

VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes-July 18, 2024

VMRC SDAC Members - Present

Karen Bonacci (FA)
Mary Bonacci (SA)
Jeannet Cardenas (FA)
Vivian David Nicolas (FA)-chair
Gricelda Estrada (FA)-vice chair
John Forrest (FA)
Arely Solano (FA)
Colleen Yoder -DRC/OCRA

VMRC SDAC Members- Absent

Lisa Culley (FA)-secretary
Mariela Ramos (FA)

SA=Self Advocate

FA=Family Advocate

Interpreters

Irene Hernandez-Zoom

State Council on Dev. Disabilities

Dena Hernandez, North Valley Hills Office

Public Guests who identified

Carolina Arzate-ICC
Maria Elena Diaz
Patricia Flores
Tumboura Hill- (in person)
Aurora Guevava
Mariza Ochoa
Oscar Mercado
Vanessa Plasencia
Marcela Sanchez
Mari Sierra
Monica Stelmack- Wide Horizons
Dale Young- Law Clerk OCRA
Ana Valdez
Chelsea- ADJOIN
Adriana (no last name given)
Midori (no last name given)
Vanessa (no last name given)

Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Katie Dempsey- SDP Branch Manager
James Ford-Office of Community
Operations/Primary Regional Center Liaison
Danielle Isola- Assistant Chief for policy
Implementation Unit-SDP
Samantha Moore- CPSII SDP Unit
Diana Sandoval- Assistant Chief SDP

VMRC Staff

Liz Diaz, SDP Program Manager (In person)
Michele Poaster, Participant Choice Specialist
Gabriela Lopez- VMRC Cultural Specialist
Mari Bel Trujillo, Participant Choice Specialist
Maria Gonzalez, Participant Choice Specialist
Deanna Wagenman, Participant Choice
Specialist
Emilia Vigil, Enhanced Caseload Service
Cindy Strawderman, Admin Support Manager

Item 1: Call Meeting to order- Vivian Nicolas, called the meeting to order at 3:38pm.

Item 2: Introductions- Committee members and public members introduced themselves. Irene Hernandez provided interpretation services via Zoom and Isela Bingham interpreted in person.

Item 3: Establish Quorum-Quorum was not established until later in the meeting and action items were then completed.

Item 4: Approval of the Agenda-motion to approve the agenda was made by Karen (2nd by Jeanette). Motion passed unanimously.

Item 5: Approval of the Minutes from May 16, 2024 & June 20, 2024-Not done because the minutes were not included in the packet. Action will be taken at next meeting.

Item 6: VMRC SDAC Chair Report- information-Vivian

- Katie Dempsey – DDS SDP Branch Manager and her team gave a presentation- this presentation was recorded and the presentation will be made available afterwards. The recording will be housed on the VMRC website until Self Determination. There was time for questions and answers after the presentation.
- VMRC SDAC Leadership meeting with VMRC on July 11. Items discussed from feedback and public comment from previous SDAC mtgs – understanding how timelines work for the SD process. It varies by individuals. Discussed DDS directives. Also discussed fiscal processes. One fiscal staff person does the inputting and processing for the self determination program- talked about eliminating barriers- understand that VMRC is spread thin. We also brought up the need to have monthly fiscal reports for each SDAC meeting.
- Vivian encouraged people to join the Self Determination workgroup to help promote the self-determination program in our region. SDAC needs to make sure resources are in plain language and other languages and easy to understand. The workgroup is open to all.

If there are any issues that members would like brought to the next meeting, please send them to Vivian Vivian_nicolas@yahoo.com

Item 7: Public Comment

- When does the Workgroup meet? The info for the meeting are located on the VMRC website under self-determination – link was shared.

Item 8: VMRC Update-Liz provided data for VMRC:

- See attached report from July 11, 2024 at end of meeting notes of the data from VMRC.

Item 9: Special Events Workgroup- Next meeting will be July 23, 2024 from 3:30pm-5pm on zoom. This workgroup will focus on the planning of the Self Determination Conference in our Region. All are welcome to join in this effort. There is Spanish interpretation at this workgroup.

Item 10: Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC)-

- Vivian provided updates from the statewide meeting on July 10, 2024.
- DDS presented at this statewide meeting and the info was similar to what DDS presented today.
- SCDD went over DATA for the orientation sessions July 2022-May 2024- they held 226 training sessions across different languages and 5456 participants 75% were family members, 10% Self Advocates, 15% professionals- made up of different ethnicities. SCDD is working with DDS on additional training modules.

- SCDD will be assisting the Statewide SDAC to host a Grant Showcase forum that different SDAC's can share with all on how they utilized their SD dollars.
- Next Town Hall topic is looking at interactive topics for next town hall. Workgroup ideas on Best Practices were discussed.
- Statewide SDAC is working on another of items that include feedback from a workgroup.
- Specialized Unit for SDP at North Bay Regional Center- is developing a film on SDP- will follow with workshops/ trainings afterwards.
- Discussion about the vacant co-chair position on this statewide SDAC and voted to extend the term of the co-chair- and removed the term limited so Rick Wood could continue his role.

Item 11: ICC Support Project Report-ICC did not have a representative at this meeting. No report given.

Item 12: Adjoin Support Project Report- Adjoin Chelsea reported that Adjoin as of the start of the project in 2021 they have 52 referred for transition supports, 5 currently in process of transition, 17 that have fully transitioned, 1 who moved out of the area, 1 decided to wait, 9 who have withdrawn- reasons too difficult, personal reasons or needs are being met thru traditional services, 19 who have not responded to initial outreach. We still host the 4th Thursday 3pm-4pm coaching call on zoom. Adjoin is thinking

Item 13: VMRC SDAC Membership Update:

- Still vacancies on the committee from representation from Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties.
- Thanks to Michele Poaster- VMRC who has helped encourage a parent from Calaveras to apply.
- Vivian is also working with encouraging a self advocate in applying. So hopefully by the next meeting we will have more information.
- Jeff Lazaro- parent from Stanislaus County has stepped down effective July 9- the leadership team will be working on all applications and continue to encourage self advocates and family advocates to apply.
- Lisa Culley- Executive Director of Family Resource Network will move her status from Family Advocate to become the mandated representative from Family Resource Network so the committee is in compliance.
- A report from all SDAC's must be submitted to DDS on the make up of their SDAC to make sure all counties are covered as well as a diverse representation of the region, including self and family advocates.

Item 14: Discussion Issues-Due to being out of time- this agenda items was not explored. There was however a robust conversation with DDS that was recorded earlier in the meeting.

Item 15: Next meeting-August 15, 2024, 3:30pm-5pm on Zoom or at VMRC Stockton. There will be an agenda item at the next meeting to determine if these meetings should be on zoom only since there isn't typically an in person audience at VMRC. Space is

limited there.

Item 16: Meeting Adjourned 5:04pm

Respectfully submitted by Dena Hernandez SCDD North Valley Hills

Join the VMRC SDAC on Facebook:

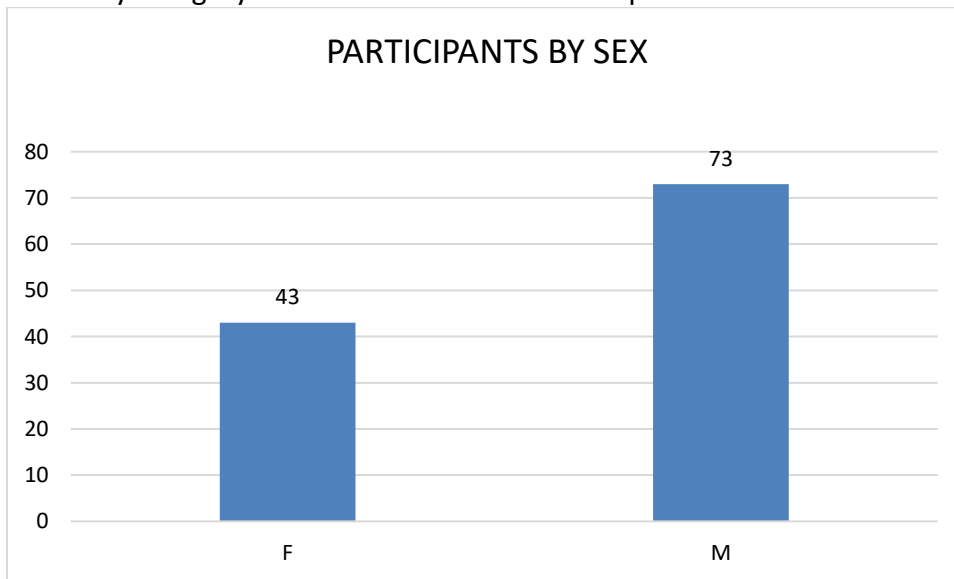
<https://m.facebook.com/groups/401810838352575/?ref=share&mibextid=DcJ9fc>

SCDD SDP Orientation:

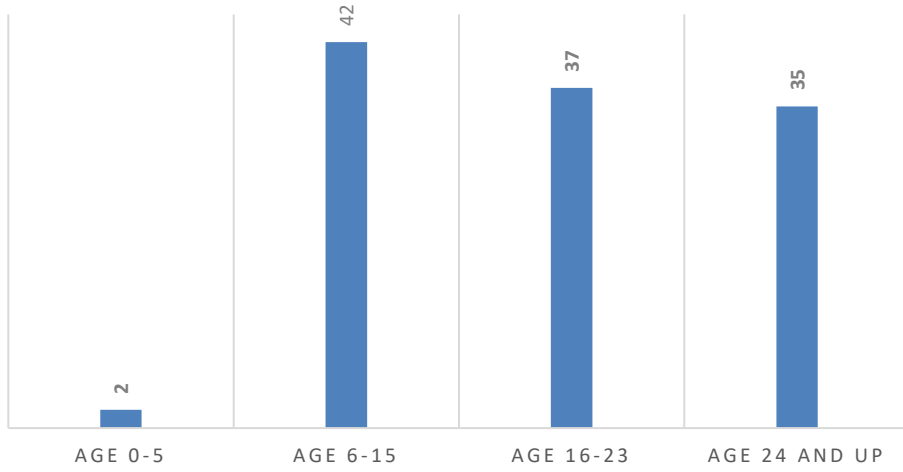
<https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/?fbclid=IwAR3BNnHWCWly4gwgXdXgYxfcHubPZnVuJKF6hyrpV5bREdsi-8IXZFJdSY>

**July 2024 - LVAC Report- Elizabeth Diaz-VMRC
116 Participant**

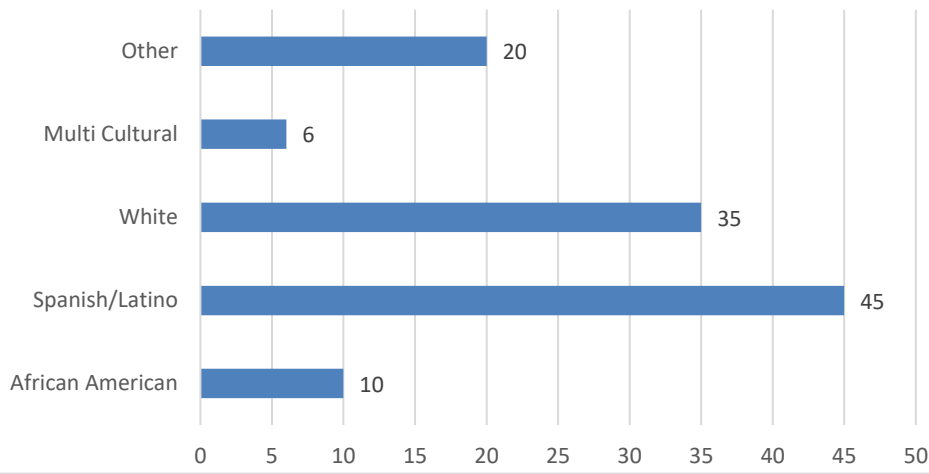
As of July 11, 2024, and includes people starting in June
Any category with a count of 0-4 will be reported as "other" to ensure confidentiality



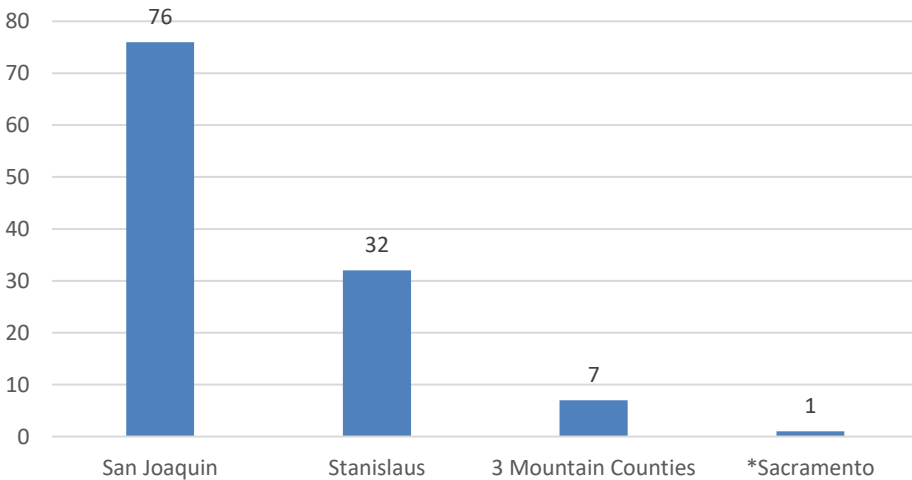
PARTICIPANT BY AGE

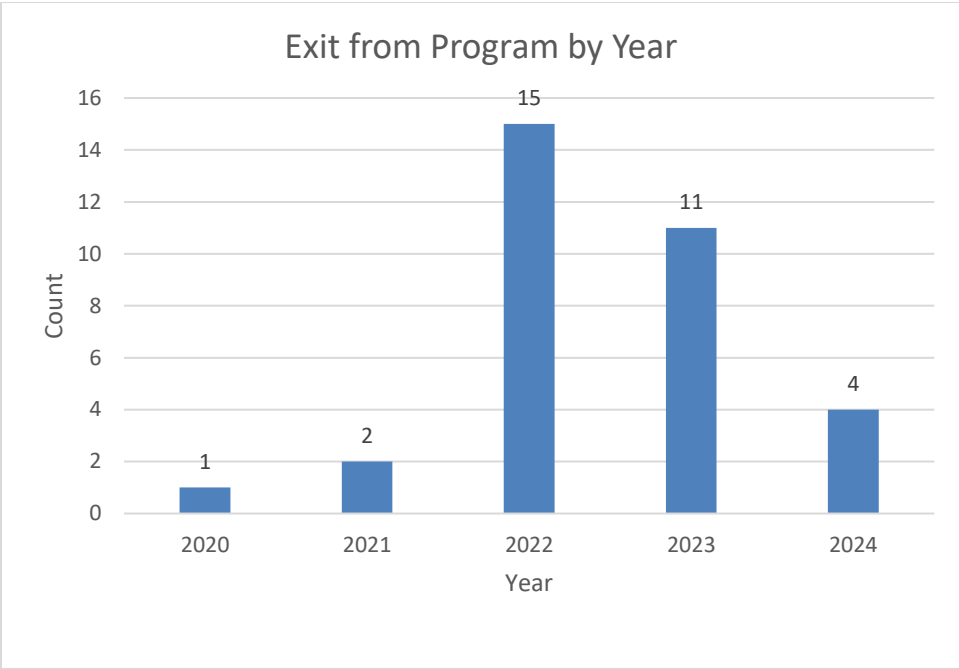


PARTICIPANT BY ETHNICITY



Participant by County





<u>Started The Process and never made it</u>	count	comment
	11	decided SDP was not for them
	2	had issues with FMS
	3	moved to different RC
	1	moved out of state
	1	needed vendor services
	5	process too involved
	9	stopped communicating with SDP team
	39	Traditional services met the needs
Total	71	

<u>Still in process but pending</u>	count	comment
	1	has not responded to PCS
	3	not ready/still interested
	4	on pause
	3	Still deciding
Total	11	

Traditional	count	comment
	2	FMS issues
	7	FMS was too difficult
	1	moved out of state
	1	SDP seemed limited
	14	Traditional services could meet needs
	8	Vendor Services needed
Total	33	

SDP Transfer out of VMRC	count	comment
	1	Left to another Regional Center
	1	Left to another Regional Center, but shared case management