

## Let Freedom Ring!

As we all enjoy this Fourth of July weekend, we will likely be taking time to celebrate the value of **Freedom**. Whether it is gazing at fireworks, or enjoying a BBQ with friends, the USA takes this time to reflect on the fact that in this country we value **Freedom** as a basic right.

**Freedom** is often listed as the first of the five principles of Self-Determination. That principle is defined as the “**Freedom** to exercise the same rights as all people; to establish, with freely chosen supports, family and friends, where we want to live, with whom we want to live, how our time will be occupied, and who supports us.”

**Read more about all the five principles of Self Determination at**

<https://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/sdplInformation.cfm>



## Vendored Providers Learning Together

Tri Counties Regional Center recently hosted Self-Determination Program workshops for vendored service providers. The sessions focused on what SDP is, how it works, and its opportunities.

After an overview of the history and principles of Self-Determination, attendees learned about the roles, rules, and requirements of SDP. They were urged to discuss and consider key components of the program, such as Person Centered Planning, the Independent Facilitator, and Financial Management Services, with an eye towards their role in supporting, interacting, and possibly providing these services.

Other Regional Centers have also provided similar workshops in order to prepare their vendor communities for providing services to SDP participants and to help build the partnership and support necessary to truly implement SDP effectively.

Interested in a provider training in your community? Talk with your regional center, local SDP advisory committee, or contact DDS at [sdp@dds.ca.gov](mailto:sdp@dds.ca.gov)

## Question of the Day

**Q.** I am really happy with my current service provider in traditional services. Do I have to change service providers if I decide to participate in SDP?

**A.** No, you do not need to change service providers should you decide to enroll in SDP. You can continue to work with traditional, vendored service providers. However, you now have the option to work with them in new and creative ways and/or to negotiate hours and rates with them, if you like. You may also purchase services from individuals, agencies, and entities that are not vendored with the regional center. Read more about working with service providers in the training materials posted at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/SDPMaterials.cfm>

## WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SELF -DETERMINATION?

- ◆ Visit the Self-Determination Page of the DDS website at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/>
- ◆ Attend a Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting, contact your Regional Center or Local State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Regional Office