



**VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes
March 18, 2019**

<p><u>VMRC SDAC Members - Present</u> Karen Bonacci (FA) Mary Bonacci (SA) Lisa Culley (FA) Christine Hager (DRC OCRA) Dr. Claire Lazaro - chair (FA) Alphonse Mickahail- vice chair (on phone) (FA) Dr. Bethany Mickahail (on phone) (FA) Dena Pfeifer(SA) Mohamed Rashid (SA)</p> <p><u>VMRC SDAC Members- Absent</u> John Forrest (FA) Roger Goatcher(FA) Yadira Placsencia (FA) Martha Arely Solano (FA) Liz Zastrow</p> <p><u>SCDD Staff</u> Dena Hernandez- North Valley Hill</p> <p>SA= Self Advocate FA= Family Advocate</p>	<p><u>Guests</u> Nicholas Aguilar (SA) Maria Ayala (FA) Wanda Brownnell (FA) Gabriela Castillo (FA) Leticia Castillo (FA) Jesus Cazarez (FA) Gricelda Estrada (FA) Tracy Gardner (SA) Tracy Parker (SA) Mariela Ramos (FA) Maria Solano (FA) Kerstin Williams (SA)</p> <p><u>VMRC Staff</u> Tony Anderson- Executive Director Cindy Mix- Director of Consumer Services Elizabeth Diaz- SD Service Coordinator Tania Candelaria- Service Coordinator Carlos Hernandez- Cultural Specialist</p>
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Call Meeting to order- Dr. Claire Lazaro-chair- called to order at 2:08pm

Introductions- Committee Members and audience- all introduced themselves. Carlos Hernandez from VMRC provided translator services for Spanish speaking families.

Establish Quorum- Dr. Claire Lazaro-chair established a quorum.

Approval of the Agenda- Motion: to approve the agenda by Mohamed Rashid and seconded by Dena Pfeifer. Vote taken –motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the minutes from February 27, 2019 – Motion to approve the minutes with corrections and add the title of “Dr.” in front of Bethany Mickahail from now one based on Alphonse Mickahail’s request- Lisa Culley made the motion and it was seconded by Karen Bonacci. Vote taken -motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment-

- Question- “Can you let us (Self Determination participants) know that there is these type of meetings”. Claire responded that information on meetings were sent to all SDP participants through the VMRC listserv last week, and she will discuss more on this in her report later in this meeting.
- “I have spoken to a lot of Spanish families and they don’t know about these meetings”.
- Question: “Two of the member couldn’t be present the meeting- can they chose a substitute to cover for them when they can’t be here? We don’t want our group to not be represented here”. Claire responded saying that anyone can apply to be on this committee and highly encouraging all the attendees to apply to become a member. We have membership forms at the meeting for them to fill out. Dena would check on the Bagley Keen Law to see if having a substitute is okay for this committee.
- Comment “I would like to know more about the Independent Facilitator.” Claire responded that this topic will also be discussed later in this meeting.
- Comment: “I would also add a proposition in the name of my son- that when our children turn 18 years old and VMRC is telling us to become the conservator that VMRC should teach more on what is conservatorship. Claire spoke about the Supported Decision Making event which is an alternative to conservatorship- the event was helpful and was held on March 14, 2019 in collaboration with the UC Davis Mind Institute. Family Resource Network does a training once a year in June on Conservatorship. The parents want much more detail.

- Comment: “Why didn’t we know about the Supported Decision Making event?”- Dena Hernandez emailed it to the VMRC SDAC member on February 5. The flyer was posted in English and Spanish on the VMRC, SCDD and the SJCOE websites. This was a grant that the Mind Institute received and is working with 5 regional centers. VMRC attended as well as over 40 parents both English and Spanish speaking parents. VMRC, FRN, SCDD, DRC/OCRA will discuss bring more of these trainings to our region. Cindy Mix said that VMRC will get the ACLU Supported Decision Making training to all service coordinators so they will be informed.
- Question “If one parent finds an independent facilitator for Self Determination would VMRC be able to help?” Claire said that according to the Self-Determination law, independent facilitators can get trainings the cost of which will be at the expense of the attendee. The VMRC SDAC and VMRC are working on hosting Independent Facilitator training sometime in late May or early June and hope that they will be able to offer this for free.

Update on the Self Determination Program Phase in & Orientation- *Information*

Tony Anderson- VMRC Executive Director/ Cindy Mix Director of Case Management

- Cindy said they mailed and emailed information on the next steps for the Self Determination participants based on the email address from the list. She said they are still having emails not getting thru to some members. VMRC sent out a checklist as well as info for the VMRC SDAC- agendas, minutes in English and Spanish. We will send any info on the Self Determination listserv. Any new info will get sent out to everybody. A request that Cindy add the VMRC SDAC members to that list as well was made- Cindy will do that.
- Training the Trainers on the DDS Orientation materials was completed on March 15 –this means that VMRC has 60 days to put on the training to the people on the list. VMRC and the VMRC SDAC is going to start scheduling those as soon as possible.
- Cindy learned that Liz Harrell, the DDS Self Determination trainer -sent a summary of her ideas- she wants to do a parent workshop and overview of Person Centered Planning (PCP) which would be shorter than the 2 day VMRC PCP trainings. She wants to record a webinar so it can be sent out to everyone. She also is planning to create self determination in a variety of

languages and outreach to vendors to understand SD program. She will also put together a Self Determination fact sheet for non-regional services providers.

- The next DDS Self Determination meeting for regional centers will be next Monday. Jim Knight DDS will lead the call- after that call Cindy hopes to have all the info and she will share with the VMRC SDAC.

- There has not been one FMS vendored in the State.
- VMRC is presenting two day trainings on Person Centered Planning. Dena had flyers with the dates in English and Spanish. Angie Shear was at the meeting and people could sign up with her if they were interested.
- Tony is looking at getting a conference on Independent Facilitator (IF) training- he connected with national leaders on this topic –details still need to be worked out. Tony’s friend, Don Hoyle can provide training- he did it in Michigan. He will help put together really good speakers.
- This led to a lengthy conversation about conservatorship and Independent Facilitators. Conservator can be an Independent Facilitator (IF) and they can be paid. There were some questions about this.
 - How does supported decision making relate to the conservatorship – these are two different things that VMRC, SCDD, FRN and OCRA are planning on having more trainings in the future.
 - Do we have to go outside of VMRC for Independent Facilitator (IF) training? – answer no VMRC will host the Independent Facilitator (IF) trainings. If individuals want to take IF trainings outside of VMRC, they are welcome to do so. Just remember that the cost will be at their own expense, according to the Self-Determination Law.
 - Independent Facilitator (IF) training is needed in our area and this committee will get training to our region.
 - VMRC is “insisting in training parents” – Parants and families can do whatever they want to do, but VMRC is trying to do this for our people that are in our area. VMRC’s will be free and voluntary.
 - Once a consumer has been selected, can they opt out if they change their mind – answer YES. If they want to come back, and we are still on the Phase in period, their name will be put back on the list for lottery and will have not time frame, could be longer or shorter than

- 12 months. If we are after the phase in period, when SDP is open to all, they have to wait until for 12 months to be back on the program.
- Have a son who has mild autism- I don't want him to be a burden on society and he is like any other child- they put him in a capsule- talking about her son learning to drive- doesn't VMRC pay for this? – In Self Determination and the person centered plan - a person could be hired to provide this service and it would come out of the budget of SDP. This parent's son is currently not in self determination program. - This is an IPP issue. Recommended to the parents who have current IPP issues to give their consumer's name, date of birth and service coordinator name to Cindy and Cindy will look into it.
 - Will there be Fair Hearings in Self Determination? Answer – yes there could be.
 - Other issues brought up that had nothing to do with Self Determination. Claire suggested those parents with IPP issues not SDP issues can coordinate with the VMRC staff after the meeting.

SCDD Self Determination Advisory Committee-

Claire already gave the updates throughout the comments and questions - Claire gave info to Cindy for the "Next Steps" in English- VMRC will translate into Spanish and it will go out on the VMRC Self Determination Listserv.

VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Next Steps-

- Claire recommended that people sign up and attend the VMRC Self Determination Person Centered Planning trainings in Modesto and Stockton. These are free trainings to attend.
- VMRC is working on the DDS Self Determination Orientation Trainings that will occur sometime after May 15, 2019. Once details are confirmed –all will be notified.
- This committee will work with VMRC to have an Independent Facilitator (IF) training so we can get that process going. In response to the inquiry about Independent Facilitator, it was explained that anyone even parents can become an IF. During the train-the-trainer for the Orientation Trainings, it was mentioned that parents of minors, when they are the IF, cannot be paid through the Self Determination Program. Parents of adult consumers, including adults who are conserved, can be paid as an IF in the Self-Determination Program.

VMRC SDAC Membership Update -

Dena Hernandez- SCDD North Valley Hills reported that we currently have two applications. She reminded the group that half the members need to be appointed by SCDD and the other half from VMRC. Currently- we have two applications waiting on approval. She encouraged others to apply and brought applications in English and Spanish. SCDD now has an electronic application and Dena will work with VMRC to add one to the website as well.

Next Meeting – Friday, April 26, 2019 at 10:00am at VMRC Board Room Stockton

Meeting Adjourned at 11:50am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dena Hernandez- SCDD North Valley Hills

DRAFT