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**CONTRA COSTA
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**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
February 24, 2010**

Board and Liaison Members Present: Suzanne Anthony-Chairperson, Laura Beard, Jim Burton, Dwayne Cooper, Joan Crook, Lacey Friedman, Mindy Lee, Ella Liggins, Barbara Maizie, Rocio Smith, Heidi Spalding

Excused: Curtis Braxton, Ian Bremner, Stephanie Chapralis, Stephen Dale, Elree Langford, Anne Long, Donna Mann, Carol McKinney, Penny Musante, Lauri Parks, Pam Perls, Norma Ramos, Kate Rauch, Peg Rimler, Carol Rossi, Will Sanford, Barbara Sheehy, Diana Thomas, Elizabeth Wilson-Palmer

Guests: J. H. Dethero, Parent; Gene Gracey, MassMutual Ins. Co.; Victoria Greenleaf, RCEB; Heather Hackett, Futures Explored, Inc.; Krista Loomis, Full Circle; Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Joanne Nakamura, Congressman Miller's Office; John Rumsey, Marin Ventures; Ron Usac, Area Board 5

Staff: Gina Jennings, Director; Pamela Newachek, Acting Secretary

Welcome and Introductions – Suzanne Anthony

Vice-Chair Suzanne Anthony called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. All present introduced him/herself.

Minutes – Minutes were approved as written.

Additions to the Agenda – Barbara Maizie requested time to speak about the Respite Inn. Please see below for details.

Budget Update/RCEB Update – Jim Burton

Lanterman Development Center

It was recently announced that the Lanterman Development Center in Pomona will be closing, though the timeline has not yet been defined. This is a positive step and is not part of any budget reduction plans. A report on the plan of action is due to the Legislature by April 1, and it was noted that the process for closure is spelled out in the Lanterman Act. The plan must be done carefully as many residents are older and in poor health. The current annual cost per resident to live in the development center is between \$350,000 and \$400,000. About 400 residents will be moved into community-based programs, though none are clients of RCEB.

State Budget

- There has been an increase of \$1.7 billion in state revenues. The question remains whether this is a spike or a trend.
- The state has been successful in receiving an additional \$3 billion in federal funds.
- The revised budget will be released in May and then be addressed during the summer.
- The 26-piece massive budget cuts made last year have been implemented, but it is still too early to fully calculate their impact.
- The early signs are encouraging as deficiencies are starting to drop. Income and Expenses are only about \$50-\$100 million off in a \$4 billion budget.
- The number of infants and toddlers entering the system has dropped significantly. Speculation is that it is due to tightened eligibility.
- The senior program and custom endeavors have had little to no impact as they are not being chosen.
- The Senate took action to extend the 3% cut for an additional year. The Assembly has not taken action yet.



■ Contra Costa Community Substance Abuse Services ■ Contra Costa Emergency Medical Services ■ Contra Costa Environmental Health ■ Contra Costa Health Plan ■
■ Contra Costa Hazardous Materials Programs ■ Contra Costa Mental Health ■ Contra Costa Public Health ■ Contra Costa Regional Medical Center ■ Contra Costa Health Centers ■

- There hasn't been an increase in program closures, yet. It may be part of the delayed impact and more may be coming, such as those that provide camping and respite. It is expected that some service programs will consolidate in order to spread out administrative costs.

RCEB New Offices

RCEB will be closing mid-day on Friday, March 19 to move to their new location, with the new office scheduled to open on time on Monday, March 22. The new address is: **500 Davis Street, Suite 100, San Leandro, CA 94577**. Both the phone number and fax number will remain the same. The purchase of their new office has been done in a judicious, cost effective manner, and is only 4 miles away from their current location. The new space is convenient to Hwys 580 and 880, AC Transit and BART, and offers plenty of parking. It is exciting to have a building that will be accessible to all.

Respite Inn – Barbara Maizie

The Respite Inn has served approximately 70 families since opening in 1989. Because of the recent \$5.2 million cuts to respite care, the Inn is in danger of closing its doors June 30. This would have a serious impact on those families who use the serve. Barbara feels strongly that the community does whatever possible to help preserve the Respite Inn as it provides such an important service to families. Specifically, she asked that the DD Council draft and send a letter to Senator DeSaulnier (with copies to Assemblymember Torlakson and Buchanan), requesting/begging/asking that the monies be found to keep the Inn open. It was also recommended that US Senator George Miller be copied on the letter as well.

A motion was made by Dwayne Cooper with a second by Ella Liggins authorizing Gina Jennings to write the letter(s) on behalf of the Board. The vote was unanimous in favor. Members of the DD Council were also encouraged to send their own personal letters. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

Special Presentation –Thinking Ahead – My Life at the End – How to Plan John Rumsey, Marin Ventures

John Rumsey began his career with Contra Costa ARC, is the Founder and Ex-Director of Marin Ventures, is active on the state level, and is currently a member of the Coalition for Compassionate Care (CCC). CCC is a statewide partnership of more than 95 regional and statewide organizations dedicated to the advancement of palliative medicine and end-of-life care in California. The goal of CCC is to build training materials and leaders to educate and distribute information. John shared the workbook, *Thinking Ahead*, which helps a person work through the steps using the philosophy "Think, Plan, Do." John also showed a DVD entitled *Think Ahead – My Way, My Choice, My Life at the End*, which was developed and funded by California Department of Developmental Services. Both the workbook and video are available for download at <http://finalchoices.org/thinking-ahead.php>. John also distributed a POLST form that allows a person to make choices for medical treatment when seriously ill and compared it to the Advanced Care Directive, which is a broad outline of what a person wants done. John's hope is that people will download the workbook and video and begin discussing this topic, which is often avoided until too late.

Committee Reports

Legislation – Rocio Smith

Rocio Smith gave a brief report that she now is a member of the Budget Advisory Group, which is formerly known as the Stakeholder Group. She will keep us informed as needed.

Transition Committee

No report

Family Support

No report

Review Draft Mission Statement – Gina Jennings

Tabled until March meeting due to time constraints.



Annual Dinner – Gina Jennings

The dinner is being hosted by the Alameda County DD Council and will be held either May 4 or May 5. We will only need to provide a few people to help on the night of the event and a group of board members will need to volunteer to be on a nomination committee to review Excellence in Service Awards and make recommendation of new Board Members. We will discuss this more at the March meeting.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted via e-mail,
Pamela Newacheck
Pamela Newacheck
Acting Secretary

Snacks to be provided by Dwayne Cooper and Curtis Braxton at the March meeting.

