

Alta California Regional Center
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 14, 2017
Minutes

Present:

Michelle Ramirez, On My Own,
Chair
Eric Ciampa, UCP of
Sacramento, Inc., Co-Chair &
Design. Dir.
Becky Brubaker, EGACTION
Jacquie Dillard-Foss, STEP
Bonnie Douglas, Turning Point
Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills
Manor
Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver
Relief
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare
Services
Yvonne Soto, DDSO
Peter Stirling, Serenity Respite
Services
Carole Watilo, Progressive
Employment

Absent: (* excused)

Janet Brandon*, AIM &
Associates
Ed Doonan, LIFE, Inc.
Dawn Montgomery*, HOPE
Consulting
Sergio Pinto*, BEST Consulting,
Inc.
Robin Rhoades, Southside Art
Center
Will Sanford*, Futures Explored
Paul Traglio*, Capitol Autism
Services

Visitors:

James Astorga
Candice Bright
Andrea Croom
Lindsey Dyba
Maureen Fitzgerald
Teri Hayes
Joe Jaquez
Elizabeth Johnson
Jennifer Marchant
Michelle Nobile
Fred Patawaran
Lou Patawaran
Nicky Schlupe
Stan Schmidt
Melissa Sleeper
Eric Steward
Sean Stone

Board Members:

Dan Lake

Staff:

Peter Tiedemann, Chief Operating
Officer
Alfonso Carmona, Director of Adult &
Residential Services
Jean Onesi, Manager of
Community Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:32 a.m. on Thursday, September 14, 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) CSS Strategic Plan; 5) PAC Survey Discussion & Brainstorming Ideas; 6) Membership/Outreach Subcommittee; 7) Update on CIE & Paid Internship Placements; 8) Develop Calendar for Provider Presentation; 9) Legislative Update; 10) Board Update; and 11) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Jacquie Dillard-Foss made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of July 13, 2017 as submitted.

****change in agenda was noted***

1. Executive Director's Report

- DDS Rate Survey – due October 1st
 - Mr. Tiedemann shared that as of this morning, 66.17% service providers have completed the ABX2-1 survey that must be completed by October 1st; 340 surveys have not been completed.
 - ACRC staff are reaching out to service providers to make sure they complete them by the due date. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has made it clear that if the surveys are not completed, providers will lose their rate increase. We want 100% completion. There are about 9,000 providers statewide that have not completed their surveys.
 - ACRC is holding our third training on this topic on Tuesday, September 19th. It's important to note that providers must complete the survey for each vendor number/service code combination.
 - No confirmation is sent after completion; the screen will indicate 100% completed and you should hit "save".
 - If there are questions or problems, please contact Mr. Tiedemann or your Community Services Specialist.

2. Vendor Forum Update & Liaison Assignments

- An updated list was distributed for review; updates will be shared at the next meeting.

3. ACRC RFP Update/Community Needs

- Mr. Tiedemann shared we are still waiting for DDS to finalize our Community Placement Plan (CPP). Once it is approved, staff will be able to develop Requests for Proposals (RFPs).

4. ***CSS Strategic Plan – update on milestones***

- Mr. Tiedemann shared that Community Services staff are meeting with Case Management Units in order to gather input on the needs throughout our catchment area. We are using this information to target where and what we need to develop.
- Mr. Ciampa would like to collaborate with ACRC to come up with opportunities for services. We also need to include cultural diversity in this process.
- Mr. Tiedemann suggested possibly forming a workgroup; Ms. Onesi shared that these discussions will be included in the vendor forums.

5. ***PAC Survey Discussion & Brainstorming Ideas***

- Ms. Ramirez shared that a lot of input was received from the PAC Survey. She summarized the feedback in the “PAC Survey Summary and Planning”, which was distributed for review and discussion.
 - Category A guides the PAC mandate; Category B has a tangible product/outcome (a resource or tool); and Category C focuses on meeting agenda format and content.
 - Those present gave their input on what they would like prioritized. Ms. Ramirez and Mr. Ciampa will make every effort to incorporate these items into the upcoming PAC meetings.

6. ***Membership/Outreach Subcommittee***

- Mr. Ciampa shared that the PAC Outreach Subcommittee met in August to discuss our membership process and they reviewed the outstanding committee applications. The group recognizes that we want the committee to reflect the diversity of our providers.
- The group discussed making it a requirement that applicants attend a full year of meetings prior to being considered for committee membership (attend seven out of ten meetings); the informal rule was that providers attend at least three meetings. Having someone committed will only increase our committee’s movement and focus.
 - The PAC application will be updated.
- The Outreach Subcommittee will be recommending Sandra Bishop, with INALLIANCE, and Jessica Knuth, with Reach Adult Development, for membership at the October meeting. They will be asked to share information about their agencies.
- The group will meet twice a year to review applications. They will report on attendance, evaluate the matrix, and then bring their recommendation to the PAC prior to submitting applicants for membership.
- The Outreach Subcommittee would like all PAC members to participate in a subcommittee; this should be a standing requirement. The PAC is only as good as its member’s involvement.

