

Alta California Regional Center  
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, April 13, 2023  
Minutes

**Present:**

Lindsey Dyba, Futures Explored,  
Inc., Chair  
James Astorga, F&A Astorga  
Care Home  
Eric Ciampa, UCP of Sacramento  
Bonnie Douglas, Turning Point  
Kate Halecky, Southside  
Unlimited  
Joe Jaquez, EGA CT  
Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting,  
Inc.  
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare  
Services  
Carole Watilo, Progressive  
Employment

**Visitors**

Sheila Abrams  
Cooper Allen  
Maureen Fitzgerald  
Sonya Fox  
Jennifer Gomez  
Frena Harris  
Braydon Holtzinger  
Jennifer Jones  
Natasha Mosley-Simpkins  
Dylan Nobida  
Paloma Rodriguez  
Jen Roney  
Sean Stone  
Jasmine Vollenweider  
Michelle Wild

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Michelle Ramirez\*, On My Own,  
Co-Chair & Design. Dir.  
Janet Brandon\*, A.I.M. &  
Associates  
Garrett Broadbent, Creative  
Living Options  
Andrea Croom\*, INALLIANCE  
Jacquie Foss\*, STEP  
Jessica Knuth, Reach Adult  
Development  
Breeanne Kolster\*, 24 Hour  
Home Care  
Christa McClure\*, Tri-County  
Respite Care Service  
Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills  
Manor  
Yvonne Soto\*, DDSO

**Staff:**

Lori Banales, Executive Director  
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Operating Officer  
John Decker, Director of Community  
Services  
Jordan Eller, Specialized Services  
Manager  
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &  
Clinical Services  
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client  
Services  
Jason Scantlebury, LEAD Community  
Services Specialist  
Carly Shearer, Client Employment  
Specialist  
Faye Tait, Associate Client Services  
Director  
Johnny Xiong, Associate Client  
Services Director  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023, by Zoom/teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report;

2) ACRC Vendor Forum Representative Updates; 3) System Reform and Legislative Update; 4) PAC Committees & Reports; and 5) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

1. ***Executive Director's Report***

- Ms. Banales noted that the State's Senate Subcommittee #3 is holding a hearing today as the state continues with the legislative process.
  - Ms. Bloom has been pivotal in working with multiple agencies and is testifying today regarding AB 2083: Children and Youth System of Care.
- The ACRC/VMRC Collaborative is gaining momentum. The website is up and running; Ms. Banales shared that it costs service providers nothing to add their information to this website, which has great possibilities.
  - The first Disability Industry Career Expo takes place in ACRC's catchment area on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Service providers can express their interest by registering.
  - The Collaborative is ready to push out the public relations press release; they need to have enough providers and job opportunities available to get people interested.
- ACRC's Community Services staff are working diligently to complete the required biennial reviews.
  - Mr. Decker noted that service providers are responsible for updating the Office of Inspector General (OIG) portal.
- Mary Rettinhouse, ACRC's Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Specialist, will be sharing a presentation about the California Autism Professional Training and Information Network (CAPTAIN) at the April 28<sup>th</sup> "Coffee with Community Services".
- ACRC was awarded a grant from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to pilot an assistive technology project ran through client's homes. Part of this will highlight the benefits of accessing different languages when using these services. Our newly posted Housing Specialist position will assist with pilot.
  - Our first clients are moving in to the Mirasol Village off of Richards Blvd.
- The next service provider rate increases are scheduled for July 2024. The 90/10 remains an issue.

2. ***ACRC Vendor Forum Representative Updates***

- No updates were shared.

3. ***System Reform and Legislative Update (ARCA, CDSA, CCLN, DS Taskforce, Lanterman Coalition)***

- DS Taskforce & Workgroups
  - The Employment Workgroup met and continues to discuss their proposal. They initially proposed an Employment Navigator Service,

but the question remains – what are they going to help clients navigate to if opportunities are not available.

- The Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) is represented in this workgroup.
- The Quality Incentive Workgroup met. Some of the draft measures are posted on DDS' website.
  - These are part of the final 10% of provider rates.
  - These drafts indicate what is being targeting. It's going to take some time to get quality data; the department is looking at solutions.
- Ms. Watilo shared that AB 222 is sponsored by Disability Rights California (DRC) and focuses on workforce and employment for people with disabilities.

#### 4. **PAC Committees & Reports**

- Vendor Relations Committee – Review "Service Provider Communication Guide"
  - After approval, this document will be made available to service providers.
  - Suggestion to have SCs add their Client Services Manager's (CSM's) contact information into their signature line (phone number and email address).
  - Note that ACRC has Associate Clients Services Directors.
  - Ms. Banales clarified that staff are to be available for in-person meetings within 30 minutes of notification. If there are any issues, please let ACRC Management know.
  - It would be helpful if service providers had the ability to look up a client's UCI number.
    - Ms. Banales noted that ACRC is in a unique position now that we have a Data Scientist on staff.

#### 5. **Announcements/Comments**

- ACRC will provide some additional guidance regarding the rate increases that service providers have received during an upcoming "Coffee with Community Services".
- Mr. Scantlebury has received seven letters of interest for Coordinated Family Support (CFS) Services. ACRC believes this is a wonderful opportunity for clients/families.
- Ms. Eller provided an update on ACRC's current Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP):
  - ACRC will identify the service provider chosen for the Level 4I home for substance abuse disorders by the end of April.
  - We have reposted the Request for Proposal (RFP) for an American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting service in rural areas and a signing staff registry (pilot program).

- Mr. Decker shared that staff are working on the backlog of transportation requests for Supported Living Services (SLS) clients.
  - Ms. Duchene will provide an update at the next PAC meeting.
- Enriching Lives FHA is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, located at 11060 White Rock Road in Rancho Cordova. They will be sending invites to the regional center soon.
- ACRC has posted information on housing and living options on the agency's website at: [www.altaregional.org/housing-and-living-options](http://www.altaregional.org/housing-and-living-options). There is also a section on the types of living options that are available to clients.
- Yolo County's Aging Caregiver Taskforce is hosting a Townhall meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, May 11, 2023**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales