respond "zero" since they are new providers requesting a license (not yet established with a care center). This number is used as the basis for determining the provider's capacity for non-ambulatory care on their license, in spite of the fact that they are willing and the site is accessible to serve non-ambulatory children.
- A key issue that has been identified in multiple needs assessments is poor or no transportation for individuals and families that live in the rural areas of the county. Through this voluntary home visiting model that is family-centered, culturally sensitive, strengths based, and proven effective in promoting healthy children more families would gain direct access to services and professionals.
- A lack of understanding of the Employment First Initiative in California. A lack of knowledge and perhaps interest in how to best integrate day program and

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employment services.

- The number of students in transition and post-secondary programs are diagnosed with autism, however day and employment services are not prepared to meet the specific needs of this community. Families want to be more influential in the number and type of services that will be available for their children as they transition to adult services.
- Expanding and creating employment opportunities requires extensive coordination between the school districts, programs, service providers and most importantly, the business community. This group has been reaching out to the business community and has developed a Business Advisory Committee (BAC) to move forward with entertaining the needs of the business community and the employment possibilities for self-advocates.
- 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. According to the employment agency staff, businesses are cautious because of the 'unknown' regarding the consumer and what it entails for the business. Employment agencies state they need more staff to work with businesses and recruit and support them to hire consumers!
- More education and training will always be necessary to train people that working will not cause benefits to be lost.
- Several employment vendors expressed hardships in finding competitive integrated employment for those with vision impairments and for individuals who require evening work.
- Many people are unaware of the signs and or symptoms when some is having a stroke.
- Transition at all stages of life for individuals who are medically fragile is difficult. Services and supports are not always available to meet their health, educational and vocational needs and to be fully integrated in their communities.
- The statewide housing crisis facing adults with developmental disabilities is starkly evident in Orange County, which is home to 19,000 persons with developmental disabilities served by RCOC. Many of these adults are struggling unsuccessfully to reach their goal of securing safe, decent and affordable housing in the communities where they were born, raised and educated.
- 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

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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.

- Housing is extremely limited for individuals with developmental disability and other low income communities. The Developmental Services System does not have a suitable statewide plan to attend to the housing needs of our community.
- Some program staff only want to do activities during the day with their consumers and not on evenings and weekends.
- Funding for the project took time to garner. Recreation in a rural area is minimal. Open ARRC Recreation Center provides more opportunities for inclusive activity that parents, foster parents, care providers and mentors can do with the clients but the costs of janitorial and staffing is costly so funding was pursued. There are many non-profits who compete for a small amount of funds in our area. Another fundraiser was held in January to offset the cost of using the facility
- IHSS recipients who are authorized for more than 40 hours/wk and who have a single provider may be faced with finding an additional provider.
- Because of the many changes within the IHSS system, it appears that the most vulnerable recipients, people using the maximum amount of IHSS hours and live in some of the most rural areas, are the persons being affected the most.
- The Early Intervention VAC Liaison said that there is a significant shortage of CalOptima-funded Speech and Language Pathologists (SLP) in Orange County due to poor reimbursement rates that are not in alignment with the market value of this position. Most SLPs are seeking employment within the school district system for the higher pay/benefits. This is causing many early invention providers to decline RCOC referrals due to the short staff, thus causing delays for the consumer.
- Project Independence, one of the largest vendors in Orange County, eliminated their Access to Adventure (A2A) program in December 2015 due to lack of funding, volunteers, and volunteer coordinators. This program previously served thousands of adults with disabilities providing affordable local activities, such as karaoke, movie nights, and dance parties, as well as major events such as trips to Laughlin, Florida, etc. All the events were affordable and included supervision/supports to those with more significant disabilities. Ultimately, funding (and the funding needed to hire a program coordinator) was the reason they were no longer able to continue.
- Many individuals have shared with Council staff that despite knowing there is a

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budget approval process, they are unfamiliar or unable to read the publicly available materials on the Governor's proposed budget. In response to this, Council staff prepared a budget summary in an easy to read format.

- Several persons with physical and or developmental disabilities have come to the meeting complaining about safety. They are requesting that a cross walk be installed near the mental health building, where they receive services.
- The group discussed the Governor's budget and the impact on child care facilities. Child care programs are not operating due to the Valley fires and the child care providers have not relocated to new sites. Licensing has not been able to respond to the emergency. If parents have a job they need child care to at least function and get their lives back together. Even more difficult if they have a child with disabilities that needs to go to another school district or relocate to a new county. Hard hit are the It has been very difficult for parents to cope with disabilities in shelters and motels. Many RCRC clients have been sent to other counties because of the fire has destroyed their living situation. Cuts to local child care programs and subsidized child care has made it difficult for parents to work and go to school and now we have families living in tents would also have to relocate. We already had less care available for families with children with disabilities who need access to subsidy programs like Head Start, State Preschool, and after school care. These programs have cut back the number of children in care to manage on the rates being paid. Now we have the after effects of this disaster with many displaced families who have children with disabilities making the situation much worse. We have many marginal families who were keeping their children at home. This disaster may find parents unable to cope with keeping their disabled children with no home or child care.
- The most recent regional center disparity report indicates those from non-white and bi-lingual communities receives purchase of services is ~33% of the white community. To address the need SCDD has formed a disparity task force to review the need and develop an action plan to attend the issue.
- The Fiesta Educativa Annual Conference is the only major Spanish-speaking conference of its kind in Orange County. According to the 2014-15 Purchase of Service disparity data, Regional Center of Orange County spends approximately fifty percent less on purchase of services per Hispanic consumer compared to their White counterparts (\$12,000 compared to \$23,000, respectively). This conference is needed in order to educate the Hispanic community and monolingual Spanish- speakers about the services and supports they are entitled

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to receive under the Lanterman Act and/or IDEA and how to go about advocating for such services.

- SCDD Los Angeles staff were informed by many members of the community that there seems to be a scarcity of resources in Spanish in the Los Angeles County area. For this reason SCDD Los Angeles staff have widely promoted this presentation to Spanish-speaking parent support groups in the hopes of providing the resources the community finds valuable
- There seems to be a disconnect with the Somali refugees in the San Diego area. We need to work on building trust within that community to assist them in getting the services they may need.