Alta California Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, February 26, 2015 – 3:00 P.M.

2241 Harvard Street, Suite 100, Sacramento AGENDA



Call to Order



Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements



▶ Consent Agenda – These matters are expected to be routine and non-controversial and are usually approved by a single majority vote without discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately. Prior to approval of the consent agenda, the President will announce that comments or questions will be taken from members of the public, staff, or the Board on consent agenda items when the comment does not necessitate the item being removed for separate action. (5 minutes)

a. Excused Absences

b.	Regu	[Tab 1]	
c.	Com	mittee Reports (no action items)	-, -
	1.	Board Development	[Tab 2]
	2.	CAC	[Tab 3]
	3.	Executive	[Tab 4]
	4.	Finance	[Tab 5]
	5.	PAC	[Tab 6]



New Business

a. Community Comments/Announcements

(3 minute maximum)

▶ b. Finance Committee

(10 minutes)

1. Monthly Financial Report

[Tab 7]

▶ c. Committee Updates

(10 minutes)

- 1. Board Development Committee (BDC)
- 2. Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
- 3. Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)

a. Support for the "10 for 10"

- d. President's Report Modean Gibson, President (10 minutes)
- e. Executive Director's Report Phil Bonnet, Executive Director (20 minutes)

**for reference only **

f. Board Member Code of Conduct Policy [Tab 9]

[Tab 8]



Executive (CLOSED) Session

(per W&I Code, Sec. 4663(a)(1),(2),(3),(4),(5))

▶ a. Consent Agenda

(5 minutes)

- 1. Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes of 10/23/14
- 2. Closed Session Board Development Committee Meeting Minutes of 1/7/15 and 11/5/14
- b. Personnel Issues
- c. Legal Issues



Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion



Adjournment

Action item

Alta California Regional Center Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, January 22, 2015 Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Modean Gibson, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe (via phone), Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Jon Nelson, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez (via phone), Austin Taylor, Kristin Wright

Absent (* excused): Janet Brandon*, Walter Kaweski*, Edward T. Lewis*

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, David Rydquist, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

Visitors: Monique Avers, Shanna James, Sarah Kennedy, Sheryl Ledford, Janice Matranga, Jerry Matranga, Sabrina Nugent, Ed Plon

- Call to Order The Board of Directors met at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2015, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
- Introductions Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements All present introduced themselves. Ms. Armstrong read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.

*The PAC minutes from the November 13, 2014 were added to the consent agenda.

3. Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved: a) excused absence for Janet Brandon, Walter Kaweski and Edward T. Lewis; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of November 20, 2014; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, Finance, and PAC reports.

4. New Business

- Community Comments/Announcements
 - No comments were shared.
- Finance Committee

Issue 1: Independent Audit Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that ACRC's independent audit report is under Tab 7 in the Board packet.

A representative from Thompson Noble Company LLP attended the Finance Committee and shared that, in their opinion, the financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ACRC as of June 30, 2014.

If anyone has any questions, Mr. Tiedemann can be reached by phone or email.

> The independent audit report was accepted as submitted.

Issue 2: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on January 12th and reviewed the November 30, 2014 financial report which reflects five months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 42.2% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 42.7% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will need between \$21.7 and \$24.1 million in additional POS funding for this FY. Part of the deficit is due to the minimum wage increase; the department has funded us less than what it is costing us to implement. Also, there has been growth in several areas of service.

The DDS auditors will be here again next week. They will be auditing ACRC for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 FYs.

> The monthly finance report was accepted as submitted.

- ♦ Committee Updates
 - Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Peacock shared that the BDC continues to monitor the Board's demographic grid and is looking for a balance of clients and family members.
 - The community comments plan was altered to allow the Chair to recognize comments from members of the public prior to a vote on an action item.
 - Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Mr. Taylor wasn't able to attend the CAC meeting this month, but encourages everyone to refer to the minutes under Tab 3 of the Board packet.
 - Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Mr. Bonnet shared that the committee discussed the new Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) Rule. The federal

- government is pushing for more inclusive and choice driven services. Our providers are in support of this transition, but they understand that it will take years before the regional center system will need to come into compliance with this rule.
- The group also discussed the Disabilities Services Taskforce. Before they are able to put forward all of their suggestions, Diana Dooley has indicated that the rates will need to be increased.
- The committee is in support of the Lanterman Coalition's "Ten Things You Can Do", which was distributed for review. It is important for clients, families and providers to go out and speak with their local legislators so that they know who we are.

• President's Report

- Ms. Gibson shared that there were five calls to the Board hotline since the last meeting.
 - Two mothers called seeking assistance for their sons. The Intake Department is following up on these referrals.
 - A person called to assist a homeless individual staying at the Guest House. The Intake Department has requested more information on this referral.
 - A father called seeking information regarding his daughter.
 ACRC staff will be speaking with him.
 - A client called requesting a new Service Coordinator (SC).
 ACRC staff spoke with him regarding this matter.

• Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Bonnet shared that the Governor and his administration acknowledged that our system does not have enough money to pay our bills this FY. In his 2015-16 budget proposal, Governor Brown included \$150 to \$175 million for the current FY's POS. In years past, if our system didn't have enough money, regional centers would have to develop an expenditure plan.
- As mentioned earlier, the campaign throughout our service system is to obtain a 10% increase to provider rates and regional center operations. Last year the Lanterman Coalition asked for 18 different things and received one. This year, they are focusing on the "Ten for Ten".
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) will be holding their annual Grassroots Day at the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 15th. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Ms. West.
- Mr. Bonnet attended several meeting that Senator Steinberg held in an attempt to resolve the conflict between health plans,

- professionals and hospitals over the issue of payment for anesthesia for routine dental procedures. Another meeting is being held today and ACRC staff are in attendance. Mr. Bonnet will continue to keep the Board informed on this issue.
- On December 31, 2014, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) submitted California's application for a Self-Determination Waiver to the federal government. ACRC will be working with the Regional Office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (formerly known as Area Board 3) to present an informational conference for people in our community who are interested in knowing more about the details of this new program. This free conference will be held once the application is approved and more direction is given to regional centers.
- Federal District Judge Richard Leon made a ruling earlier this month that effectively overturns a decision by the Department of Labor that has changed the rules for in-home worker's pay. DDS had issued a plan to implement a 5.82% rate increase for service providers affected by this change, but has since rescinded the increase for now. Mr. Bonnet will continue to keep the Board informed as this issue goes through the legal process.
- There were two calls to the comment line since the last meeting.
 - A Nurse Case Manager at Kaiser Roseville called requesting information regarding our referral system. The Intake Department provided her with this information.
 - An individual called seeking assistance for her brother. ACRC staff is following up on this call.
- Mr. Bonnet, along with two other Northern California Regional Center Directors, attended a California Disability Services Association (CDSA) meeting yesterday. They were invited to attend and answer questions from the group about the Governor's budget, the "10 for 10" Campaign, the new CMS Rule, person-centered planning, selfdetermination and developmental centers.
- At the ARCA meeting last week, ARCA's Board of Directors voted to ask Governor Brown to begin planning for the closure of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) and Fairview DC in his final 2015-16 budget. SDC is currently under federal sanctions.
 - Mr. Bonnet will be suggesting to the CAC that they take their annual visit to SDC in May instead of the fall. Board members will be invited to join them.

ARCA Report

 Mr. Kaweski's report from the January 16th bi-monthly ARCA Board of Directors meeting was distributed for review. Ms. Gibson encouraged everyone to read it. Mr. Bonnet noted that he continues to raise concern regarding the inadequate rates for residential services across the state.

♦ ARCA-CAC Report

- Ms. Benson shared that the ARCA-CAC held an in-person meeting on January 9th, in Sacramento.
 - The group joined Diana Dooley's conference call, where she provided an overview of the Governor's proposed 2015-16 budget.
 - They were given an update on the Lanterman Coalition and learned things that they could do to work with their own legislators.
 - Each member gave a report on what is happening at their own regional center.
 - The State Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is working on the Self-Directed Services and Employment First.
- The next telephone meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 20th.
 The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 10th, in Sacramento.

Community Comments/Announcements

- · Ms. Lampe is going to Reno this weekend.
- Mr. Sanchez shared that he will be attending the Board meetings in person beginning next month.
- Ms. Benson shared that she has pictures of her artwork on her tablet if anyone would like to see them.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Lisa West

SisaWest

Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet

Alta California Regional Center Board Development Committee Meeting Wednesday, February 4, 2015 Minutes

Present:

Brendan Peacock, Chair
Jacqueline Armstrong
Janet Brandon
Romilda Jones
Amy Lampe
Edward T. Lewis
Rosa Meza-Villaseñor

Visitors:

Monique Avers

Absent: (* excused)
Modean Gibson*
Dan Lake*
Kristin Wright

Staff:

Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Facilitators:

Cheryl DeForest

The Board Development Committee (BDC) met on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at 4:02 p.m. in Cricket's Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to:

- 1) Review Demographic Grid & Determine Areas of Need; 2) Monitor Board Member Attendance; 3) Pledge & Code of Conduct Review; and
- 4) Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Brendan Peacock made the motion to adopt the Board Development Committee meeting minutes of January 7, 2015 as submitted.

1. Review Demographic Grid & Determine Areas of Need

Issue: Committee needs to determine the Board's areas of need.

Discussion and Action: The current "DDS Demographic Grid Summary" was distributed for review.

This form has not changed since the last meeting. Those in attendance noted that the subject of "Legal" is now reflected correctly on this document; Dan Lake has legal experience.

Information only.

2. Monitor Board Member Attendance

Issue: Committee needs to monitor Board member attendance.

Discussion and Action: The updated Board and committee attendance grids were distributed for review.

Mr. Peacock noted that three Board members were absent from the January Board meeting. It also appears that Mr. Sanchez is making an effort to attend meetings by phone.

Information only.

3. Pledge & Code of Conduct Review

Issue: Committee needs to review the Board member pledge and Code of Conduct Policy.

Discussion and Action: Copies of the "Board Member Pledge" and "Board Member Code of Conduct" Policy were distributed for review.

The committee read aloud this policy. Mr. Peacock shared that all Board members are here for the good of the clients and the agency.

Mr. Lewis suggested placing this policy in Board packets for every Board meeting, so that Board members can reference it at any time. Committee members are in agreement.

 The "Board Member Code of Conduct" Policy will be part of the packet at the monthly Board meetings.

4. Announcements

- Mr. Peacock reminded everyone that the Board is starting a new process in which Officers are nominated. The Board President will be assigning a Nominating Committee, who will draft a slate of Officers for the upcoming fiscal year (FY). This slate will be brought to this committee for review/revision, and then move to the Executive Committee for approval. The slate with then be mailed to Board members with the May Board packet.
 - This process is documented in the agency's current bylaws, which are posted on ACRC's website.

The next Board Development Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday**, **March 4**, **2015**, from 4 to 5 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Lisa West

Executive Secretary

Lisa West

cc: ACRC Board of Directors Phil Bonnet

Alta California Regional Center Client Advisory Committee Meeting Tuesday, February 10, 2015 Minutes

Present:

Zach Miller, Chair Austin Taylor, Desig. Dir.

Cindy Benson

Lisa Cooley (via phone)

Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Romilda Jones
Amy Lampe
Monique Lozano
Spencer McClay
Karen Miller
Robert Rogers
Steven Sanchez
Kimberly Terrell

Absent: (* excused)
Sheryl Ledford*

Facilitators:

Jana Chapman-Plon Amy Fulk Ed Plon Larry Prosser

Visitors:

Monique Avers Kerri Horyza Taeler Khan Jon Nelson Michele Shaw

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director David Lopez, Client Advocate Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:03 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Updates; and 3) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

M/S/C (Robert Rogers) To approve the CAC meeting minutes of January 13, 2015 as amended. (13 in favor)

1. Executive Director's Report

- As mentioned at the last meeting, Phil shared that the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Grassroots Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15th. If anyone is interested in attending this event, please contact Lisa W.
- Phil asked committee members to reach out to their local legislators and invite them to attend an upcoming CAC meeting.
- Santi Rogers is in the process of being officially confirmed as the Director
 of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). This committee is
 still interested in inviting him to attend one of our meetings.
 - Austin will be following up with his office.
- Phil would like to propose that this committee visit Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) on Tuesday, May 12th.
 - Zach provided a brief description of SDC to those present, and Phil shared that Alta has approximately 60 clients who reside there.



- Phil would like to gather suggestions as to how we can make our visit special to those clients who live there. He would like to make sure that many Alta clients living at SDC attend this meeting.
- Austin shared that prior to our annual visits, clients may not have had anyone coming to talk to them about life outside of the DC. Even if we reach out to five individuals, we are still making a difference!
- Phil shared that people beyond Alta are noticing what we are doing.
- A sub-committee (Zach, Kimberly, Michelle and Monique) will meet with Phil to help plan this trip.
- Alta will be teaming up with the Regional Advisory Committee,
 Sacramento, to present awards to community members this year. Phil would like to propose having the CAC judge the applications.
- Phil and Zach encourage those present to review the employment website that the committee received a presentation on last month.
 - You can access this website at www.worknow1.com.
- Phil reviewed the Lanterman Coalition's "Ten Thing You Can Do" with those present. He encouraged everyone to support the "10 for 10".

* Monique Lozano joined the meeting

2. Updates

Peer Advocacy Connection



- Amy shared that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11th, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Supported Life Institute.
- Regional Advisory Committee Sacramento
 - Robert shared that the group met on January 27th.
 - Effective January 1st, the Area Boards changed their names to Advisory Committees.
 - The group discussed the National Core Indicators (NCI).
 - There will be a Managed Care Presentation on February 26th at the Maidu Community Center in Roseville.
 - A meeting on the State Plan is scheduled for March 12th at Family Soup in Yuba City.
 - The website and bylaws will soon be updated.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The committee meets every other month.

ARCA-CAC

 Cindy shared that the next telephone meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 20th. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 10th, in Sacramento.

Alta Board

- Austin shared that the Alta Board of Directors met on January 22nd.
 - Phil provided a budget update and encouraged those present to participate in ARCA's Grassroots Day.
 - o The group discussed continuing dental issues for our clients.
 - The Self-Determination Waiver was submitted to the federal government on December 31st. The department needs to give regional centers more information about what this option holds for our clients.
 - The federal judge ruled against the 5.82% rate increase for Supported Living and Respite vendors.
 - ARCA may be asking the Governor to amend the proposed 2015-16 budget to include the closure of SDC and Fairview DC.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26th, at 3 p.m.

3. Public Comments/Announcement

 Robert announced that the Marysville and Yuba/Sutter People First Chapters will be joining.



- Steven shared that the Roseville Metro People First Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Round Table Pizza on Foothills Blvd.
- David formally introduced Kerri, Alta's new intern. During ACRC U, David mentioned to her that the CAC was a great, interactive group and he appreciates her interest in this group!
- Kerri appreciates the advocacy that she has seen here today all your efforts are not taken for granted by the clients out in the community!
- Taeler is amazed with this group it is like we all are friends!

The next CAC meeting will be held on **Tuesday**, **March 10**, **2015**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Lisa West

Lisa West

Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors Phil Bonnet

Alta California Regional Center Executive Committee Meeting Monday, February 9, 2015 Minutes

Present:

Modean Gibson, President Brendan Peacock, Vice President Anwar Safvi, Finance Comm. Chair Walter Kaweski, ARCA Rep

Absent: (* excused)

Cindy Benson*, Secretary & ARCA-CAC Rep.

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Board members:

Nasim Hedayati Jon Nelson Steven Sanchez (via phone)

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director Peter Tiedemann, Chief Operating Officer Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met at 3:13 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) State Budget Update; 2) Board Development Committee Update; 3) President's Comments; 4) Executive Director's Comments; and 5) Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

1. State Budget Update

Issue: The committee needs to review the Governor's State Budget.

Discussion and Action: Mr. Bonnet shared that the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Grassroots Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15th. As in years past, ACRC will be sending a large delegation to the State Capitol to help educate our legislators about what regional centers are all about.

The Lanterman Coalition's "10 for 10" will be part of this year's campaign. Including regional center's Operations (OPS) budgets in this push is critical. Recruitment, as well as competing with state jobs, is becoming an issue for our center and others.

Mr. Bonnet attended the confirmation hearing of Santi Rogers last Tuesday. He was unanimously passed on to the full Senate for confirmation. During his questioning, Mr. Rogers was asked about the developmental centers and there was no announcement of any more closures. The other part of the discussion was about the Purchase of Services (POS) variance. Questions were asked as to why you cannot get the same specific services across the state. Regional centers would like the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to analyze this data.

ACRC plans on holding two POS Variance Meetings; one at ACRC's Harvard office on Monday, March 16th, and one in South Sacramento on Wednesday, March 18th.

ARCA has prepared a "white paper" entitled "On the Brink of Collapse – the Consequences of Underfunding California's Developmental Services System". Although Mr. Bonnet remains concerned about provider rates across the state, it's important to note that California has an entitlement to services, where many states have waiting lists.

Information only.

Without objection, Modean Gibson made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of January 12, 2015 as presented.

2. Board Development Committee (BDC) Update

- Mr. Peacock shared that the BDC continues to monitor the Board's demographic grid and determine our areas of need.
- The committee reviewed ACRC's Code of Conduct Policy, which will be included in the monthly Board packets as an informational item.

3. President's Comments

- Ms. Gibson expressed appreciation for all of the work that the committees accomplish.
- She read aloud a thank you note from the family that the Board adopted during the holidays.
- With the bylaw change that was approved last year, Ms. Gibson, as Board President, will be choosing three members to form the Nominating Committee. This group will be drafting a slate of Board Officers that will be mailed out to everyone in May for the June elections.

4. Executive Director's Comments

- So far this calendar year, ACRC has received seven Fair Hearing (FH) requests; one regarding eligibility and six regarding services. No cases have been decided by the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH).
- Consistently, the calls that come into the Board Hotline are case management related. Mr. Bonnet would like to propose a way for the public to contact the Board, when needed, through our new website.
 - Committee members are in agreement.
- ACRC's Client Advisory Committee (CAC) has made a commitment to visit Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) on a yearly basis. When this committee meets tomorrow, Mr. Bonnet will be proposing Tuesday, May 12th, as the day that a group from this agency goes to visit the clients who reside there.

5. Announcements

Mr. Kaweski shared that he is a member of ARCA's Equity Committee. This
group is in the process of finding a research agency that will assist in finding out
why we are not getting individuals signed up for services. They are also looking

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 2/9/15

for solutions. He will continue to bring information to this Board. If you have any information that you would like him to share with this group, please let him know.

The next Executive Committee meetings are scheduled on **Monday, March 9**, **2015**, at 3:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Lisa West

Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors Phil Bonnet

Alta California Regional Center Finance Committee Meeting Monday, February 9, 2015 Minutes

Present:

Anwar Safvi, Chair Modean Gibson Nasim Hedayati Walter Kaweski Jon Nelson Brendan Peacock Steven Sanchez (via phone) Absent: (* excused)
Cindy Benson*
Austin Taylor

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director Peter Tiedemann, Chief Operating Officer Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Facilitator:

Amy Fulk

The Finance Committee met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Monthly Financial Report; and 2) Contract of \$250,000 and above. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to adopt the Finance Committee meeting minutes of January 12, 2015 as submitted.

1. Monthly Financial Report

Issue: The monthly financial report is reviewed by the Finance Committee prior to presentation to the Board.

Discussion and Action: Mr. Tiedemann distributed the December 31, 2014 financial report which reflects six month of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 50.5% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 50.7% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will need between \$19.5 and \$21.4 million in additional POS funding this FY. This amount has decreased slightly from last month's projections due to the elimination of the 5.82% rate increase for Supported Living and Respite vendors. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will be adjusting regional center's budget due to the recent federal ruling overturning this rate increase.

ACRC's POS expenditures are up by over \$7 million for the first six months of the current FY, as compared to the same period over the prior FY, due to growth in the number of clients served in many programs, as well as the cost of the minimum wage increase that impacted some vendors.

The Governor's proposed 2015-16 budget includes \$110 million in additional funding for the current FY. The department is hopeful that the money will be forthcoming, but the legislature is beginning to question why the POS expenditures are growing across the state. DDS has additional funding that they have not yet allocated. The next contract allocation will only include funds that were approved in the current year's budget.

ACRC has no immediate cash flow issues at this time.

Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to accept the monthly financial statement as submitted.

2. Contract of \$250,000 and above

No contracts to approve.

*A joint presentation by staff regarding the State Budget Update before the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee will commence at 3:30 p.m.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled on **Monday, March 9, 2015,** at 3 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Lisa West

Xisa West

Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors Phil Bonnet

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

Present:

Will Sanford, Futures Explored, Chair Janet Brandon, AIM & Associates, Co-Chair Becky Brubaker, EGACT Eric Ciampa, UCP of Greater Sacramento, Inc. Gerrit deGelleke, American River Speech Ed Doonan, LIFE, Inc. Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting, Michelle Ramirez, On My Own Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills Manor Robin Rhoades, Southside Art Center Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare Services Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver Relief Yvonne Soto, DDSO Carole Watilo, Progressive **Employment**

Absent: (* excused)

Gregory Buch*, Ph.D., PALS
Jacquie Dillard-Foss*, STEP
Eleni Gialoyrakes*, Capital Social
Services
Daina Glasson*, California Mentor
Susan Miner*, Turning Point
Dawn Montgomery*, HOPE
Consulting
Michelle Payne*, RCCA Services
Paul Traglio*, Capitol Autism
Services

Jill Bonetti, Opportunity Acres

Visitors:

Donna Bettencourt Andrea Croom Bonnie Douglas Adriene Gaudet Cynthia Guildord Jennifer Gutierrez Ron Mainini Jan Matranga Jerry Matranga Vanessa Moore Fred Patawaran Lou Patawaran Agnes Ranit Richard Royse Nicky Schluep Joan Schmidt Sam Seaton Peter Stirling Sean Stone

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Darline Dupree, Manager of
Community Services
Jean Onesi, Manager of
Community Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:32 a.m. on Thursday, February 12, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Executive Director Comments; 2) Updates; 3) Legislative Update; 4) Board Update; and 5) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

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

1. Executive Director Comments

- Santi Rogers' confirmation hearings are beginning and Mr. Bonnet attended one last week. Mr. Rogers was unanimously moved on to the full Senate for final confirmation. During the hearing, the legislators asked pointed questions about Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). It is very clear that the legislators are ready for a change. Other questions centered on the Purchase of Services (POS) variances across the state.
 - Mr. Sanford will provide committee members with the link to this hearing: http://www.calchannel.com/recent-archive/
- ACRC will be holding two POS Variance Meetings to review ACRC's data with the community. The first meeting will be held on Monday, March 16th, here at ACRC's Sacramento office, and the second will be held on Wednesday, March 18th, at the Serna Center in South Sacramento. More information will be posted on the agency's website.
 - Mr. Bonnet noted that the data is not analyzed; the National Core Indicators (NCI) data might be more reflective of the satisfaction with services that clients receive across the state.
- ACRC's Client Advisory Committee (CAC) has visited SDC for the last two years and is committed to making the yearly trip until no more ACRC clients reside there. They will be visiting again on Tuesday, May 12th. A sub-group of the CAC will be meeting to work out a strategy on how to get more clients who reside there to attend this meeting. If you are interested in participating, please let Ms. West know.
- Mr. Bonnet shared that court ordered Supported Living Services (SLS) is becoming a potential issue at ACRC. Judges are considering this service an option, as opposed to jail, because it is flexible. Those present expressed concern because SLS is less regulated. Mr. Bonnet would like to develop a new type of service for these clients. Assuming that these individuals would qualify for Community Placement Plan deflection funding, the program design would have a new philosophy attached to it.

- Suggestion to have the "Challenging Support Needs" subcommittee meet again before the PAC's April meeting. John Decker and Darline Dupree will be invited to attend this discussion.
- SB 1093 (Liu) Developmental services: regional centers: culturally and linguistically competent services. This bill would allow clients to receive Independent Living Skills (ILS) services regardless of where they live.
 - Ms. Dupree shared that ACRC has updated their ILS Procedures and is in the process of working on the ILS Policies. She will discuss them with this committee at the April meeting.

2. Updates:

- CMS Rule
 - The state has submitted a transition plan and has not heard back from the federal government yet. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is setting up an advisory group and will be holding stakeholder meetings.
 - A group will be meeting in March to talk about the settings rule. We have four years to get individuals in integrated employment and community settings so that California is aligned with the federal guidelines.
- · DS (Disability Services) Taskforce 2.0
 - California's Health & Human Services Agency is holding a taskforce meeting.
 - Sub-workgroups are meeting every other month (Discussing Community Vendor Rates and Regional Center Operations). These meetings are not public but information is posted on their website.
 - The Lanterman Coalition has developed a "10 for 10" that agencies across the state are asking for – this is the main message across the State.
 - The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) is also calling for a plan to close Fairview and Sonoma DCs.
 - Mr. Bonnet shared that SDC will be finding out soon if their recertification is approved or not.
 - With the passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) has been holding a series of conference calls to help others understand.
 - DRC has worked with the Department of Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Rehabilitation and the Department of Education to develop a memorandum of understanding (MOU).

They have agreed that by June 15th, they will submit a blue print on how to increase integrated employment across the state.

3. Legislative Update

- Two federal pieces of legislation that may be of interest:
 - HR 3717 would restrict Disability Rights California's (DRC's) ability to take action on behalf of individuals with mental health issues.
 - TIME (Transitioning to Integrated Meaningful Employment) targets the phasing out of the use of the 14-C certificate, but doesn't propose an alternative way to get our clients to achieve integrated competitive employment.
- There is concern that without thoughtful planning the elimination of the 14-C legislation could significantly increase the unemployment of our folks.
- Legislators need to submit bills by Friday, February 27th. A bill is being written that will require adult changing areas for large facilities. There are also more employment bills this year.

4. Board Update

 Ms. Brandon shared that the Board will take action on the PAC's suggestion to support the Lanterman Coalition's "10 for 10" at the next Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 26th, at 3 p.m.

5. Announcements/Comments

- Mr. Sanford shared that on our next meeting date, March 12th, the Senate Budget Sub-Committee is holding a hearing at the State Capitol beginning at 9:30 a.m. Committee members are encouraged to meet in Room 4203 and testify; we will not be holding a PAC meeting that day. The Assembly Budget Sub-Committee is holding their hearing on Wednesday, March 4th, at 1:30 p.m.
- Providers are encouraged to write letters of support for the "10 for 10". The Lanterman Coalition should receive them by February 17th.
 - The Lanterman Coalition has lists on their website on what people can do to support the "10 for 10".
- Mr. Sanford encouraged members to visit their local legislators and help educate them about our statewide service system. Getting Governor Brown involved in this issue is also critical.

^{*} Mission Analytics gave a presentation to the PAC about DDS' SafetyNet at 10:30 a.m.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, April 9, 2015,** from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Lisa West

Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors Phil Bonnet

Alta California Regional Center FY 2014-2015 December 31, 2014

Percent of Year Elapsed:	50.0%
Percent of POS Expended	50.5%
Percent of OPS Expended	50.7%

Purchase of Services (POS)	Current Month	Year-to- Date						
Out of Home	\$5,402,292	\$31,515,048						
Day Programs	\$4,970,604	\$32,550,141						
Transportation	\$2,249,137	\$12,749,874						
Respite	\$1,020,783	\$6,638,388						
Behavior Intervention	\$942,877	\$5,997,921						
Community Integration Training	\$1,832,853	\$11,060,886	Projected	Projected				
Supported Living Services	\$3,765,675	\$22,381,929	Expenditures	Expenditures	Actual YTD +	Actual YTD +	Surplus	Surplus
Other Services	\$2,005,672	\$11,889,231	Jan-Jun	Jan-Jun	Projected	Projected	(Unallocated)	(Unallocated)
Less ICF/SPA Expenses	(\$365,321)	(\$2,055,298)	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Total POS	\$21,824,571	\$132,728,120	\$148,490,840	\$150,370,545	\$281,218,960	\$283,098,665	(\$19,579,165)	(\$21,458,870)
Comm. Placement Plan (CPP)	\$14,989	\$73,862	\$1,319,198	\$1,319,198	\$1,393,060	\$1,393,060	\$41,495	\$41,495
Total POS & CPP	\$21,839,560	\$132,801,981	\$149,810,039	\$151,689,744	\$282,612,020	\$284,491,725		

Operations (OPS)		Current		Year-to- Date	Projected Expenditures	Actual + Projected	
Salary & Benefits		\$2,531,058	- 1	\$15,671,272	\$15,438,081	\$31,109,353	
Equipment		\$7,384		\$61,148	\$256,084	\$317,231	
Facility Rent and Maintenance		\$185,214		\$1,274,601	\$789,384	\$2,063,985	
Communication		\$40,448		\$185,180	\$266,330	\$451,510	
Insurance		\$17,969		\$184,693	\$32,826	\$217,519	
Information Technology		\$4,025		\$230,150	\$58,803	\$288,953	
Legal Fees		\$13,407		\$67,537	\$181,192	\$248,729	
Board Expenses		\$853		\$6,493	\$4,194	\$10,686	
Accounting Fees		\$0		\$0	\$59,387	\$59,387	
Consultants		\$19,268		\$83,323	\$90,452	\$173,775	
Staff Mileage		\$43,920		\$286,179	\$248,399	\$534,578	
Arca Dues		\$0		(\$1,905)	\$87,721	\$85,816	
General Expenses		\$14,566		\$107,194	\$174,863	\$282,057	
Other Income		\$0		(\$150)	\$150	\$0	
Interest Income		(\$5,956)	_	(\$29,210)	(\$59,264)	(\$88,474)	
Total OPS	\$	2,872,156	\$	18,126,504	\$17,628,602	\$35,755,106	
Grand Total	5	24,711,715	\$	150,928,485			

Budget/Allocation Deta	iil:	OPS	POS	CPP	Total
Preliminary Allocation	6/9/14	\$27,749,787	\$224,438,786		\$252,188,573
1st amendment	8/26/14	\$7,931,830	\$37,201,009	\$1,289,858	\$46,422,697
2nd amendment	12/4/14	\$73,489		\$144,697	\$218,186
3rd amendment					\$0
4th amendment					\$0
5th amendment					\$0
6th amendment					\$0
Total Allocation		\$35,755,106	\$261,639,795	\$1,434,555	\$298,829,456

Notes:

This report represents 6 months of the 2014-15 fiscal year. POS expenditures for the first six months of the fiscal year were \$132.8 million or 50.5% of the budget while Operations were \$18.1 million or 50.5% of the budget. Operations includes advance payments of some expenses such as insurance, rent and employee benefits. We are projecting a deficit of between \$19.5 and \$21.4 million for Purchase of Services. The amount of the deficit has decreased from the prior month. However, the majority of the decrease is due to the elimination of the 5.82% rate increase for Supported Living and Respite vendors due to a federal ruling. It is possible that the POS deficit will decrease more as the year progresses. However, POS expenditures are up by over \$7 million for the first six months of the current fiscal year as compared to the same period over the prior fiscal year. This is due to growth in the number of clients served in many programs as well as the cost of the minimum wage increase that impacted some vendors.



Ten Things You Can Do (Individuals)

The Lanterman Coalition, made up of the 21 major stakeholders in California's community-based developmental service system, is uniting around a single critical goal. Years of underfunding, cuts, rate freezes, old funding formulas, and inflation have hurt service providers and regional centers' ability to ensure people with developmental disabilities and their families get the services and supports they need. To fix this, our system needs a 10% across-the-board funding increase now, and 5% increases yearly, until funding for provider rates and regional center services is reformed.

Your advocacy matters! Our system is facing a monumental challenge. It's big, it's complicated, and there are a lot of moving parts. But we have to start somewhere, and a 10% budget increase for our system is the first step the Lanterman Coalition is rallying around. To make that – and comprehensive reform – happen, we need you to stand up for people with developmental disabilities, their families, service providers, and regional centers. The system that supports people to live in communities of their choosing needs you. Every voice throws light on a part of this common problem we are facing, and we need you to let your light shine!

1) Connect with your Legislator

Unless you know who represents you, they won't know they represent you! Look them up online, and you can learn the names of your Senator and Assemblymember. Once you know who to contact, do so! Send an email, write a letter, or make a call. Tell them what matters to you – in this case, supporting the Lanterman Coalition's budget reform request. If you're on Twitter or Facebook, consider sharing your message with your representatives directly! Respectful but honest tweets or Facebook posts can provide great ways to help your voice be heard.

2) Ask your Legislator to sign on in support of Senator Beall's funding request

Looking for a specific request that can help identify supporters of this reform effort? Senator Beall has <u>authored a letter to Governor Brown</u> asking him to make developmental services funding a priority. He has also released a letter of support for other legislators to sign on to. Ask your Legislator, whenever you contact them, to talk to Senator Beall about his letter, and sign <u>this letter of support!</u>

3) Meet your Legislator at their district office

How much more of an impact does it make when you meet someone in person? A lot more! This can change you from a statistic into a real person with real stories. Yes, letters count... but this type of meeting can make a lifelong impression. Contact their office and tell them you'd like to meet with the Legislator. When you get a meeting set, three things will help it be a success: know what you want to talk about (supporting the 10% budget increase and talking to Senator Beall about his leadership in developmental services), be respectful (of them and their time), and follow up with a thank you.

4) Participate in a Legislator-sponsored event

Legislators – and candidates – will often have public meetings. "Office hours" at a local coffee shop, town halls, meet-the-candidate forums, and other events are all great places to meet with the people who represent you, and tell them about why Lanterman Act services and supports matter to you. Find out about these events by signing up for their mailing lists, following them on Twitter, or "liking" them on Facebook.

5) Invite them to meet you - have a site visit!

If you are looking for the one way to have the biggest impact, a site visit is it. You'll get to meet your legislator, talk to them about what our system needs, and <u>show</u> them how Lanterman Act services and supports help people live fuller, more independent lives. This takes a bit more work, but it builds on everything above, and starts with contacting their office to extend an invitation.

6) Tell the press

Letters to the editor may seem old-fashioned, but they have an impact, and can be done online. By sharing your views with the community, they will start to learn — and care — about your issues. People with developmental disabilities are family, friends, coworkers, us — and we are all part of a community. Let your community know why and how a 10% increase for developmental services will have a real effect on you!

7) Contact local journalists

You've written in – but are you talking with the local media? Contacting local media outlets, particularly if there is a story coming up, can be a great way for your stories and lives to be shared with the public. Our issues regularly connect to timely, relevant news stories. When journalists know you, they can talk to you. And when they do, your story can become part of the bigger picture – or if may just become a story of its own!

8) Tell your friends and family

Can you tell ten of your friends, family members, or even neighbors about this effort, and ask them to join in? This message isn't just about you, it's about all of us. Something as simple as directly, politely asking someone for their help can have a profound impact.

9) Keep your network informed

Does social media have a place in your life? Share your story, and tell about this campaign, online! Facebook posts, tweets, and even Tumblr or other blog platforms can be a great way to spread the word. A list of Lanterman Coalition members with active Twitter accounts is at the bottom; you can start by connecting with them!

10) Keep yourself - and the community - informed!

Go to www.lantermancoalition.org to get the latest news. Also, while this is a grassroots push, your feedback will help us all. Have any questions? Get a Legislator to sign this letter of support for Senator Beall's Budget request? Learn that they have a family member with a developmental disability? Told directly that this isn't their priority? Sharing the intel will let us ensure everyone – including you – can make best use of their time and talents! Please go to www.lantermancoalition.org/contact and drop us a line!

The advocacy of individuals and families like you is how our system was created. And with that same advocacy, it can be renewed!

Links

Legislator Finder – www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.html Senator Beall's Budget Request – www.arcanet.org/docs/Local-Advocacy-Beall-Request.pdf Support Letter – www.arcanet.org/docs/Local-Advocacy-Beall-Support-Letter.pdf



Ten Things You Can Do (Groups and Organizations)

The Lanterman Coalition, made up of the 21 major stakeholders in California's community-based developmental service system, is uniting around a single critical goal. Years of underfunding, cuts, rate freezes, old funding formulas, and inflation have hurt service providers and regional centers' ability to ensure people with developmental disabilities and their families get the services and supports they need. To fix this, our system needs a 10% across-the-board funding increase now, and 5% increases yearly, until funding for provider rates and regional center services is reformed.

Your advocacy matters! Our system is facing a monumental challenge. It's big, it's complicated, and there are a lot of moving parts. But we have to start somewhere, and a 10% budget increase for our system is the first step the Lanterman Coalition is rallying around. To make that – and comprehensive reform – happen, we need you to stand up for people with developmental disabilities, their families, service providers, and regional centers. The system that supports people to live in communities of their choosing needs you. Every voice throws light on a part of this common problem we are facing, and we need you to let your light shine!

1) Collaborate!

Step one is reaching out to others. What groups or organizations are you a part of, or work with? It can be a service provider, an advocacy organization, a civic organization (Rotary?), or any other group that might be interested. Think big! Anybody that might care about with developmental disabilities will be worth contacting. This historic effort must be bigger than just our small communities — it's about the whole community! The simple question "do you want to work together?" may get you some surprising results.

2) Get in touch with your Legislator

While each person in the state is represented by one Senator and one Assemblymember, your actual facility may be in another location. Both count! Reach out to your representatives by phone, by letter, even on Twitter and Facebook, and ask them to support a 10% rate increase, coupled with long-term funding reform.

3) Meet your Legislator

If you've been able to collaborate and draw together a group of like-minded folks, you are in a great spot to make a huge impact in person. After getting in touch with your Legislator, make a group visit to their district office. All politics is local, and when they can put faces to the stories they hear, it makes a powerful memory.

4) Organize a site visit

Once you know who to contact, reach out to them and extend an invitation to see the services you provide. Legislators from around the state need to hear — and see — how budget cuts have hurt people with developmental disabilities, their families, and the dedicated providers who are a key component of our state's system of service.

5) Stay in touch

Are you following your Legislators online? Nearly every Legislator has a mailing list, many have Twitter accounts, and quite a few have Facebook accounts. If you can send even one tweet, or make one Facebook post, do it! Share in honest, respectful terms why our system matters, and urge them to support it.

6) Ask your Legislator to sign on in support of Senator Beall's funding request

Looking for a specific request that can help identify supporters of this reform effort? Senator Beall has <u>authored a letter to Governor Brown</u> asking him to make developmental services funding a priority. He has also released a letter of support for other legislators to sign on to. Ask your Legislator, whenever you contact them, to talk to Senator Beall about his letter, and sign this letter of support!

7) Organize a town hall

If your group has already met with your Legislator, and have developed a rapport with them, you may want to consider organizing a town hall. This isn't a small task, and takes a lot of work – but done right, it can have a <u>huge</u> impact.

8) Meet other local officials

You may know your Senator and Assemblymember well, but the represent the <u>entire</u> community. This creates an excellent opportunity for you — reach out to other officials! City Council members, mayors, County supervisors, and fire and police chiefs are all important leaders in the community, and they should know about the people they serve. In the same way you build relationships with state Legislators, create bonds with local officials. This will help today, and it can help tomorrow. After all, a former member of the Los Angeles Community College Board of Trustees is now Governor.

9) Issue a press release

If your group has any press contacts, there are key times during the year when a press release can help shape, or even generate, coverage in the news. If you're not already on a mailing list that discusses things like the state budget, or other key legislative events, sign up today! Letting the media know about things that matter to you — as a group of groups — can bring our system's need for funding reform to the attention of local Legislators in a unique and powerful way.

10) Attend a hearing

If you can get to Sacramento, there are a few key hearings every year at the Capitol that focus on the whole developmental services system. If your organization can attend, there is always time for public comment, and time for you to share your story.

P.S. Please keep in touch, and let us know how it went! Go to www.lantermancoalition.org to get the latest news. Also, while this is a grassroots push, your feedback will help us all. Have any questions? Get a Legislator to sign this letter of support for Senator Beall's Budget request? Learn that they have a family member with a developmental disability? Told directly that this isn't their priority? Sharing the intel will let us ensure everyone – including you – can make best use of their time and talents! Please go to www.lantermancoalition.org/contact and drop us a line, or email info@lantermancoalition.org!

Links

Senator Beall's Budget Request – www.arcanet.org/docs/Local-Advocacy-Beall-Request.pdf Support Letter – www.arcanet.org/docs/Local-Advocacy-Beall-Support-Letter.pdf

Alta California Regional Center Board of Directors

BOARD POLICY

Board Member Code of Conduct

1. Definition:

This Code of Conduct is a general guide by which Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) Directors shall fulfill their duties as members of the Corporation's Board.

2. Pledge:

As A Board Member, I Pledge . . .

To Treat Each Member As An Equal, Respecting Their Opinions, Personality, Culture, Diversity And Experience. I Will Listen To All Comments, Questions And Opinions With An Open Mind. I Will Maintain A High Level Of Confidentiality And Will Concentrate On The Issues At Hand.

I Will Place Service Above Self, Focusing On My Charge As A Board Member To Implement The Vision And Mission Of The Regional Center To Provide Quality Supports And Services To Our Consumers.

As A Board, We Agree To Speak With One Voice, Instilling Honesty, Integrity, Openness, Commitment And Dedication To Duty In Each Member. We Will Come To The Board With A Positive Attitude And Create A Safe Haven For Open Discussion.

As A Board, We Will Continue To Strive For Excellence, Mentoring Each Other And Becoming An Active Partner In The Alta California Regional Center Community.

3. Code of Conduct:

Directors have a duty to be trustworthy and to work together to advance ACRC's mission: to serve the needs of all ACRC consumers and their families.

Directors must observe the Board's purpose as a policy-making and oversight body, and must distinguish the Board's purpose from the administrative and operational purposes served by ACRC management and staff.

Directors must act through the Board in order to conduct Board-related business, taking care not to speak for the Board or ACRC. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any Board members and ACRC except as procedurally controlled to assure openness, competitive opportunity, and equal access to "inside" information.

Directors must not promote or act to represent specific consumers or categories of developmental disabilities without due regard for the collective interests of all consumers served by ACRC and their families.

Although a Director must develop informed opinions and appropriately express those opinions, a Director must at all times serve ACRC and must not act against the interests of ACRC or against Board policy, regardless of the Director's personal views or opinions about those policies.

Directors must observe and maintain ACRC's confidentiality requirements, including matters designated confidential by the Board or its Executive Director, or as otherwise required by law.

Directors must become informed about and resolve all conflicts between their own interests and those of ACRC, its Board, and its consumers and families.

The Board expects of itself and its members ethical and professional conduct. This commitment includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum in group and individual behavior when acting as a Board member of ACRC.

- Board members represent the interests of the membership. This
 accountability supersedes any conflicting loyalty such as that to advocacy
 or interest groups and membership on other Board or staffs. This
 accountability supersedes the personal interests of any Board member
 acting as an individual consumer of the agency's services.
- Board members must avoid any conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibility.
- Board members must not use their positions to obtain for themselves, family members, or close associates, employment within ACRC.
- Should a Board member be considered for employment by ACRC, he/she must temporarily withdraw from Board deliberations, voting, and access to applicable Board information.

Board members and members-at-large may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the regional center or staff except as explicitly set forth in Board policies.

This Policy will be enforced in accordance with the ACRC bylaws.

Adopted: 5/20/99 Revised: 2/21/02 Reviewed: 11/7/02 Adopted: 11/17/11