

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
4/27/16**

Board and Liaison Members Present: Caroline Ortiz, Vice-Chair (presiding), Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Dan Denis, Heidi Spaulding, Will Sanford, Jim Burton, Nina Vincent, Kim Williams, Nickole Bouslog, Craig Rose, Pam Perls, Karen Lingenfelter-Carmen, Heather Hackett, Douglas Quinn, Maria Marquez, and Ron Usac.

Josh Sullivan, Staff.

Board and Liaison Members Excused: Paula Senigar, Peggy Black, Carl Tolentino, Barbara Maizie, Ken Talken, Suzanne Anthony, Krista Loomis, and Vi Ibarra.

Guests: Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Jackie Johnston, **California Children's Services;** Geneva Ziaoure, Manos Home Care; Ramsay Mashy, California Autism Foundation; Miriam Gomez, La Familia Counseling; Marnie Raymond, Autism Spectrum Parent Support Group; **Rebecca Barrett, Representative Mark DeSaulnier's Office; Greg Simons, Las Trampas, Inc.;** Leslie Werosh, Ability Now Bay Area; Valish Fullard Harris, California Autism Foundation; David Monohan, Autism Spectrum Member; Elaine Welch, Mobility Matters; Tighe Boyle, Mobility Matters; Raquel Enciso; Teena DeCay, Regional Center of the East Bay; Makosoi Bavesi; Shakendra Burks, ALIVE/Futures-Explored; and Brittany Andrade.

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Caroline Ortiz, Vice-Chair, and everyone was welcomed. Introductions were made.

- The meeting minutes for March 2016 were approved unanimously **(M/Maria Marquez; S/Nickole Bouslog).**
- There was one addition to today's agenda. Caroline announced that the Joint DD Councils' (Alameda County and Contra Costa County) Annual Dinner will be held June 7th, 2016 at Scott's Restaurant at Jack London Square. Flyers are included in today's packet. In addition, they are seeking nominations for the Excellence in Service Awards due to Josh by May 6th at 4:00 p.m. Assembly Member Tony Thurman will be the featured speaker.

RCEB Update by Jim Burton, Executive Director:

- The regular budget process continues with the final preliminary hearing taking place this afternoon regarding the closure of the State Developmental Centers. The closure plans for Fairview and the non-secure treatment portion of Porterville were submitted on April 1, 2016. Future hearings on this topic are expected after the May revision of the **Governor's budget (expected to be published around May 10th – 15th).**
- Progress is being made on the implementations of ABX21 for the wage pass-through planned for July 1, 2016. This will result in rate increases for all vendored programs.
- Not all programs randomly selected by DDS submitted the cost statement information, as requested. RCEB is contacting providers about sending them in.
- It is expected that the new rates will be announced by June 15th so that RCEB can input them into their system.
- Jim announced that today is the last DD Council meeting in this room, as RCEB is moving to: **1320 Willow Pass Road, #300, Concord, CA 94520.** The move will start on May 20th, a Friday, and RCEB will be closed. They will re-open on Monday, May 23rd.
- Our next DD Council meeting will be at the new location, which includes:

- One amazing feature that Jim was able to put into the improvements for the new office space: an adult changing table in the restroom!
 - Free parking;
 - The availability of additional conference space;
 - A public bus stop in front of the building;
 - No rent increase.
- The next meeting of the Self-Determination group will be May 2nd. They have received a copy of the plan from Tennessee, which has been approved. The California plan has not yet been approved. There is still work to be done to be in compliance with the CMS regulations. The group is active and committed to the project.
- RCEB underwent a fiscal audit: 8 auditors for 5 weeks! The results were outstanding and Jim commended Nancy Kubota and her accounting staff for doing a great job with their budget of \$340 million in State and Federal funds. After the final report is received it will be posted on RCEB.org.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Office: Ron Usac reported that the State Council is putting out a Request for Proposals for FY 2016-2017 for the amount of \$20,000. There are 2 priorities:

1. Early Intervention Education;
2. Community Supports.

Proposals are due May 31, 2016. For more information: www.SDCC.ca.gov

The State Council is currently interviewing for Gabriel's replacement at our local level.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee: They continue to look for volunteers to assist with implementing the Innovation Grant to be given out at the Annual Dinner.

The Contra Costa County Fair is hosting a free day for people with disabilities at the Antioch fairgrounds on June 2nd.....**flyers and invitations will be coming** out soon. There will also be a simulated Anthrax emergency drill focusing on medical responses. The heads of several depts. of the County will be present and Josh would like to secure coaches to model ways of communicating with people with disabilities. There will be a short training beforehand. The drill will be from Noon - 3:00 p.m.

- Strategic Planning Committee: Looking for more funding for the Innovation Grant.
- Legislative Committee: The next meeting of the East Bay Legislative Committee (EBLC) will be Wed., May 4, 2016. The group is tracking several state and federal items, including the State budget. A report summary will be submitted to the DD Council in the May or June meeting.
 - One item they are watching is SB 1024, introduced by Senate Member Loni Hancock. It proposes a 10% incentive rate for individual placements in Supported Employment.
- Nominating Committee: Craig Rose reminded us to get the nominations in for the Excellence in Service Awards to be given out at the June 7th banquet.
- Transition Committee: A successful Special Education Resource and Transition Fair was held on April 23rd in Richmond. RCEB was well-represented and gave a nice presentation to families. About 40 vendors attended, as well.

