

SDRC's Annual Presentation of National Core Indicators (NCI) 2020/2021 data report presented on July 12, 2022, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, both of the following:

(A) Copies of the presentation, minutes from the meeting, and attendee comments.

(B) The regional center's recommendations and plans to use the information to address regional center priorities, strategic directions to improve specific areas of performance, or both.

SDRC's Annual Presentation of NCI 2020/2021 data report

7/12/2022 Presentation to BOD – there were no comments from attendees

9/29/2022 - Mark presented to the Vendor Advisory Committee/DDPN. There were no comments made at this meeting.

11/8/2022 - Meeting with Client Advisory Committee Kim Steitz and Robin Bello

- Need more options for services (specifically opportunities to work and volunteer)
- Need more staff to go on outings
- Want service coordinators to check -in more often
- Encourage people to listen to consumers
- The committee is pleased about the opportunities to volunteer at People First Conference, Being on the BOD, happy with day program.
- The group was very excited to create a PSA on preventative health care and encouraging others to go the doctor/how to increase comfort going to the doctors
- Have consumers as a peer-to-peer support

11/10/2022 – Meeting with State Council on Developmental Disabilities

- How to develop and offer more training for people on safety in the community and in their homes. Hands-on Safety Training for consumers – “giving them tools to feel safe”
- Requested a copy of the slides (provided)
- One question asked was about the other ethnicities represented:
 - 1 % American Indian/Alaska Native
 - 7% Asian
 - 8% Black or African American
 - 0% Pacific Islander
 - 47% White
 - 36% Hispanic/Latino
 - 1% Other
- Is the power point in Spanish? – requested translation into Spanish
- Why was voter turnout low? What are the barriers?
 - NCI does not capture this info.

(B) The plan:

9/14/2022 Meeting with SDRC Community Services

- Focus on wellness, community participation, employment and day programs
- Discussions about partnering on trainings with vendors regarding medical care/preventative care

- Reviewing preventative health and wellness during vendor roundtable discussions (residential, IL/SL)
- Increase consumer participation in community activities – reinstating social recreation and camp
- Developing modules for training staff on discussions regarding NVRA; attending Voter Summit
- LMS Modules on rights and respect
- Employment – encouraging service providers to apply for grants
- Targeted discussion with internal group and outline the measures – the outcomes and barriers to meeting these 3 areas of improvement on the NCI.

NATIONAL CORE INDICATOR

2020-2021

In-Person Survey Results

JULY 12, 2022



OBJECTIVES

- ▶ **Description**
- ▶ **Purpose**
- ▶ **Assessment Areas**
- ▶ **Results**



DESCRIPTION

- ▶ The state and regional centers use the National Core Indicator (NCI) Survey to learn about the California service system. The Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4571 requires that an annual assessment is completed with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- ▶ The survey assesses the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).
- ▶ The survey is conducted by the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD).

PURPOSE

- ▶ “The National Core Indicator (NCI) Survey gives individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families the opportunity to voluntarily and confidentially participate in surveys to share their experiences on access to and use of regional center and community services.”
- ▶ The NCI Survey responses help California learn how it is doing compared to other states.
- ▶ Survey responses help the regional centers see what they are doing well *and* can improve upon.

Assessment Areas

The areas assessed, also called “**indicators,**” are:

- Access
- Friends & Family
- Rights/Respect
- Wellness
- Medication
- Health
- Community Participation
- Employment & Day Program
- Safety
- Satisfaction
- Choice
- Service Coordinator
- California
- COVID



Client Satisfaction Indicators

Access

There are no identified areas of concern. People relayed they have access to going places, seeing friends and their staff.

63% of service recipients indicated they had not identified any additional services needed.
(CA 47%)

94% feel their staff is well trained.
(CA 91%)

Family & Friends

Within the state average in this area.

88% of people reported they could communicate and see their friends when they wanted. (CA 82%)

62% reported no when asked if they felt lonely. (CA 55%)



Rights & Respect

The responses from SDRC participants are in the state average in most areas.

99% of respondents indicated they have privacy, and people are not reading their mail/emails. (CA 93%)

71% indicated they have a key to their home. (CA 51%)

Health

78% of respondents indicate they received their flu vaccination

27% of participants described their health as excellent. (CA 22%)

Community Participation

82% of respondents indicated they received help to learn new things.



Safety

There are no concerns, and we are within the state's average.

95% of respondents have someone to talk to when they feel afraid.
(CA 93%)

Satisfaction

There are no concerns in this area.

Choice

There are no concerns in this area.

Most SDRC respondents shared that they can make choices about their life (how they spend their life, who they want to be with, how they spend money, and where they live).



Service Coordinator

SDRC is above the state average in the areas of:

- People meeting their service coordinator
- Choosing services
- They know who to speak to if they want to change something about their services
- Their service plan includes things that are important to them

California

99% of respondents indicated they have staff who speak their preferred language. (CA 92%)





Covid Responses:

- 25 out of 75 questions asked of SDRC individuals were above the state average
- People have indicated they have access to PPE
- They use technology more while at home and have a good internet connection
- People liked talking with their service coordinators via video conference
- 78% of people utilized video equipment to engage in a social group activities organized by day programs (CA 49%)



Areas For Improvement



Rights & Respect:

76% of respondents indicated that they have not voted
(CA 67%)

24% of SDRC respondents voted
(CA 31%)

54% of respondents said they do not own a smartphone and
would like to have one
(CA 49%)

Wellness

83% of SDRC individuals served who responded to the survey stated they do not engage in physical activity that strengthens muscles. (CA 70%)

Health

Overall did well. Areas needing attention are access to health screenings/tests.

SDRC is below state average when it comes to having pap test screening and/or mammogram.

Medication

40% of SDRC respondents are taking one medication for behavioral challenges or mood disorders. (CA 32%)

38% are taking medication for anxiety or psychotic disorder. (CA 30%)



Community Participation

Client responses to 15 out of 35 questions were below the state's average.

This indicator addresses an individual's participation and the ability to engage in out-of-home activities, religious services, entertainment, and going on vacation.

Employment *and* Day Programs

This is an area that needs attention, and the responses are higher than the state's average

80% of respondents indicated they are not attending a day or work program. (CA 58%)

85% are not taking classes or training to get a job or a better job. (CA 75%)

84% are not engaged in volunteer work. (CA 74%)





During Covid

Respondents reported needing assistance with reminders to wear a mask and wash their hands.

- **55%** needed reminders to wash their hands during the day.
(CA 49%)
- **51%** said they needed help or reminders to wear a mask.
(CA 46%)
- **55%** needed reminders to practice social distancing.
(CA 50%)



What's
NEXT?

SDRC Will Collaborate With:

- ▶ Community Services Department, Client Services Department
- ▶ Vendor Advisory Committee
- ▶ DDPN
- ▶ Client Advisory Committee
- ▶ Community-at-large

And develop strategic goals related to increasing the satisfaction and quality of life in the areas needing improvement.

Strategies currently in place: PPE Distribution; Monthly Wellness Checks (COVID calls); Equipment Loaner Pilot Project



Questions?

Kimberly Steitz

858-496-4352

kimberlysteitz@sdrc.org

For additional information about the NCI Surveys

National Core Indicators - CA Department of Developmental Services

[Quality Assessment Project | SCDD \(ca.gov\)](http://scdd.ca.gov)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
July 12, 2022
Minutes

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Virginia Bayer; Beth Blair; Tessie Bradshaw; Pam Ehlers; Johny Espinoza; Chris Hodge; Yasuko Mason; Shirley Nakawatase; Laura Oakes; Norma Ramos; Julie Randolph; Erik Rascon; Timothy Riemann; Martha Soto-Aceves; Matthew Storey; Wendy Forkas

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Terri Colachis; Kimberly Rucker

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Bell; Tania Cisneros; Rhiza Daileg; Sara Fitzgerald; Shelly Gonchoroff; Joab Gonzalez; Zachary Guzik; Kathy Karins, R.N.; Robert Keetch; Mark Klaus; Miguel Larios; Seth Mader; Jorge Malone; Cornell Montgomery; Dulce Morin; Gabriele Phelps; Gabriella Ohmstede; Victoria Otero; Gerry Rapelo; Jose Rosas; Bonnie Sebright; Lori Sorenson; Pamela Starmack

GUESTS PRESENT: Hunter Christian; Vanessa Englefield; John Filley; Erika Gil; Edward Hershey; David Hadacek; Myles Horttor; Mackenzie Klein; Marcie Laws; Pamela MacCallum; Molly Nocon; John Peters; Edwin Pineda; Laurie Purcell; Terry Rains; Gerry Rapelo; Alyssa Reyes; Frank Rodriguez; Rene Rodriguez; Airrien Smith; Brian Spahr; Mary Ellen Stives; Connie Strohbehn; Wade Wilde; Cali Williams; Angela Yates

1. **Call to Order**
Norma Ramos, Chair, Board of Directors, welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.
2. **Presentation on 2021 Performance Contract Year End Report**
Lori Sorenson, Director of Community Services for the San Diego Regional Center (SDRC), presented information on the 2021 Performance Contract Year End Report. This report is posted on the SDRC website.
3. **Presentation on National Core Indicators Data**
Kimberly Steitz, SDRC Associate Director of Client Services, presented information on the National Core Indicators Data.
4. **Public Input**
Frank Rodriguez from Ability Center shared that their agency will be funding for 50 families to have their homes remodeled to make their homes wheelchair accessible in honor of the Ability Center's 50th Anniversary.

Terry Rains, a community member, expressed concern regarding receiving assistance in applying for financial and medical benefits for a client of the SDRC.
5. **Approval of Minutes**
Ms. Ramos referred the Directors to the draft minutes of the June 14, 2022, Board of Directors meeting

and asked for approval.

MOTION: M/S/C that the Minutes of the June 14, 2022, Board of Directors meeting are approved as submitted.

6. **Chair's Report**

Ms. Ramos recognized Gabriele Phelps and Victoria "Torrey" Otero, SDRC Executive Offices Staff, for the work that they do to prepare for the Board meetings and ensure the meetings run smoothly.

Ms. Ramos introduced her son, Joaquin Ramos, to the Board and shared that Joaquin is a strong advocate for his brother who is an individual being served by SDRC. In addition, Joaquin has served as a junior camp counselor for the YMCA and practices archery at the Chula Vista Olympic Center.

7. **Executive Director's Report**

Mark Klaus recognized Cornell Montgomery-Richardson and Jorge Malone as Employees of Distinction.

Mr. Klaus reported that at the end of June 2022, the total SDRC caseload grew by 297 individuals to 36,671. The total SDRC caseload grew by nearly 2,800 clients over the last fiscal year.

Mr. Klaus asked Seth Mader to address an issue regarding annual cost statements that were mailed to clients twice, once on the correct SDRC letterhead and then a second time on incorrect letterhead for San Andreas Regional Center. Mr. Mader explained that a third-party vendor that many regional centers use to mail out the annual cost statements, made an error and mistakenly mailed duplicate statements on the wrong letterhead. No SDRC client information was shared with San Andreas Regional Center. Mr. Mader reported that letters explaining the issue will be sent to all SDRC clients and their families.

Mr. Klaus provided a State budget update. Updating the Core Staffing model, one of the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) and Regional Center priorities, was not included in this year's budget. Acceleration of the implementation of the vendor rate model was approved and the next rate increase will be implemented on January 1, 2023, instead of July 1, 2023. Full implementation of the vendor rate study will occur on July 1, 2024, as opposed to July 1, 2025. Another priority for ARCA and SDRC was to include trailer bill language regarding vendor rate model corrections; however, that was not included in the signed budget. The family cost participation program and annual fees were suspended through June 30, 2023.

Mr. Klaus directed Board Members to the departmental reports that were included in the Board packet and thanked the SDRC Department Directors for sharing these reports.

8. **Finance Committee Report**

Treasurer Chris Hodge reported that the Finance Committee met earlier in the day and reviewed the ten proposed service provider contracts for Board approval.

MOTION: (Forkas and Oakes abstained) M/S/C to approve the contracts for services with Angel's Residential Community, LLC (HQ1696); Brandywood/Excelion, LLC (HQ1685); Camsaj Home Care, LLC (HQ0547); Del Rey Springs Adult Residential Facility, LLC (HQ1674); Grace Home (HQ1687); Ingelside House (HQ1688); Joy's Family Home (HQ0550); Live and Care (HQ1681); Provide SCH, LLC (HQ1689); and, Rose's Adult Residential Facility (HQ1692).

Mr. Hodge reported that due to the urgency of having a signed D contract in place in order to receive the preliminary allocation, the Executive Committee approved the fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 Regional Center D Preliminary Allocation at their meeting on June 20, 2022.

9. **Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Update**

Mr. Klaus reported on behalf of Terri Colachis that the ARCA is working through trailer bill language and timelines for implementation of the items included in the State budget as well as the 50 new initiatives from last year, many of which are still in progress. The legislature is still in session and there are still a number of bills that are pending. ARCA will be initiating a strategic planning session for its Board of Directors to be scheduled in early 2023.

10. **Vendor Advisory Committee Report**

Wendy Forkas reported that the Lanterman Coalition has drafted a response to the Governor and legislators in response to the State budget and has begun planning for the fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024 budget year. In addition, the Lanterman Coalition has begun sending out thank you messages via social media for including priority items in the current fiscal year budget.

Ms. Forkas reported that SDRC had the highest number of providers who completed the Direct Support Professional Workforce Survey that was sent out by the Department of Developmental Services.

The next meeting of the Vendor Advisory Committee will be held via Zoom only on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

11. **Mission Moments**

Dave Hadacek shared that the Windansea Surf Club hosted an event called Day at the Beach for Special Surfers at La Jolla Shores on July 9, 2022. Mr. Hadacek shared pictures of his daughter and Tim Riemann who participated in the event and had an enjoyable time.

Beth Blair shared that she is hoping to attend St. Madeleine Sophie's Center more days each week.

Tim Riemann shared that he enjoyed the Windansea event and really enjoyed the music and food.

12. **Adjournment/Next Meeting**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at noon.

Approved by the Board of Directors on August 9, 2022

San Diego Regional Center Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 29, 2022

1. **Call to Order:** Wendy Forkas called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** No changes or additions were made to the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting (7/28/2022) were approved.
4. **SDICDSI Board Updates:**
 - At the Board meeting in September approximately 60 residential contracts were approved.
 - The Nominating and Bylaws Committee meeting is scheduled prior to the next board meeting in October. The committee will be looking for officers as well as a potential new board member to begin next year.
 - Board Member Laura Oaks is retiring from the board after serving for seven years.
5. **NCI Data:**
 - The plan is to develop a task force to have discussions regarding how we can improve our services and what it would take from all of us to make that happen. SDICDSI will be reaching out to the Vendor Advisory Committee to gauge interest in being a part of the task force. Some areas being assessed are going to be included in our Quality Incentive programs. If you are interested in participating contact Kate Kinnamont.
 - The Quality Incentive program for providers has been finalized.
 - The Regional Center performance measures should be finalized soon.
 - A copy of the NCI report is in Wendy Forkas' drop box.
 - The final version of the Quality Indicator Incentive program was sent out. If you need a copy please contact Wendy Forkas.
6. **Rate Model Implementation:**
 - Health Management Associates hopes to have the most up to date list of vendors and rates by September 30, 2022 and then rates will be calculated.
 - DDS is looking to send preliminary results by early to mid-October with the process completed and ready for review by mid-November. The effective date will still be January 1, 2023.
 - The rates effective January 1 will be adjusted for the State minimum wage which increases from \$15 to \$15.50.
 - The City of San Diego will be increasing their minimum wage to \$16.25.
 - Due to the passage of the FAST Act, vendors are concerned that this will cause issues in their staffing ratios.

7. Covid-19 (Directives, Traditional/Alternative Services, etc.):

- Information on registration for the Disability Thrive Initiative was sent out (October 5, 2022). Taylor Day services Webinar is coming up. DDS representatives will be sharing what changes are being proposed to that service code.
- The only two services that will continue remotely are Early Start and Taylor Day Services.
- The Regional Centers will receive a directive from DDS regarding the disbursement of the \$8,000 for completing the survey any day now. Checks for vendors that only operate in one catchment area will go out first. Checks for vendors that operate in two or more catchment areas will go out once it is determined which Regional Center will be paying the \$8,000.

8. 2022 Legislation:

- A press event will be held in front of the State building downtown to promote passage of Assembly Bill 1663 which provides opportunities for people to become more involved in supportive decision making versus conservatorships.

9. 2022 – 2023 State Budget:

- The state budget states that Alternative Billing will end as of 12/31/2022.

10. DDPN Update:

- The next DDPN meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2022.
- No other updates are available.

11. Announcements:

- The next Leading the Charge event will be held January 11, 2023 at the Town and Country Conference Center in Hotel Circle. The theme of the conference is going to be Home and Community Based Services and anticipate approximately 500 attendees. A resource flyer will be sent out for people who are interested in having a table.
- SDCC is still doing emergency preparedness training for self-advocates and are distributing American Red Cross go-bags with supplies for 3 days if evacuation is necessary. When the flyer comes out please share with staff and clients.
- Clyde Williams announced that they had partnered with Amazon at the employment resource fair. Twelve individuals filled out the paperwork and four have started working at Amazon. If any agencies are interested, contact the SAE team and they can connect you with the appropriate people at Amazon.
- Jobtoberfest will be in person at the Balboa Park Club in Balboa Park on October 12, 2022.

- Wendy announced she is working on a new service called Path Now with the goal of it becoming an app in the future. It is a platform within California for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can match with organizations that will provide services and supports for them. Information will be sent out asking for Beta testers. The application will be free to clients.

12. Adjourn:

- Wendy Forkas adjourned the meeting at 11:02 am.

**** Next VAC Meeting: November 17, 2022 @ 10:00 AM ****

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Kinnamont', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kate Kinnamont, M.S.

Associate Executive Director
San Diego Regional Center
(858) 576-2936



CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MINUTES

November 8th, 2022

Members Present: Johnny Espinoza, Tim Riemann, Cali Williams, Beth Blair, Garry Grecco

Staff Present: Robin Bello, Kim Steitz

Call to Order: Johnny Espinoza, CAC member, called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

Approval of October 11, 2022 minutes: Members voted to approve minutes as is.

Self Determination Update: Katie Dempsey with SDRC presented Self-Determination in our October Meeting. The committee discussed the importance of SDP and getting the word out to the community. Johnny requested Katie present at the Board Meeting in 2023.

San Diego People's First/Self-Advocacy: Cali Williams will keep the committee updated on the dates in 2023 and the topics.

National Core Indicator (NCI): Kim Steitz, Associate Director of Client Services presented the NCI Survey to the committee. The committee discussed the following items of importance based on the survey results:

1. SCs collecting health care information from SDRC Participants
2. How can we encourage SDRC Participants to maintain health habits such as going to the doctors (medical, dental, psychiatric).
 - a. Committee suggested flyers, PSAs, discussions at support/advocacy groups.

Other: Next meeting will be the Annual Meeting in Jan., 2023.

Johnny Espinoza adjourned the meeting at 2:15 pm.



**SCDD San Diego Imperial Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)
Minutes for Meeting Held:
November 10, 2022
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Through Zoom**

Call to Order

Marta Leyva, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Members Present

Marta Leyva (FA), Nicole Brobeck (SA), Helen Crenshaw (FA), Harvey Goldman (FA), Reva Subra (FA), Leticia Galvan (FA), James Walker (SA)

Members Absent (Unexcused)

Ana Barajas (FA), Maria Rivera (FA), Jackie Riddell (FA), Julie St. Pierre (FA)

Staff Present

Mary Ellen Stives, Debbie Marshall, and Suza Szewiola of SCDD San Diego Imperial Office.

Guests

Kimberly Steitz, Associate Director, Client Services at San Diego Regional Center, Sandra Van Scotter, Kate Kinnamont (SDRC), Viri Salgado (SCDD San Diego Imperial Intern), Julie Austin (FA), Justin Hamilton Hole, Delfina Acosta.

Welcome and Introductions

Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

Establish Quorum

A quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda

Harvey Goldman moved to approve the agenda. Helen Crenshaw seconded it. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Harvey Goldman moved to approve the July 14, 2022 minutes. Helen Crenshaw seconded it. A vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Public Comment

Helen Crenshaw told the group that The Ninth District PTA of San Diego and Imperial County are having a webinar on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for youth. It will be presented by Jennifer Winberry, an attorney with Legal Aid Society of San Diego. There will be time for a Q&A. It is scheduled for November 14th at 6 p.m. So far 50 people have signed up.

Nicole Brobeck stated that she got Rider Mobility, Inc. vendorized for Regional Center. This will be another option to Mobility Solutions for equipment. She stated that this will open more doors for the disabled and that she can have RC pay for the lift.

Presentation

Kimberly Steitz, Associate Director, Client Services at San Diego Regional Center from the San Diego Regional Center presented a PowerPoint on National Core Indicator (NCI) In-Person Survey Results 2020-21 for the San Diego Imperial Region.

California started using NCI surveys to gather information in 2010. Twenty-six other states use the NCI surveys as well. The surveys are intended to survey the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who are served at San Diego Regional Center and receive at least one funded service.

Each year SCDD gives one of four surveys which consist of:

- Child Family Survey (13 to 17-year-olds who are living at home).
- Adult Family Survey Families (18 and over living with their family).
- Family Guardian Survey (completed by family or conservators of individuals 18 and over who live in the community).
- Adult In-Person of anyone 18 years and over. Usually done face-to-face, but due to COVID-19 this year's was completed over Zoom.

This year's survey was the Adult In-Person survey. It consisted of a random selection of 400 individuals who were asked to voluntarily participate. Some of the demographics of those surveyed: ranged from 18-75 years old, most were single, 47% identified as white, 40% lived with their family, 83% had a diagnosis of intellectual disability.

The purpose of the Survey is to give a voice to people (and their families) that the Regional Center serves. It is voluntary and confidential. It helps California learn how it is doing compared to other states. It helps regional centers see what they are doing well and what they can improve upon.

Ms. Steitz reviewed the assessment areas or “indicators”. These include: access, friends and family, rights/respect, wellness, medication, health, community participation, employment and day program, safety, satisfaction, choice, service coordinator, California (cultural accessibility), and COVID.

Marta Leyva asked Ms. Steitz if she could provide percentages for those who are not identified as white. Ms. Steitz said she would get that information for the group.

Ms. Steitz continued with a review of information gathered from the San Diego Imperial Region surveys as compared to the rest of California. Client Satisfaction Indicators showed that in several areas San Diego Imperial scored higher or equal to the California average—access, family and friends, health, community participation, safety, satisfaction, choice, service coordinator, California.

Responses indicated that SDRC participants are in the state average in most areas. However, areas that were below state average which should be improved are:

- Rights and Respect
 - Voting
 - Smartphone ownership
- Wellness
 - Physical activity that strengthens muscles
- Health
 - Access to health screenings/tests/preventative care
- Medication
 - Higher numbers taking medication than State average
- COVID
 - More reminders or help needed than other parts of the State to wear a mask, practice social distancing, and wash hands.
- Community Participation
 - 15 out of 35 questions were below the State average
- Employment and Day Programs
 - 80% (vs. California’s 58%) indicated they are not attending a day or work program.
 - 85% (vs. California’s 75%) are not taking classes or training to get a job or a better job.

- 84% (vs. California's 74%) are not engaged in volunteer work.

In order to address these issues SDRC will develop strategic goals related to increasing satisfaction and quality of life in the areas that need improvement. They will do this in collaboration with the Community Services Department, Client Services Department, Vendor Advisory Committee, DDPN, Client Advisory Committee, and the Community At Large.

Strategies currently in place at SDRC include PPE distribution, monthly wellness checks (COVID calls), and an Equipment Loaner Pilot Project.

For questions regarding the NCI surveys contact Kimberly Steitz at kimberlysteitz@sdrc.org or (858) 496-4352.

In response to a question by Reva Subra, Ms. Steitz stated that the survey did not have specific questions regarding sexual abuse or exploitation. Mary Ellen Stives asked if there were any plans by SDRC to offer safety training (such as those offered by *Get Safe*) to clients.

Kate Kinnamont, Associate Executive Director at SDRC, introduced herself. She stated that the SDRC wants to grow their capacity to serve the people they support. She said they will look into incorporating safety training to service providers/staff and self-advocates.

In response to Mary Ellen's inquiry about how SCDD can get voting information to residential providers, Ms. Kinnamont said she will provide an email list.

Mary Ellen encouraged everyone to fill out these surveys if they receive one in the mail.

SCDD Legislative Committee Update

Mary Ellen stated that SCDD legislative priorities will be determined at the November 29th meeting.

Bills that passed:

AB 1663 – Conservatorship Reform which will provide more supported decision-making training.

SB1092 – Fair Hearing Reform which states that Regional Center cannot bring an attorney to a hearing unless the family of client has one in attendance. Days to file for a fair hearing has been expanded from 30 to 60 days.

Bills that did not pass:

AB 2547 – Housing Subsidies and AB 2920 Inclusive Post-Secondary Education.

Julie Austin stated that the “There Should Be A Law” contest (which closed October 15th) garnered many well-written and well-thought-out entries. She said this contest was one of the most important and innovative ideas that SCDD has had in years.

Self-Advocacy Report

Debbie Marshall stated that self-advocate groups are continuing to meet and engage successfully. Leaders Empowering Self-Advocates wrote a letter regarding Regional Center services to Mark Klaus that was read at the SDRC Board of Directors Meeting. LESA has also Emergency Preparedness presentations in partnership with SDGE and 211 as well as cyber-bullying trainings.

Three sessions of Voter Education/Training were held in partnership with the Registrar of Voters and Disability Rights California.

San Diego Imperial’s Intern, Viri Salgado, provided the welcome speech for the FERIA Partnership Conference which focused on mental health. It was well-received.

Marta Leyva raised the issue that transportation employees need more sensitivity training in interacting with self-advocates. Debbie stated that she sits on the Accessible Services Advisory Committee with MTS and their Paratransit Services. Viri Salgado is the alternate. Viri has already shared some of her experiences with staff’s lack of sensitivity and safety concerns at the meetings. There is opportunity for public input at these meetings.

Marta relayed an incident from her place of employment. A newly hired school bus driver was impatient and insulting with the students. Due to his behavior students arrived at school extremely upset, creating a disruption in school activities. When parents and school staff heard about this treatment they got involved. Hence, the driver did a “180”. Ms. Leyva attributed the improvement in driver behavior to training. She stated that this incident makes it evident that there is a need for training of transportation staff.

Manager Report

Mary Ellen Stives asked RAC members their opinion of the recent *Self-Determination Experience*. Leticia Galvan expressed that she and Sebastian had a good experience and learned a lot. The budget roundtables—where people shared experiences—were helpful. It was also a great opportunity to network. She recommended other members attend in the future.

San Diego Regional Center is advertising a job opening for a Client Information Specialist. Ms. Stives pointed out that their requirements are far above what other Regional Centers require for the same job. Especially when compared against Service Coordinator positions. She encouraged RAC members to call or write to the Regional Center to ask that they change the requirements in order to make this an opportunity to provide competitive integrated employment to an individual with I/DD.

After some discussion, it was decided that Ms. Stives, Helen Crenshaw, and Harvey Goldman would draft a letter to the Regional Center (CCed to the Employment First Committee and the Department of Developmental Services) in support of modifying the job requirements for all RAC members to sign.

Roundtable

Harvey mentioned that Beacons is having a Gala. They are hoping to raise funds to expand/find more space because so many people are interested in the program.

James Walker is still working at Marshalls. His hours are slowly increasing. He is attending Beacons Pathfinder workshops Monday through Friday. He is looking forward to becoming an uncle in December. He went to a Self-Determination Committee meeting and is studying the Lanterman Act. Transportation is still a challenge. He uses Loops, but there are issues with reliability. Vista Transit is a “disaster”—with drivers who are under the influence, don’t wear seatbelts, and swear. James stated that Vista Transit needs to be audited. Marta suggested that she and James do some brainstorming to try to resolve this issue.

Helen said her daughter finally has supported employment at SeaWorld. She will be learning how to use public transportation with support from ILS.

Nicole in the process of getting a new wheelchair that has a tighter radius wheelchair, hopefully with an elevator lift. She is completing the paperwork to get a new van.

Leticia thanked everyone, and in particular Mary Ellen, for their leadership and knowledge sharing.

Marta along with Leticia are participating in San Diego LEND a training program aimed at improving services and outcomes for individuals with autism and related developmental disabilities. It was incredible, learned a lot from Leticia and other parents. It has been intense, but incredible.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regional Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.