

Alta California Regional Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, December 11, 2023  
Minutes

**Present:** Carmen Aguilar, Jackie Armstrong, Garrett Broadbent, EunMi Cho, Johnny Deng, Tom Hopkins, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Kelly Pennington, Michelle Rewerts, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez

**Staff:** Lori Banales, Iqbal Ahmad, Jennifer Bloom, John Decker, Camelia Houston, Mechelle Johnson, Lisa West

**Visitors:** Steven Andrews, Maureen Fitzgerald

1. **Call to Order – Reading of ACRC’s Mission & Vision** – The Board of Directors met at 3:01 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2023, via Zoom. Ms. Pennington read aloud ACRC’s Mission and Vision.
2. **Community Comments/Announcements**
  - ◆ No comments/announcements were shared.
3. **New Business**
  - ◆ *Approve POS Contracts for DDS Technology Pilot Program – East Bay Innovations, STEP Agency, and On My Own*
    - The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) contacted ACRC staff to assist with coordinating the implementation of their Technology Pilot Program.
    - ACRC originally entered into smaller contracts during the 2022-23 fiscal year (FY) with these three Supported Living Services (SLS) agencies so that they could start the initial administrative activities for the pilot project.
    - The contracts that ACRC is seeking Board approval for are as follows:
      - East Bay Innovations – \$400,000
      - STEP Agency – \$300,000
      - On My Own – \$300,000
        - Mr. Decker clarified that East Bay Innovations’ contract is larger because they are holding the contract for the primary consultants for the project, Mid-State ARC of Connecticut.
        - The contracts will provide funding for staff training, client assessments, client equipment purchases, and client ongoing monitoring costs.
    - The department is seeking individuals with diverse needs, different languages and those that reside in different environments (both rural and urban) to participate in this pilot program.

- Remote monitoring will offer an option to not have direct support professionals (DSPs) in the client's home.
- After DDS provides a report to the legislature in January 2026, this option may be open to other individuals.

**M/S/C (Armstrong) To approve the \$300,000 STEP Agency contract as presented.** (one abstention)

**M/S/C (Armstrong) To approve the \$300,000 On My Own contract as presented.** (one abstention)

**M/S/C (Armstrong) To approve the \$400,000 East Bay Innovations contract as presented.** (one abstention)

- ◆ *Approve OPS Language Access and Cultural Competency Contracts (FYs 21-22 & 22-23) – La Familia Counseling Center and University Enterprises, Inc. (CSUS)*
  - These Language Access and Cultural Competency (LACC) Contracts utilize American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA's) funding.
    - ACRC must expend these funds before the end of the calendar year.
  - Mr. Ahmad provided an overview of the two contracts.
    - La Familia Counseling Center
      - Goal of 48 workshops, involving a minimum of 960 ACRC clients.
      - Topics are wide ranging from financial, mental health to proper nutrition.
      - Targeting Spanish, Farsi and Hmong speaking clients/families.
    - University Enterprises, Inc. (CSUS)
      - The first phase involves developing surveys, questionnaires, listening sessions and community meetings to assist with identifying barriers to receiving healthcare services. The second phase will be the data collection. The last phase will be the analysis of the data collection.
      - Targeting Spanish speaking clients/families.
      - A final report will be completed in July 2024.

**M/S/C (Armstrong) To approve the \$230,000 La Familia Counseling Center contract as presented.**

**M/S/C (Hopkins) To approve the \$105,050 FY 22 and the \$193,167 FY 23 University Enterprises, Inc. (CSUS) contracts as presented.**

4. **Closed Session** – At 3:25 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session to discuss legal issues.
5. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** - At 3:33 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which legal issues were discussed.
6. **Adjournment**  
The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: Lori Banales