

Alta California Regional Center
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 12, 2015
Minutes

Present:

Will Sanford, Futures Explored,
Chair
Janet Brandon, AIM &
Associates, Co-Chair
Eric Ciampa, UCP of Greater
Sacramento, Inc.
Jacquie Dillard-Foss, STEP
Eleni Gialoyrakes, Capital Social
Services
Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills
Manor
Robin Rhoades, Southside Art
Center
Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver
Relief
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare
Services
Yvonne Soto, DDSO
Paul Traglio, Capitol Autism
Services

Absent: (* excused)

Jill Bonetti, Opportunity Acres
Becky Brubaker, EGACTION
Gregory Buch*, Ph.D., PALS
Gerrit deGelleke, American River
Speech
Ed Doonan*, LIFE, Inc.
Susan Miner, Turning Point
Dawn Montgomery, HOPE
Consulting
Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting,
Inc.
Michelle Ramirez*, On My Own
Carole Watilo*, Progressive
Employment

Visitors:

Andrea Croom
Bonnie Douglas
Ryan Easterly
Maureen Fitzgerald
Cynthia Guilford
Alysa Harless
Kristine Johnson
Jessica Knuth
Wesley Moss
Michelle Nobile
Agnes Ranit
Nicky Schlupe
Sam Seaton
John Shufelberger
Peter Stirling
Eugene Taylor
Barbra Williamson

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
John Decker, Manager of
CPP/Forensics Unit
Jean Onesi, Manager of
Community Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:35 a.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Ratify New Members to the PAC; 2) Review PAC Standing Rules; 3) Executive Director's Report; 4) Job Fair; 5) Updates; 6) Legislative Update; 7) Board Update; and 8) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Will Sanford made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of October 8, 2015 as submitted.

****change in agenda was noted***

1. ***Ratify New Members to the PAC***

- Mr. Sanford shared that it is the PAC Outreach Sub-Committee's job to make sure that the PAC represents all of the service categories in ACRC's ten county catchment area. Last month, the sub-committee met to review pending application and would like this committee to consider the following applicants/agencies for PAC membership:
 - Daina Glasson with Ambitions CA
 - Cynthia Guilford with Rose Garden Care Homes
 - Peter Stirling with Serenity Respite Services

It was noted that Jill Bonetti, with Opportunity Acres, has been unable to attend due to staffing issues at her agency. She is welcome to attend future meetings, but her name/agency will be removed from PAC membership at this time.

- Cynthia Guilford and Peter Stirling provided a brief description of the services that their agencies provide to ACRC clients.
- Daina Glasson was not present. She was a prior PAC member representing a different agency, so her attendance should not be an issue.

M/S/C (Robin Rhoades) **To vote on the applicants today, individually, and then share the results with them via phone at a later date.** (11 in favor)

M/S/C (Laleh Sharpe) **To nominate Peter Stirling for membership to the PAC.** (11 in favor)

M/S/C (Laleh Sharpe) **To nominate Daina Glasson for membership to the PAC.** (11 in favor)

M/S/C (Joy Scott) **To gather more information regarding Cynthia Guilford's possible conflict of interest before this committee considers her for PAC membership.** (11 in favor)

****Committee participated in a Webinar entitled "MySupport Walkthrough" with Ari Ne'eman***

**Will Sanford left the meeting*

2. Review PAC Standing Rules

- As this committee looks for new membership, Ms. Brandon encouraged everyone to review the PAC Standing Rules which are available on the back table.

3. Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Bonnet shared that Santi Rogers, Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), is retiring.
- Regional centers are waiting for further direction from the department regarding the overtime ruling.
- Copies of ACRC's 2016 Performance Contract with DDS were distributed for review.
 - Mr. Bonnet noted that there is a new public policy measure, "Increase awareness of the cultural diversity and improve services for all ethnic groups served by ACRC using Purchase of Service data relating to age, race, language, and disability, to measure outcomes." He reviewed the activities that ACRC has planned to meet this measure.
 - Providers need to partner with ACRC staff to bridge the gap with clients who might have barriers to understanding services or to feel more comfortable with having services with a provider that has staff who understands their language and/or culture.
 - Volunteer for a Cultural Diversity Sub-Committee include: Janet Brandon, Jacquie Dillard-Foss, Eleni Gialoyrakes and Joy Scott and Jean Onesi
 - Mr. Bonnet reviewed the information with those present. The full Board of Directors will be approving this contract at the November 19th Board meeting.
 - Concern was expressed about the challenges that providers are facing:
 - Is there anything in this contract about what happens when providers go out of business due to economic stressors? What is the emergency back-up plan?

- How best do providers partner with the regional center prior to programs shutting down?
 - A suggestion was made to draft a list of “Talking Points” at the January PAC meeting that can be shared with the Board of Directors.
- The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) contacted Mr. Bonnet and will be meeting with ACRC staff to discuss how funding flows to providers once they are vendorized.
- ACRC has been working with Sacramento’s State Council Office and will be hosting a Client Recognition Awards ceremony on Thursday, November 19th, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at our Sacramento office.

4. **Job Fair**

- At the last meeting, providers expressed interest in possibly holding a job fair in January 2016. Some providers are having a difficult time trying to staff their agencies.
- Ms. Dillard-Foss suggested renting a room at the Sacramento Convention Center; each participating provider could donate some money towards the rental fee.
- Anyone interested is invited to attend a Job Fair Prep Meeting, which will be held on Thursday, December 3rd, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at ACRC’s Sacramento office.

5. **Updates:**

- DS (Disability Services) Taskforce 2.0
 - Ms. Dillard-Foss shared that, without the Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax, Secretary Diana Dooley has said that the January budget will be “dire”.

6. **Legislative Update**

- Ms. Dillard-Foss provided a brief update on the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The stay was denied by the Supreme Court on October 8th, with the effective date of October 13th. The issue is that the federal government wants to make sure that states are doing due diligence regarding the overtime law. The Department of Finance just suggested that providers hire more people. DDS has not yet given guidance and the Department of Labor (DOL) defers to the state. Legally, providers are obligated to pay overtime as of October 13th, but Governor Brown could have the date of implementation extended to February 1st.

7. **Board Update**

- Ms. Brandon shared that at each Board meeting she speaks from the heart and informs the Board about provider issues.

- The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19th, at 4 p.m.

8. ***Announcements/Comments***

- The Cultural Diversity Sub-Committee will meet after the January meeting.
- Providers expressed concern regarding ACRC's Holiday schedule. Some transportation providers have indicated that they will be closed on days that were not agreed to.
- Southside Arts Center's Gallery will be hosting their "2015 Friendraiser Event" on Saturday, December 5th, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Country Club Plaza location.
- Eugene Taylor, from Omni Safety Institute, shared information on Continuing Education Trainings that his agency conducts.
- Maureen Fitzgerald shared that she read an article on October 29th about Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) where Secretary Dooley stated that for every provider that closes, one opens.
- During the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the State Capitol on Wednesday, December 2nd, a silent vigil will be held with flyers about www.shameonyou.news.
- On Thursday, December 10th, there will be a march to the State Capitol and protest on the North Steps. Those interested in joining the group should plan to gather at Raley Field between 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Everyone will then march to the North Steps of the State Capitol. The purpose of this protest is to let Governor Brown and the legislature know that we are not going away. A billboard will be going up soon.
- Mr. Ciampa shared that UCP is looking to expand their respite services to El Dorado County. They have secured some grant funding and they are researching ways to do things differently. They have also looked at online training platforms. If anyone is doing this, please contact him to share information.
- November is "National Family Caregivers Month". Ms. Scott will be receiving a proclamation from Yuba City next Tuesday, November 17th.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, January 14, 2016**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet