

Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (ZOOM)
June 23, 2021

Board and Liaison Members Present: Rosa Valledor, Chairperson, Leslie Visbal, Vice-Chair, Caroline Ortiz, Suzanne Anthony, Audrua Sysum, Maria Cabeza, Marianne Iversen, Pam Perls, Heidi Spaulding, Will Sanford, Nickole Bouslog, Marcelle Indelicato, Stephen Dale, Donna Feingold, Ria Mercado.

Staff: Vi Ibarra.

Board and Liaison Members Excused: Bill Trinh, Craig Rose, Karen Lingenfelter, Kimberli Buckley

Guests: Rebecca Corbett, Futures Explored Community Connections; Paul "Ian" Mendoza, RCEB Case Manager Supervisor; Megan Miccio, CocoKids Inclusion Specialist; Bill Pelter, Ability Now Bay Area; Mirna Leal, RCEB; Murri Banis, VistAbility; Aimee Vitug-Hom, VistAbility; Gabby Romabiles, Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council; Gayle Israel, Chief of Staff to District 2 Supervisor Candace Andersen; Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB Executive Director; Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, RCEB Associate Director of Children's Services; Tara Kopp, Office of Congressman DeSaulnier; Krista Peterson, California Children's Services; Christine Rottger, VistAbility; Patricia Albeno, The ARC of California

Welcome and Introductions:

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

The meeting minutes of May 26, 2021 were approved unanimously, with no corrections. (M/Nikole Bouslog; S/Will Sanford).

There were no additions to today's agenda.

UPDATES

RCEB Report by Lisa Kleinbub:

Lisa reported they are awaiting the details of the approved State Budget, which is anticipated for June 30th. Different ideas are in play as to how to spend the monies, e.g., implementation of the rate study, affordable housing, and restoring camp and social recreation. With a lot of money in the Budget, it is coming down to what priorities the legislature and Governor can agree on. Another challenge is that some proposals are to start as of July 1, 2021.

The Self-Determination Program will roll out to everyone on July 1, 2021. RCEB is offering orientations to RCEB staff members and also to those who have an interest in the program. Upcoming orientation dates are posted on the RCEB website. Additionally, the SDP Local Advisory Committee is holding an information session on July 12, 2021 – language interpretation is available and advance registration is required.

RCEB staff have resumed quarterly face-to-face visits with individuals who do not live with family members. Some in-person assessments have also re-started and take place at the RCEB offices. RCEB is assessing their technology as things are more hybrid, i.e., in-person and virtual.

RCEB is working with a consultant to better understand the experience of providers from Black and other communities of color. Providers are invited to complete a short Provider Community

Survey, which will be used to gather information and invite providers to participate in focus groups or listening sessions. Focus groups comprised of individuals and families who receive services will also be a part of gaining a broader understanding of unique ethnic and cultural needs. A link for individuals and families will be provided at a later date. RCEB will not be a part of any listening session and all information will be kept confidential.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Bay Area Office Report by Vi Ibarra:

Vi reported on Sheraden's behalf today. PPE is still available - lots of gowns! Supplies are being stored in the Oakland office, which is set to relocate in a couple of months. So, SCDD would like to distribute as much of the supplies as needed and possible. Contact Sheraden directly to place an order.

Upcoming meetings (Vi provided links in the Zoom chat box):

- Community Vaccine Advisory Committee: June 23, 2021 from 3:00-5:00pm
- SCDD Bay Area Office's Regional Advisory Committee: June 30, 2021 – topics include homecare advocacy and long term support services
- Measure X presentation: June 23, 2021
- Employment First Committee: July 22, 2021 from 10:30am-2:30pm
- Self-Advocates Advisory Committee: July 26, 2021 from 2:00-5:00pm
- SCDD Board Meeting: July 27, 2021 from 10:30am-2:30pm

Vi also provide links to upcoming slate of presentations and agendas for Measure X as well as other county advisory committees, in the Zoom chat box.

Upcoming trainings include Self-Determination Program orientation for providers, plain language presentation, and crisis intervention training for law enforcement.

Council Chairperson Report by Rosa Valledor:

Rosa announced that the proposed DD Council Board meeting schedule for next fiscal year will be provided and voted on during the council members' planning session in August. There are currently two openings on the Board; those interested are asked to attend at least three meetings. Self-advocates are encouraged to join.

With today's meeting being the last DD Council meeting of 2020-21, Rosa thanked everyone for their participation. Due to the pandemic and the need for virtual meetings, there seemed to be more meetings overall! Despite the challenges everyone faced in the last 14 months, we are making it through the pandemic. Rosa expressed her gratitude for the work that has been accomplished and recognized efforts, challenges, and losses in this past year:

- Thanks to Vi, the Council is now offering Spanish interpretation.
- A lot of PPE was delivered
- Everyone figured out how to meet virtually and Zoom in.
- Some are mourning the loss of loved ones
- DSPs played a critical role; Rosa recognized and thanked Pamela Rice and Conchita for their outstanding support.
- Thanks to Ria Mercado and her staff, the Open House Center spearheaded the effort on how to perform vaccinations for the I/DD community and then shared their best practices with the provider community.
- Rosa applauded the DD Council Award recipients for their excellent contributions; a few are in our midst including Donna Feingold (Lifetime in Excellence) and Michael Pereira (Excellence in Service).

Executive Assistant to the Council Report by Vi Ibarra:

Vi reminded all guests to put their names in the chat for attendance recording.

Vi has been attending Measure X Advisory Committee meetings and provided the following information:

- The measure proposes a Contra Costa County sales tax for 20 years. If passed, \$81M in revenue is projected, with proceeds from the tax to go to the State's General Fund.
- Vi and Nikole B. will present to the Advisory Committee tonight (June 23, 2021) at 5:00pm, representing the interests of the disabilities and mental health communities. The presentation will be followed up with a DD Council report; not much time is allotted for their actual presentation.
- A link was provided in the chat box for those interested in attending the presentation and/or future meetings.

Board Membership Report by Vi Ibarra:

DD Council Board meetings will eventually return to in-person. If your organization or agency has the space to accommodate the Board meeting, members, and public, let Vi know please.

Committee Liaison Reports:

CCTA Paratransit Coordinating Council: Vi announced the next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2021.

East Bay Legislative Coalition:

Will reported that there are 90 to 100 trailer bills in the new fiscal year State Budget, as compared to about 20 trailer bills during a "normal" year! Assembly Bill 128 is a budget bill that is all about money. It is uncertain how this Act is to be implemented.

There should be a significant infusion of funding in our own community, including housing (such as the development of a rental assistance program). Donna Feingold commented that having so much money it is not something we usually hear when discussing the Developmental Disabilities budget! Advocacy efforts continue - Stephen Dale shared a link in the Zoom chat box to the "Future is Us" campaign and an open letter to Governor Newsom.

Also, Will provided the following information:

- The election to recall Governor Newsom could happen sometime after the end of summer
- Additional funding was put into the Self-Determination Program to support the Regional Centers and individuals during the transition phase of rollout.
- Senate Bill 639 passed the Senate and is expected to pass at the Assembly. The State Council will have a role in managing its implementation.
- The next EBLC meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2021 at 2:00pm (note the change in time, not 12:30pm).

Emergency Planning Engagement: Aimee announced that PG&E will be holding emergency preparedness "open house" meetings and provided a link in the chat box. Anyone can join and everyone should prepare especially with an early wildfire season upon us.

HireAble: Donna announced there will be a guest speaker at the next HireAble member meeting scheduled for June 25, 2021 at 9:30am. The presentation will be on progressive employment.

Transition Task Force: Vi stated there is nothing new to report.

Committee on Aging: Marianne and Bill reported on their first meeting that was held on June 8th.

- 1 in 4 residents in our County have support needs in Activities of Daily Living; 2 out of 5 residents in that category are seniors.
- The goal of the committee is to connect with existing aging groups and to discuss the needs of the aging community. Bill and Marianne met with Alameda County's "Age Friendly Council" to establish a partnership and merge efforts.
- Part of the conversation is the development of a master plan on aging. The Master Plan is to include considerations of adults with I/DD who might not be elderly.
- Contra Costa County Master Plan of Aging Forum is scheduled for June 24, 2021; let Marianne know if you are interested in participating.
- They would like to include a RCEB representative and Self-Advocates to their committee.

The next Committee on Aging meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2021 at 1:00pm.

Public Comment and Announcements: Announcements were posted in the Chat.

Additionally:

- Heidi announced that she will be moving to Oregon so that she can be closer to her sister. She expects to move by September. Rosa thanked Heidi for her advocacy and recognized her work and roles with the Council. We will miss her!
- There will not be a DD Council Meeting in July. The annual planning session for members will be held on August 25, 2021. It has not yet been determined whether this will be in-person or virtual. It will be one or the other so stay tuned!
- Audra asked about future Council meetings being on Zoom. Vi expects that it will continue on Zoom come September and hopes for a hybrid model when in-person Council meetings resume.
- Donna gave a shout out to Vi, Council members, and the community for all the efforts to help keep people safe and healthy. She was especially grateful for the pods/bubbles that were established early on in the pandemic.
- Pam suggested holding the annual planning session at an outdoor setting like a park. She also thanked Vi for availing herself to the "nuttiest questions" over the past year and expressed her appreciation for the DD Council. They made things easier.

Information from the Chat:

Resources shared in chat:
Open letter to Governor Newsom, "The Future is Us" – https://p2a.co/ITGXkRo
Upcoming agendas for Measure X and other County advisory committees http://64.166.146.245/agenda_publish.cfm?id=&mt=ALL
From Bill Pelter: great infographic from CDC on disability https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/infographic-disability-impacts-all.html

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

**Next meeting will be held on September 22, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
Look for a Zoom invitation from Vi Ibarra.**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Aimee Vitug-Hom
VistAbility