Caroline added that on May 18th at CARE Parent Network's office, there will be a training held for parents of transition-aged student (16-22 years old) on the IEP/ITP/IPP.

- **A short break for networking was taken.**

Presentation: Way to Go Contra Costa: A Local Look at Mobility Management

Speakers: *Elaine Welch*, Executive Director and *Tighe Boyle*, Mobility Manager of Mobility Matters (formerly Senior Helpline)

Elaine introduced herself as Executive Director of Mobility Matters and holding a Rehabilitation RN license and an MBA. The agency is a non-profit and for the last 10 years has operated a program of free rides for seniors (60 years old and up), using approximately 200 trained volunteer drivers.

Elaine's mantra: *Aging is not an illness.*

The program assists people with transportation (door-through-door) to medical/dental appointments; escorts people post anesthesia, as well as to trips to the grocery store for qualified applicants. Volunteer drivers commit to a minimum of one day per week and receive training beforehand. At this time, they do not have wheelchair accessible vehicles available.

They also have a toll-free hotline (1-855-234-RIDE) for seniors and people with disabilities. This service matches people with an appropriate transportation provider.

Last year Mobility Matters received a large mobility management grant (Federal 5310 grant) in collaboration with Futures Explored, Contra Costa ARC, Rehabilitation Services of Northern California and several other non-profits and were awarded a total of \$1.4 million.

As a result, Mobility Matters has been busy implementing and coordinating several projects, such as:

- Taking an inventory of the transportation services in Contra Costa County;
- Designing a website with transportation resources: WayToGoCC.com
- Expanding the Information/Referral hotline;
- Working on a county-wide travel training program
 - Elaine has a sister with a developmental disability who has flourished after accomplishing travel training and is now helping others.
- **Expanding the volunteer driver's program throughout the county;**
- Negotiated with County Connection to donate vehicles they have put out of service to nonprofits---so far 7 accessible vehicles have been donated;
- Working on a proposal to County Connection to share vehicle and lift maintenance expertise;
- Coordinating with other counties to apply for Kaiser funding.
- **Consulting with 19 "Senior Villages" to create volunteer driver programs;**
- **Elaine is on the faculty of the CHP's *Age Well-Drive Smart* program, so that seniors can keep driving longer;**
- Coordinating with Dialysis Centers for volunteer drivers;
- One goal is to eventually serve people with disabilities less than 60 years of age, as there is a clear need.

Tighe introduced the "Way to Go Contra Costa" booklet, which is posted on their website, as well. It does not include Uber, Lyft or Ambuvans, as they change frequently. The booklet is being translated into Spanish and Chinese. Tighe brought boxes of booklets to distribute and asked that if you know of someone that needs help, please refer him/her to Mobility Matters (925-284-6161) or mobilitymatterscc.com.

Qualifications of volunteer drivers include:

- **CA Driver's License with a clean 5-year record**
- Between the ages of 25-75 years
- Criminal background clearance
- Available 1 day each week/hours are flexible
- Carries liability insurance and vehicle is registered.

Caroline stated that she is inspired to become a volunteer driver.

Elaine has a goal to continue to expand services to our DD community.

Elaine and Tighe were thanked for their inspirational and passionate presentation.

Caroline thanked Elaine and Tighe.

Announcements:

- Elvia described the 2nd Annual Oakley Congresso Familiar, held on April 16th, as very successful. It included 30 workshops---almost double from last year. There was a resource fair, child care provided, lunch, music, a talent show and much more.
- The Alameda County Congresso Familiar at Chabot College is coming up on August 6th.
- The 4th Annual Art and Wine Walk will be held on May 7th in downtown Concord from 1 pm-4 pm. Futures Explored's Artist' Den will be open during that time, so come down to visit.
- On May 7th the East Bay Parent's Group is partnering for the Grand Re-Opening of Ability Now Bay Area (formerly CP Center) from 10 am – 3 pm in Oakland.
- The 10th Annual California Autism Foundation Golf Tournament is being held June 6th at the Contra Costa Country Club in Pleasant Hill. Registration is at 9 am and a shotgun start commences at 10 am. They need a few more foursomes and sponsors.
- The Loma Vista Adults with Disabilities program and the Adaptive Learning Center is partnering for a Creativity Expo on May 18th, from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at Loma Vista. It will include live entertainment and other art forms.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 25, 2016

Annual Dinner @ Scott's @ Jack London Square in Oakland on June 7, 2016

(Assembly Member Tony Thurmond will be the keynote speaker)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 p.m.

**Our next meeting is May 25, 2016 at
RCEB-Concord's NEW LOCATION:
1320 Willow Pass Road, Suite 300
Concord, CA 94520**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Carol Anne McCrery

Contra Costa ARC