

SAN ANDREAS REGIONAL CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOTICE AGENDA

DATE: Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

LOCATION: 6203 San Ignacio Ave. San Jose, CA. 95119

[Click here for zoom link](#)



6:00 - 6:02 p.m. I. Call to Order and IntroductionsLisa Lopez



6:02 - 6:05 p.m. II. Vision StatementCole Baurmeister



6:05 - 6:09 p.m. III. Approval of Minutes

1. Board Meeting Minutes - 11/18/24
2. Fiscal Committee Meeting - 11/18/24
3. SPAC Minutes - 12/4/24, 1/9/25
4. Program Policy Committee - 1/7/25
5. Board Development Committee - 1/7/25
6. Executive Committee - 1/7/25
7. Quality Assurance - 1/14/25



6:09 - 6:20 p.m. IV. State Council on Developmental Disabilities...JLucas

Note: Time is allowed for public input on all agenda items prior to board action on that item. Time is also allowed for public input on any issue not included on the agenda. (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4660 (c)). People wishing to give input are invited to use the lectern or remain at their seats while speaking.



6:20 - 6:30 V. Presidents ReportLisa Lopez
 1. Martin Luther King
 2. National Blood Donor Month



6:30 - 6:55 VI. Executive Director's Report Javier Zaldivar
 1. Diversity Outreach Update
 2. Employment Programs Update
 3. Health and Safety Awareness Strategy
 4. Budget Review



6:55 -7:15 VII. Director of Consumer Services ReportMike Keeley
 1. New and Closing Programs
 2. Self-Determination Update
 3. Social Recreation



7:15 -7:40 VIII. Committee Reports
 1. Fiscal Gus Maldonado
 2. Board Development Maya Bareket
Action Item: Recommendation to approve the election of Mr. Huong Nguyen to his first term in the Board.
 3. Quality Assurance Advisory Veronica Contreras
 4. Service Provider Advisory Erika Gonzalez
 5. Program Policy Paloma Barraza
Action Item: Recommendation to adopt the *Information Technology Policy*
 6. People’s Advisory Committee Maya Bareket
 7. ARCA Lisa Lopez



7:40 - 7:45 IX. Public Comment



7:45 - 7:50 X. Board Comment



7:50 — 8:00 XI. Announcements
 * 2/16/25 Winter Dance



8:00 XII. Adjournment

**SAN ANDREAS REGIONAL CENTER
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom
November 18, 2024**

Presiding: Lisa Lopez Board President

Board Members Present: Maya Bareket
Elisabeth Einaudi
Erika Gonzalez
Gus Maldonado
Rajesh Patel
Uma Venkatesh
Veronica Contreras
Christine Gianola
Pamela Kerman
Alicia Mesa
Nicolas Santos

Board Members Absent: Cole Baumeister
Paloma Barraza

Staff Present
Grabiela Alvarez
Christiana Gardner
Angel Johnson
James Elliott
Phien Phan
Corina Bobeda
Francisco Valenzuela
Laura Washington
John Hunt
Ann Sieber
Karla Cruz
Lina Tran
Mia Garza
Rosalina Cone
Lourdes Gonzalez
Mike Keeley
Irene De La Rosa
Ai-Lien Thai
Grecia Quintero
Isela Solorzano
Javier Zaldivar
Rocio King
Cal Smith
Lauria Furuya
Lisa Hartley
Monica Martinez

Windes Auditors: Anthony Hamon
Tom Huey

Community Present: Jaclyn Balanay (DDS)
Janica Hadley
Huong Nguyen
Jennifer Lucas (SCDD)
Tracey Marquart

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lisa Lopez Board President called to order the regularly scheduled business meeting of San Andreas Regional Center at 5:05 p.m. Ms. Lopez also called attention to the note on the agenda stating that time is allowed for public input on any issue not included on the agenda, with a five-minute limit. (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4660 (c)). Self-introductions were made, and Ms. Maya Bareket read the mission statement.

Independent Accountants Audit Report

Mr. Tom Huey of Windes CPA firm presented the report to the Board, he informed them that the Fiscal committee had received a detailed report and had the opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Huey informed the Board that they presented an unmodified, clean opinion to SARC, which means there were no issues, disagreements, or problems.

The Board approved the report.

M/S/C Moved to approve the Independent Accountants Audit Report. (Bareket/Maldonado) No further discussions. All in favor, Motion carries.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/S/C Moved to approve the meeting minutes. (Kerman/Gonzalez) No further discussions. All in favor, Motion carries.

1. Board Meeting Minutes – 10/21/24
2. Fiscal Committee Meeting Minutes – 10/21/24
3. Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – 10/23/24
4. Program Policy Committee Meeting Minutes –
5. Board Development Committee Meeting Minutes – 11/6/24
6. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – 11/6/24
7. Quality Assurance Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 11/12/24

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CENTRAL COAST

Ms. Jennifer Lucas discussed these issues:

- Series training on disaster resilience
- Presented at the Soledad conference on how to address school bullying
- Recruiting interviewers for the NCI survey, need Vietnamese and Chinese speaking applicants.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Lisa Lopez reported some highlights of the importance of voting:

- It is the right of an individual
- It can be done in person or by mail
- Federal and State offered accessibility and accommodations
 - Transportation routes
 - Accessible tables
 - Touch screens
 - Accommodations for the blind, braille, voice and ballot drop-offs
- Be a self-advocate and ask for assistance when needed

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Javier Zaldivar presented the report and discussed these issues.

- Thanked Board members for their participation at events and meetings.
- Encouraged Board to support individuals at all the yearly elections.

Budget Highlights:

- The system overall is in good fiscal shape
- The Department continues with the intention of supporting the system
- Encouraged Board to give feedback on the Master Plan and rates discussions via the meetings still scheduled.
 - Master Plan Launch date is March 2025
 - Goal is to recommit on delivery of services
- The new IPP template will be rolled out in January 2025, it will be strengths focused, please review it.
- Trainings on the new template will be rolled out soon.

Diversity Outreach Update

Ms. Christiana Gardner Diversity Inclusion Supervisor presented the report:

Event Activities:

- 10/30/24 - Halloween Soiree/ Sarc staff – 254 attendees
- 11/1/24 - Day of the Dead/Sarc staff – 107 attendees
- 11/8/24 - Disability, Race & Equity: Exploring Intersectionality, & Advancing Justice by PHP
- 11/15/24 – American Indian Youth Gala
- 11/16/24 – Soledad Conference -125 attendees
- 1/16/24 – Holiday Crafts fair
- 11/20/24 - Kaiser Wellness monthly event will begin
- 11/25/24 – Christmas in the park tree decoration
- 12/7/24 - Early Start conference in Salinas
- 12/13/24 – Years's of Service Sarc staff

Active Parent Support Groups:

- Vietnamese - 11/9/24 potluck
- Spanish
- African American
- New group in Hollister

Employment Update

Ms. Rosalina Cone Employment Specialist discussed these topics:

- Due to October being National Disability Awareness Month there was an Employer Recognition Reception in Santa Cruz County
- Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP) program will be a navigator program that will work with the unique needs of the individuals.

- One vendor has completed the process and it's ready to serve. Two more are on the process path.
- Gave information about the CCP program to the providers at the vendor fair
- Some High Schools are receiving grants to help those young individuals participate in the paid internship program.
- For more information, reach-out to Ms. Rosalina Cone.

Health and Safety Awareness Strategy

- Available for individuals that demonstrate a need for it
- It ensures that providers have staff willing to collaborate with them and keep the individual safe
- Explore possibilities through the IPP needs.

DIRECTOR OF CONSUMER SERVICES REPORT: Mike Keeley

Performance Contract Year-End Report

Mr. Jim Elliot presented the January 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, report to the Board. He discussed these topics:

- Demographics:
 - Age of Consumers
 - Ethnicity
 - Where consumers live
 - Diagnosis
- Performance Goals
- Compliance standards
- Employment Highlights
- Reducing Disparities and Improving Equity

Mr. Elliott asked for feedback from the Board but there was none, he informed them that the Public Feedback period would be November 18th – 22nd. Once the report is completed and approved by DDS it will be published on our website. For more information contact Mr. Elliott at jelliott@sarc.org.

