

Alta California Regional Center
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 8, 2017
Minutes

Present:

Janet Brandon, AIM &
Associates, Co-Chair & Design.
Dir.
Gerrit deGelleke, American River
Speech
Jacquie Dillard-Foss, STEP
Ed Doonan, LIFE, Inc.
Bonnie Douglas, Turning Point
Dawn Montgomery, HOPE
Consulting
Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting,
Inc.
Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills
Manor
Robin Rhoades, Southside Art
Center
Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver
Relief
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare
Services
Yvonne Soto, DDSO
Peter Stirling, Serenity Respite
Services
Paul Traglio, Capitol Autism
Services
Carole Watilo, Progressive
Employment

Visitors:

James Astorga
Candice Bright
Andrea Croom
Kate Halecky
Teri Hayes
Joseph Hernandez
Marcus Huff
Aaron Kowalski
Michelle Nobile
Fred Patawaran
Lou Patawaran
Agnes Ranit
Nicky Schlupe
Melissa Sleeper

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Peter Tiedemann, Chief Operating
Officer
Alfonso Carmona, Director of Adult &
Residential Services
John Decker, Manager of
CPP/Forensics Unit
Helen Thomas, Cultural Diversity
Specialist
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Absent: (* excused)

Eric Ciampa*, UCP of
Sacramento, Inc., Chair
Becky Brubaker, EGACTION
Michelle Ramirez*, On My Own
Will Sanford, Futures Explored

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:31 a.m. on Thursday, June 8, 2017, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Vendor Forum Update

& Liaison Assignments; 3) ACRC RFP Update/Community Needs; 4) PAC Survey; 5) Sub-Committee Updates; 6) Updates; 7) Legislative Update; 8) Board Update; and 9) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Janet Brandon made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of May 11, 2017 as submitted.

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

- Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC's Board appreciates knowing what is discussed in these committee meetings when they review the minutes. The conversations here have an overall effect on what goes on at this agency. Mr. Bonnet expressed appreciation for all the hard work that Ms. West puts into them.
- The legislature should be making decisions regarding the cap on respite, as well as social/recreational services today. Local Assembly member Keven McCarty is involved in these conversations; his office is starting to get a wave of support.
- Moving individuals out of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) is progressing nicely; ACRC is down to 35 clients. Mr. Bonnet has personally heard from several families regarding how well their loved ones are doing out in the community. Each client's needs are very complex and this will start a new chapter for our service system. DCs have been a financial strain on our statewide service system. With the impending closures of all of the DCs, the money that is being poured into their expenditures hopefully will be coming back into our budget to continue assisting every clients that need our services throughout the state.
- Mr. Bonnet attended the "No Barriers Summit" at Squaw Creek in North Lake Tahoe this past weekend. It was a very moving experience! Individuals with all disabilities were in attendance.
 - One woman, who performed at the event, was featured on "America's Got Talent" on Tuesday night and received the "Gold Buzzer" award for singing.
- Mr. Tiedemann shared that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has inserted extensive language into regional center contracts regarding the privacy of client information (HIPAA). ACRC is required to have business associates agreements with all of our service providers, which we are currently drafting. Information will be sent out with a cover letter. There is no negotiation on this – ACRC will need the agreement signed and sent back to the agency; if a provider does not sign, ACRC may not be able to do business with you.
 - The PAC will review this at the July meeting.

- DDS planned on sending the ABX2-1 Survey out to service providers by June 1st, but they have not released it yet. Mr. Tiedemann shared that ACRC worked closely with the department to make sure that completing it was a simple process; the survey will be online. As stated previously, if providers did not use the money properly, they will have to return it to DDS. The completion of the survey is critical. If members of this committee could help spread the word, we would appreciate it. ACRC can assist providers, but we cannot fill out the survey for you. If you know providers who have not spent the funding correctly, please reach out to them.

2. ***Vendor Forum Update & Liaison Assignments***

- An updated list was distributed for review. The upcoming vendor fairs were added, as well.

3. ***ACRC RFP Update/Community Needs***

- Mr. Decker shared that ACRC submitted the 2017-18 fiscal year's (FY's) Community Placement Plan (CPP) to DDS on May 6th. The department has significantly less money for the next FY and wants to ensure that the funding for the closure of the DCs are met first prior to approving any additional plans.
- Mr. Decker clarified that ACRC has already built a significant quantity of placement spots for the clients moving out of the DCs; we have placements for all of them.
- ACRC has placed 15 clients out of SDC since January 1st; providers are doing a fantastic job in assisting with this process. Mr. Decker expressed his appreciation to everyone that has stepped-up.
- Currently, ACRC has 61 clients that need to be placed in the community by 2021.

4. ***PAC Survey***

- Ms. Brandon shared that Ms. Ramirez has indicated that most committee members have completed the PAC Survey. If you haven't already done so, please complete it as soon as possible. Also, if you would like to add additional comments, please let us know.

5. ***Sub-Committee Updates:***

- Cultural Diversity
 - Ms. Thomas shared that ACRC held focus group discussions on June 6th & 7th, which included Independent Living Services (ILS), Supported Living Services (SLS), respite, translation services and day programs. She structured the questions to find out more about the clients and what types of supports are needed in order to provide services to them.

- The overarching theme has always been that the one barrier is culture. Families have their beliefs/traditions that providers need to take into consideration when trying to assist them.
- These focus groups are candid and they have been informative. All of the ideas that Ms. Thomas has gathered will be used to figure out where we go from here.
- ACRC is planning on having a training for Service Coordinators (SCs) and providers within the calendar year – Cultural Diversity Sensitivity Training.
- Mr. Bonnet shared information about the Public Counsel’s report entitled “Assuring Equitable Funding of Services for Children with Developmental Disabilities” which came out last month about the differences in services for children.

6. Updates:

- Self-Determination Program
 - The Self-Determination Advisory Committee has a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday, June 14th, from 10 a.m. to noon here at ACRC’s Sacramento office. DDS will be holding three trainings; one for regional center staff, one for individuals who are interested in participating in the Self-Determination Program, and the last one will be a “train the trainer”.
- CMS Rules/HCBS Waiver Settings
 - ACRC’s Community Services Department has held several provider trainings which have been well attended. Providers are pleased with the information that is being shared; the trainings are positive and productive.
 - There is a lot of information to share; the implementation date is pushed out. ACRC is trying to be as proactive as possible.
 - The new rule is all about inclusion, inclusion, inclusion! Just because the date has been pushed back doesn’t mean we should stop what we are doing; it’s still coming.
- DS (Disability Services) Task Force 2.0
 - Their final meeting is scheduled for July. Regional centers still have ideas that they want to get through to this group.
 - Ms. Dillard-Foss shared that Burns & Associates has been chosen to do the rate study. They have completed 11 rate studies and no provider has benefited from them.

7. Legislative Update

- SB 562 (Lara) The Healthy California Act. This bill passed out of the floor of the Senate, but Ms. Dillard-Foss doesn’t believe that Governor

Brown will sign it. It's a very complex bill; she encouraged everyone to read it.

- As mentioned at last month's meeting, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) is moving towards an electronic timekeeping verification system; it is a national requirement. At this point, there are a lot of unanswered questions.
- Long-term services and supports started a conversation regarding online assessments.
- Mental health advocates are worried that funding will be diverted from the vehicle license fees as counties take back their IHSS responsibilities.

8. **Board Update**

- Ms. Brandon attended the Board's half-day training on May 25th, and Mr. Ciampa was invited to come and participate, as well. This provided him an opportunity to meet the team that he will be working with in the next FY. The topic was "Team Building & Board Committee Responsibilities."
- During the Board meeting, the slate was introduced and those individuals that are being nominated were asked to share some information about themselves. The Board member who was nominated for Vice President stepped down, so the Board Development Committee (BDC) will be relooking at the slate next Monday. Beginning July 1st, we will have a new Board President, Vice President, Secretary, Client Advisory Committee (CAC) designated representative and PAC designated representative.
- Board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month and everyone is welcome to attend.

9. **Announcements/Comments**

- Per the Lanterman Act, Ms. West needs to post the PAC agenda to ACRC's website a week prior to our meetings. If you have items that you would like included on the agenda, please let the PAC Chair and Ms. West know as soon as possible.
- "CIE & Paid Internships Placements" will be discussed at the next meeting. We will make sure ACRC staff are present to join in on the discussion.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, July 13, 2017**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet