

Alta California Regional Center  
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, May 14, 2015  
Minutes

**Present:**

Will Sanford, Futures Explored,  
Chair  
Janet Brandon, AIM &  
Associates, Co-Chair  
Becky Brubaker, EGACT  
Gregory Buch, Ph.D., PALS  
Eric Ciampa, UCP of Greater  
Sacramento, Inc.  
Ed Doonan, LIFE, Inc.  
Eleni Gialoyrakes, Capital Social  
Services  
Dawn Montgomery, HOPE  
Consulting  
Michelle Payne, RCCA Services  
Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting,  
Inc.  
Robin Rhoades, Southside Art  
Center  
Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver  
Relief  
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare  
Services  
Yvonne Soto, DDSO  
Paul Traglio, Capitol Autism  
Services  
Carole Watilo, Progressive  
Employment

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Jill Bonetti, Opportunity Acres  
Gerrit deGelleke\*, American River  
Speech  
Jacquie Dillard-Foss\*, STEP  
Susan Miner\*, Turning Point  
Michelle Ramirez, On My Own  
Antonio Ranit\*, Antelope Hills  
Manor

**Visitors:**

Donna Bettencourt  
Andrea Croom  
Bonnie Douglas  
Adriene Gaudet  
Cynthia Guilford  
Kate Halecky  
Jessica Knuth  
Denyce Miller  
Vanessa Moore  
Nicky Schlupe  
Stan Schmidt  
Sam Seaton  
Stacy Sisson  
Shawn Skanks

**Staff:**

Patti Diamond, Training Manager  
John Decker, Supervisor of  
CPP/Forensics Unit  
Jean Onesi, Manager of Community  
Services  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:33 a.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Regional Center Report; 2) ILS Policies & Procedures (SB 1093); 3) Updates; 4) Legislative Update; 5) Board Update; and 6) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Will Sanford made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 9, 2015 as submitted.**

**1. *Regional Center Report***

- Ms. Diamond shared that last month she took pictures of this committee and they have been posted on ACRC's website.
- In April, we agreed as a group to the following suggested holiday schedule – ten days total (Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, and Memorial Day). Since that meeting, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has decided to fight the decision that eliminated the 14 mandatory holidays. Here at ACRC, we will continue with the PAC's recommended holiday schedule until we are required to do otherwise. Any provider who provided direct billable services on Cesar Chavez Day may bill ACRC with appropriate documentation for those services.
  - Today, the federal court cancelled the upcoming hearing and will make a ruling without the need for comments.
- ACRC wants to thank those providers who joined our Client Advisory Committee (CAC) during their annual trip to Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) earlier this week.
- The May Revision should be released this morning. We will soon learn if Governor Brown reacts to the "10 for 10" campaign.
- Committee members would like to suggest that ACRC's website include a legislative section.
- Mr. Bonnet met with Sonya Bingaman, the SCDD Sacramento Office Manager, earlier this week and they have compiled ACRC's Self-Determination Advisory Committee. This group will meet for the first time next month.
  - Mr. Sanford shared that the Self-Determination Taskforce is meeting in the middle of June and is working on a video to introduce people to this new option.
  - DDS will be required to gather public input on the waiver before they resubmit it to the federal government.
  - All regional centers have to have their advisory committee in place by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**2. *ILS Policies & Procedures (SB 1093)***

- The revised Independent Living Services (ILS) Policy was distributed for review. The Board's Executive Committee adopted these changes earlier this week and it will be brought before the entire Board at the May 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- Suggestion to clarify the word "adult" – possibly change this to "18 years of age and older".
- Question about ACRC's "Living Options" Policy – should this be renamed "Supported Living Services (SLS)"?
- Members of the PAC would appreciate a list of which Community Specialists cover which service; a list of liaisons would be helpful.
  - Ms. Onesi shared that any questions can be directed to Betty Rider at (916) 978-6200.

### 3. **Updates:**

- CMS Rule
  - Mr. Sanford forwarded information on what the taskforce is working on to committee members earlier this month. The group is looking at how residential and day services may support the application of the CMS Rule.
    - Committee will review this information in greater detail at next month's meeting.
  - The goal is for everyone to fill out a self-assessment form. The criteria is that providers meet the rules or adapt.
    - The federal government will be sending random groups out to visit providers to see if they meet the criteria.
  - The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) has been silent on a lot of issues regarding service settings.
  - The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOU) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) should be completed by June 15<sup>th</sup>, but M. Sanford believes it may be done by December. One of the problems for employment is that Title 9 hasn't been updated since the 1990's.
- DS (Disability Services) Taskforce 2.0
  - The next meeting has been rescheduled to June 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (location to be determined). This will be a public meeting.
  - Sub-workgroups have been meeting every other month to discuss community vendor rates and regional center Operations.
  - A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, to help educate the community on the Self-Determination Program.

### 4. **Legislative Update**

- Breaking News – the Governor is calling for the closure of all three remaining developmental centers (DCs), with Sonoma being the first by 2018!

- Next week is “May Revise” week. Our message has to stay on point until Governor Brown has signed the final budget. The Governor and the legislature are still negotiating. The effort is still out there and the goal is to have the legislators that signed onto to Senator Beall’s letter to speak up for us. Hearings are scheduled for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Disability Capitol Action Day is also scheduled for Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
  - STEP is planning a moving rally at the State Capitol on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9 a.m.
- A whole series of bills, including several regarding housing and respite, need to get out of their “house of origin” in order to get through the legislature.
- The licensing of SLS went to a two-year bill.
- AB 662 (Bonilla) – Public accommodations: disabled adults: changing facilities. This bill is currently in appropriations on the Assembly side.
- Mr. Sanford believes we need to start preparing for the next minimum wage increase which goes into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, everyone who works in the State of California must earn three sick days.
  - It is important to note that the county or city can also increase the rate of pay for employees due to health and safety issues. The issue is – is it really health and safety? There is no mechanism that will effectively and efficiently make this happen. DDS has to approve all of these exceptions. The proposal was to put language in the bill to give DDS the authority to change wages.
- The ABLE Act bills are moving forward.

#### 5. ***Board Update***

- Ms. Brandon shared that the Board does not meet in April; the next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. They will also be holding a Board Training prior to their meeting regarding “Eligibility and Intake Process”.

#### 6. ***Announcements/Comments***

- Mr. Sanford recognized Donna Bettencourt, with INALLIANCE, who will be retiring soon. She has dedicated her life to working on behalf of people with developmental disabilities – 20 years building the services and 20 years keeping them going!
- Ms. Brandon encouraged everyone to fill out an application for a table at the Opportunity Fair 2015 as SDC on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Mr. Sanford shared that Daina Glasson is no longer a member of the PAC; she is now working with another provider. The committee

currently has three openings and the PAC Outreach Sub-Committee will be looking at recruitment soon.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, June 11, 2015**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet