

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2016
Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Janet Brandon, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Austin Taylor, Rita Walker

Absent (* excused): Walter Kaweski*, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor*, Steven Sanchez*, Kristin Wright*

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, Camelia Houston, David Lopez, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

Visitors: Bonnie Douglas, Janelle Lewis, Liz Mard, Ed Plon, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, July 28, 2016, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Dr. Hedayati read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements. Mr. Peacock read aloud ACRC's Board Member Pledge.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved: a) excused absence for Walter Kaweski, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Steven Sanchez and Kristin Wright; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of June 23, 2016; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive and PAC reports.**
4. **New Business**
 - ◆ *Community Comments*
 - Ms. Lewis, a family member who lives in Placer County, shared that she has heard that families and clients are being issued Notices of Action (NOAs), and that vendorizations are sometimes taking a year to be completed; services are delayed.
 - ◆ *Executive Committee*

Issue 1: Transparency and Public Information Policy

Discussion and Action: A minor change to this policy was reviewed at the Executive Committee meeting earlier this month. Mr. Bonnet will be seeking approval of this change at the September Board meeting.

Mr. Tiedemann shared that regional centers are required to have a *Transparency and Public Information Policy*. ACRC recently received a request for copies of all client contracts, which was not the intent of the policy. This policy is in regards to Request for Proposals (RFPs) only.

- **Information only.**

Issue 2: ACRC Vendor Holiday Schedule for 2016-17 FY

Discussion and Action: Ms. Brandon shared that the Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) reviewed the proposed vendor holiday schedule and requested that the Christmas Holiday be moved to Monday, December 26th. It is standard that if the holiday falls on Saturday, then it is observed on Friday, and if the holiday falls on Sunday, then it is observed on Monday.

Service providers can choose to observe a different holiday schedule but they must submit their holiday schedule to ACRC's Community Services and Supports Department.

M/S/C (Cindy Benson) **To approve the ACRC Vendor Holiday Schedule for 2016-17 FY as presented.** (11 in favor)

◆ *Finance Committee*

Issue 1: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee did not meet this month. Mr. Tiedemann distributed the May 31, 2016 financial report which reflects eleven months of expenditures for the 2015-16 fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 83.7% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 88.9% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will have between \$7.5 and \$8.2 million in reserve POS funding the 2015-16 FY. 18 out of the 21 regional centers are projecting a surplus at this time. The POS surplus is primarily due to the actual increase in minimum wage for service providers being much less than originally projected. We anticipate that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will disencumber some of the POS funds to assist other regional centers that are projecting a deficit.

- **The monthly finance report was accepted as submitted.**

Issue 2: Rate Increases

Discussion and Action: Mr. Tiedemann distributed an "ABX2 1 Service Provider Reimbursement Rate Increases Effective July 1, 2016" list for review.

ACRC has been in the process of getting all of these rates into place. Service providers will begin billing at the new rates at the end of this month.

- **Information only.**

- ◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on July 11th.
 - The group discussed the upcoming September Board Retreat. Board members will have the option of attending a dinner the night before the all-day training; they can also spend the night.
 - The demographics and attendance have not changed.
 - A new workgroup was established to review the agency's bylaws.
 - The goals for the BDC for the 2016-17 FY include:
 - Board communication
 - Transparency
 - Recruitment and Training
 - Developing a new evaluation for the Executive Director
 - The recruitment workgroup is developing a screening tool to be used once a Board application is received.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Mr. Taylor shared that the CAC met on July 12th.
 - The group took time to review the CAC's Purpose and Rules. As Chair, Mr. Taylor will be reviewing committee member's attendance.
 - They received a presentation from the Abuse Prevention Project. Mark Starford, with the Board Resource Center, and Kecia Weller, a self-advocate, asked for feedback from a client's perspective. They will be gathering information from other regional center's CACs.
 - Mr. Bonnet spoke to the group about **LA50** and asked for volunteers to help plan the celebration.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Ms. Brandon shared that the PAC met on July 14th.
 - The group discussed the proposed vendor holiday schedule which was approved early today.

- One member resigned, and another member asked that one of her co-workers replace her on the PAC.
 - Bonnie Douglas, with Turning Point, provided a brief description of her role at Transitional Support Services (TSS). TSS provides wrap-around services for adults living with co-occurring psychiatric disorders and developmental disabilities. They have two offices in ACRC's catchment area.

The PAC will be asking for the Board to approve Ms. Douglas' committee membership in September.

◆ *President's Report*

- Mr. Peacock recognized Nasim Hedayati for her past year of service to ACRC's Board of Directors and the community.
- He encouraged Board members to attend the upcoming September Retreat, scheduled for Thursday, September 22nd, in Grass Valley.

◆ *Executive Director's Report*

- At the end of June, ACRC held the first of a series of service provider trainings about the new expectations regarding inclusive settings for services provided to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by the federal government through the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS). This training focused on day programs and employment providers. The new rule is a huge change for our service system. The training was videotaped and will be available to all interested agencies.
- The "ACRC Dashboard Indicators for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2016" were distributed for review. What is noteworthy is that our total caseload is now approaching 22,000 and has grown by more than 1300 individuals in the past 12 months. We are in the process of hiring new Service Coordinators (SCs) and establishing new units to cover the caseloads. Mr. Bonnet believes that it's important to note that no regional center in the State of California has met the mandated caseload ratios. The new money that is coming into our statewide system will help.
- Mr. Bonnet remains concerned about the shortage of quality residential options for the clients that we serve. The great news is that the rates are higher now, especially with those that are willing to serve four or fewer residents. ACRC has received some private donations that Mr. Bonnet and Mr. Tiedemann would like to use to set-up mini grants to assist with start-up costs that regional centers are prohibited from giving out, except under our Community Placement Plan (CPP). By doing this, with the new rates that now exist, Mr. Bonnet believes that we may get individuals interested in

starting up residential facilities where the need is greatest. He will continue to keep the Board informed as this concept continues to be developed by staff.

- Mr. Bonnet has met multiple times with DDS about the closure of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). We are confident that we will be able to meet the needs of all of ACRC's clients that reside there and move them into their own communities prior to its closure in December 2018.
- ACRC's CAC is interested in co-sponsoring a local celebration to commemorate the 50 years since the passage of the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act. Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 15th, this event could feature our ACRC clients, staff, and community service partners displaying their talents in multiple formats. Mr. Bonnet will be meeting with volunteers from our CAC, PAC and staff to develop a program.
 - Board members support this event.

◆ *ARCA-CAC Report*

- Ms. Benson attended the ARCA-CAC meeting on Friday, July 8th.
 - The group discussed the qualifications of becoming the ARCA-CAC Chair.
 - They shared topics that they would like to discuss throughout the upcoming year.
 - ARCA staff provided information about the recent budget passage and the new legislation they are following.
- The next telephone meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 26th, and the next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, October 14th.

5. ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet