



VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes-October 19, 2023

VMRC SDAC Members - Present

Karen Bonacci (FA)
Mary Bonacci (SA)
Jeannet Cardenas (FA)
Lisa Culley (FA)-secretary
Vivian David Nicolas (FA)-chair
Gricelda Estrada (FA)-vice chair
John Forrest (FA)
Jeff Lazaro (FA)-vice secretary
Mariela Ramos (FA)
Arely Solano (FA)
Colleen Yoder -DRC/OCRA

VMRC SDAC Members- Absent

Jonathan Zahodne (SA)

SA=Self Advocate

FA=Family Advocate

SCDD Staff

Dena Hernandez-NVH Office

Interpreters

Isela Bingham-In person
Irene Hernandez-Zoom

Guests who identified

James Ford-DDS
Dora Contreras
Maria Elena Diaz
Maribel Falcon
Tumboura Hill
Chelsea Coffin
Samantha Husman
Elizabeth Zamora
Erika Millan
Reyna Rangel Simon
Marcela Sanchez

VMRC Staff

Jordan Bettancourt, Participant Choice Specialist
Christine Couch-Director of Consumer Services-Adults
Evelyn Ledesma Solis-Multi-Lingual Access Specialist
Michele Poaster, Participant Choice Specialist
Maribel Trujillo, Participant Choice Specialist
Deanna Wagenman, Participant Choice Specialist

Call Meeting to order- Vivian Nicolas, called the meeting to order at 3:33pm.

Introductions- Committee members and public members introduced themselves. Irene Hernandez provided interpretation services.

Establish Quorum-Quorum was established.

Approval of the Agenda-motion to approve the agenda was made by Vivian (2nd by Karen). Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes from September 21, 2023-Jeff made the motion to approve minutes (2nd by Vivian). Motion passed, with abstentions from Karen and Mary.

VMRC SDAC Chair Report-

- Vivian thanked all committee members who assisted with the SDAC booth at VMRC's Disability Awareness Event on October 7th. There are leftover handouts and giveaways and the canopy that are stored at the Family Resource Network office. If needed, please contact Lisa.
- To follow up from the meeting with VMRC SDP staff- VMRC will be translating IPP's if needed.

Public Comment

Chat was not enabled for this meeting, and there were several attendees who voiced their concerns that they would like the chat enabled for future meetings. The chat is used to share flyers and links. It was shared that it is sometimes easier to use the chat instead of waiting for the interpreter to translate their comments to the rest of those in the meeting.

Vivian-is pleased that PCP's are able to input budgets and changes. Barriers exist on the fiscal side because only one person is able to enter the authorizations. There is a backlog getting authorizations to FMS companies. There is a problem with the budget carryover error, and she questioned why SDP participants may need to edit their spending plans when the error was not the fault of the participant.

Tumboura-Questioning that it seems like the Self-Determination process is very long and complicated to wear people out. Why are there so many barriers?

Karen-would like clarification on budget issues? Re: unused funds due to not having people in place.

Dena-announced that the CHOICES conference will be Friday, April 12, 2024, at SJCOE. She invited the SDAC to have a table at the conference.

Dora-Thanked VMRC for reconsideration of translating of IPPs for SDP participants. She is concerned with FMS raising fees that has a negative impact on families and participants.

Reyna-Recreation issue regarding water safety-the vendor did not want to accept her son due to the delay in payments by the FMS. The FMS directed her to VMRC as the problem. She is also having issue with music classes, as that vendor does not want to provide the service any longer.

Maribel Falcon-She has attempted to enter SDP for her child since November (2022?) and is still waiting. Funds are going unused because of the delays.

Gricelda-presented a question regarding money left in the budget unused by

providers/personnel-how is that being handled?

Karen-would like to see the orientation given in three sessions, as the long session that covers the entire program and process is too much information at one time. She would also like to see discussion round tables to strategize solutions to barriers and process issues.

VMRC Update-As of 10/19/23, there are 106 participants from VMRC fully participating in Self-Determination.

Special Events Workgroup-The next meeting is from 3:30pm-5pm on October 26, 2023 on Zoom, and is open to anyone who would like to attend. Motion by the SDAC leadership to fund those who would like to attend the DVU SDP Conference on Friday, November 3, 2023. Karen provided 2nd. Michele will be speaking on a panel about SDP myths, and there will be a breakout session on barriers to SDP. Vote passed unanimously.

ICC Support Project Report-It was reported that the ICC has provided 89.5 hours of 1:1 coaching, and there were 50 people reached through the referral process.

Adjoin Support Project Report-Adjoin has received 52 referrals, working with 19 who are in at some point of the process of entering SDP, 13 who have fully transitioned to SDP, 18 who have decided not to complete process to enter SDP.

Membership Update-No new information, still need representatives from Amador and Tuolumne counties. The representative from Calaveras County may step down, as he works at the meeting times and is unable to attend the meetings.

Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC)-Vivian provided information from the September 28 meeting, covering the SCDD report-SCDD provided 156 SD trainings with 2993 attendees. Some of the challenges shared were: SD was too much work, there was not enough information, there were waitlists, and regional center staff does not know enough about SD. As of 7/31/23, there are 3,050 participants statewide enrolled in SDP.

SCDD SDP Orientation:

<https://scdd.ca.gov/sdporientation/?fbclid=IwAR3BNnHWCWlv4gwqXdXgYxfcHubPZnVuJ4KF6hyrpV5bREdsl-8lxZFJdSY>

Join the VMRC SDAC on Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/401810838352575/?ref=share&mibextid=DcJ9fc>

Next meeting-November 16, 2023, 3:30pm-5pm, with the discussion session starting at 3pm. The meeting will be in-person at VMRC in Stockton or on Zoom

Meeting Adjourned 4:47pm

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Culley