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**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 30, 2011**

Board and Liaison Members Present: Suzanne Anthony, Chairperson, Stephanie Chapralis, Vice Chair, Nickole Bouslog, Curtis Braxton, Stephanie Meakin, Heidi Spaulding, Josh Sullivan, Carl Tolentino, Kim Williams, Penny Musante, Joanne Nakamura, Pam Perls, Rocio Smith, Will Sanford, Ex-Officio, Gina Jennings, Staff.

Board Members Excused: Ian Bremner, Ange Burnett, Jim Burton, Stephen Dale, Lacey Friedman, Heather Hackett, Elree Langford, Ella Liggins, Carol McKinney, Kate Rauch.

Guests: Claudia Lam, Contra Costa ARC; Ron Usal, Area Board V; Francine Davis, RCEB; Laura Corona, RCEB; Daniel Hogue, Las Trampas; Hilary Shen, MDUSD; Angie Lee, Futures Explored, ALIVE Central; Karissa Anderson, Futures Explored, ALIVE EAST; Caroline Ortiz, CARE Parent Network; Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC.

Welcome and Introductions-Suzanne Anthony:

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. and introductions were made.

- The October 2011 meeting minutes were unanimously approved (M/Stephanie Chapralis; S/Curtis Braxton).
- There were no additions to the agenda.

State and RCEB Budget Updates- Francine Davis (for Jim Burton):

- The Legislative Analyst for the State has indicated that the first round of Trigger cutbacks for January 2012 are "likely". This means that it is likely that \$100 Million must be cut by Terry DelGadillo of DDS. This cut may also affect Federal matching funds, making it greater than \$100 million. If she decides to make cuts to DDS operations or the Developmental Centers, there will be no legislative process required. However, if additional cuts are made to Regional Center operations or Purchase of Service budgets, then a legislative process is required, with public hearings.
- The official announcement of the Trigger cuts will be made by the Director of Finance on December 15, 2011.
- Currently, there is an estimated \$13 Billion shortfall in the State Budget over the next 18 months.
- **Advocacy efforts, again, are going to be needed.**
- RCEB is very concerned about the results of their recent Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR). RCEB started the year with \$18 million less than last year. They are projecting a \$25-\$29 million insufficiency for this fiscal year. They are anticipating other income, but are very concerned about this.
- Trailer Bill AB104 which passed with the State Budget is requiring some parents to pay a \$200 fee to DDS (few parents have actually paid this fee). Letters recently went out to 800 RCEB families with children with DD, ages 3 years to 18 years, and receiving specific services, such as diapers or behavioral services. In the IPP/IFSP meetings, this will be discussed. There is a sliding scale available, based on family income.
- Funds for Adult Day Health Services will be continuing until March 1, 2012. A new service for the elderly will be put in place for those at risk for skilled nursing services. This only affects 9 people from RCEB.
- IHSS is slated for a 20% cut if the Trigger is pulled, but would not affect people on the Medicaid waiver program.
- Dental services will be reinstated on January 13, 2012. People should go directly to their dentist, as RCEB is no longer involved in this process. It is still difficult to find dentists that take this payment rate (check those dentists that formally accepted Denti-Cal) and getting anesthesia for dental work continues to be an issue. Western Dental seems to be an option for many people.
- Will Sanford made a suggestion that RCEB write a generic explanation letter to dentists that people can take with them to assist in getting services.
- Gina Jennings suggested inviting Lisa Kleinbus of RCEB to speak to the group on this matter.



Special Presentation by Julie Yim on BART's new Clippercard Program:

- Public transportation is moving from paper tickets to smart cards, called "Clippercards". The new cards are currently used on BART in the East Bay, and over the next few years will begin to be used on County Connection buses, Tri-Delta and Ferries.
- You can order regular Clippercards on-line or pick one up at service centers (Walnut Creek Transit Center). The minimum amount to be kept on a card is \$2. You are registered to the card, so if you lose it, they will send a replacement card with the same funds on it. There is an auto-fill feature, too, tied to your credit card, that adds money to your card at a point that you decide upon. You can also load money on your card at the machines at BART stations.
- The cards are "tap and go" cards, as you do not put them in the machine the same way that you did with paper cards. You also cannot punch holes in the card to put on your key ring, as there is a computer chip and antennae in it that you will ruin (card won't work if damaged).
- RTC cards, for people with disabilities, are Clipper-ready----and can be used for the 62.5% discount.
- For those people requiring attendants, you will receive 2 cards (physician verification is needed)----one card for the attendant and one card for the person served.
- Penny Musante explained that her agency is responsible for the transportation costs of persons served at the day program, and does not want to mix agency funds on people's personal cards. Ms. Yim explained that there is an "institutional program" that has not yet been implemented by the MTC, in which an agency can have multiple cards used by multiple people. If this is needed, she suggested that she be contacted directly (510) 464-6106 to provide assistance. She also suggested that people contact MTC directly (Lysa Hale: 510-814-5884 or LHale@mtc.ca.gov) to encourage them to implement the institutional program.
- Rocio Smith asked about visitors/vacationers with disabilities from out of town. Ms. Yim stated that discounted cards can be secured from Polaris at SF Airport or the Walnut Creek Transit Center.

Committee Reports:

- Legislative Committee: Mark DeSaulnier will be hosting an open house at the Walnut Creek Transit Center on Treat Blvd, December 15th, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. This is a good time to let him know the impact of the Trigger cuts to your life.

A Town Hall Meeting with several legislators will be held January 27th at the State Building in Oakland, 9:30 a.m. – Noon. (Be sure to allow time to go through the security line!) Will Sanford suggested writing your legislators now, wishing them a happy holiday and inviting them to the Town Hall Meeting.

- Transition Committee: The Transition Task Force meets the 3rd Thursday of each month in the RCEB conference room and hosts interesting speakers. Everyone is invited.
- In addition, Caroline Ortiz described the transition activities of CARE Parent Network, and assistance they can provide to families with children ages 16-22+.

Announcements:

Claudia Lam of George Miller Center-Richmond's After School Program announced their coat drive. They will be collecting coats until December 20th to donate to the Richmond Rescue Mission----this is a good time to clean out a closet!

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: January 25, 2012, at RCEB in Concord.

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Carol Anne McCrary

Contra Costa ARC

