

**Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (ZOOM)**  
**November 18, 2020**

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

**Staff:** Vi Ibarra.

**Board and Liaison Members Excused:** Audrua Sysum, Ria Mercado, Kimberli Buckley, David Monahan.

**Guests:** Unfortunately, the meeting attendance was not saved.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Everyone was welcomed and the meeting was called to order by Rosa Valledor, Chairperson, promptly at 10:00 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.

Rosa thanked Miguel Moreno for Spanish interpretation today.

The meeting minutes of October 28, 2020 were approved with no corrections (M/Nickole Bouslog; S/Craig Rose), with one person abstaining.

There were no additions to today's agenda.

**UPDATES**

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

Dr. Rohan wanted to clarify that the Contra Costa Public Health Department provides recommendations and support to day programs, but does not review safety plans or make decision about re-opening in-person services. Re-opening decisions would be made by RCEB, Community Care Licensing and/or the State Department of Developmental Services. At the same time, the local health department will be publishing a grid document in the near future that includes customized recommendations for adult day programs.

**RCEB Report by Lisa Kleinbub:**

Lisa reported that while the incidents of positive Covid tests were still lower in our community than the State average, there has been a slight increase. Concerns about the

upcoming holiday season, with the potential of mixing households and increased indoor activities is of concern.

Reminder: The Survey Monkey reports by vendors for the alternative services model are due November 25<sup>th</sup> for the reporting periods of September and October 2020.

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

Congratulations to SCDD, who successfully advocated for affordable housing in which a proposal was being considered by the CA Tax Credit Allocation Committee to reduce the number of ADA units in new housing developments. They had a great turnout and were successful in preventing this reduction. Now there is a proposal to increase the number of accessible units and you can provide feedback/support by contacting the following by November 20, 2020:

[Judith.blackwell@treasurer.ca.gov](mailto:Judith.blackwell@treasurer.ca.gov) and [Anthony.zeto@treasurer.ca.gov](mailto:Anthony.zeto@treasurer.ca.gov)

SCDD is also involved in various training and technical assistance projects involving crisis intervention/developing partnerships, and education and employment. The next cycle of the National Core Indicators is starting in December 2020 and letters to households will be going out soon. They are currently training interviewers. The target population is adults with at least one Regional Center Service. The Bay Area office of SDCC covers 10 counties.

In development and coming soon:

- Self-advocate/staff Red Cross training in Go-Bags and a giveaway of 125 bags.
- Partnership expansion with the California Department for Fair Employment and Housing to explore the development of a toolkit and multi-media supports.
- Inclusion work at San Jose International Airport.

Important Dates (see SCDD website for details):

- November 30<sup>th</sup>: Self-Advocates Advisory Committee
- December 1<sup>st</sup>: SCDD Council Meeting
- December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Topic: Domestic Violence
- December 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>: Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

**Council Chairperson Report by Rosa Valledor:**

There will not be a DD Council meeting in December. Our next meeting will be held on January 27, 2021. Please note that our meetings will be starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. and ending promptly at 11:50, as many of us have standing meetings following this one.

**Executive Assistant to the Council Report by Vi Ibarra:** No report

**Board Membership Report by David Monahan:** No report

## **Committee Liaison Reports:**

**CCTA Paratransit Coordinating Council (Vi Ibarra):** The next meeting of this Board will be January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Debbie Toth, Executive Director of Choice in Aging, called in regarding inaccessible paratransit transportation in our community. There was another study done by hired consultants that is recommending incremental changes and not system changes to our 4 separate, inefficient paratransit systems. Public comment on the report starts today. Debbie encouraged us to give input and tell them that incremental change is not enough. One example of our need for system change involves the application process for paratransit services. She would like to see one point of contact, one application process, one set of qualifications for ridership so people can ride all four paratransit systems in the county---making the application process more efficient for users.

You can submit your comments in writing to Vi Ibarra's email or send them to [dtoth@ChoiceinAging.org](mailto:dtoth@ChoiceinAging.org) and they will forward your comments. Debbie was thanked for her advocacy efforts on behalf of all paratransit riders.

**East Bay Legislative Coalition (Will Sanford):** Will discussed the National election results and the landmark results, including the 1<sup>st</sup> woman Vice President. Currently, they have "Georgia On My Mind", closely watching the runoff election of 2 Senate seats in that State. These results will determine the balance of power in the Senate. There are serious concerns about the transition process in Washington D.C. that is currently not happening. There are also concerns that there is no National Plan to resolve the pandemic.

Regarding California:

- Proposition 19 passed, allowing people over 55 with disabilities or were effected by a disaster to stabilize their tax liability in their new home, if applicable.
- January 1<sup>st</sup>, California is raising the minimum wage to \$14 per hour.
- The 8.2% rate increase for some of our service providers will sunset December 31, 2021.
- The State Budget Proposal by the Governor is expected to be released January 8<sup>th</sup> and they are expecting a large deficit.

The EBLC participated in a Legislative Forum in District 25. They are also planning a virtual Town Hall meeting with Legislators on January 29, 2021---save the date.

**Emergency Planning Engagement (Marcelle Indelicato):** Marcelle made several announcements:

- The Office of Emergency Services has posted a position for an Emergency Planner, which closes on November 30, 2020.

- PG&E is hosting a listening session on December 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. See their website for details.
- The CC County Office of Education would like to donate their excess paper towels to non-profit organizations---see Marcelle for details.
- Senator Glazer hosts a monthly call for non-profits---this is a valuable resource if you have PPE needs or want to be more informed about our community.
- Our twice-monthly Public Safety Power Outage wildfire calls ended yesterday, as wildfire season is winding down.
- Marcelle attended a workshop by the CPUC, which addressed on-going concerns about their cumbersome customer assistance programs. People are not taking advantage of the assistance because the programs are confusing, while the need for assistance with water/energy bills and rent has increased.
- Upcoming virtual meetings:
  - December 10, 2020: Access and Functional Needs Steering Committee
  - Save the date: March 31, 2021 will be the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Access and Functional Needs Forum, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- Carol McCrary and Aimee Vitug-Hom attended a webinar on Resilient Workplace. This webinar is partially funded by FEMA and CalOES to help small and non-profit businesses plan for disasters. Their planning software is free, if you attend a 1.5-hour webinar. It is called DRB Toolkit (Disaster Resistant Business). We recommend it and for more information, email: [info@DRBToolkit.org](mailto:info@DRBToolkit.org)

HireAble (Donna Feingold): Donna reported that the next meeting is this coming Friday with information from the Economic Development Alliance. Covid has impacted accessibility to employment and this has been a challenging year for job placements for clients served.

Health Equity Team: No report.

Transition Task Force Committee: Becky Wieringa reported that they are working on an Adult Services Resource Guide and sent out a questionnaire to vendors on October 26<sup>th</sup> by email. So far they only have 9 vendors who have provided program information. Vi will send out they survey link. They are also planning a virtual transition fair, combining both West and Central/East County audiences. This is planned for early 2021. It will include a list of links and short videos.

**Presentation: Understanding the Regional Center Crisis Services**

**Speakers: Dr. Cari Yardley, Jeffrey Nagafuji and Steve Robinson of the Regional Center of the East Bay**

Jeff began by describing the Crisis Response Project (CRP), a vendor of RCEB, which is a mobile crisis team to decrease police involvement and 5150 holds, and provide intensive prevention strategies. They are available 24/7 and referrals are made by the RCEB Case Manager. The team works with the consumer and family. They can respond to a crisis in up to 1 hour. There is no physical intervention, they do not search for runaways and they cannot authorize a 5150.

He also described the Crisis Behavioral Trainer (CBT) providing 9-12 visits to train staff, develop behavioral plans and, by observation, give feedback to caregivers. They also do not do physical intervention, nor do they intervene at schools. Referrals are through the RCEB Case Manager.

Dr. Yardley described the new START (Systemic Therapeutic Assessment, Resources and Treatment) project. The intent is to do crisis intervention and stabilization related to unmet behavioral health needs. They can serve up to 100 people and referrals come through the Case Manager and the Clinical Team at RCEB. Consumers must be at least 6 years old. This project is just getting off the ground.

Steve described CAST (Crisis Assessment Stabilization Team) which is a program of DDS and not a vendor of RCEB. It is staffed by people from DDS and Sonoma DC. This is acute crisis stabilization for someone at risk of losing his/her home, after all RCEB services have been exhausted. A referral is made by the Case Manager, Clinical Team, and Crisis Team. Their goal is to stabilize the home environment, collaborate, have the individual make choices, and teach coping strategies.

The presenters were thanked for their valuable information.

**Announcements:**

- Rosa announced that there will be virtual concert featuring the Dream Catchers on December 4, 2020 at 7 p.m.
- She also reminded us that December 2, 2020 is Giving Tuesday.
- Carol announced Project Connect, a 24-Hour Disability Support Line (1-888-847-3209) that provides free counseling, resource referral, assessments and on-going wellness checks (telehealth support for caregivers) from Stony Brook University in New York.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

**Next meeting will be held on January 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.  
Look for a Zoom invitation from Vi Ibarra.**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,  
Carol Anne McCrary  
VistAbility