



## Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting

**Date: Thursday, January 16th, 2025**

**10:30AM to 12:00PM**

**(Meeting is on ZOOM)**

San Andreas Regional Center  
6203 San Ignacio Ave, Ste  
200 San Jose, CA 95119

Members of the Public can also attend by Zoom.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82660754481>

### Committee Agenda

1. 5 minutes	Member Introductions New Member Introductions (Others via chat)
2. 5 minutes	Approval of Minutes
3. 30 minutes	Reports/Updates: Member Recruitment IF Network Report FMS Updates SARC Report/ DDS Directive Updates
4. 50 minutes	Member and Community Comments
6.	Adjourn Next Meeting: Thursday, February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, 10:30 AM

Self Determination Advisory Community Meeting  
November 21st, 2024

Members Present:

Kishan Sreedhar  
Kavita Sreedhar  
Suzanne Francisco

Connie Boyar  
Doug Pascover  
David Forderer

Members Absent:

Stephanie Krol Viera  
Rika Yamamoto

Nassreen Zarea  
Lori Luzader

Staff:

Lisa Hartley  
Grecia Quintero  
Javier Zaldivar  
Mike Keeley

Brandon Inneh  
Karla Cruz  
Irene De La Rosa

Community:

Jaclyn Balanay  
Jennifer Lucas  
Alicia Mesa  
Barbara Pease  
Daniel Bowd  
Jasmine Wong  
Richard Hauck

Jesse Gonzalez  
Laura Noland  
Lisa Dove  
Olaf L  
Shreyansh Panda  
Tiffany Liang  
Toddi Hunt

The Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) commenced at 10:35am presided by Kavita, co-chair committee member, followed by introductions.

Approval of Minutes:

M/S/C Moved to approve the minutes (David F./Kishan S.) No further discussion. The ayes have it. Motion carries.

David F. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Kishan.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Kishan Sreedhar	Aye
Kavita Sreedhar	Aye
Suzanne Francisco	Aye
Doug Pascover	Aye
David Forderer	Aye

The motion to approve the minutes carries.

**Co-Chair Updates:**

- David F. and Kavita S. made a request that they would like to set up a meeting with Mike K. and Javier Z. to discuss some concerns that have been brought to their attention regarding SDP.
  - Mike K. agreed, stating that it will be possible to speak offline about these issues.
  - Javier Z. stated that if any issues are coming up outside of the SDAC meetings, to make sure to follow up with SCs, Managers, AD’s etc. before moving up the chain of command. Stated that it is better to try and address all issues as soon as they arise, rather than wait for the SDAC meetings.
  - Jennifer L. suggested that SDAC members should come up with a list of concerns that they would like addressed prior to the SDAC meeting.

**Update on the SDP Ambassador Program:**

- Javier Z. stated that unfortunately, the RFP received zero responses. An agency did reach out requesting more information, but they ended up deciding not to move forward with the program.
- Kavita S. requested that to send the link to David's self-advocacy groups, as well as to the committee's email list and others in their networks.

**IF Network Report:**

- Doug P. shared updates on the key topics discussed, including the impact of rate reform on self-determination.
- The discussion highlights that regional centers are not obligated but are permitted to adjust self-determination budgets based on the rate reform, with Doug P. explaining that this might be simpler for those with budgets denominated in traditional units.
- Grecia Q. adds that regional centers will likely wait until the rate change takes effect in January before adjusting budgets and will communicate with families about the updated rates.
- The conversation also touches on the varying policies of different regional centers, with SARC being mentioned as waiting until the rate kicks in before writing a second budget.
- The discussion concludes with a follow-up question on whether families or the IF would need to request updated rates to be reflected in the original budget calculation.

**SARC Report:****Overview:**

Total Active cases: 258

Active Pilot cases: 53

Average Age of Participants: 22.07

Avg Timeline – Orien. to POS: 13 months

Avg Timeline - IPP to POS: 5.4 month

De-activated cases: 0

New cases: 2

Ethnicity Breakdown (Last Report)		<i><u>Difference</u></i>	Ethnicity Breakdown (Current Report)	
White	82	+1	White	83
Spanish/Latin	31	+1	Spanish/Latin	32
Vietnamese	14	---	Vietnamese	14
African American	2	---	African American	2
Indian	10	---	Indian	10
Chinese	24	---	Chinese	24
Korean	13	---	Korean	13
Multi	8	---	Multi	8
Japanese	2	---	Japanese	2
Other Asian	18	---	Other Asian	18
Russian	3	---	Russian	3
Asian Indian	22	---	Asian Indian	22
Other or Unknown	27	--	Other or Unknown	27

**Detailed Breakdowns:**

Language Breakdown (Last Report)		<i><u>Difference</u></i>	Language Breakdown (Current Report)	
English	203	+2	English	205
Spanish	12	---	Spanish	12
Vietnamese	8	---	Vietnamese	8
Mandarin	13	---	Mandarin	13
Cantonese	3	---	Cantonese	3
Hindi	3	---	Hindi	3
Farsi	1	---	Farsi	1
Korean	5	---	Korean	5
Russian	3	---	Russian	3
Other	5	---	Other	5

FMS Utilization (Last Report)		<i><u>Difference</u></i>	FMS Utilization (Current Report)	
Aveanna	76	---	Aveanna	76
GT Independence	81	+2	GT Independence	83
Mains'l	49	---	Mains'l	49
Acumen	10	---	Acumen	10
Essential Pay	3	---	Essential Pay	3
FMS Pay	10	---	FMS Pay	10
Ritz FMS	11	---	Ritz FMS	11
Cambrian FMS	8	---	Cambrian FMS	8
Action FMS	1	---	Action FMS	1
Ace FMS	6	---	Ace FMS	6
Public Partnerships LLC	1	---	Public Partnerships LLC	1

Residential Setting (Last Report)	<i><u>Difference</u></i>	Residential Setting (Current Report)
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Family Home	233	+2	Family Home	235
Independent Living	11	---	Independent Living	11
Supported Living	9	---	Supported Living	9
Community Care Facility	1	---	Community Care Facility	1
Other	2	---	Other	2

Living Codes:

Family Home (11); Independent Living (13); SLS (14); CCF 4-6 Beds (46); Other (98)

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### FMS Updates

Agency	Supported Models	Waitlist	Budget Cap
<b>Acumen (PY1678)</b>	<b>Bill Payer/ Sole Employer</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Aveanna/Premier (HS1188, HS1189)</b>	<b>Bill Payer/ Co-Employer</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>\$300,000 above \$350k is subject to approval</b>
<b>Cambrian FMS (PH2374)</b>	<b>All-but only accepting Co-Employer</b>	<b>Opens 2025</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Essential Pay/Casa Fiscal (PL2132, PL2131)</b>	<b>Bill Payer</b>	<b>1-2 month waitlist</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>
<b>FACT Family (PW8172, PW8173, PW8174)</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>No waitlist</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>FMS Pay (PY2892)</b>	<b>Bill Payer</b>	<b>No waitlist</b>	<b>None</b>
GT Independence (PW7948)	Bill Payer/ Sole Employer	None	None
<b>Mains'1 (PF3917)</b>	<b>Bill Payer/ Sole Employer</b>	<b>Waitlist Opens 1/29/2025</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>
<b>Ritz FMS (PP0481)</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>No waitlist</b>	<b>\$120,000- higher is subject to approval</b>
Sequoia SD (PM4667, PM4668, PM4669)	All	Not disclosed	Not disclosed
<b>Ace FMS (PW8673; PW8689; PW8674)</b>	<b>Bill Payer/Co-Employer</b>	<b>No waitlist</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
Action FMS (PW8622)	All	Not disclosed	Not disclosed
<b>Public Partnerships LLC</b>	<b>Sole-Employer</b>	<b>Not disclosed</b>	<b>Not disclosed</b>

13 out of 13 FMS providers in CA have been vended with SARC.

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**Current Transition Supports:**

099 Self-Directed Supports (up to 40 hours)

FTS- FMS Transition Supports (up to 3 months per scenario)

-scenarios: new to SDP, changing FMS agencies, or transferring RCs

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**Misc Program Updates:**

FMS- updates to Employer Burden Costs may occur per updated DDS guidelines dated 4/25/24.

SDP data is actively being collected per updated DDS directive dated 6/14/2024.

Transition supports (099) are soon to be available through participant-directed services.

Coordinated Career Pathway Services available for individuals participating in SDP

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**Current 099 Vendors:**

099 Vendors:

HS1318	La Vi La CIP for 099-GEN. La Vi La CIP also provides services in Vietnamese.
HS1327	Adjoin
HS1346	PRAGNYA
HS1345	Aminah Abdul-Hakim
PH2585	Phoenix Facilitation
HB1408	Christine Kantor
ZY2614	Husman Associates Person
HB1432	Neurodiversity PBC
PE2998	Cao, Yajuan
PL2221	Girasol Hive LLC
HS1381	Kuthanur, Gowri
HB1423	Reese, Helen
PP0916	Wu, Jing
PY2940	Sparacino, Lindsey
HS1383	Tang, Ying
HS1384	Voon Yong Lee
HS1395	Brighter Community SVC.
HS1387	Abraham Health Services

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- FMS agencies GT Independence and Action FMS are still in negotiations with DDS around employer rate.
  - The employer burden rate is still being submitted by FMS agencies until DDS provides guidance.

- Connie B. suggests adding information to flyers about self-determination meetings, including excerpts from the DDS website.
- The flyer is electronic and is sent to anyone who is invited, as well as posted on social media.
- Connie B. offers to send her suggestions to Brandon, who will try to include it in the next posting.
- There were about 10 outside people on the call, and Connie B. thinks that more people could join if they knew what was going on.
- The meeting is open for community comments, and speakers are encouraged to raise their hand, turn on their camera, and share their thoughts.
- A budget issue has been ongoing, with communication breaking down, and the exact cause is unclear.
- Grecia Q. offered to help and schedule a meeting.
- Kishan S. is invited to join the meeting, and an email will be sent to the attendees.
- Kishan S. clarifies that the traditional unit needs to be involved to assist, while avoiding overstepping.
- Barbara P. emphasizes the importance of resolving the issue, which is affecting individuals and has happened before (six months without a budget).
- Lisa H. brings up a systemic issue with GTI disenrolling people due to minor issues, which is causing complaints from families and has been reported to DDS.
- The committee is considering writing a letter to advocate for changes with DDS, and further discussion is needed to determine the best course of action.
- The FMS claims not to have received E billing or POS, causing delays for families despite completing the spending plan, and it's unclear how to track this issue.
- Continued communication and attention to this issue is key to closing the loop and resolving concerns with the FMS or portal.
- Families should request screenshots from their SDP specialists to ensure authorization numbers are included, which is helpful for the FMS.

- The Self-Determination Program (SDP) can be misunderstood because it's different from traditional services, where there are fewer components and less responsibility for participants.
- Families may think that SDP means they have access to any service they want, but there are still regulations and guidelines that apply.
- Service coordinators must explain that not every service can be purchased through SDP and that there are many options available.
- The complexity of SDP can be overwhelming, even for service coordinators, with many different services and variations on services.
- A more detailed orientation could help parents understand the process better, but it's important to strike a balance between providing enough information and avoiding overwhelm.
- Including a parent who has experienced SDP in the orientation could provide valuable insight and help parents better understand the program.
- There is a perception that parents are given a budget and can simply "buy whatever they want," which can be frustrating and overwhelming.
- To address this, the committee is working to balance the orientation, making sure it hits all the right marks without being too simple or overwhelming.
- Kavita S. requested that information about the self-determination program delivery model be available to all families at IEPs and IPPs.

Next Meeting:

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Community Meeting 10:30am to 12:00pm.

## Self-Determination Program Monthly Status Report



Report Date: 1/13/2025

### Overview:

Total Active cases: 271  
 Active Pilot cases: 53  
 Average Age of Participants: 24.09  
 De-activated cases: 1  
 New cases: 14

Avg Timeline – Orien. to POS: 12.9 months  
 Avg Timeline - IPP to POS: 5.3 months

### Detailed Breakdowns:

Ethnicity Breakdown (Last Report)		<i><u>Difference</u></i>	Ethnicity Breakdown (Current Report)	
White	83	+7	White	90
Spanish/Latin	32	-1	Spanish/Latin	31
Vietnamese	14	---	Vietnamese	14
African American	2	---	African American	2
Indian	10	---	Indian	10
Chinese	24	+4	Chinese	28
Korean	13	---	Korean	13
Multi	8	+1	Multi	9
Japanese	2	---	Japanese	2
Other Asian	18	---	Other Asian	18
Russian	3	---	Russian	3
Asian Indian	22	+1	Asian Indian	23
Other or Unknown	27	+1	Other or Unknown	28

Language Breakdown (Last Report)		<i><u>Difference</u></i>	Language Breakdown (Current Report)	
English	205	+11	English	216
Spanish	12	---	Spanish	12
Vietnamese	8	---	Vietnamese	8
Mandarin	13	+1	Mandarin	14

Author: Participant Choice Specialist

**Self-Determination Program  
Monthly Status Report**

Cantonese	3	<b>+1</b>	Cantonese	4
Hindi	3	---	Hindi	3
Farsi	1	---	Farsi	1
Korean	5	---	Korean	5
Russian	3	---	Russian	3
Other	5	---	Other	5

FMS Utilization (Last Report)		<u><i>Difference</i></u>	FMS Utilization (Current Report)	
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FMS Pay	10	---	FMS Pay	10
Ritz FMS	11	<b>+4</b>	Ritz FMS	15
Cambrian FMS	8	---	Cambrian FMS	8
Action FMS	1	<b>+2</b>	Action FMS	3
Ace FMS	6	<b>+3</b>	Ace FMS	9
Public Partnerships LLC	1	<b>+2</b>	Public Partnerships LLC	3
Arch FMS	0	<b>+1</b>	Arch FMS	<b>+1</b>

Residential Setting (Last Report)		<u><i>Difference</i></u>	Residential Setting (Current Report)	
Family Home	235	<b>+12</b>	Family Home	247
Independent Living	11	<b>+1</b>	Independent Living	12
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Living Codes:

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**Self-Determination Program  
Monthly Status Report**

**FMS Updates**

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Arch FMS	All	Not disclosed	Not disclosed

**Current Transition Supports:**

- 099 Self-Directed Supports (up to 40 hours)
- Aveanna is our new 099 PDS vendor.
- FTS- FMS Transition Supports (up to 3 months per scenario)
- scenarios: new to SDP, changing FMS agencies, or transferring RCs

**Misc Program Updates:**

- FMS- updates to Employer Burden Costs may occur per updated DDS guidelines dated 4/25/24.
- SDP data is actively being collected per updated DDS directive dated 6/14/2024.
- Coordinated Career Pathway Services available for individuals participating in SDP
- SDP Unit Updates

Author: Participant Choice Specialist

## Self-Determination Program Monthly Status Report

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### **Current 099 Vendors:**

099 Vendors:

La Vi La CIP for 099-GEN. La Vi La CIP also provides services in Vietnamese.

Aminah Abdul-Hakim

Adjoin

Brighter Community SVC

Kuthanur, Gowri

PRAGNYA

Phoenix Facilitation

Christine Kantor

Husman Associates Person

Neurodiversity PBC

Cao, Yajuan

Girasol Hive LLC

Reese, Helen

Wu, Jing

Sparacino, Lindsey

Tang, Ying

Voon Yong Lee

Abraham Health Services

My Choice

Community Integration

Prescott Consulting SVCS

Abound

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