Help Shape Self-Determination Program Training and Resource Fairs

November 18, 2026

DDS Department of Developmental Services



Photo by Chona Kasinger, from Disabled and Here

HOUSEKEEPING



Interpretación en español: haga clic en el globo blanco en la parte inferior de la pantalla con la etiqueta "Interpretation." Luego haga clic en “Spanish” y seleccione "Mute original audio.”



ASL interpreters have been “Spotlighted” and Zoom's live closed captioning is active



This meeting is being recorded

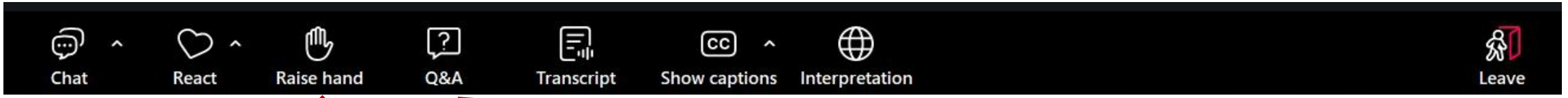


Materials will be available online at: Department’s Events page



Submit written comment via email to: sdp@dds.ca.gov

ZOOM TIPS



Chat is not available

You can use "raise your hand" to share

Type your questions/ comments in the Q&A

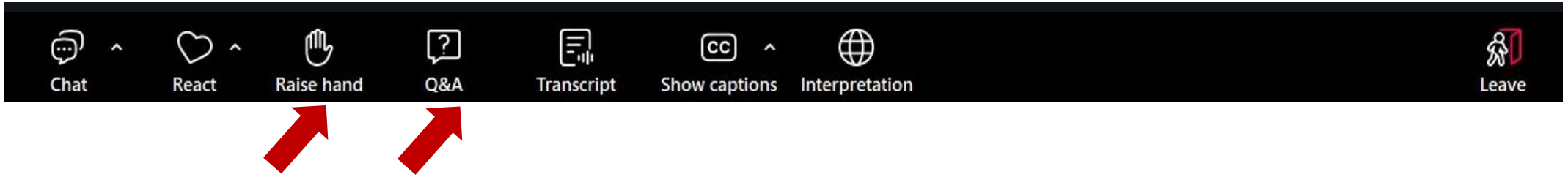
Leave the webinar at the end of the meeting

For attendees:

- Your video and microphone will not off
- You will only see/hear Department staff on screen
- Features will vary based on the version of Zoom and device you are using
- Some Zoom features are not available if joining by phone only

PROVIDING COMMENTS

Attendees: Please use the "Q &A" or "Raise Hand" Zoom buttons to make a comment or ask a question



- **We will call on you in the order you raise your hands**
  - Zoom will ask you to unmute
- **Please say your name before sharing your comments or questions**
- **Speak slowly for the interpreters**

WELCOME



WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY

Learn

What the new law says about money for statewide training and resource fairs.

Share

Your ideas about what the training should teach and what resource fairs should offer.

Next

How the Department will use the ideas and feedback you share with us.

No decisions are being made today. We are here to listen.

WHAT THE NEW LAW SAYS

Up to $1 million

each year for the Self-Determination Program

2026 to 2030

available from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2030

Two named uses

statewide training and local community resource fairs

Goal of the money: meet the needs of participants, increase service access and equity, and reduce disparities.

STATEWIDE TRAINING

WHO THIS TRAINING IS FOR

1

Individuals

People in SDP, or thinking about joining

2

Family members

Parents and relatives who support a person in SDP

3

Local Volunteer Advisory Committee (LVAC) members

Members of each regional center's LVAC

4

Regional center staff

Service coordinators and other staff who support SDP participants

The training must be standardized statewide and approved by the Department.

Question for you: Should all four groups learn together, separately, or both? What does each group need to know?

THE SAME STATEWIDE, AND ALSO FIT TO YOU

Same everywhere

- Core facts and rules
- Your rights
- Quality, checked and approved by the Department
- The same information, no matter which regional center serves you

Can change to fit you

- Language and culture
- Online or in person
- Who teaches it
- Local examples and local resources

Question for you: What must be the same everywhere? What should fit your community?

TRAINING THAT ALREADY EXISTS

SDP Orientation

Required before joining. Since April 1, 2026, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is the only approved provider.

Regional center staff

Regional centers must train service coordinators in the principles of self-determination.

Earlier local trainings

Many local advisory committees have paid for training with funds from earlier years.

IDEAS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

- Person-centered planning
- Your individual budget
- Building a spending plan
- Choosing and working with a Financial Management Services (FMS) vendor
- Being an employer: hiring staff and backup plans
- Moving to another regional center area

These are starting points, not decisions.

Questions for you. What would you add, remove, or put first?

After orientation, where do people still get stuck? What is missing?

IDEAS FOR LOCAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- What the committee is required to do
- How to read SDP enrollment and budget data
- How to plan outreach and resource fairs

- How to give useful recommendations to the regional center and the Department
- How to include people who speak other languages
- How to work with the statewide committee

Question for committee members: What do you wish you had known when you joined?

HOW SHOULD TRAINING BE OFFERED?

- Live online
- In person
- Recorded, watch anytime
- Small groups
- Taught by peers and families
- Plain language and easy read
- Options for rural areas

Question for you: Which ways work best for you? What makes it hard to attend training today? Time of day? Travel? Language? Childcare? Internet access?

LOCAL RESOURCE FAIRS

RESOURCE FAIRS

The money can pay for local community resource fairs that give standardized information about the Self-Determination Program.

Department ideas include:

Meet the helpers

Financial Management Services vendors, independent facilitators, and other local providers

Get clear answers

Regional center staff and local committee members who can answer questions

Hear from peers

People and families already in SDP sharing what worked

Question for you: What do you most want to find at a fair? What should every fair statewide include?

YOUR INPUT

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

1. What training topics would help you most?
2. What are the five most important things people should learn?
3. How should training be offered so you can attend?
4. What should people be able to find at a resource fair?
5. How can training and fairs reach people who are not in SDP yet?
6. How will we know the training and fairs are working?

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

1

Now

We collect your ideas

2

Friday December 18, 2026

Input closes

3

Next

The Department reviews all input and talks with the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee

4

After

The Department shares guidance

5

Goal

Training and resource fairs begin

HOW TO SHARE YOUR IDEAS AFTER TODAY

Online survey

https://bit.ly/4r9Ulsi

Scan QR Code

Email

sdp@dds.ca.gov

Your local committee

Tell your regional center's Local Volunteer Advisory Committee

Deadline

Friday December 18, 2026

RESOURCES

RESOURCES

SDP Law (WIC section 4685.8(f))

- WIC 4685.8

Department's Self Determination Branch

- Website: www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/sdp/
- Email: SDP@dds.ca.gov

Department's SDP Directives

- https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/sdp/program-directives/

RESOURCES

Office Developmental Services Ombudsperson

- Website: https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/office-of-the-ombudsperson/
- Email: Ombudsperson@dds.ca.gov or Phone: (877) 658-9731

Find your Regional Center

- Website: www.dds.ca.gov/rc/lookup-rcs-by-county



THANK YOU