

Alta California Regional Center  
Finance Committee Meeting  
Monday, November 13, 2023  
Minutes

**Present:**

Anwar Safvi, Chair  
Johnny Deng  
Dan Lake  
Kelly Pennington  
Michelle Rewerts  
Retha Seabron

**Absent:** (\* excused)  
Tom Hopkins\*

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

**Visitors:**

Steve Andrews  
Maureen Fitzgerald  
Kristy Rose

**Board Members:**

Jackie Armstrong  
Garrett Broadbent  
Amy Lampe  
Steven Sanchez

**Staff:**

Lori Banales, Executive Director  
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Operating Officer  
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client Services  
John Decker, Director of Community Services  
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake & Clinical Services  
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client Services  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Finance Committee met on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 4:06 p.m. to discuss the Monthly Financial Statement.

**Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to adopt the Finance Committee meeting minutes of October 10, 2023, as submitted.**

1. ***Monthly Financial Statement***

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

**Discussion and Action:** The September 30, 2023 financial report indicates that with 25% of the year elapsed, ACRC has expended 21% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 20.2% of Operations (OPS) for the current fiscal year (FY).

Mr. Ahmad believes we have a healthy budget going into 2023-24 FY. ACRC's POS budget is \$699 million, inclusive of approximately \$1 million in Community Placement Plan (CPP) funding. It is important to note that there was a broad surplus from regional centers from the prior FY. Our OPS budget is close to \$82 million, which includes our anticipated increases in insurance, staffing, benefits and pension expenses. As our agency continues to grow, this budget will help us hire approximately 65 new Service Coordinators (SCs) and three Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Specialists.

The State's income tax reporting due date has been delayed once again but the state is currently expecting a \$20 million deficit.

Mr. Ahmad displayed graphs from the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) which provided information on the "Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Overall Historical Growth Rate" and the "23-24 Major Growth Drivers – Statewide."

- The total statewide budget for the 2023-24 FY is \$14.1 billion, compared to \$12.7 billion last FY. The statewide service system serves almost 421,000 clients; growing at 10+% each year (ACRC's growth rate is between 4 & 5%).
- The major statewide growth drivers include provider rate increases, minimum wage increases, Lanterman Provisional Eligibility, Early Start Eligibility, and the 1:40 caseloads for kids 0 to 5 years.
  - Approximately 90% of DDS' budget is directed towards POS funding.

This past month, DDS released the final results of the performance measures and how each regional center ranked, in which ACRC met all but one metric.

- Ms. Bloom explained that the chart indicates that ACRC did not meet the measure for the percent served in Early Start. This relates to how ACRC was tracking the data. DDS sent out a report that indicated anomalies and we have modified our data tracking to ensure that we are following DDS' guidance. Ms. Banales noted that this also provides us with an opportunity to correct our practices and develop trainings for staff in order to meet this measure in the future. Overall, ACRC is proud to have met all other metrics and performed above par on the statewide reporting.

**Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to recommend to the full Board the acceptance of the monthly financial report as submitted.**

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 8, 2024**. The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales