

**Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**September 23, 2020**

**Board and Liaison Members Present:** Rosa Valledor, Chairperson, Leslie Visbal, Vice-Chair, Caroline Ortiz, Suzanne Anthony, Donna Feingold, Karen Lingenfelter, Kimberli Buckley, Marcelle Indelicato, Maria Cabeza, Marianne Iversen, Pam Perls, David Monahan, Craig Rose, Nickole Bouslog, Ria Mercado, Heidi Spaulding, Will Sanford.

**Staff:** Vi Ibarra.

**Board and Liaison Members Excused:** Audrua Sysum, Bill Trinh, Stephen Dale.

**Guests:** Carol Anne McCrary, VistAbility; Murri Banis, VistAbility; Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB; Ron Usac, SCDD; Rebecca Corbett, Antioch Alive; Patricia Alberñ, Care Parent Network; Tara Kopp, Office of Congressman Mark DeSaulnier; Michelle Mankewich, CSB Head Start; Bill Pelter, Ability Now Bay Area; Sirkka Wirkki, Clinical Director, Jaqui Foundation; Jason Parks, Futures Explored; Wanda Remmers, Family Justice Center; Elvia Osorio Rodriguez, RCEB; Deputy Chief Aaron McAlister, Contra Costa Fire; Aimee Vitug-Hom, VistAbility; Kelly Kramer, Toolworks; Christine Rottger, VistAbility; Laura Rodriguez, La Familia; Eren Mendez, Contra Costa County Elections.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Everyone was welcomed and the meeting was called to order by Rosa Valledor, Chairperson, at 10:03 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 August 26, 2020 were approved with one date correction (M/Nickole Bouslog; S/David Monahan).

- There was one addition to the agenda for a briefing by Contra Costa Fire, Deputy Chief Aaron McAllister.

**UPDATES**

**Contra Costa Health Services Update by Dr. Rohan Radhakrishna, Deputy Health Officer:**

Dr. Rohan reported that in our country, there have been over 200,000 deaths from Covid-19, which is double the number of deaths in all wars since the Korean war. In addition:

- 200 deaths have occurred in Contra Costa County, in which 40% of those are older people from congregate living facilities, such as Skilled Nursing homes. The other 60% are from younger folks.

- He believes that if our data holds steady, Contra Costa County will be in Tier 2 (Substantial) Red by October 6, 2020. When this happens there will be an increase in indoor activities, with limited attendance, for religious activities, gyms, dining, and movies.
- Hospitalizations in August were running at about 100 per day and are now at 50 per day.
- There are inequities in the transmission of the virus, as people with limited English proficiency are 10 times more likely to acquire it.
- They are testing about 2,000 people per day, with a goal of 4,500 per day. He encouraged everyone to get tested, even if asymptomatic. With new labs under contract, you can get results in 2-5 days now.
- While contact tracing, 97% of the people say they can self-isolate, but many are living within a crowded household. The County has free hotel rooms for use to isolate people that are only about 2% full. He encouraged the use of these rooms to prevent the spread within a household.
- Hot spots in our County include San Pablo, Bay Point, Pittsburg and Antioch.
- He is collaborating with PG&E to assist vulnerable people and people dependent upon power to be notified well in advance of a planned power outage.
- There have been 12 schools in our area with State-approved waivers and safety plans.
- He encouraged everyone to get the flu vaccine now, as it takes 2 weeks to build your immunity and is very effective against 4 strains of flu. This could prevent a “Twin-demic” and could overwhelm our hospitals.
- A question was asked about the recommended frequency of Covid-19 testing. If asymptomatic, he suggested every 1-3 months, depending upon your activities in the community.
- While he encourages people to get into the spirit of Halloween this year, he does not recommend kids going out to “trick or treat”.

Dr. Rohan was thanked for his detailed presentation and he promised to return next month.

### **Contra Costa Fire Report by Deputy Chief Aaron McAllister:**

Chief McAllister introduced himself as second in command of Contra Costa Fire and a Mutual Aid Specialist. He described the current fire situation as a “Mega Fire Era”, stating that most people experience one large fire in their entire career, and he has experienced six!

- Locally, the lightning storm on August 16<sup>th</sup> started the Deer Complex Fire and burned many acres.
- They continually watch for weather conditions combined with wind events to predict and prepare for fires, and there is a Red Flag Watch for this weekend for Contra Costa County.
  - They will increase staffing, prepare 2 bulldozers, and utilize 14 people as “hand crews” to clean up/mop up areas so that the fire personnel can move on to the next incident.

- They will also pre-position fire teams throughout the County to get a jump on a fire.
- Contra Costa Fire currently has people deployed to both Northern and Southern California, who will all be returning on Thursday to prep for potential fires here this weekend.
- He discussed an evacuation warning (get ready to go/ or if you need extra time, go ahead and leave) vs. an order (get out now!). They usually set up temporary evacuation points, such as a large parking lot away from the fire.
- A question was asked about people with disabilities and access and functional needs that need more time to evacuate and prudently choose to leave at the warning stage. The result has shown that there is no access to shelters at that point. Chief McAllister indicated that they are trying to accommodate all. It was suggested that a Red Cross representative (Care and Shelter Branch) be invited to speak at a future DD Council Meeting.
- It was also suggested that Chief McAllister be invited monthly to update the DD Council.

Numerous people thanked Chief McAllister, and all the fire fighters, for keeping us safe, while bearing all the heat, smoke, and other terrible conditions in battling these unimaginable fires!

**RCEB Report by Lisa Kleinbub:**

Lisa Kleinbub and Heidi Spaulding reported that in the Santa Cruz mountains, Camp Harmon was spared, but Camp Krem was lost. There is talk of fundraising to rebuild Camp Krem. Lisa also reported:

- For RCEB, the Covid-19 cases are stable. There have been a few outbreaks in group homes, but most have positive outcomes, and most are not hospitalized.
- Lisa encouraged everyone to include getting flu shots in their training to persons served.
- Regarding alternative nonresidential programs, the DDS Certifications are due to RCEB by October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- In addition, this month each person is to be contacted and engaged in a conversation about what they want in alternative services, keeping in mind public health regulations.
- During October, all service plans are to be reviewed and/or updated to reflect the alternate service models.
- Lisa understands that there are people that are not choosing the alternative models and also the technology needs of some people are an issue. DDS is trying to include Wi-Fi in the Medicaid waiver funding.
- We are still waiting for DDS to come out with required report forms, minimum level of service requirements, and a guide for consumers and families that is translated in several languages.

- On October 7 at 6:00 p.m., there will be a Zoom meeting focusing on the 2019 Performance Contract of RCEB for review and the 2021 Performance Contract for public input.
- As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, RCEB will have 20 Self-Determination plans in place out of the 154 that were selected for the pilot project. They are working on getting the structure in place for when the pilot project ends in June 2021.

**State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Bay Area Office Report by Ron Usac:**

Ron indicated that SCDD has secured PPE for California going on \$6M, and they have distributed it to various Regional Centers and Independent Living Centers. Yeah!

SDCC's Regional Meeting is September 30<sup>th</sup> by Zoom from 6:30-9:30----see their website for details. Also, check their website for several self-advocates' trainings from Next Gen and People 1<sup>st</sup>. SDCC is also reaching out to schools on Zoom for transitional information and activities. They will also be engaging in a survey on Zoom to 400 adult service recipients soon.

**Council Chairperson Report:**

Rosa reported that a new Board Roster was included in the packet for review. Also included was the 2020-2021 planned meeting schedule. Typically, there are no meetings during the months of November and December, but a discussion ensued about the need to meet after the election. The Board unanimously approved the annual meeting schedule with the addition of November 18<sup>th</sup> (M/Will Sanford; S/Karen Lingenfelter).

**Executive Assistant to the Council Report by Vi Ibarra:**

- Please put your name and affiliation in the Chat box for attendance purposes.
- Vi is working on getting Spanish interpretation during our DD Council meetings and hopes to have it in place for our October meeting.
- Vi provided a link to the *Vision for the Future* conference:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_2YeQx96\\_SwyXENJNhQJ9ZA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2YeQx96_SwyXENJNhQJ9ZA)

**Board Membership Report by David Monahan:**

- There is one position open on the Board and no nominations at this time. If you would like to make a nomination, please contact Vi, Leslie, or David.

**Committee Liaison Reports:**

CCTA Paratransit Coordinating Council (Vi Ibarra): This Council continues to work on an Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan. They will be hosting a Town Hall meeting in October by phone. They discussed the flexibility of the paratransit providers during the various emergencies, such as working with the Health Dept. and Meals on Wheels to transport the

homeless to hotels, deliver food, and transporting Covid positive people. The next meeting is November 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm and Nickole will be attending.

East Bay Legislative Coalition (Will Sanford): Tonight there is a listening session for legislators on our topics from 7pm – 8:30pm. Vi previously sent an email about it. Other key items of importance included:

- Please complete the census by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Also, register to vote by October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- A report from the State's Finance Dept. indicated that through August we were \$4.5 billion ahead, in good financial shape.
- There is an upcoming Town Hall meeting in South Alameda County to discuss an opening there in the State legislature.

Emergency Planning Engagement (Marcelle Indelicato):

- The usual COVID, Heat, Fire and Power outage planning efforts are continuing.
- Ongoing are *Emergency Support Function (ESF) 1 Transportation* workgroup monthly meetings which are addressing accessible transportation in emergencies.
- Reminder: The Office of Emergency Services' (OES) annual exercise is planned for September 2021 with a flood scenario in East County.
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup> is the Great California Shake Out drill – CA annual exercise – Marcelle is interested to hear if anyone has plans to practice/participate. Link: <https://www.shakeout.org/california/>
- There will be a West County Senior Coalition on Preparedness Zoom Panel on September 30<sup>th</sup> – Marcelle will send Vi info about this virtual workshop. The target audience is for seniors, living independently, people in assisted living, and those receiving nursing care.
- **Reminder: For people that need assistance evacuating, you can notify first responders ahead of time on the Fire and Law non-emergency dispatch numbers. Call them ahead of time to flag your address and request extra assistance prior to an emergency.**
- Dr. Dan Peddycord and PG&E's Les Putnam (Liaison) will be working together to reach more folks that should be on the PG&E Medical Baseline program. They will be planning more outreach to make sure vulnerable people are notified of planned outages well in advance.

HireAble (Donna Feingold): Their next meeting is Friday, September 25, 2020 with the topic of transition planning: One Student/One Plan. (link in Chat)

Health Equity Team: They are on hiatus; no report. However, Vi reported that the County Health Services Dept. is currently interviewing for a Health Equity position.

Transition Task Force Committee: Vi reported that this group is having shorter meetings, but more frequently. They are now meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm. They are considering a virtual transition fair early next year.

### **Presentation: Exploring Mental Health Support for the I/DD Community (brainstorming session)**

#### **What is available?**

- NAMI: National Alliance for Mental Illness, focusing on families.
- Crisis Response Project (CRP), funded by RCEB and has a 24 hour hotline. Case Managers can refer people to CRP for an assessment, training, a crisis behavioral therapist, etc.
- CAST: sponsored by DDS. Face-to-face crisis intervention, but referrals take a very long time to get into place.
- In development is a START program, from the University of Northern New Hampshire. It is a crisis intervention model used in Santa Clara and San Diego and RCEB is working with start-up funding to open in November.
- Also starting up in the Spring is an expansion of the Hume Center in Concord.
- Planned Parenthood offers counseling on a sliding scale.
- The Rainbow Center in Concord also provides low cost services to the LGBTQ population.
- A Step Forward in Concord specializes in victims of abuse.
- Putnam Clubhouse.
- Family Justice Center supports victims of domestic violence.
- You can call 211 for crisis services recommendations.
- Roger's Behavioral Health in Concord specializes in anxiety and depression.

#### **What Do We Want to Hear More About?**

- Hume Center
- START Program
- Schreiber Center
- Contra Costa Dept. of Mental Health
- NAMI
- A Step Forward

#### **Public Comment and Announcements:**

- Erin Mendez announced voting options: everyone is receiving a vote by mail ballot, but you have to register.

