

Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 27, 2019

Board and Liaison Members Present: Paula Senigar, Chairperson; Heidi Spaulding, Vice-Chair; Audra Sysum; Bill Trinh; Craig Rose; David Monahan; Elvia Osorio Rodriguez; Leslie Werosh Visbal; Marcelle Indelicato; Marianne Iversen; Pam Perls; Rosa Valledor; Stephen Dale; Sheraden Nicholau; Will Sanford.

Staff: Vi Ibarra.

Board and Liaison Members Excused: Suzanne Anthony; Nickole Bouslog; Donna Feingold; Ria Mercado; and Caroline Ortiz.

Guests: Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Patricia Albeno, CARE Parent Network; Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director, RCEB; Jason Parks, Futures Explored; Cheresé LeBlanc, Care Parent Network; Megan Crain, Congressman Desaulnier's Office; Rebecca Corbett, ALIVE; Bruce Baginski, Client; Judy Hunter, Las Trampas, Inc.; John Bolle, Executive Director, Contra Costa ARC; Stephen Beard, Beard Realty; Carolyn Monahan, Parent; Laul Rodriguez, La Familia Counseling; Jeff Nagafuji, RCEB; Sandra Regan, RCEB; Aimee Vitug-Hom, Contra Costa ARC; Christine Rottger, George Miller Center-Concord; Geneva Ziauore, Manos Home Care; Jackie Johnston, CA Children's Services.

Welcome and Introductions:

Paula Senigar, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and everyone was welcomed. Introductions were made. The meeting minutes of February 2019 were approved (M/Will Sanford; S/Heidi Spaulding). There were no additions to the agenda.

UPDATES

RCEB Report by Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director:

Lisa reported:

- The Rate Study was received 15 days late.
 - The East Bay is considered a high cost area for wages and real estate, but not transportation;
 - We need to look at a number of assumptions, such as level of benefits, Workers Comp levels, and the fact that ILS workers are considered as Aides, not Teachers.
 - On April 27th they will provide information on how to move forward with the legislature in 2019.
 - Lisa is concerned about the therapies for Early Intervention Services, as they are using a much lower reimbursement level (Medi-Cal + 40%).
- The last public hearing for POS Disparity concerns is being held this Saturday in Brentwood. See the RCEB.org website for the details.
- RCEB posted 2 RFPs for the development of Family Home Agencies: one with an emphasis in sign language; one with an emphasis in Asian languages.
- RCEB has a little start-up funds for community services and you can give your input on RCEB.org until April 15th.
- The Self-Determination orientations for 154 selected people will start the end of April or beginning of May.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Bay Area Office by Sheraden Nicholau:

Sheraden reported:

- You can also provide Rate Study feedback to SCDD on their website---they are collecting feedback until April 5th.
- Results so far from a 2-year Longitudinal Study of former residents of Sonoma Developmental Center are positive. They have found joy and satisfaction in moving into the community.
- SCDD is also participating in National Core Indicators study of families with children under 18 years old. English and Spanish surveys have gone out and they will be going out in other languages, as well. Please encourage families to fill them out and let them know that it is important.
- SCDD has several upcoming meetings; details are posted on their website:
 - April 18th: Employment First meeting;
 - April 24th: Local Family Resource Center in San Francisco;
 - May 8th: State Public Policy meeting;
 - May 20th: Self Advocates meeting;
 - May 21st: the next SCDD meeting, in which they will be doing a training.

Executive Assistant to the Council Report by Vi Ibarra:

Vi reported that she is moving out of the Public Health Dept. in Contra Costa County and into the Health Services Dept, Office of the Director. This will help to facilitate access to other departments within Health Services. Her office is now located at 1220 Morello Ave in Martinez. They have 2 conference rooms that the Council can use if needed.

- Vi attended the Family Voices Annual Health Conference. They are helping families navigate health services and are supporting the 8% increase to rates as a down payment on the Rate Study increases.
- Vi will be on vacation until April 8th.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: Paula stated that she would not be continuing as Chairperson next year. They are also planning the Annual Dinner in Contra Costa County in June.

Nominating Committee: There may be new nominees for the 3 vacant positions at the next DD Council meeting. In the May meeting, there will be a vote on the proposed slate of officers for the Council that will be installed at the Annual Dinner in June.

Transition Committee: Vi stated that they are planning for events for next year. They are also planning to update the Resource Guide during the summer.

Community Liaison Reports

Health Equity Team: Vi attended and reported that the meeting was a review of each department within Health Services and what they are doing for equitable health services.

Employment Task Force: Will reported that in Alameda County, Futures Explored and East Bay Innovations is collaborating with the Workforce Boards to place workers into key sectors of the County. The next 2 meetings will be held in Contra Costa County (RCEB).

East Bay Legislative Coalition: Will also reported that the EBLC wants everyone to stay on the message of the 8% rate increase. He feels that the Rate Study is a distraction from that message and that implementing the Rate Study recommendations will be very complex.

April 10th at Noon is the next meeting of the EBLC---everyone is welcome (1000 Broadway, 5th Floor, Oakland).

