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**CONTRA COSTA  
PUBLIC HEALTH**

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**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, INC  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
September 26, 2007**

***Board and Liaison Members Present:*** Anne Long-Chairperson, Rosemary Almond, Curtis Braxton, Ian Bremner, Ange Burnett, Jim Burton, Dwayne Cooper, Stephen Dale, Betsy Katz, Carol McCrary, Carol McKinney, Penny Musante, Pam Perls, Norma Ramos, Peg Rimler, Pat Yamamoto

***Excused:*** Wilson Barfield, Elree Langford, Mindy Lee, Barbara Maizie, Elizabeth Wilson Palmer, Lauri Parks, Kate Rauch, Will Sanford, Barbara Sheehy, Rocio Smith, Diana Thomas

***Guests:*** Suzanne Anthony, parent; Tracy Butler, CSS-Antioch; Laura Corona, RCEB; Francine Davis, RCEB; Teresa Green, Mobility Plus; Heather Hackett, GARDEN Program Director; Sandra Jackson, Las Trampas, Inc.; Patrick MacGrath, Protected Tomorrows, Inc.; Salvatore Palma, Mobility Plus; Ann Shackelford, CSS-Concord; Heidi Spaulding, Alive/Full Circle; Creola Walker, Mobility Plus; Matthew Yamashita, Mobility Plus

***Staff:*** Gina Jennings, Director; Pamela Newacheck, Acting Secretary

**Welcome and Introductions**

Chairperson Anne Long called the meeting to order at 10:00am. She welcomed all to the meeting and everyone present introduced him or herself.

**Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2007**

- Meeting minutes were unanimously approved (motion by Carol McCrary, second by Ian Bremner) with the following corrections:
  - ✓ Change “over 45 parents attended” to “over 45 childcare providers attended”
  - ✓ Change “recognized Betsy Katz for her hard work at the Child Care Council” to “recognized Betsy Katz for her hard work at the CARE Parent Network and for her continued work in raising awareness for family support”.

**Additions to the Agenda:**

- No additions were made to the agenda

***Board Community Concerns/Unmet Service Needs***

- None noted

***Community Announcements***

- Ange Burnett thanked RCEB for loaning Dr. Terry to the Autism Education Training for childcare providers on October 10 in West County-the event was a success.



- Gina Jennings advised that the Resource Directory has been updated and is available. Please send Gina any corrections for updating next summer. Also, the DD Council web site is in process of being updated, and will have the Resource Directory on it as of October 31, 2007, if all goes as planned.
- Stephen Dale mentioned that his law firm has a paralegal and intake position open, please contact him for more information.

### **Special Presentation – Mobility Plus Transportation**

Teresa Green, Creola Walker, Matthew Yamashita, and Salvatore Palma gave an overview of Mobility Plus. Highlights of their presentation and discussion are listed below:

- Mobility Plus began as the new transportation provider at RCEB in April 2007. Mobility Plus has contracts with many other Regional Centers and has been working hard to improve services on all their contracts. They have made some positive changes in the S.F. area and the services are running smoothly there. They understand that there needs to be some improvements in services provided to consumers at RCEB and they have put a comprehensive plan into action to improve those services within the next 6 months.
- Improvements are being planned in the following areas:
  1. Increase number of staff and mechanics
  2. Improve driver recruitment and retention
  3. Increase use of computer program for route planning
  4. Improve communication with community via a better phone management plan
  5. Improve driver training, especially in the following areas
    - Disability awareness and sensitivity
    - How to better handle consumer issues as they arise
- Their goal is 2 complaints per 1,000 trips, which is approximately 1-2 complaints per day.
  - Francine Davis, of RCEB is holding quarterly “community forums” for families, service providers and other interested parties to come and hear more about Mobility Plus and to be part of an open discussion about transportation services. The first forum is set for October 11 from 5:30 to 7:00pm in the RCEB conference room.
  - Carol McCrary offered that CCARC’s training that is already in place (ARC University and CPR/First Aid) might be able to assist in staff training. Mobility Plus and Carol will be discussing that further.
  - Many expressed frustration over the service for the last six months, and how it affects individual consumers and programs as a whole.
  - Gina Jennings recommends inviting Mobility Plus back in six months for another update on how the service improvements are going.

