

Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 24, 2020

Board and Liaison Members Present: Audrua Sysum, Chairperson; Caroline Ortiz; Donna Feingold; Marcelle Indelicato; Marianne Iversen; Pam Perls; Ria Mercado; David Monahan; Elvia Osorio Rodriguez; Craig Rose; Will Sanford; Leslie Visbal; Rosa Vallador; Stephen Dale.

Staff: Vi Ibarra.

Board and Liaison Members Excused Suzanne Anthony; Nickole Bouslog; Bill Trinh; Heidi Spaulding; Stephen Beard.

Guests: Bill Pelter, Ability Now Bay Area; Carol Anne McCrary, VistAbility; Murri Banis, VistAbility; Christine Rottger, VistAbility; Hannah Michaelson, Care Parent Network; Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB; Sheraden Nicholau, SCDD; Kimberli Buckley, Concord Library; Heather Hackett, Futures Explored; Rebecca Corbett, Antioch Alive; Karen Lingenfelter, Mt. Diablo Adult Education; Maria Cabeza, Care Parent Network; Jason Parks, Futures Explored; Tara Kopp, Office of Congressman Mark DeSaulnier; Ashley Kokotaylo, Contra Costa County Health Services; Ben Chen, Alameda DD Council; Michelle Mankewich, CSB Head Start; Carlyn Obringer, Blue Shield of California; Sumaiya Khan, CCS MPH Intern; Angela Gattis, Care Parent Network.

Welcome and Introductions:

Everyone was welcomed and the meeting was called to order by Audrua Sysum, Chairperson, at 10:02 a.m. Since this was a Zoom meeting, all guests were asked to sign into the Chat box. Board attendance was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

The meeting minutes of May 27, 2020 were approved with 2 corrections (M/Craig Rose; S/ Leslie Visbal).

There was one addition to the agenda, to vote on Chair and Vice Chair of this Board for the upcoming term.

Presentation by Ashley Kokotaylo from
the Contra Costa Health Services Testing Branch

Ashley discussed the Covid-19 testing facilities throughout Contra Costa County:

- Some of the testing sites are run by the County, some are run by the State;
- Testing is available for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals;
- Tests are by appointment only: call 1-844-421-0804 or schedule on-line at cchealth.org;

- There are walk up and drive through sites;
- Additionally, there is a mobile testing team that is dedicated to Skilled Nursing Facilities, homeless encampments, hotels, and family shelters;
- You pay nothing for the test and if you have healthcare insurance, your insurance will be billed.

Ashley indicated that at the County testing sites, they use an “anterior swap” which is painless, and you can even test yourself with it. Test results can come through between 1-5 days, with priority given to people with symptoms.

Ashley encouraged everyone to get tested, as they have a goal to test 200 people for every 100,000. They are currently at 164. She stated that they are not currently doing antibody tests. Also, at Kaiser, they have their own labs, so they can get test results within 24 hours. If you have questions, you can reach Ashley at: Ashley.Kokotaylo@cchealth.org

Ashley was praised for her work and thanked for her informative presentation!

UPDATES

RCEB Report by Lisa Kleinbub:

Lisa reported, with a sigh of relief, that a budget deal has been made, with no additional cuts to the DD service system. In addition:

- ILS and Early Start will get a small rate increase in January 2021;
- There was no minimum wage relief;
- The 8.2% rate increases will still sunset in Dec. 2021;
- We need to work on the rate structure this year;
- We need to continue to advocate for federal funding.

A recent DDS directive allows for absence billing (due to State of Emergency) through July 31, 2020. At this time, we don't know what will happen in terms of funding after that date. Also unknown is information on funding services that re-open with reduced days and hours.

Re-opening day programs guidance is expected soon from the DS Task Force.

Thanks to SCDD, RCEB is distributing PPE to families and day programs over the next few weeks. Also, Lisa and her team will be offering a webinar to families this Friday at 1 p.m.

Finally, the RCEB.org website has a new look----check it out.

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

Sheraden suggested that we check SCDD's website for a racial injustice statement, updates, and Covid-19 resources. They are participating in a

Neighbor to Neighbor program to prevent isolation of people that continue to Shelter-at-Home.

Sheraden also thanked RCEB and IRC for assisting in distributing PPE to people with disabilities in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

The next SCDD's meeting is this evening by Zoom at 6:30 p.m. The guest speaker is an attorney speaking on updates in Special Education and recent legislation.

Council Chairperson Report: no report

A motion was made to have meetings during the summer on July 22nd and August 26th to keep up-to-date with the current state of the pandemic. It was passed by a roll call vote (M/Rosa Valledor; S/Will Sanford).