March is I/DD month----Assembly member Frazier read a resolution in honor of I/DD Month, and Assembly member Grayson read one honoring people with Down Syndrome.

There are many new bills on the horizon including:

- Proposed funding for low income housing;
- Elimination of ½ day billing and the 14-day holiday schedule (in Appropriations committee);
- SB644 proposes a State internship program in various State agencies.

On April 3rd there is an ARCA rally at the Capital that starts about Noon.

There is a Senate Budget hearing planned for some time in May to address the Rate Study.

- The Rate Study seems to be starving Work Activity programs;
- The State seems to be eliminating programs that don't qualify for matching Federal funds, which is inconsistent with the Lanterman Act. There is no policy on this.

CCTA Paratransit Coordination Council (PCC): Bill reported that the City of Richmond has partnered with Lyft to provide one-way trips for \$3 for seniors and people with disabilities that are ambulatory. A handout about the program is on the back table. They continue to offer R-Transit, for people that are non-ambulatory: this only operates Monday-Friday and they only have 2 drivers. There is a registration process for R-Transit.

The transportation areas are Richmond, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, East Richmond Heights, Hasford Heights, Rollingwood, and North Richmond, Contra Costa Regional Medical Center in Martinez, and the Veteran's Hospital in Martinez.

Emergency Services Engagement:

Marcelle reported:

- Marcelle announced a need for volunteers for the Red Cross' Sound the Alarm project to install free smoke alarms (200) in our County. This project starts April 27th in Pacheco and will go to different areas of the County.
- The City of Lafayette did an evacuation exercise last Saturday that went well.
- Marcelle is working on a Letter of Intent with the Contra Costa Health Plan Director to use their vendors in an emergency where Durable Medical Equipment (DME) (wheelchairs, walkers, etc.) are needed.
- If you are interested, last week there was a webinar of the Psychological issues surrounding people that don't prepare for an emergency vs. those that do. Contact Marcelle and she can forward the link to you.
- A Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs Forum for and by emergency responders will be October 30th at a Union Hall in Martinez (free). More info will be coming as to the speakers and topics to be presented. It is open to all.
- Carol, Catherine Godlewski (ARC University), and Rosa, provided a classroom training for the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue elite team regarding Autism and what to expect when searching for a lost person with Autism. Then, last week there was an exercise at night at the Martinez Marina, in which Melody (an adult with ASD) role played being lost, Aimee was her coach, and Marcelle and Carol played the roles of family members. An alert went out at 6:15 p.m. for Search and Rescue, with about 50 people responding. Our role-plays were scripted and everyone learned something:
 - Some interview questions were repeated unnecessarily; Melody was referred to as "the subject" to her family members;
 - Melody was truly upset by the flashlights, as in the dark they didn't appear to be attached to people and she thought they were "orbs".
 - Search and Rescue people gave positive feedback about this experience and seemed appreciative of this information. We had no resolution to the flashlight issue, other than to expect the lost person to run away from them, if fearful.

A five minute break occurred.

Presentation: Supports, Services, and Oversight for Regional Center Clients Involved with the Criminal Justice System

Speakers: Jeff Nagafuji (510-678-1128) and Sandra Regan (510-618-6496) of RCEB

Sandra explained that in California, there is one Secured Perimeter program at Porterville Developmental Center. There are 211 people, with 17 of them from RCEB. There are other RCEB clients in various local jails and detention centers, as well.

RCEB has a group of Forensic Services Specialists that advocate for clients from their arrest to sentencing. They work with the DA, and Judges to educate them on services available to the clients of RCEB. They have developed a "Bench Card".....a laminated card with a summary of the RCEB services available and have found that to be very helpful.

Four years ago, they started a Forensic Review Team (FRT) that includes psychologists and supervisors to discuss complex cases. Their biggest challenges are a lack of resources, working with people that are medication non-compliant or people with addiction.

People wait in local jails until there is an opening at Porterville. The point of Porterville is to restore competency. All jails are required to assess people for I/DD.

Pam Perls stated that she is part of a Forensic Work Group in Alameda County and they are trying to get a seat at the table within the criminal justice system. She recommends that Contra Costa County also develop a Forensic Work Group for local advocacy.

Jeff and Sandra were thanked for their enlightening presentation.

Announcements:

- Futures Explored's CAC is hosting meetings the week of April 15th on how to talk to legislators and be a good advocate. There is a flyer in the back about it.
- On April 16th the Golden Gate Pooled Trust is hosting a webinar on the ABLE Act from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm.
- Steven Beard announced he is offering a free workshop on home ownership at the end of April.
- Rosa reminded everyone that April 27th, in Oakley, is Congreso Familiar, a conference for families who are Spanish speaking. The registration is online. They provide childcare, continental breakfast, and lunch...and it is Free!

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

**Next Meeting:
April 24, 2019
RCEB-Concord
1320 Willow Pass Road, #300
10:00 am - Noon**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,
Carol Anne McCrary
Contra Costa ARC