- The group also discussed assigning new members a mentor for their first few meetings.

7. **Update on CIE & Paid Internship Placements**

- Ms. Dyba shared that there is a meeting scheduled for next week with DDS and ACRC's Community Services Department. After that, there will be a training for providers to implement competitive integrated employment (CIE) and paid internship placements.

8. **Develop Calendar for Provider Presentations**

- Ms. Ramirez shared that it has been five years since PAC members have provided information to the entire committee about the agencies that they work for. Since the two applicants will be sharing information about themselves at the October meeting, Janet Brandon and Becky Brubaker will present in November.

9. **Legislative Update**

- Ms. Dyba shared the status of some pending legislation that this committee has been tracking
 - Bills on Senate floor include:
 - AB 1607 (Frazier) Developmental services: integrated competitive employment.
 - AB 434 (Baker) State Web accessibility: standard and reports.
 - AB 1170 (Cooley) Developmental disabilities: competitive integrated employment ombudsperson. This is now a two-year bill.
 - Bills that died in Senate include:
 - AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) Counties: contracts for personal services.
 - AB 1380 (Santiago) Developmental services: regional center services.
 - AB 279 (Holden) Developmental disabilities: regional centers.
 - There are currently several housing bills to watch:
 - SB 2 (Atkins) Building Homes and Jobs Act.
 - SB 3 (Beall) Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018.
 - AB 1505 (Bloom) Land use: zoning regulations.
 - AB 74 (Chiu) Housing.
 - SB 540 (Roth) Workforce Housing Opportunity Zone.
 - Federal HR 620 (Poe) ADA Education and Reform Act of 2017. This bill would amend the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 to promote compliance through education, to clarify the

requirements for demand letters, to provide for a notice and cure before the commencement of a private civil action, and for other purposes.

- Ms. Dillard-Foss shared that The Lanterman Coalition is focusing their attention on the closure of the developmental centers (DCs) and where the funds from selling the land would go. Unless the state has a plan, the hope is that the land would be used for affordable housing. Once Sonoma closes, Fairview is next; Costa Mesa has rules about development. Accountability is a must. We must keep making it known that we are currently in a housing crisis.
 - The Lanterman Coalition is also looking at workforce development and turnover rate.
- There still remains an issue with In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and shared services with providers; the IHSS rates are lower than some region's minimum wage.
- Ms. Dillard-Foss believes it's difficult for the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) to say we are "On the Brink of Collapse", because as one vendor closes, another one opens.

10. **Board Update**

- Mr. Ciampa shared that Dan Lake, ACRC's Board President, is in attendance today.
 - Mr. Lake is impressed with everyone's conversation today. He shared his appreciation for Mr. Ciampa's input at the Board level.
 - The Board's main charge is agency policy. They will be looking at this committee's composition, as well as the Client Advisory Committee's (CAC's).
 - Mr. Ciampa is looking forward to what the Board will accomplish this year.
- The Board is looking its role, what they are responsible for and reviewing the agency's policies. The Board continues to focus on recruitment and diversity.
- The Board's Annual Training is scheduled for Thursday, September 28th.

11. **Announcements/Comments**

- Austin Taylor, the Chair of the CAC, will be joining this group in November to discuss how we can collaborate/partner with each other.
- On October 12th & 13th, ACRC is hosting the Lanterman Housing Alliance's 2017 Fall Conference. The Alliance was awarded a grant from the State Council to create a statewide Affordable Housing Strategic Plan.
- Save the Date – Thursday, November 9th. The California Disability Services Association (CDSA) Capitol Caucus will be holding an open

meeting from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Everyone is invited to join them for lunch and learn more about the CDSA and how they work together toward a shared mission of support and empowerment of persons with developmental disabilities and their families. More information will be shared at the October PAC meeting.

- Mr. Ranit would like to extend condolences to Mr. Tiedemann for the passing of his father.
- Ms. Watilo shared that the California Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) is partnering with the Supported Life Institute (SLI) and holding a training on Wednesday, October 4th, entitled "From Vision to Practice", from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., just prior to the SLI Conference. Registration is required; \$75 fee.
 - On October 4th, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., there will be an opportunity for interested individuals to take a CESP Certification/Recertification Exam at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. More information can be found on the APSE website.
- The October PAC agenda will include:
 - Two applicants sharing information about their agencies
 - Conversation about housing (update on roommate database)
 - Staffing crisis discussion
- Community Needs/Issues
 - Hiring/Recruitment/Training – suggestion to possibly collaborate with other regional centers on this topic.
 - Minimum wage – direct care staff deserve more than minimum wage.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, October 12, 2017**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet