



Valley Mountain Regional Center
702 N. Aurora Street
Stockton, CA 95202
(209) 473-0951



Posted on:

www.vmrc.net

www.scdd.ca.gov/northvalleyhills

VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Meeting



DATE: Thursday, October 17, 2024



TIME: 3:30pm-5:00pm

WHERE: Online through Zoom

Zoom Meeting:

Join on your computer or mobile app:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89836693761?pwd=ubE5BS8mp3VZ7dGoOdv87u0Gle0WLp.1>

Meeting ID: 898 3669 3761

Passcode: 253854

Or call in (audio only): 1-669-900-6833

Phone Conference ID: 898 3669 3761

Passcode: 253854

For security reasons you must be signed into your Zoom account to access the meeting. Please ensure you are signed into Zoom before clicking the link above or entering the ID & passcode.

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in the meeting, should contact Dena Hernandez at the SCDD North Valley Hills Office, 2529 W. March Lane Suite 105 or by phone: 209-473-6930 or Email: northvalleyhills@scdd.ca.gov. Requests must be received by 5pm, on Thursday, October 10, 2024. Spanish Interpretation is at all meetings and doesn't require a special request.



**Valley Mountain Regional Center
Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC)**

**REMINDER from the Self Determination Law
WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE Section 4685.8**

Role of this Committee

Each regional center shall establish a local volunteer advisory committee to provide oversight of the Self-Determination Program.

The regional center and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities shall each appoint one-half of the membership of the committee.

The committee shall consist of the regional center clients' rights advocate, consumers, family members, and other advocates, and community leaders.

A majority of the committee shall be consumers and their family members.

The committee shall reflect the multicultural diversity and geographic profile of the catchment area.

The committee shall review the development and ongoing progress of the Self-Determination Program, including whether the program advances the principles of self-determination and is operating consistent with the requirements, and may make ongoing recommendations for improvement to the regional center and the department.

These are PUBLIC Meetings-so everyone is welcome.

The focus of this committee is to discuss the

Self Determination Program

This is not the meeting for individual concerns/issues about traditional VMRC services and supports. Please contact your service coordinator for help on individual concerns.

The 5 Principles of Self-Determination



Freedom

You plan your own life and make your own decisions, just like people without disabilities are able to do.

Authority

You decide how money is spent for your services and supports.

Support

You pick the people and supports that help you live, work and play in your community.

Responsibility

To make decisions in your life, to be accountable for using public money and to accept your valued role in the community.

Confirmation

You are the most important person when making plans for your life. You are the decision maker about your services.



Valley Mountain Regional Center
Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC)
Thursday, October 17, 2024
3:30pm-5:00pm

AGENDA

****This meeting will be conducted in Spanish with English interpretation. Once you join the meeting, please find the globe icon on your bar, tap the icon, and select whether you want to hear Spanish or English****

Item 1: Call Meeting to Order- Gricelda Estrada-Vice Chair

Item 2: Introductions- Committee members to be introduced by roll call, welcome to new members. Public guests are welcome to put their name in chat.

Item 3: Establish Quorum- Gricelda Estrada-Vice Chair

Item 4: Approval of the agenda-ACTION-Gricelda Estrada-Vice Chair

Item 5: ICC Self Determination Support Project Proposal-ACTION-Lisa-vote on proposal in packet that was presented at the August meeting. Please see attached proposal summary for additional details.

Item 6: Request for VMRC SDAC to fund registration fees for committee members for the DVU Conference-Friday, November 8, 2024-ACTION-Karen-would be for registration fees, not transportation or lodging.

Item 7: Masterplan presentation by Victor Duron and Fernando Gomez-1 hour (45 minutes presentation with 15 minutes for questions)

Item 8: Public Comment- *This item is for members of the public to comment and/or present information to the VMRC SDAC. Each person will be afforded up to three minutes to speak, but if need an interpreter up to six minutes. Written requests, if any, will be considered first.*

The VMRC SDAC will also allow public comment, not to exceed a total of seven minutes, for public comment prior to action on each agenda item.

Item 9: Update on the Self Determination Program-Information-VMRC Staff to provide updates to the committee, including Fiscal Report for funding balances for our LVAC

What is the plan for structuring the VMRC SDP unit to keep continuity and minimize delays in service provision?

****Open House for the new VMRC office in Tracy, October 29, 2024, from 11am-1pm**

Item 10: Self Determination Issues-Discussion-Advisory Committee & VMRC Staff-Time for committee members or VMRC staff to share any issues, questions or success stories regarding Self Determination, or announcements of upcoming trainings or opportunities for participants.

- We would like to know which FMS's our committee wants to hear from so we can reach out to maybe be a guest speaker at one of our events and be open to a Q&A-we want to be mindful of this not being open to personal client experiences as we want to protect privacy but how best to work through barriers, in general, and work together to problem solve. Please have this information to discuss at the November meeting.

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=IwAR3BNnHWCWlv4gwqXdXgYxfcHubPZnVuJ4KF6hyrvV5bREdsl-8lxZFJdSY>

Item 11: Next Meeting- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 21, 2024, from 3:30-5pm.

The VMRC SDAC meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Thursday-from 3:30pm-5:00pm. Meetings can be attended virtually on Zoom. For meetings, the Zoom link is the same each month.

Item 12: Meeting adjourned.



**Valley Mountain Regional Center Self Determination Advisory Committee
Special Events WORKGROUP
Report from 9/26/24 Meeting**

**Comité Asesor de Autodeterminación del Centro Regional Valley Mountain
Eventos Especiales GRUPO DE TRABAJO
Informe de la reunión del 9/26/24**

- This workgroup discussed the upcoming October 12, 2024 VMRC Disability Resource Fair. The VMRC SDAC will have a resource table at the event. The volunteers for the table will be Michele Poaster-VMRC, Mary & Karen Bonacci from the VMRC SDAC. The table will be near SCDD & FRN who can help if need be.

Este grupo de trabajo discutió la próxima Feria de Recursos para Discapacidades de VMRC del 12 de octubre de 2024. El VMRC SDAC tendrá una mesa de recursos en el evento. Los voluntarios de la mesa serán Michele Poaster-VMRC, Mary y Karen Bonacci del VMRC SDAC. La mesa estará cerca de SCDD y FRN, quienes pueden ayudar si es necesario.

- Independent Facilitator Training- discussion about a possible proposal from ASLA was briefly discussed. This discussion will be talked about at the November VMRC SDAC full committee.

Capacitación de facilitadores independientes: se discutió brevemente una posible propuesta de ASLA. Se hablará de esta discusión en el comité completo del VMRC SDAC de noviembre.

- VMRC SDAC 1st Self Determination Resource Fair was the discussed the remainder of the workgroup. Volunteers for the following areas were determined: Marketing, Food, SWAG for table, FMS invites, Vendor Tables, Speakers & Entertainment. Discussion about hiring someone with self determination dollars to run the conference was discussed and will be brought to the full committee. If anyone would like to join this Planning Team for the Resource Fair- please let Vivian know. The SAVE the DATE for the event in English & Spanish will be done by Dena and sent out to all.

La primera feria de recursos de autodeterminación de VMRC SDAC fue lo que se discutió durante el resto del grupo de trabajo. Se determinaron voluntarios para las siguientes áreas: marketing, comida, SWAG para la mesa, invitaciones de FMS, mesas de proveedores, oradores y entretenimiento. Se discutió la posibilidad de contratar a alguien con dinero para la autodeterminación para dirigir la conferencia y se presentará al comité en pleno. Si alguien desea unirse a este equipo de planificación para la Feria de Recursos, hágaselo saber a Vivian. Dena guardará la FECHA para el evento en inglés y español y lo enviará a todos.

- The dates for the next workgroup for the SD Resource Fair meetings will be:

October 24, 2024 3:30pm-

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88402204885?pwd=76uChPJmma7lLmBdMcagdKf1EpG3bX.1>

Meeting ID: 884 0220 4885

Passcode: 866496

January 23, 2024 3:30pm

February 27, 2024 3:30pm

March 27, 2024 3:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89130707696?pwd=beLU9KyXxGivAebpsogTHDapta0Sqa.1>

Meeting ID: 891 3070 7696

Passcode: 206816

It will be one zoom link for October and then one link for Jan, Feb & Mar 2025. There will be English & Spanish interpretation at the workgroup meetings. The workgroup is open to all- **REMINDER- the workgroup is to discuss the VMRC SDAC Self Determination Resource Fair until the event occurs on April 28, 2025.**

Las fechas para el próximo grupo de trabajo para las reuniones de la Feria de Recursos de SD serán:

24 de octubre de 2024 15:30-

Únase a la reunión de Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88402204885?pwd=76uChPJmma7ILmBdMcagdKf1EpG3bX.1>

ID de reunión: 884 0220 4885

Código de acceso: 866496

23 de enero de 2024 15:30

27 de febrero de 2024 15:30

27 de marzo de 2024 15:30

Únase a la reunión de Zoom

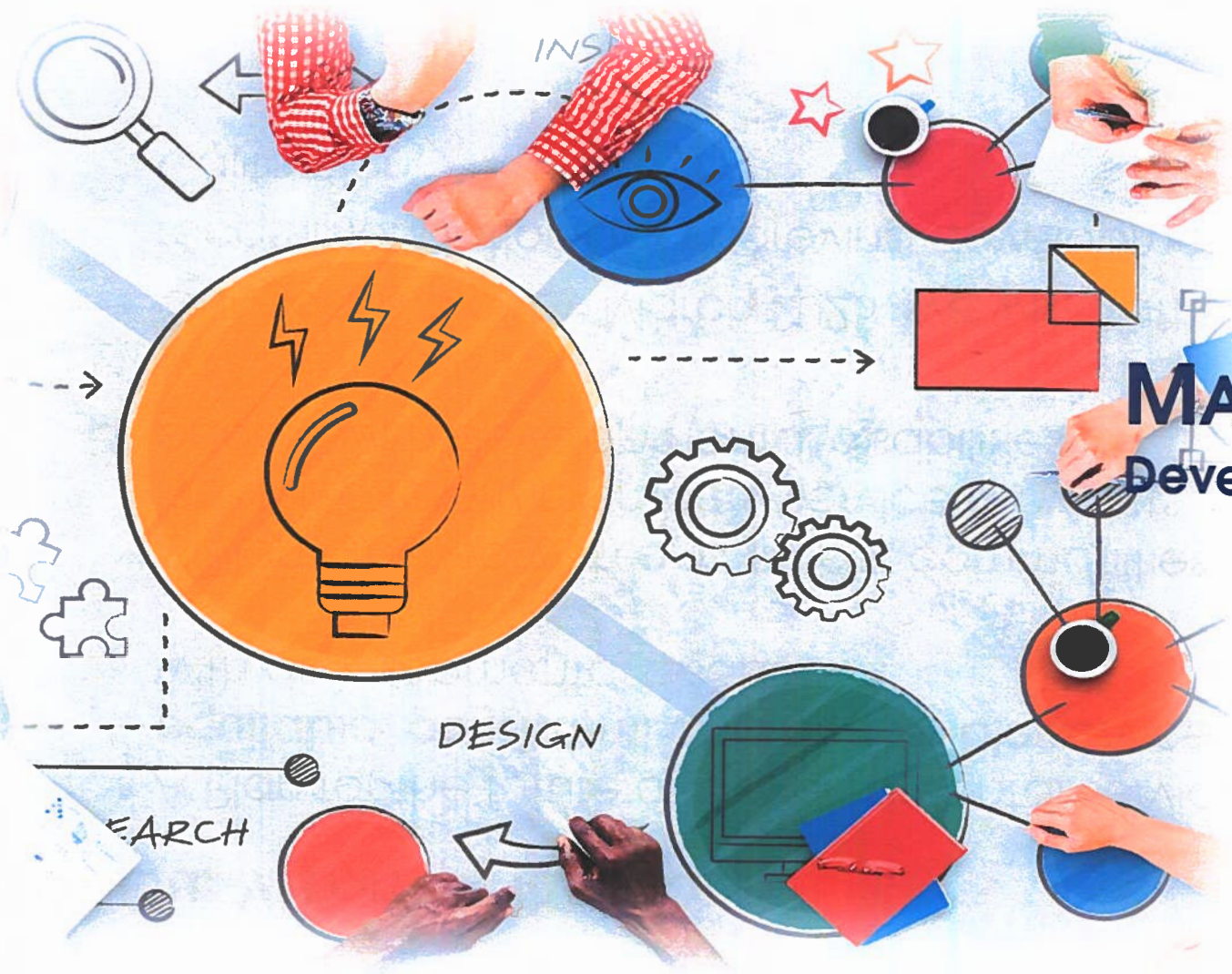
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89130707696?pwd=beLU9KyXxGivAebpsogTHDapta0Sqa.1>

ID de reunión: 891 3070 7696

Código de acceso: 206816

Habr  un enlace de zoom para octubre y luego un enlace para enero, febrero y marzo de 2025. Habr  interpretaci n en ingl s y espa ol en las reuniones del grupo de trabajo. El grupo de trabajo est  abierto a todos. RECORDATORIO: el grupo de trabajo debe discutir la Feria de recursos de autodeterminaci n de VMRC SDAC hasta que el evento ocurra el 28 de abril de 2025.

DRAFT



MASTER PLAN *for* Developmental Services

*SDP Local Volunteer
Advisory Committee
Information & Input
Session*

October 17, 2024



Our Vision for the Plan

- A Plan for the future of Developmental Services to provide **equitable, consistent, and accessible** services to all Californians with developmental disabilities.
- A Plan created with and by our communities across the state, including family members, service providers, policy experts, and people with developmental disabilities.
- Our goal is that by March 2025 we will draft a plan with recommendations for improving developmental services across Californian.



Our Commitment to Equity

- We are committed to centering the Master Plan in Equity and the Lived Experiences of Individuals and Their Families.
- We are developing tools and strategies to support equity across all priorities and recommendations in the Master Plan.
- We have a team of experts on equity and community equity leads to support this effort.
- We are actively seeking conversations and input from underrepresented and historically marginalized communities.



Our Work So Far

The committee has met six times and discussed:

- Our shared values and vision for the future of Californians with developmental disabilities.
- What equity means to us and brainstormed about how we will work to address equity in this plan.
- Created workgroups that will develop recommendations for the Master Plan under 5 focus areas.
- Began reviewing the possible priorities and recommendations that the workgroups are developing

Summary documents for these discussions are posted at:

www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services/

Documents can be made available in other languages upon request.⁴



Questions and Input

Group 1: Person-centered service systems that we trust.

Group 2: Timely, inclusive, and seamless services across all service systems.

Group 3: Services from a high-quality, stable and person-centered workforce.

Group 4: Consistent, transparent, accountable and data-driven systems that focus on outcomes

Group 5: Life-long services with adequate resources.

- *What was your experience like when trying to get into the self-determination program (SDP)?*
- *What would make it easier to use and be successful in the SDP program, especially for underrepresented communities?*
- *What can we do to make sure that we have the best services providers for SDP?*
- *What data do we need to improve outcomes for SDP?*
- *Are there other things we could do to make SDP better?*



Thank you!

Visit our website for dates and times of our committee and workgroup meetings:
www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-developmental-services



Send us your input at:
DSMasterPlan@chhs.ca.gov



Date: September 09, 2024

To: LVAC, VMRC & Proposal Screening Committee Members

Dear Committee Members,

We are pleased to submit our attached SDP proposal for your review and consideration. We recognize the critical importance of the Self-Determination Program (SDP) for all participants and their support systems, and we are eager to be continuing to be part of the solution that helps our community effectively engage with and thrive within SDP. We understand the complexities and challenges involved in launching and expanding such an initiative. ICC has devoted significant time and effort to understanding these challenges, with many of our members already active participants in SDP.

As an organization that has been deeply engaged with SDP since 2013, we have developed a comprehensive understanding of the steps and elements required to transition families from the traditional service system to SDP. Our strength lies in our perspective as part of the very community SDP is designed to serve. We prioritize Person-Centered Thinking in all our planning and ensure that our strategies remain truly person-centered. We believe that sustainable results are achieved through building relationships, providing continuous support, and guiding families through peers who not only relate to them but also understand how to navigate these new opportunities. Furthermore, as we help families transition to SDP, we make sure to address potential disparities by identifying and mitigating barriers and roadblocks, thus creating a more efficient and equitable navigation process and outcome.

Demographic Data and Relevance to VMRC Catchment Area:

The Latino community within the VMRC catchment area represents the largest ethnic group served by the regional center and is the most impacted by service disparities. According to the 2020 census, Stockton is composed of **over 45%** Hispanic/Latino. Of the approximately 21,700 individuals served by VMRC 39% are Hispanic/Latino and the next highest group served is White (non-Hispanic) at 29%. Most individuals served by VMRC identify as Hispanic/Latino, yet this group is the least represented in SDP and remains the largest group expressing interest in participating in SDP. This highlights a critical need for targeted outreach and support to ensure equitable access to the program. Our proposal focuses on engaging the Latino community, ensuring that our coaching, training, and support services are culturally relevant, linguistically appropriate, and specifically designed to address the unique challenges faced by our families.



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My Son is now entering his 4th year in SDP and I have had the privilege of serving as a delegated member of the SDP Committee at WRC since its inception. One of our ICC staff members, who is also a Self-Advocate, has been appointed to the State SDP Committee. As IF trainers, we ensure that our staff stays up to date on all new directives and developments. We are working closely with DDS on the new soon-to-be-released IF Certification program, allowing us to stay abreast of rapid developments and ensure that the families we support benefit from our advocacy and up-to-date information. In addition, SB 1281 (Menjivar), the SDP Bill, which we co-sponsored with our sister organization DVU, has passed unanimously through the legislative process and is now awaiting Governor Newsom's signature. Furthermore, three members of our ICC leadership have been appointed to the CalHSS Master Plan on Developmental Disabilities.

For the initial ICC SDP 1:1 Coaching grant we overdelivered. We had committed to impact up to 48 individuals and Coached 73. We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with you once again on this critical and timely effort to help families transition to SDP.

Please find our proposal based on our previous 1:1 SDP Coaching as well as our new Project Expressway where we are looking to collaborate with your Committee and VMRC in creating a case study that can be scalable and implemented statewide.

We request the flexibility to revise our proposal as needed, subject to mutual agreement by both parties. Additionally, ICC offers SDP Independent Facilitator services, including Person-Centered Plan (PCP) creation, and reserves the right to provide such support to families who request it. We understand that the choice will always lie with the families, and they will be presented with various options to choose from.

In this collaboration, we also look forward to working closely again with VMRC and the LVAC SDP Committee to introduce families to this project and promote our partnership as effectively as possible.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to collaborate on this initiative. We are eager to work with you to make a meaningful impact through this project.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth
Elizabeth Barrios Gomez
Executive Director / Co-Founder
elizabeth@iccintegradora.org 310.871.5080

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www.integratedcommunitycollaborative.org
(424) 262-2119 - 501(C)(3) EIN: 83-2802825



ICC VMRC LVAC 1:1 SDP Coaching Proposal 2024

Organization Overview:

- **Name:** Integrated Community Collaborative (ICC)
- **Structure:** ICC is a 501(c)(3) organization in good standing with the state, including liability insurance. We are home to the Community Integradoras, composed of Parents and Self-Advocates who engage with families on a peer-to-peer basis. Our objective is to help individuals navigate systems of support with cultural humility, empathy, and validation through lived experiences and extensive training.
- **Team:** Currently, we have 22 staff members.
- **Reach:** We assist approximately 6,000 families in navigating systems of support within 21 regional center catchment areas
- **Dedicated Team:** A dedicated team will be assigned specifically for this project.
- **Project Focus:** Empowerment Community Group Thematic Trainings & 1:1 Implementation Coaching based on the Integradora outreach model, which emphasizes building relationships with families and guiding them step-by-step to access systems of support equitably.

Experience and Qualifications:

- **Addressing Disparities:** ICC was founded six years ago to address disparities within the regional center system in California. For the past five years, we have partnered with VMRC to identify barriers and roadblocks experienced by families to achieve equity and equality.
- **Lived Experience and Training:** Every ICC member is a Parent or Self-Advocate with lived experience and extensive training to help families effectively navigate complex systems. Our efforts are relationship-based and designed to integrate seamlessly into the system of support.
- **Over-Delivering on DDS Grants:** As participants in the DDS Service Access & Equity (SAE) Grant, we have consistently exceeded established measures and metrics and are continuing the project for a fifth year, which includes our collaboration with VMRC.
- **Deep Understanding of SDP:** Many of our Integradoras are currently in the Self-Determination Program, and all have undergone extensive training, including as



Independent Facilitators. Additionally, ICC provides IF training and is working closely with DDS on SDP-focused efforts, including the upcoming IF Certification program.

- **Preparing for the Future Today:** To help SDP grow and succeed, we are introducing **Project Expressway**. Project Expressway is designed to engage with all stakeholders (Families, Regional Centers, FMS & DDS) to expedite the transition process to SDP. Our goal is to help families enter SDP within 60 days of starting the process. To support the growing need for Independent Facilitators, we are also introducing **CALIF - The California Association of Latino Independent Facilitators**. CALIF will be a hub for support, mentorship, training, and resources for individuals providing Independent Facilitator services.

Person-Centered Planning Experience:

- **Person-Centered Plan Development:** Currently assisting over 125 families with creating their Person-Centered Plans (PCPs); 50 of these plans are ready to transition into SDP. We have helped several hundred participants migrate to SDP and many are already several years in.
- **Training and Resources:** Conducted numerous trainings in both English and Spanish, focusing on person-centered planning from a family/client perspective. In addition, we have created a system of communication where we can efficiently and effectively share and train with participants new directives, guidelines and policy as it is introduced.
- **Network and Recruitment:** We have established a statewide network of community organizations and entities interested in providing SDP services. ICC by design has established a collaborative network that we engage with includes our sister organization DVU and other key stakeholders to include Disability Rights California (DRC) which this year we Co-Sponsored AB 1876 (Jackson) the remote access bill, State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), Department of Developmental Disabilities (DDS), Public Counsel and CalHSS.

Proposed Scope of Work

1:1 Coaching

- **Objective:** Provide 1:1 coaching up to 63 Spanish-speaking SDP participants.
- **Approach:** An average of 4 one-on-one (1-hour) interactions per participant, supported by community Zoom meetings and smaller training sessions.
- **Rate:** \$100 per hour per coaching session.



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- **Projected Hours:** 250
- **Coaches:** 4 coaches, each serving 20 families.
- **Projected Cost:** \$25,000

SDP Empowerment Community Group (ECG) Thematic Training/Meetings

- **Format:** Up to 15 bi-weekly (2-hour) sessions via Zoom, emphasizing interactive dialogue. These sessions provide a platform for participants and individuals interested in SDP to ask questions and learn from each other in a community setting.
- **Participation:** Average of 25 individuals per session.
- **Total Sessions:** 15
- **Projected Participants:** 375
- **Projected Hours:** 30 hours at \$200 per hour (\$400 per session).
- **Projected Cost:** \$6,000

Key Areas of Coaching and Training:

1. SDP Initial Meeting & Assessment
2. Choosing the Right Independent Facilitator
3. Understanding Your PCP Experience
4. PCP Document Creation and Revisions
5. Budget Development and Certification
6. Addressing Unmet Needs and Changing Circumstances
7. Navigating Regional Center Roles
8. Choosing the Right FMS
9. Implementing and Managing Your SDP Plan
10. Recruiting and Hiring Employees
11. Backup Staffing Plans
12. Accessing Resources and Support Networks
13. Conflict Resolution Strategies

Project Implementation: Outreach / Data Collection

- **Tasks:** Coordination, Data Collection, Outreach.
- **Hours Projected:** 80
- **Rate:** \$50 per hour
- **Total Cost:** \$4,000



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1:1 ICC SDP Coaching Proposal Summary

- **1:1 Coaching:**
 - Projected Impact: 63 Families
 - Targeted Sessions: 250
 - Projected Cost: \$25,000
- **SDP Empowerment Community Group Thematic Training/Meetings**
 - Projected Impact: 375 participants
 - Projected Sessions: 15
 - Projected Hours: 40 Hours
 - Projected Cost: \$6,000
- **Project Implementation:**
 - Targeted Hours: 80
 - Projected Cost: \$4,000
- **Total Amount Proposed: \$35,000**

Thank you for the time and consideration.

“Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot un-educate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore.” Cesar Chavez



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Project Expressway
Expediting the SDP Process

ICC is committed to helping VMRC families access the Self-Determination Program (SDP) as quickly and efficiently as possible, recognizing the significant number of families still waiting to receive essential services. The "Expressway" initiative is our solution to streamline the process, enabling families to **complete the entire SDP journey—from onboarding to transition—within 60 days.**

Project Expressway offers several key benefits through collaborative efforts:

1. **Established Community:** An established database of families who have attended presentations, community interactions and access to resources and are ready to migrate onto SDP.
2. **Advanced CRM and Data Collection:** Our state-of-the-art CRM system enables efficient data collection and analysis, allowing us to track key metrics, monitor progress, and tailor our services to better meet the needs of the community.
3. **Accelerated SDP Onboarding:** By fostering collaboration between all stakeholders, Project Expressway speeds up the Self-Determination Program (SDP) onboarding process, reducing waiting times and enabling families to access essential services more quickly.
4. **Streamlined Navigation:** Through a collaborative approach, the project provides a simplified platform that makes it easier for families to navigate the complex service systems. This ensures that they can efficiently find and utilize the resources they need.
5. **Enhanced Efficiency:** With the integration of technology and cooperation among stakeholders, Project Expressway reduces manual efforts and operational overhead, allowing staff to focus more on directly supporting families rather than administrative tasks.
6. **Increased Access:** By broadening community outreach through joint efforts, the project enables more families to participate in SDP and receive the support they require.
7. **Empowered Families:** Collaboration ensures that families receive faster access to services and clearer guidance, making them feel more supported and empowered in their journey, leading to better outcomes for their loved ones.



Scalability: The collaborative nature of Project Expressway allows for its approach to be scaled effectively, accommodating a large number of new participants and making it a sustainable solution for long-term growth and impact.

We are requesting the VMRC SDP LVAC to allocate \$50,000 to as a key collaborating Regional Center in the rollout and implementation of Project Expressway. This strategic partnership offers a unique opportunity for ICC, LVAC and VMRC to develop a comprehensive best practices case study that can be replicated across other catchment areas, setting a new standard for SDP transitions.

1. **Expedited SDP Transition:**
 - **Accelerated Onboarding:** By integrating VMRC into Project Expressway, we can significantly reduce the time it takes for families to transition into SDP.
 - **Streamlined Processes:** Project Expressway introduces automated and efficient procedures that simplify the complexities of SDP enrollment.
2. **Enhanced Family Experience:**
 - **Personalized Support:** Our 1:1 coaching model ensures that each family receives individualized guidance tailored to their specific needs and circumstances.
 - **Reduced Stress and Anxiety:** With a dedicated coach guiding them through each step, families will experience less stress and anxiety during the transition.
3. **Development of Best Practices:**
 - **Innovative Case Study:** The collaboration between ICC and VMRC will result in the creation of an innovative best practices case study. This document will serve as a valuable resource for other Regional Centers.
 - **Scalable Solutions:** The insights gained from this project will enable us to develop scalable solutions.
4. **Culturally Relevant Support:**
 - **Inclusive Services:** Our program is designed with a strong emphasis on cultural and linguistic relevance.
 - **Community Engagement:** By actively engaging with the diverse communities within the VMRC catchment area, we can better address the unique needs and concerns of these families.
5. **Scalability and Impact:**
 - **Statewide Model:** The successful implementation of Project Expressway within VMRC will provide a blueprint for other Regional Centers to follow.



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- **Long-Term Benefits:** The improvements made through this project will have lasting effects.
- 6. **Increased Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing:**
 - **Strengthened Partnerships:** This initiative will foster stronger collaboration between ICC, VMRC, and other stakeholders, creating a more cohesive and coordinated approach to SDP implementation.
 - **Knowledge Exchange:** The project will facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices between Regional Centers, service providers, and families.
- 7. **Improved Outcomes for Individuals with Disabilities:**
 - **Empowered Individuals:** By making self-determination the core of the DD system, this project will empower individuals with disabilities to have greater control over their lives and the services they receive.
 - **Equity in Service Delivery:** The focus on ensuring equity of access and options within VMRC services will help to address and reduce disparities.

Requesting Amount: \$50,000

“To make a great dream come true, the first requirement is a great capacity to dream; the second is persistence.” César Chávez

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