Self-Determination (SD) Update:

Mr. Keeley gave some updates on the program:

- 256 participants
- Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) tracks the role of the Independent Facilitator (IF) which is to educate the family and make sure that all is running smoothly. Tricky situations arise when the IF is not trained in policy and regulation.
- Current discussions in the committee are why vendors don't reach out to self-determined families and offer their services. Mr. Keeley explained that they don't need to because they are funded already. He suggested to the committee that they reach out to those that want to be vendorized.

NEW AND CLOSING PROGRAMS

9 New

- Residential Home
- Two new homes
- Two Social Recreation programs
- Day Program
- Living Independent Services
- Two vendors for SD

6 Closed – SARC continues to clean its database of services not being utilized:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FISCAL

Mr. Gus Maldonado Committee Chair gave the Monthly Fiscal report.

1. Purchase of Services (Non-CPP only)

The Purchase of Service expense for the month of September was \$52.6M and the year to date was \$171.7M. The current allocation is \$829.4M.

2. Individuals Served

The number of individuals served as of September was 16,323. This is a decrease of 408 since September 2023.

3. Operations (OPS)

Expenses for the month of October were \$5.5M and the year to date was \$21.5M. The Fiscal Year Projection is \$69.6M and the estimated allocation is \$69.8M. This leaves us with a surplus of approximately \$193.5K.

4. Cash Position

The cash position through the end of October was \$117.5M. This is a decrease of \$1.1M since September.

5. Donation Fund

The balance in the Donation Fund through the end of October was 375,133. This is an increase of \$1,162. This change was due to miscellaneous contributions and/or disbursement requests received during the month.

Two contracts were recommended for approval.

- 1. M/S/C Moved to approve the Dreams Transportation Services amendment FY2024-2025, 2025-2026. Totaling \$812,084.00 (Venkatesh/Lopez) No further discussions. All in favor. One Abstention – Erika Gonzalez. Motion carries.**

2. **M/S/C Moved to approve the Mabe Services, Inc. – Blossom Program FY 2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027 contract Totaling \$708,864,600.00 (Kerman/Bareket) No further discussions. All in favor. One Abstention – Erika Gonzalez. Motion carries.**

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Maya Bareket, committee chair, informed that the committee will interview a potential Board member.

QUALITY ASSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- The minutes are in the packet.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SPAC)

- Ms. Gonzalez shared that the committee has agreed to merge the SPAC meeting with the “All Providers Call” the new schedule will begin in January 2025.
- She said that she received good feedback from the Vendor Fair and that it was a success.

PROGRAM POLICY COMMITTEE

- The minutes are in the packet.

PEOPLE’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

- Ms. Bareket shared that she attended the Holiday craft fair.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMENT

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Valenzuela thanked the Board for all their support throughout the year. He shared that he is working on new partnerships for 2025, stay tuned for upcoming dates.

Upcoming events:

- 12/2024 Christmas in the park

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Recording Secretary, Ms. Lourdes Gonzalez

Submitted by,

Ms. Pamela Kerman

**San Andreas Regional Center Board of Directors
Fiscal Committee - Meeting Minutes
San Jose Office/Via Zoom
November 18, 2024**

Committee Members Present: Maya Bareket
Pamela Kerman
Gus Maldonado (chair)
Alicia Mesa
Uma Venkatesh
Christine Gianola
Lisa Lopez
Elisabeth Einaudi
Rajesh Patel

Committee Member Absent:

Staff Present: Gabriela Alvarez
Karla Cruz
Lourdes Gonzalez
John Hunt
Monica Martinez
Irene De La Rosa
Meng Chen
Mia Garza
Lisa Hartley
Angel Johnson
Phien Phan
Javier Zaldivar

Windes Auditors: Anthony Hamon Tom Huey

Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm. by Mr. Gus Maldonado Committee Chair.

1. Fiscal Packet Review

Mr. Gus Maldonado Committee Chair gave the Monthly Fiscal report.

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The Purchase of Service expense for the month of September was \$52.6M and the year to date was \$171.7M. The current allocation is \$829.4M.

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5. Donation Fund

The balance in the Donation Fund through the end of October was 375,133. This is an increase of \$1,162. This change was due to miscellaneous contributions and/or disbursement requests received during the month.

2. Contract Review

The committee reviewed 2 contracts to recommend to the Board.

- 1. M/S/C Moved to recommend to the full Board approval of the Dreams Transportation Services amendment FY2024-2025, 2025-2026. Totaling \$812,084.00 (Mesa/Einaudi) No further discussions. All in favor. Motion carries.**

- 2. M/S/C Moved to recommend to the full Board approval of the Mabe Services, Inc. – Blossom Program FY 2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027, contract. Totaling \$708,864,600.00 (Mesa/Patel) No further discussions. All in favor. Motion carries.**

3. Independent Audit Presentation

Mr. Tom Huey and Mr. Anthony Hamon of Windes CPA firm presented the report to the Committee:

- Independent Auditors' Report
 - Opinion - they issued a clean unmodified opinion.
 - Basis for Opinion
 - Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements
 - Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements
 - Supplementary Information
 - Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards
- Statement of Financial Position
 - Assets
 - Liabilities and Net Assets
 - Statement of Activities
 - Statement of Functional Expenses
 - Statement of Cash Flow
- Notes on the Financial Statements
- Supplementary information - reports on internal controls such as:
 - Financial reporting
 - Compliance
 - Financial statements
- Schedule of expenditures for federal awards
- Schedule of findings and questioned costs

4. Next Meeting Date

January 22, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

5. Adjournment

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Recorded by Lourdes Gonzalez

**San Andreas Regional Center Board of Directors
SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SPAC)
Meeting Minutes (via zoom)
December 4, 2024**

Members Present	Erika Gonzalez (chair) Sylvia Yeh	Desiree Luong
Members absent	Tade Akintade	Wesley Moss
Staff Present	Rosalina Cone Lourdes Gonzalez Michelle Livoni Francisco Valenzuela Anna Wall Javier Zaldivar	Karla Cruz John Hunt Ann Sieber Mia Garza Monica Martinez
Community Present	Angel O Cathy Bouchard Jennifer Lucas Jenica Hadley Kerry Mitachew Abebe Tony Green	Beth Prentiss Danielle Azzalino Dylan Wales J. Williams M. Reyes Sara Grignon Tricia Lara

Ms. Erika Gonzalez Committee Chair led the meeting via zoom starting at 10:02 a.m.

Committee Updates

Ms. Gonzalez:

- Thanked all the providers that attended the vendor fair, she said it went well, and she received valuable feedback.
- Has chosen the three winners for the Bingo Baskets from the seventy participants.
- Announced that according to the feedback she received, the providers have agreed to merge the SPAC and the “All Providers Call” into a single meeting. It will be the SPAC (Service Providers Advisory Committee) that will meet via zoom on the second Thursday of the month at 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/523648721?pwd=YsS4cnhSL3dBcW9oT3NrYmhlQmJnQT09>
Meeting ID: 523 648 721 Passcode: 3653652020, Phone#: 669- 900 -9128

Provider Input

None

Community Resource Update

Ms. Ann Sieber Community Resource Manager gave the report.

Rate Implementation

- Meetings will be scheduled to discuss the code changes, they will be done by single code groups, stay tuned.

- Payments for participating in the Directory should be billed in January to get paid in February only if all information was submitted within the deadlines.
- Grant incentive payments have been closed
- Contact DDS for issues with the portal

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Update

- Virtual office visits : [Electronic Visit Verification \(EVV\) : CA Department of Developmental Services](#)

Health and Safety Waiver Awareness Strategy

- SARC continues to work on identifying individuals with unique needs that need referrals to access the program
- Reach out if you need help

New and Closing Programs

Ms. Ann Sieber, Community Resource Manager, discussed these issues:

7 New

- Social Recreation program
- Three Day Programs
- Personal Assistant
- Speech Therapy
- Behavioral Program

19 Closed – SARC continues to clean its database of services not being utilized:

- Nursing consultant
- Two ILS (Independent Living Services)

Director Update

Mr. Zaldivar discussed these issues:

- Expect an impact with the rate adjustments
- The new IPP (Individual Program Plan) template will go into effect on 1/1/2025
 - Prepare for the role as providers, take a look at how it is different
 - Staff will need to be trained to adopt the new IPP
 - The IPP will be the contract with the regional center, and it will be person centered, and strengths focused.
 - Referral expectations have to be updated and be concise
 - Participate in the upcoming meetings and give feedback
- The feedback from the Self-Determination community is that providers don't want to collaborate with them; SARC has let them know that the regional center doesn't tell providers what to do.
- Stay tuned for the governor's budget announcement on January 15th for FY 2025-2026.

HCBS (Home & Community Based Services)

Ms. Michele Livoni gave the report:

- Classes & meetings have been scheduled to discuss the ongoing HCBS requirements.

- Support with Program Design Compliance is still available reach out if you need help.

Employment

Ms. Rosalina Cone Employment Specialist discussed these issues:

Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)

- The Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP) program has one vendor that completed the process and it's ready to serve. Two more are on the process path.
- Job developers have to be certified, and they can be reimbursed via the QIP (Quality Incentive Program)
 - ACRE CE Training has been extended to get certified and paid, for more information check these websites:
 - [Customized Employment Online Training - Griffin-Hammis Associates \(griffinhammis.com\)](#)
 - [National Disability Employment Awareness Month \(NDEAM\) | U.S. Department of Labor \(dol.gov\)](#)
 - [DRAFT Quality Incentive Program – Extension of Employment Capacity Measure and Incentive Payment](#)

Emergency Preparedness

Ms. Mia Garza gave the report:

- Two fires were monitored without impact to SARC individuals.
- Be aware of fire and flood season and secure sites
- Emergency Go Kits Update
 - The initial allocation of 466 kits has been fully distributed
 - In November, SARC was approved for an additional 72 kits, of which 44 kits were provided to "Options for All," leaving 28 kits currently available at SARC.
 - Further 180 kits have been allocated to SARC to ensure consumers in high-hazard areas have access to this critical resource
- Durable Accommodations Project Update:
 - DDS continues to address the needs of individuals with complex behavioral and medical requirements during emergencies. These efforts include identifying suitable evacuation sites equipped to support such individuals.
 - SARC will partner with Day Programs to be Identified as Alternate Emergency Evacuation Sites

Announcements:

Mr. Valenzuela shared the upcoming events:

- December 8th Picture with Santa at Christmas in the park

SCDD Central Coast

Ms. Jennifer Lucas Acting Regional Manager for SCDD gave the report:

- Continuing workshops in Disasters preparedness
- San Jose Library will have a new book club for individuals served
- Working on making medical offices more friendly, looking for feedback

Next SPAC Committee Meeting:

January 9, 2025, via zoom at 2:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

San Andreas Regional Center Board of Directors
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Via Zoom
January 7, 2025

Committee Members Present: Maya Bareket
Elisabeth Einaudi
Lisa Lopez (Chair)
Nicolas Santos
Veronica Contreras
Erika Gonzalez
Gus Maldonado

Committee Members Absent: Paloma Barraza

Staff Present: Mia Garza
Lisa Hartley
Mike Keeley
Arushie Nugapitiya
Javier Zaldivar
Lourdes González
John Hunt
Monica Martinez
Irene De La Rosa

Ms. Lisa Lopez, committee chair, called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. via Zoom.

1. Risk Assessment Report

Ms. Monica Cosio-Martinez Associate Director presented the SIR report for the months of December and January.

Total Incidents 774 December

112 Incidents reportable to DDS.

662 Incidents not reportable to DDS.

9 Deaths

5 Consumers reported missing with 0 not yet located

13 Suspected Abuse/Exploitation

7 Injuries Requiring Treatment Beyond First Aid

33 Medical Need/Accident

4 Victim of Crime

5 Suspected Neglect

36 Unplanned hospitalizations

Total Incidents 1004 January

167 Incidents reportable to DDS.

837 Incidents not reportable to DDS.

9 Deaths

9 Consumers reported missing with 0 not yet located

15 Suspected Abuse/Exploitation

14 Injuries Requiring Treatment Beyond First Aid

50 Medical Need/Accident

- 3 Victim of Crime
- 12 Suspected Neglect
- 55 Unplanned hospitalizations

2. Development of the January 22, 2025, Board Meeting in person.

There will be a Board Education on January 22, 2025, the topic will be “Housing and Residential – Overview of Housing Available” Ms. Irene De La Rosa Associate Director will present.

a. President’s Report: Lisa Lopez

1. Martin Luther King
2. National Blood Donor Month

b. Executive Director’s Report: Javier Zaldivar

1. Diversity Outreach Update
2. Employment Programs Update
3. Health and Safety Awareness Strategy
4. Budget Review

c. Directors of Consumer Services: Mike Keeley

1. New and Closing Programs
2. Self-Determination Update
3. Social Recreation

d. Committee Reports:

Fiscal – There will be a report.

Board Development - There will be a report and an action item:

Action Item: Recommendation to approve the election of Mr. Huong Nguyen to his first two-year term on the Board.

People’s Advisory Committee – There will be a report.

Quality Assurance Advisory – There will be a report.

Service Provider Advisory – There will be a report.

Program Policy – Action Item.

Action Item: Recommendation to adopt the Information Technology Policy

ARCA - There will be a report.

3. Director’s Update

Mr. Javier Zaldivar Executive Director updated the committee on the following topics:

- Significant Cases update:
 - Child killed on freeway 280, case was in the intake process incomplete due to parents not following through, case has been closed

- Kidnapped individual by her boyfriend has been found; boyfriend has been arrested.
- Individual that murdered his girlfriend has been found incompetent to stand trial after 9 years in jail without charges, has been ordered to Porterville.
- Individual charged as child predator has been found incompetent to stand trial, SARC has been ordered to provide services.
- Provider for home that serves sexual behaviors has pulled out of the program, the home might be converted to an EBSH- Enhanced Behavioral Support Home.
- Questionable SIR is under investigation as the individual resulted with broken bones and no one knows how it happened.
- Monitoring an agency contract that might impact the assessment of up to 2700 children.

4731 Complaints and Whistleblowers submitted.

4731 is a client's rights violation, SARC must investigate and respond to the complaint within 21 days, The department gets notified as well.

Whistle Blower Complaint allows the individual to report concerns of inappropriate behavior without fear of retaliation. The department does not need to be notified. Find the policy at:

<https://www.sanandreasregional.org/transparency/policies/whistleblower/>

- There were no 4731 complaints reported:
- No whistleblowers were reported:

4. Announcements/Events

- 2/16/25 Winter Dance
- 1/24 - 2/2/2025 Angels on Stage

5. Other

None

6. Next committee/meeting date

Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

7. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

**San Andreas Regional Center Board of Directors
SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SPAC)
Meeting Minutes (via zoom)
January 9, 2025**

Members Present	Erika Gonzalez (chair) Sylvia Yeh	Desiree Luong
Members absent	Tade Akintade	Wesley Moss
Staff Present	Gina Billeci Karla Cruz Mia Garza Mike Keeley Ann Sieber Javier Zaldivar	Rosalina Cone Lourdes Gonzalez Rae'chel Jensen Monica Martinez Anna Wall
Community Present	Jennifer Lucas Kristen Henderson Jenica Hadley Michelle Oliver Sharmean Heffernan Sonja McCall	Cathy Bouchard Heidi Morgan Mark Sung Sarah Verity Sommer Zehrung Vickey Perkins

Ms. Erika Gonzalez Committee Chair led the meeting via zoom starting at 2:35 p.m. First meeting at the new date and time.

Committee Updates

Ms. Erika Gonzalez SPAC Chair proposed adding an item to the agenda, suggested by Ms. Jennifer Lucas. During provider input vendors will have the opportunity to share tips and Best Practices on Self-Advocacy and Inclusion

Provider Input

None

Director Update

Mr. Javier Zaldivar Executive Director discussed these issues:

- SARC is monitoring Southern California fires and offering support.
- Stay tuned for the governor's budget release next week for FY 2025-2026.
 - No changes are anticipated
 - Debates will begin towards the May revise
- Have defined parameters for services such as Supported Living (SL), Independent Living Services (SLI), and Respite Services
- System reform is looking at quality of services, how they are delivered and how you track it.
- Annual Purchase of Service (POS) Data has been posted: [Annual POS Report SARC 2024](#)
 - Public meeting will be held in March

- The Department is focusing on these services, that they are provided with a standardized communication, assessment, and equality:
 - Deaf and hard of hearing (DHOH)
 - New Individual Program Plan (IPP) roll-out
- Social Recreation plan will be posted
- Families with current concerns should know that SARC does not ask questions, its main concern is to provide support to the individual.

Community Resource Updates

Ms. Mia Garza Community Resource Associate Director gave the report:

Rate Implementation:

- To earn the 10% incentive payments, work with a resource specialist on these steps:
 - Complete Rate Reform Service Acknowledgement Form
 - Update Program Design
 - Update contact information
- Form with codes will be sent soon

Ms. Ann Sieber Community Resource Manager gave the report:

New and Closing Programs:

3 New

- Residential Home
- Self Determination Supports
- Durable medical equipment

24 Closed – SARC continues to clean its database of vendors that have not provided services within the last 24 months.

Quality Incentive Program:

- Early intervention payments will be sent as soon as department sends list

DSP Internship program:

- Internship program working out well

Gallagher Verified:

- They are rounding the corner almost done with the project, next year will be easier.

Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) Update

- Everyone should have signed up if you are part of the required categories; attend the webinars and office hours.

HCBS (Home & Community Based Services)

- Training is available and more will be provided during the year
- Participation has been good and valuable according to the vendors
- Ms. Michelle Livoni will provide office hours in 2025 reach-out if you need help

- Program design workshops will be provided
- New IPP presentations will be provided

Health and Safety Waiver Awareness Strategy

- SARC continues to work on identifying individuals with unique needs that need referrals to access the program
- Reach out if you need help

Employment

Ms. Rosalina Cone Employment Specialist gave the report:

- Wage increase from \$16.00 to \$16.50 is in effect now
- SARC is updating Purchase of Services (POSs) for the Paid Internships.
- Coordinated Career Pathways (CCP):
 - One updated program design has been submitted
 - Two more vendors have begun the CCP process
 - CPP Vendorizations need certifications
 - Employment subcodes will be added soon
 - Job development will model CCP and need to be certified

Emergency Preparedness

Ms. Rae'chel Jensen Emergency Coordinator gave the report.

Weather-Related Emergencies:

- Regional Fires:
 - Updates on the Palisades and Eaton fires.
 - Preparedness Tips:
 - Add out-of-state contacts to your emergency plans and have them download hazard-monitoring apps to stay informed if you cannot.
 - Develop a communication plan that works both locally and nationally.
 - Keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full to ensure you can evacuate quickly if needed.
- Collapsed Tree Incident:
 - December 14, 2024: Tree collapsed at Gateway Community Care Facility, Marina, CA. High winds caused a tree to fall, rendering ICF 1 uninhabitable. Consumers relocated to day-program classrooms.
 - Special Incident Reports (SIRs) completed, and access to the damaged building restricted.

Current projects/activities:

- Emergency Go Kits Update:
 - Current Inventory: 129 kits available for distribution.
 - Distribution Totals:
 - November 2024: 44 kits
 - December 2024: 40 kits
 - January 2024 (to date): 20 kits
 - Total Provided: 559 kits
 - Eligibility & Timeline:
 - Kits available through June 30, 2025.

- Residential facilities without emergency kits may qualify.
- Durable Accommodations Project Update:
 - Overview: Collaboration with DDS to establish evacuation sites for individuals with complex needs.
 - Vendor Interest: Hope Services expressed interest as a potential backup shelter.
 - Next Steps: Focus outreach on day programs, provide emergency kits, evaluate potential evacuation sites, and coordinate with DDS.

Highlights:

Collaboration on AFN Quarterly Meetings:

- Participants: Community members with lived disaster experience, individuals with disabilities, and organizations including SARC, American Red Cross, ILRC, CERT, and others.
- Mission: Foster collaboration between the access and functional needs community and disaster services, ensuring equitable and inclusive outcomes.
- Key Activities: Hosted the Community Panel Conversations Series in Fall 2024, where I served as a panelist.
- 2025 Updates:
 - Leadership Transition: Jennifer Lucas (SCDD) steps down as Chair; Bradlee Kirkman (ILRC) and Rae'chel Jensen (SARC) to co-chair.
 - New Schedule: Quarterly meetings on the first Monday of each quarter. Next: March 3, 2025, at 11:00 AM.
 - Focus: Expand presentations and panels for families, caregivers, vendors, and organizations.

Announcements:

- Winter Dance in partnership with Hope coming soon
- Legislative tour will be scheduled this year

SCDD Central Coast

Ms. Jennifer Lucas discussed these issues:

- SCDD Manager position announcement will be in February
- Continue collaboration with SARC on Person Center presentations

Next SPAC Committee Meeting:

February 13, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. Via Zoom

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.