

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 23, 2013**

Board and Liaison Members Present: Suzanne Anthony, Chair (presiding), Stephanie Chapralis, Vice-Chair, Jim Burton, Vi Ibarra, Krista Loomis, Erin Rogers, Craig Rose, Heidi Spaulding, Josh Sullivan, Ken Talken, Carl Tolentino, Kim Williams, Dan Denis, Peggy Black, Caroline Ortiz, Karen Lingenfelter-Carman, Penny Musante, Joanne Nakamura, Gabriel Rogin, Pam Perls, Will Sanford, John Rodriguez, Staff.

Board Members Excused: Nickole Bouslog, Stephanie Meakin, Ange Burnett, Heather Hackett.

Guests: Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Elvia Osoria Rodriguez, RCEB; Emlyn Struthers, Senator Mark DeSaulnier's office; Joseph Vasquez, ALIVE Garden-Antioch; Ron Usac, Area Board V; Shakendra Burks, ALIVE; Valisha Fallard, CAF; Leslie Werosh, CAF; Belinda Hernandez, La Familia Counseling; Ra'Bia Griffith, Futures Explored;

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Suzanne welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

- We were happy to meet Gabriel Rogin, the new ED for AREA Board V. Gabriel explained his previous experience as a Case Manager with RCEB and GGRC. This is his first month in his new job and he stated he looked forward to collaborating with our community. He attended (with about 100 others) the Self-Advocacy Celebration at the Ed Roberts Center, where they honored 9 extraordinary people.

In addition, a small grant was given to the Housing Consortium of the East Bay to assist in a housing plan for people with developmental disabilities

Gabriel also mentioned that the State Council is looking for community input to current priorities and he will use our information from last meeting and will work with John to clarify the issues.

- The May 2013 and September 2013 meeting minutes were approved, as written. (M/Karen Lingenfelter-Carman; S/Penny Musante)
- There were no additions to today's agenda.

RCEB Update by Jim Burton, Executive Director

Jim summarized important legislation that was signed by the Governor:

- SB 126: Extends the requirement that insurance companies are required to cover ABA services to people with Autism (prevents the previous legislation from sunset).
- SB 468: Authorizes Self-Determination pilot projects in the State at 5 Regional Centers (not RCEB). The planning process will start Jan. 1st, 2014 and requires Federal funding approval by Dec. 2014 in order to implement. The legislation is a change to the Lanterman Act. It will serve about 500 people in the first 3 years of the pilot, then will be open to everyone. It is a voluntary program. One important concern is sufficient funding. The case management challenges require a person having only 30-45 people per caseload (requiring more case management funding). In addition, Pam is concerned about the qualifications of facilitators. Jim explained that he expected clarification in the

regulations to include background checks and other employment issues for facilitators this Spring.

- AB 1041: Employment First was broadly supported and was signed. Employment is the first consideration for an IPP, but there is NO REQUIREMENT for employment.

There were no budget updates at this time.

Caroline asked a question about changes in the DSM-5, relating to Autism Spectrum Disorders. Jim stated that Lisa Kleinbub and the RCEB clinicians are working on understanding/interpreting the changes and he will have Lisa call Caroline regarding the topic.

Carl stated that the "Native Language" bill passed and had concerns about people that have one native language, but it is not their primary language. Jim explained that RCEB will follow the intent of the legislation, and a possible solution may be a type of waiver regarding "preferred language". Jim stated that there are 200 languages spoken in the Bay Area, and not all have written versions. He also stated that RCEB will require additional translation services.

Presentation: Update on State Developmental Centers Task Force

By Jim Burton and Will Sanford (handout distributed)

Will is participating on the SDC Task Force, which includes about 20 people from around the State. There were 2 public meetings and 2 work group meetings during this past Summer. Summary of residential data:

- 1410 people reside in SDCs;
- 450 people require nursing services;
- 700+ have serious behavioral challenges
- 170 are part of the criminal justice system and have been determined to be "incompetent". (with 30 on the waiting list)....they reside in Porterville.

The Task Force has come to 5 agreements:

1. More specialized SB 962/SB 853 homes need to be developed. (These take more than 1 year to develop and license).
2. The SDC system needs to change.
3. Possible uses for the more than 3 million square feet of property:
 - Planned communities for Section 8 housing, mixed uses;
 - Crisis services for people with serious behavioral challenges;
 - Medical resource centers.
4. Continue serving people within the criminal justice system in some way.
5. Develop a comprehensive medical resource center.

The final Task Force public meeting will be in December 2013.

A discussion on Sonoma Developmental Center ensued regarding the strong parental and community support it has to remain as is. Politicians are involved, as well. Some of the additional challenges include housing development, zoning laws and the "not in my back yard" mentality. Working with 11 Regional Centers poses challenges, as well. Resources have to line up to make the changes successful.

A motion was made to draft a letter on behalf of the DD Council (for Board approval at the next meeting) to support the process and applaud the work of the Task Force (M/Josh Sullivan; S/Karen Lingenfelter-Carman). The motion was passed.

Committee Reports:

- Legislative Committee: Josh and Carl are planning for the 2014 Town Hall meeting. The 2013 topic was "Live"; 2014 will be "Work"; and 2015 will be "Play". Please send any ideas you may have to Josh or Carl.
- Nominating Committee: There is still one opening on the DD Council. Please send any nominations to Craig.
- Transition Committee: Erin announced the upcoming Central/East County Transition Fair being held this Friday at the Willow Creek Center in Concord from 9:00 a.m. – Noon.

Upcoming Meeting:

John reported that there is no November meeting, but the next meeting will be held on December 4th at the RCEB office in Concord. The topic will be Early Intervention Services. John and Stephanie are also working on developing topics for upcoming meetings and securing speakers, if needed.

Announcements:

- Stephanie would like to be sure to include a list of the DD Council's recent accomplishments in the next meeting packet.
- Peggy was happy to announce that on Feb. 18-23, 2014, folks from the University of Wisconsin will be providing clinicians with training on diagnosis of FASD in Oakland.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Our next meeting will be December 4th, 2013
RCEB-Concord Conference Room
2151 Salvio Street (3rd Floor)
Concord, CA 94520**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Carol Anne McCrary

Contra Costa ARC