- They will have 17 locations for early voting, with 10 of them being outdoors.
- There will also be 37 staffed outdoor drop-off stations to drop off your ballot.
- Their website has all the details and locations (see Chat).
- CongresoFamiliar.org starts September 26<sup>th</sup>, virtually, and will continue on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Details of this annual conference in Spanish are on their website and the Care Parent Network Facebook page.

Announcements from Chat:

Info on flu vaccinations sites throughout the county. Please share! Flyers with upcoming dates in October, throughout the County, for free flu shots	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hn1PCrpMFyGm1vaNzqDQONDvKf2BTDyU/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Hn1PCrpMFyGm1vaNzqDQONDvKf2BTDyU/view?usp=sharing</a>
Flu vaccination sites in Spanish	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YLD0M2RSgoxfX1uij7crzFYYQQ9bsyV/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YLD0M2RSgoxfX1uij7crzFYYQQ9bsyV/view?usp=sharing</a>
Vision for the Future Conference flyer in English	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YVhjJO8fPSKFbjbyvOiZoj2siE6WjCb/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YVhjJO8fPSKFbjbyvOiZoj2siE6WjCb/view?usp=sharing</a>
Vision for the Future Conference flyer in Spanish:	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BBbbPEpUyyi6IRI2oOe4jeURJ9BV_TPo/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BBbbPEpUyyi6IRI2oOe4jeURJ9BV_TPo/view?usp=sharing</a>
Disability Voices United webinar: Don't Get Mad, Vote! How Our Elected Officials Impact Every Part of the Lives of People with Disabilities Thursday, September 24, 1 - 3 pm PT	<a href="https://myemail.constantcontact.com/WEBINAR-TOMORROW--Don-t-Get-Mad--Vote-.html?soid=1128084884794&amp;aid=C3pUgVklzZw">https://myemail.constantcontact.com/WEBINAR-TOMORROW--Don-t-Get-Mad--Vote-.html?soid=1128084884794&amp;aid=C3pUgVklzZw</a>
2-sided document preparing for a power outage, in English	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V4C_unhinzhY7AAGNvL0IkNPIF02v10h/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1V4C_unhinzhY7AAGNvL0IkNPIF02v10h/view?usp=sharing</a>
2-sided document preparing for a power outage, in Spanish	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-o5AQXFibYfkQh1oHPeN7-c9_rKbdcz/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-o5AQXFibYfkQh1oHPeN7-c9_rKbdcz/view?usp=sharing</a>
CCC Residents Guide to Wildfire Preparedness and Evacuation. This is a 16-page document to guide you through preparing your home, having a plan, making a kit, and staying informed. It also includes information on preparing for other hazards (earthquakes).	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UucagRc9BJzdMahc6fHC5J6XFLgp1Z_E/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UucagRc9BJzdMahc6fHC5J6XFLgp1Z_E/view?usp=sharing</a>
HireAble Monthly Meeting this Friday 09/25 will have a presentation by Liz Zastrow, CDE pilot project leader on	<a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/400769722?pwd=VGNLRnNYZ3ZHbDI4SkdrZkRrcmd2QT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/400769722?pwd=VGNLRnNYZ3ZHbDI4SkdrZkRrcmd2QT09</a>

<p>“One Student, One Plan.” This model pilot streamlines planning activities for transition students and their families and facilitates collaboration efforts among stakeholders, agencies.</p>	
<p>Voter information shared by Eren Mendez - Election Outreach Coordinator - Contra Costa County Elections - (925) 335-7821 eren.mendez@vote.cccounty.us</p>	<p>Check voter status including address: <a href="https://www.cocovote.us/registration-and-voting-options/my-voting-information/#VoterLookupandSampleBallotSearch">https://www.cocovote.us/registration-and-voting-options/my-voting-information/#VoterLookupandSampleBallotSearch</a></p> <p>Early Voting locations and secure ballot drop off boxes: <a href="https://www.cocovote.us/election/presidential-general-election-november-3-2020/#Election">https://www.cocovote.us/election/presidential-general-election-november-3-2020/#Election</a></p> <p>Where is my ballot? <a href="https://WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov">https://WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov</a></p>

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

**Next meeting will be held on October 28, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.  
Look for a Zoom invitation from Vi Ibarra.**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Carol Anne McCrary  
VistAbility