

Alta California Regional Center  
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, July 13, 2017  
Minutes

**Present:**

Michelle Ramirez, On My Own,  
Chair  
Eric Ciampa, UCP of  
Sacramento, Inc., Co-Chair &  
Design. Dir.  
Janet Brandon, AIM &  
Associates  
Becky Brubaker, EGACTION  
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  
Will Sanford, Futures Explored  
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

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Jacquie Dillard-Foss\*, STEP

**Visitors:**

James Astorga  
Sandy Bishop  
Candice Bright  
Lindsey Dyba  
Adriene Gaudet  
Kate Halecky  
Teri Hayes  
Lynn Heitner  
Marcus Huff  
Jennifer Marchant  
Michelle Nobile  
Fred Patawaran  
Lou Patawaran  
Melissa Sleeper  
Sean Stone  
Kelly Weber

**Staff:**

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director  
Peter Tiedemann, Chief Operating  
Officer  
Alfonso Carmona, Director of Adult &  
Residential Services  
John Decker, Manager of  
CPP/Forensics Unit  
Darline Dupree, Manager of  
Community Services  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:31 a.m. on Thursday, July 13, 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 Results & Brainstorming Ideas; 5) CIE & Paid Internship Placements; 6) Sub-Committee Updates; 7) Updates; 8) Legislative Update;

9) Board Update; and 10) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Carole Watilo made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 8, 2017 as submitted.**

**1. Executive Director's Report**

- Mr. Tiedemann has been working with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and a consulting firm on developing the online survey regarding the ABX2-1 funding that service providers will need to complete by October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - The department will be hosting webinars on how to complete the survey on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - It's important to note that the law states that every provider who received this additional funding must complete this survey or the money will have to be refunded back to the state.
  - Providers must complete the survey for every service code/vendor number that received the additional funding.
  - Mr. Tiedemann gave a brief review of the online survey. ACRC will likely offer some training, but regional center staff cannot complete the survey for providers. The survey is straightforward; he sent the link to Mr. Ciampa to try, on this committee's behalf.
    - Mr. Ciampa noted that the survey pulls data that is already in the system (e.g., service codes, percentage of rate increases, etc.).
  - The survey should be sent out to service providers by next week. Since it is due by October 1<sup>st</sup>, the cut-off will be most likely be mid-September.
  - Please encourage providers that you may know to complete it as soon as possible. ACRC will send out reminders as needed.
  - If you have any additional questions, please contact Mr. Tiedemann.
- ACRC has not received any information from DDS regarding the additional HIPAA requirements and the required business associates agreements with service providers. Once received, information will be sent out with a cover letter.
- The ACRC family lost one of their own last week – Tim S. passed away. We are working to manage the transportation needs of all of our clients. Tim had a wealth of knowledge, but we have hired a temp and MarieJo is in the process of training him.
- Regarding the State budget, the legislature has done their job and Governor Brown signed it on time. The biggest win for our service

system besides the growth funding, is the fact that the respite cap, from 2009, has been lifted as of January 2018. We will continue to base respite hours on the needs of our clients/families.

- Mr. Bonnet believes some of ACRC's outlying counties may not have as many generic services available to them. The needs of the people don't really change, but the way that we deliver them can. Maybe as we move to more individualized, inclusive environments, we will be able to develop unique services delivery systems.
- ACRC's Board of Directors will be holding their annual September Retreat in South Lake Tahoe this year. We may hold additional meetings in our outlying counties, too.
- Mr. Bonnet and Mr. Tiedemann had the opportunity to meet with representatives from the University of Warwick, located in Coventry, London. They will be developing a campus in Roseville, and the new site will include a heavy emphasis on developmental disability research.
- ACRC continues to work on securing affordable housing opportunities for the clients that we serve.
- Regional centers have received commitments from DDS about keeping the funding from the closure of the developmental centers (DCs) in our statewide service system's budget – community resource development projects.
- DDS is focused on the safety net that is going away when the DCs close. One of the remaining issues from families that don't want Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) to close is what residential settings will be available for the clients who are a danger to themselves and the community. These are legitimate concerns on a complicated issue.

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

- An updated list was distributed for review.
- Ms. Dupree shared that budget updates will be added to the vendor forum agendas, so that information, as it pertains to a particular service code, will be shared.

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

- Mr. Decker shared that we are waiting for our response by the department for our 2017-18 Community Placement Plan (CPP). As mentioned last month, DDS has significantly less money for start-up funds, so they are reviewing the plans carefully. Because of this delay, ACRC will probably be releasing our Requests for Proposals (RFPs) at the end of August.
- ACRC's Community Services & Supports Department (CSS) will be releasing RFPs soon. Ms. Dupree shared that CSS is drafting an annual strategic plan, which will look at development with a focus. They have

a six-month goal of gathering information, with milestones that they are trying to hit. CSS Staff will be speaking with Client Services Managers, ACRC's Executive Management Team and then providers regarding community needs.

- With this plan, providers can make sure their focus and energy is pointed in the right direction. They will be able to be more innovative in developing needed services.
- CSS is looking at our own internal process of vendorization and will be establishing a link on our website that will allow providers to exchange information that they receive from clients/families and about what barriers they may be experiencing.
- Good communication is key to the success of this plan.
- Mr. Decker shared that ACRC opened nine residential facilities in the last year. Sixteen more homes are scheduled to open by December 31<sup>st</sup> (in the next six months).
  - DDS may be looking to ACRC for assistance with developing facilities with a secured perimeter.

#### 4. **PAC Survey Results & Brainstorming Ideas**

- Ms. Ramirez reviewed the results of the PAC Survey.
- With the comments that were gathered, six categories were developed:
  1. Vendor Participation & Communication
  2. ACRC Collaboration on Existing Processes & Improvements
  3. ACRC New Initiatives and/or Community Needs
  4. ACRC Board Collaboration & Communication
  5. Services: Best Practices & Training
  6. PAC Meeting Logistics & Suggestions

During the September meeting, this group will brainstorm on these particular categories.

- It's important to note why this committee exists, per the Lanterman Act.
- The PAC's Outreach Sub-committee will meet to review applications and review the rules of the PAC in August.
  - Volunteers include: Eric Ciampa, Michelle Ramirez, Joy Scott & Yvonne Soto
- Suggestion to invite ACRC Board members to these meetings. We might want to ask them how they would like the PAC to contribute.
  - Please inform Mr. Ciampa if you have any issues that he needs to take to the Board of Directors.
- Some members would like to collaborate with ACRC staff in different trainings.
- Suggestion to add the service categories to the PAC member's name tent, so that visitors will know the member's representation at the table.

5. **CIE & Paid Internship Placements**

- Mr. Sanford shared that this topic will be discussed at the vendor forum level and he will report back to this committee in September.

6. **Sub-Committee Updates:**

- No sub-committee updates were shared.

7. **Updates:**

- Self-Determination Program
  - DDS is getting ready to start the "train the trainer" sessions.
  - The financial manager piece has delayed the resubmission of the waiver. As soon as they clarify this piece, they will resubmit it and the 90 days will start again.
  - DDS will be holding regional trainings here at ACRC. We are training Alta staff; that has been confirmed with the department. DDS is still determining how many regional centers will be participating.
- CMS Rules/HCBS Waiver Settings
  - The timeline has been moved to March 2022.
- DS (Disability Services) Task Force 2.0
  - The last meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

8. **Legislative Update**

- As mentioned earlier, Governor Brown signed the budget. Most one-year bills are in committee.
  - Both AB 1380 (respite) and AB 1607 (tailored day services) passed out on consent, without going through appropriations.
  - AB 279 (Holden) Developmental disabilities: regional center. This bill regarding minimum wage is still moving forward.
  - As of December 1, 2016, the federal annual salary threshold for employees exempt from overtime pay increased to \$47,476.
- The biggest concern is what might happen with the federal funding coming into the State. The legislature may shorten their August recess.

9. **Board Update**

- Ms. Brandon attended the last Board meeting which was held on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The Board elected new Board Officers:
    - President – Dan Lake

- Vice President – Rita Walker
- Secretary – Amy Lampe
  - She encourages everyone to attend Board meetings to help increase your knowledge of ACRC.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Ciampa attended the Board Development Committee (BDC) meeting on Monday, and the group discussed training plans for the Board's annual September Retreat.

10. ***Announcements/Comments***

- Ms. Watilo encourages everyone who is looking at employment to visit The Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) website. They are partnering with the Supported Life Institute (SLI) and holding a training on October 4<sup>th</sup> entitled "From Vision to Practice", prior to the SLI Conference. Registration is required; \$75 fee.
- UCP sent 30 kids to Camp Grizzly for one day. Mr. Ciampa believes the value of these opportunities are beneficial regardless of funding.
- The September PAC agenda will include:
  - Update on CIE & Paid Internship Placements
  - Recommendations from the PAC Outreach Sub-Committee
  - Continue the PAC survey discussion
  - Develop calendar for provider presentations
  - CSS Strategic Plan – Ms. Dupree to share update on milestones

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, September 14, 2017**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet