



**VMRC Self Determination Advisory  
Committee Meeting  
Minutes  
October 24, 2019**

<p><b><u>VMRC SDAC Members - Present</u></b>          Isela Bingham (DRC OCRA)-Statute          Karen Bonacci (FA) -VMRC          Lisa Culley-secretary (FA) -SCDD          Gricelda Estrada (FA) -VMRC          John Forrest (FA) -VMRC          Alphonse Mickahail (FA) -SCDD          Dr. Bethany Mickahail (on phone) (FA) -SCDD          Mariela Ramos-chair (FA) -VMRC          Mohamed Rashid-chair (SA) -SCDD          Kerstin Williams (SA) -SCDD          Liz Zastrow (on phone) -SCDD</p> <p><b><u>VMRC SDAC Members- Absent</u></b>          Mary Bonacci (SA) -VMRC          Phylicia Martinez (FA) -SCDD          Dena Pfeifer(SA) -VMRC          Yadira Placsencia (FA) -SCDD          Nancy Sanchez-vice chair (FA) -VMRC          Veronica Segovia (FA) -SCDD          Martha Arely Solano (FA) -SCDD</p> <p><b><u>SCDD Staff</u></b>          Dena Hernandez- North Valley Hills</p>	<p><b><u>Guests who signed in</u></b>          Dora Contreras (FA)          Maricela Robledo (FA)          Nicole Sanchez (Provider)          Will Sanford (Provider)          Maria Solano (FA)</p> <p><b><u>VMRC Staff</u></b>          Tony Anderson-Executive Director          Doug Bonnett – Director’s Assistant          Tania Candelaria-SD Service Coordinator          Christine Couch-Quality Assurance          Claire Lazaro-Clinical Director          Cindy Mix- Director of Consumer Services</p> <p><b>SA=Self Advocate</b>  <b>FA=Family Advocate</b>          Appointed by: <b>VMRC=7</b> or <b>SCDD=10</b></p>
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**Call Meeting to order-** Mariela Ramos-chair- called to order at 3:35 pm

**Introductions-** Committee Members and audience- all introduced themselves. Tania Candelaria (VMRC SC) provided interpretation services for Spanish speaking families.

**Establish Quorum-** Mariela-chair established a quorum.

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

**Approval of the minutes from September 19, 2019** – Committee members reviewed minutes. There was a correction by Mariela Ramos and minutes will be corrected with the clarification. Motion to approve the minutes with the correction – Claire made the motion and it was seconded by Isela. Vote taken - motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment-**

- Will Sanford introduced himself as a provider of PCP, and will offer services in this area.
- Nicole Sanchez, from Lincoln Training Center, will also provide services for PCP.

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

Cindy Mix Director of Case Management-Cindy reported that as of 10/24, 13 PCP's had been completed, 5 IPP's have been completed, and 4 budget meetings have been held. There are an additional 12 PCP's, 5 IPP's & 5 budget meetings scheduled soon.

VMRC is working on a letter to vendors who may be providing services to SD participants. Concerns were raised by Alphonse that vendors will not follow IPPs and will want to dictate what services they will provide and not allow the liberty to the individual. Karen raised a question about a friend who had not received any contact yet who believes their child is in the SD program. Karen suggested that we add an agenda topic about SD issues and concerns to the end of the agenda for the next meeting.

Tony Anderson, Doug Bonnet, Tania Candelaria and Liz Diaz will be attending the SD Conference on 11/15 & 11/16. Mariela Ramos & Lisa Culley also indicated they were attending.

DDS released information that the second selection for empty slots will be around 11/22. VMRC has 20 empty slots. They will be overdrawing for the slots with the

following priority groups: Consumers 42+, siblings of consumers already selected and consumers who are members or family members of those on the SDAC.

Cindy announced the Independent Facilitator trainings that are scheduled for 11/6 (Spanish) and 11/7 (English), and hosted by SCDD-NVHO. Gricelda wanted to make sure the flyer was being distributed to all groups of interested parties. Dena H. ensured the committee that the flyer has been shared to many groups and posted in several places.

Cindy announced that there is one FMS (Premier) who has completed the vendorization process, and that 5 other companies are in the process of courtesy vendorization. She reported that a letter was going out to all participants that there are 3 options families/consumers can decide to complete PCPs: use non-vendored provider that VMRC will purchase, use a vendored provider or use VMRC staff trained in PCP. Cindy shared and explained the budget tool that is being used to create the SD budgets.

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

Tony Anderson-Executive Director-Tony reported that DDS is working with regional centers on how funds will be allocated for outreach to advisory groups, as there is currently no funds allocated to the committee. The statewide workgroup is looking at different budget tools used across the state to see how they are working. DDS will be sending letter to participants for orientation guidelines for those who participated in the original pilot programs. Statewide there are 10 people from the original pilot who will not continue under the new SD program. They will also be surveying those who were selected for the phase in who chose not to continue with SD. Mariela asked if the budget tool would be available on VMRC's website-yes.

**SCDD Self Determination Advisory Committee-** Mariela shared about the meeting she attended on 10/18/19 for the statewide meeting. The overall feeling of the group was that the process was moving slowly than they would like. The group identified barriers and troubleshooted possible solutions. The statewide committee divided into 5 groups to look at the different barriers and possible solutions:

1. FMS-timely payment issues
  - control over allowable expenses
  - conflict of interestsSolutions:
  - no control-by DDS directive

-advance payment

2. Over bureaucratic requirements

Solution:

-make it simple

3. Can't find IF or PCP

-discourage lists

-encourage SD fairs, forums, networking opportunities

4. People don't know what to do next

-support groups for participants & parents

-give more information to people

-deadline-must be in SD w/in xx days

5. Transition society's thinking

-encourage people to live life like people without disabilities

-form networks

-share with SC & committees

6. Budget too low, especially for children

-think about unmet needs

7. Racial disparities

-more training on unmet needs

-SSDAC review data on budgets by race

8. Geographic disparities

-look at unmet needs

-look at data by age, disparity, race, gender

9. DDS needs to provide training to all regional centers on budget guidelines

Mariela also thanked Dena H. for her assistance at the meeting.

Dena added that the state statute called for 2 meetings per year for the SSDAC, the meeting on 10/18 was an additional meeting that was requested by the statewide committee members. Tri-Counties Regional Centered shared a guide they are working on for SD. They will share it when it is completed.

### **VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee Next Steps-**

The IF trainings & the SD Conference in November were again announced. There is a new website that may be of interest to SD participants. *A place for the developmental disabilities community to exchange ideas, information, and resources-[www.theinterchange.org](http://www.theinterchange.org)*

**VMRC SDAC Membership Update** - Dena H. provided a membership update. Participants are still needed from Amador, Calaveras & Tuolumne Counties. Info has been shared with consumers/families by not returned yet.

**Next Meeting** – Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 3:30pm at VMRC Board Room Stockton.

There was discussion regarding the time of the meetings. It was decided to try to alternate afternoon and morning meetings. The December meeting will be on December 19, 2019, from 10-11:30.

**Meeting Adjourned at 5:11 pm**

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Culley*