Executive Assistant to the Council Report by Vi Ibarra:

Vi reported:

- The upcoming election in November will have all registered voters receiving their ballot by mail. In person voting sites will still be available. Our County will need poll workers, that receive \$125 for a 12-hour day. Please talk to Vi if you are interested in becoming a poll worker.
- Community sewing groups made and donated 500 cloth masks which they asked to be distributed to group homes serving individuals with I/DD. Vi distributed these to 20 group homes throughout the county and thanked Lisa Kleinbub for her assistance in connecting Vi with the group homes who wanted them.
- PG&E has a Medical Baseline program for people that depend upon electricity, such as battery operated wheelchairs, CPAP machines, etc. Not only do you receive a discount utility rate, you will also receive a 2-day notice of any planned power shut offs and be eligible to apply for a back-up battery for your devices. In addition, they will directly contact you during a planned power shut off to make sure you are safe. If you don't answer your phone/text/email, they may come knocking at your door. You can sign up for this program on their website.

Board Membership Report by David Monahan:

There are 2 nominations for Board members: Karen Lingenfelter, returning member, from Mt. Diablo Adult Education and Kimberli Buckley, from the Concord Library. Karen and Kimberli each introduced themselves. Both were voted in unanimously as new Board members (M/Dave Monahan; S/Marianne Iversen) and welcomed to the board!

Nominations were also presented for Rosa Vallador for Chairperson and Leslie Visbal for Vice Chair. Both were voted in unanimously (M/Dave Monahan;

S/Marianne Iversen). Thank you for your commitment to serving the board Rosa and Leslie!

Finally, Dave presented a list of returning members that are able to serve another 3 years, and they were all voted in unanimously (M/Dave Monahan; S/Leslie Visbal).

Committee Liaison Reports:

CCTA Paratransit Coordinating Council (Vi Ibarra): No report

East Bay Legislative Coalition (Will Sanford): Will commended everyone for the electronic advocacy that helped push the budget agreement through with no cuts to our service system.

Concerns continue to be:

- No expansion of Self-Determination services;
- No correction to the local minimum wage quirks;
- No extension of the rate increases beyond Dec. 31, 2021;
- Need to push for Federal relief.

Now our community is preparing for a serious wildfire season and planned power shut offs. At this time, we are unable to bill for virtual training and this needs to be addressed, as well. Planning for re-opening of services is on-going.

Emergency Planning Engagement (Marcelle Indelicato): Marcelle reported:

- The County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is now with the Health Department, since Covid-19 is a health emergency. However, the County is still planning for the upcoming emergencies:
 - Heat (developing cooling centers);
 - Planned Safety Power Shut Offs (PSPS);
 - Wildfire Season and Wind Events;
 - And evacuation plans in the Covid-19 environment.

Currently, the Mutual Aid Mobile Field Force (MAMFF), a specialty law enforcement team from all over the County, has been deployed for civil unrest. Protests have been targeting the homes of elected officials and the Contra Costa Sheriff.

- Other happenings include:
 - The Community Warning System is working with the Access and Functional Needs Co-Coordinator (Aimee, Heather and Carol) to develop easy to read Nextdoor alerts for PSPS, evacuations and other emergencies and these notices will be pushed out in the coming weeks.
 - The Office of Emergency Services is moving soon to a new state-of-the-art building on the same property.
 - Vi is attending a Red Cross sheltering exercise in the Covid-19 environment as an Access and Functional Needs observer.

- The Office of Emergency Services is hiring for an emergency planner and for one community warning system employee.
- Next Monday and Tuesday is a new FAST (Functional Assessment Service Team) certification class, being held virtually. FAST workers are deployed to shelters to assist people with disabilities and access and functional needs, such as the elderly.

HireAble: No report: next meeting is June 30th at 10 a.m.

Health Equity Team: They are on hiatus; no report.

Transition Task Force Committee: They are meeting to discuss how they can best be of service for the community during this unusual time. They've decided to continue meeting over the summer, next meeting is July 16 at 3:15 p.m.

Announcements:

- Maria Cabeza, of Care Parent Network, is starting up 2 new support groups for adults with special needs. At this time, the groups will be meeting virtually. One will be for East County residents and one in Central County. The contact information is on the Care Parent Network Facebook page. These groups will start in July.
- Lisa Kleinbub announced that the Hume Center is developing mental health services for our population in Contra Costa County. They are meeting monthly to develop these services.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:38 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;">Next meeting will be held on July 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Look for a Zoom invitation from Vi Ibarra</p>
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Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Carol Anne McCrary
VistAbility