### ***Committee Reports***

#### **Nominating Committee** – Gina Jennings

The following persons were nominated as board members:

- **Carol Rossi** - parent of a teen with developmental disabilities and an employee of Wee Care
- **Laura Beard** – consumer at ARC Inroads
- **Suzanne Anthony** - past board member
- **Joseph Jimenez** – staff at CP Center in Oakland



The vote was unanimous to add all four to the board (motion by Pat Yamamoto and second by Norma Ramos). This brings the board member total to 23.

Legislation Committee- Will Sanford (Report given by Gina Jennings)

- AB1427, the pilot project for staff training, is awaiting action by the Governor. If he takes no action by October 14, it will become law. A handout regarding this important bill was distributed.
- The CDCAN Disability News is an excellent source for upcoming legislative actions. Copies were made available to everyone who attended today meeting.

Transition Task Force– Penny Musante

- October 30, 2007 is the first Transition Fair
- January 8, 2008 is the Transition Conference to be held at DVC
- October 18th is the Joint Transition Meeting-3:15pm at RCEB in Concord

Unmet Needs and Family Support Committee– Ange Burnett and Betsy Katz

- “May I Play Too”, a program funded by First Five, will be held at DVC on October 6, and over 51 childcare providers have already signed up. They are looking to see how to raise the age level of childcare that gets trained by this program.
- Providing support groups for parents continues to be an important focus. On October 13, training will be given to teach parents how to facilitate support groups, and there are a few openings left for attendees. Training will be on-going for the support group facilitators. Contact Louise @ Care Parent Network for more information.
- Gina recommends setting aside twenty minutes during the October meeting to discuss the report from Family Support.

Aging Committee – Will Sanford (Report given by Anne Long)

- A pilot group of parents, sponsored by RCEB has had three trainings, led by Bob Royden, to help parents design what life will be like for their child when parents are gone. Anne Long is involved with the training and will keep the Board posted on how pilot is progressing.
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies is presenting a conference titled *Final Journeys: Quality End-of-Life Decisions* on October 29-30, and there are still openings available. Information distributed.

East Bay Autism Committee

- The next meeting is October 16 at Contra Costa ARC in Martinez at 2pm.

***RCEB Update – Jim Burton***

- RCEB funding ran out the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July when the state budget was not approved. A \$40 million unsecured loan was necessary to keep many programs going, and many people were put at risk by the delay.
- No changes were included in the 2007-08 budget. All freezes and cost containments remained in place, which is going to be extremely problematic, as services are not keeping up with the needs.
- There are ominous signs for next year with an expected deficit increase between \$5 and \$10 billion. The decrease in our economy and the reduction in the housing market is expected to have an enormous impact on the budget.



- Assemblyman Jim Beall, from San Jose has shown an interest in our system, and is to holding hearings on ways to “strengthen” the Lanterman Act. The hearings are scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> in State Capitol, room to be announced and on November 16<sup>th</sup> in San Jose, location pending. Both hearings are from 1:30pm to 5pm.
- The Blue Ribbon Autism Committee has recently published their report. Look for legislation to come out of their report/recommendations. Most recent figures indicate that 60% of new consumers to the developmental disabilities system have autism.
- Susan Driggs, Administrative Assistant at RCEB, sends heartfelt thanks to all for their love and support during the recent loss of her son.

***Announcements***

- Pam Perls brought flyers on the free public lectures being held at John Muir/Mt. Diablo, given by the National Alliance on Mental Illness.
- Diana Jorgensen sends a huge thank you for the get-well card.
- RCEB is holding a Living Options Workshop on October 24 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, with tours of Living Options on October 25.
- The next Board meeting will be held on October 24, 2007, and the guest speakers will be from the Housing Consortium.
- A snack sign-up sheet was distributed. Thank you to all who signed up and please mark your calendars (see below). Remember coffee, cups, napkins and plates will be provided.

**SNACK ROTATION**

October	Betsy Katz
November	Rosemary Almond
January	Sandra Jackson
February	Carol Anne McCrary
March	Pat Yamamoto
April	Norma Ramos
May	Anne Long
June	OPEN

***Adjournment – Anne Long***

Meeting was adjourned at 11:38pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela Newacheck, Via e-mail*

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Acting Secretary

