

**Provider Vendor Advisory Committee  
Regional Center of the East Bay  
Meeting Minutes April 13<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**Members Present:** Ron Halog, CRIL; Will Sanford, Future; Shannon Beatty, George Mark Children's House; Nancy Eddy, DPAC; Jan Behr, Stepping Stones; Leslie Werosh Visbal, Ability Now; Jonathan Stickels, Enriching Lives; Craig Rose, CIWP; Ajati Sankoh, Sierra Social Services; Maureen Wright, Respite Inn; Julia Lowe, Dungarvin;

**Guests Present:** Paula Flores, Manos Home Care; Dan Hogue, Las Trampas; Greg Simons, Las Trampas; Reina Morales, Manos Home Care; Kathy Castaneda, Castro Valley Adult; Michael Minton, RCEB; Emily Correia, Enjoy Life More; Mike Pereira, Ala Costa Centers; Creola Walker, First Transit; Queenie Chan, Helping Hands East Bay; David Dodson, People's Care; Betty Jo DuBois, Contra Costa ARC; Vi Ibarra, DD Council; Sandi Soliday, DD Council; Amy Houcle, Novelles; Karen Lingenfelter, Mt. Diablo Adult Ed; Shelley Crayton, Family Support Services; Lori Ojeda, Sonia Corina; Beth DeWitt, RCEB; Guy Houston, Mission Hope;

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 9:35 am by acting Co-Chairs, Will Sanford and Ron Halog. Introductions. Voting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 minute was postponed until the May PVAC meeting.

**RCEB/State- Lisa Kleinbub**

- Lisa started with an update on a security breach that occurred at the DDS in one of the sites in Sacramento. It was not the main building, but one that houses their audit and legal departments.
  - There was a breakin at that location in February and 12 laptop computers were taken from the premises from the auditor's division. A fire was also started, which triggered the sprinkler system, which soaked a large portion of paper documents.
  - DDS issued notices on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, that there was a potential loss of personal information of anyone who had been involved in audits, including regional centers and vendors, also including protected health information of people served by the regional centers.
  - Because the paperwork could have had the name of anyone who had received services from the regional centers over the last 10 years, it was considered protected information and therefore DDS was required to notify those people of the potential risk that their information may have been disclosed. DDS also put a public notice on their website. RCEB has posted that information on their website.
  - The laptops that were stolen were encrypted so DDS does not believe that any information on them was taken and they've looked through their security records and their system does not appear to have been breached. Because of the fire and water damage, most of the paper documents had to be removed from the building and destroyed because of mold issues. Letters were sent through the USPS to 582,000 individuals who were served by the regional centers in the last 10 years.
  - Dan Hogue asked why it took so long for the incident to be reported and if any of the files contained DS1891 information. Lisa responded that DS1891 documents are kept at the regional centers, so would not have been affected, and that the late response because DDS personnel had been prevented from entering the building by law enforcement agencies.
  - Beth Dewitt gave a brief overview of how DS1891 files are handled at RCEB, indicating that once the document is received and reviewed that, confidential information is blocked out. Additionally, the vendor files are only accessible to a small number of personnel at RCEB,

which includes Beth's team, and supervisors. Beth added that the DS1891 does need to be kept on file because it is something asked for during audits. Beth concluded by reminding everyone that there are still vendors who are not submitting the DS 1891 every two years as is required. Beth has someone reviewing them and will be contacting vendors who are currently out of compliance. Will Sanford asked if a program with several vendor number could consolidate it all on a single form. Beth said that one could be done and then copies over to all the other DS1891 forms, but to let her know before submitting.

- Lisa announced that the Service Providers ad hoc committee of PVAC to address HCBS was approved by the RCEB Board, and that it should make reports to PVAC. As part of the PVAC would report back to the Board.
- With regards to the budget, Lisa announced that they were waiting for the May revise, but that she did not anticipate many changes. The main concerns are minimum wage issues, rate increases while waiting for the rate study to be completed.
- Lisa mentioned that Self Determination is still a big topic at the state level, and that there is a lot of discussion about implementation of the program and all the details that need to be worked out. Lisa wanted to prepare people for the reality that when the federal government approves that plan, that RCEB will be able to move forward right away.
- Lisa stated that they are still waiting for guidelines for using Community Placement Plan (CPP) funding for 2019. In 2019, regional centers will be able to submit proposals to use some of the CPP funding. Regional centers will be able to access the money to provide startup funding to other providers for other services based on some state priorities and areas of need identified by regional centers. These funds have been historically been used to support people transitioning out of the developmental centers or to support people so they don't need to go into a developmental center.
- At the state level, there is discussion about the disparity issues, and DDS is charged with identifying and reducing disparities of certain ethnic and age groups.
- Lisa announced that RCEB has making tremendous progress in transitioning their consumers from Sonoma Developmental Center. Currently, there are only 43 individuals who are served by RCEB still at SDC. The last thing they are waiting on is the final permits and licensures of about nine more homes in the community. Three of the homes are Enhanced Behavioral Support Homes to serve individuals with significant behavioral challenges. She expects that the last of the consumers will be moved out by the end of summer, but certainly expect that prior to December, they will have all moved out.
- Ron Halog asked if there had been any new discussion regarding money from the sale or lease of the SDC lands to remain in the system. Lisa stated that there was discussion at the recent legislative hearings, but nothing had been determined. Additionally, if money returned to the system, it would be several years before it would be seen.

## **Reports**

### **RCEB Staff- Beth Dewitt**

- Beth announced that Margie Kane, RCEB's Quality Assurance supervisor, is retiring at the end of April.
- With regards to the audit, Beth mentioned that exit interview was conducted the first week of April, and that RCEB did quite well and were happy with the outcomes. There were a few issues that need to corrected and addressed with DDS, but overall positive.

- Beth reported a conversation she had had with Ronke Sodipo, and Ronke's discussion with an SLS provider about an individual who was in the hospital and being discharged, but didn't have a housing alternative. This drove the conversation to look at resources in emergency situations for this group that particularly hard to serve. These are folks who are quite capable, might have a dual diagnosis, substance abuse issues, has been through multiple group homes, and even a few supported living providers. Together, they sent out an invitation to SLS providers to come together to talk about this need and identify potential resources they may have to help in those situation. They held the meeting this week, and between 25 and 30 providers attended. Although they weren't sure what the outcome of the meeting would be, there were several providers who are willing and able to provide emergency housing and and emergency staffing. What wasn't identified was the emergency housing meant to be temporary; 30, 60, or 90 days; or is it an emergency because the person needs to get in a place that turns into something long term. There was additional discussion about the potential conflicts, where there needs to be to be a split between the homeowner and the service provider. This led to the discussion of the possibility of master leases or having an organization act as the lease holder. The next step is create a list of the providers who available space now, and then moving forward, having a regularly scheduled meeting for SLS providers.
- Beth announced that a provider was chosen to provide Person Centered Thinking training and RCEB is currently working on the contract. They will be providing training for RCEB staff, bu also to the vendors at large. More information will be shared as things are developed.

#### **HCBS Update - Michael Minton**

- Michael announced California's transition plan has been initially approved. The next step is that all providers will need to complete a self survey. However, it is expected that it will be several months before DDS will be ready to distribute the survey. DDS will most likely start with about 100 providers across the whole state as a pilot just to see how the providers respond and the actual correct information gets back to DDS.
- With regards to grants that were approved this year to help providers come into compliance, Michael mentioned that DDS apologized for them taking so long, but that they expected to announce them in the next two weeks. They promised that next year, they will start the process earlier so it's not towards the end of the fiscal year when budgeting and contracting is taking place. For providers that received money this year will be getting a survey to report back how the process went. Dan Hogue asked for those who received grants, if there were any provisions to make the information public so other programs could benefit from what they're implementing. Michael stated that a conversation about this came up, but that it might show up eventually on DDS's website. Will Sanford suggested a presentation by grant recipients at a future PVAC meeting.
- consider shared communication when bringing people together in a home. Donna Feingold added that it was about choice and that people should have options.
- Mike Minton gave an update on the status of the HCBS settings rule. Currently there are six states with approved plans. California's plan has contingency approval, however, it is unclear what the next step is. At some point in the future another self survey will go out to providers, and this one will be mandatory. Will Sanford mentioned that since there has been no new survey, final approval for California is most likely still far off. Mike mentioned that person centered planning will be a core to the plan. Currently he is providing person centered training, which is a three hour discussion, open to everybody and anybody. RCEB has started an evaluation committee to review programs that submitted proposals to develop training programs on person centered planning. Of the programs that have submitted proposals, three were selected and the process to of reviewing them has begun. Also, for programs that submitted request for HCBS grants, it should be around mid March that it is know which were approved.

## **RCEB Board- Sister Marygrace**

- No report.

## **SCDD Regional Advisory Committee – Sheradan Nicolau**

- Lisa Kleinbub announced that the next meeting is on 4/25 at Support for Families in San Francisco.
- Will Sanford announced that SCDD is supporting two bills. One that focuses on data collection and sharing. The other focuses blueprint for a single plan between regional centers, Dept of Rehab, and school districts regarding competitive integrated employment outcomes.

## **DD Council- Sandi Soliday & Vi Ibarra**

### **Alameda County**

- Sandi announced that she will be leaving her position in October, and if you anyone was interested in learning more about the position to contact her.
- Sandi thanked the providers who participated in the Alameda County Transition Fair. She stated that it was successful and that there was a 22% increase in attendance from the previous year.
- The next EBLC meeting is scheduled for May 3rd at Alameda Public Health in Oakland
- The next DD Council meeting will be on May 9th. They will be discussing VOAD and disaster preparedness and the direction the council wants to take it. Sandi warned that VOAD is in jeopardy of dissolving, so the concerns need to be addressed. Ron Halog mentioned that Alameda County VOAD will be holding it's quarterly meeting on 4/26 at Dublin EOC. The meeting will focus on providing information about VOAD is and what it does. Lisa Kleinbub shared that DDS has a statewide emergency notification system in place. RCEB hasn't been a part of that, but is working to do so. This will enable RCEB to send out alerts by text and phone, and also identify individuals who are not in need.
- The next Employment Taskforce meeting is schedule for 4/27. There will be a workforce development training. It will be held at RCEB in Concord.
- The Joint Annual Awards Dinner Meeting will take place on June 12. Nomination forms are available.

### **Contra-Costa County**

- The Self Determination local advisory committee is diligently working on offering pre-enrollment meetings. There are a number of community partners who have offered to host some of the presentations, including Ability Now, Las Trampas, Mt. Diablo Adult Ed, San Ramon Unified School District. Also, RCEB will be holding additional pre-enrollment meetings. There is a presentation available on RCEB's website. It is currently only available in English, but are working on getting it translated into Spanish. It is convenient, but lacks the opportunity of asking questions to a live person. Will Sanford mentioned that they are looking for Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese speakers to provide translated audio for the online presentation.
- The next council meeting will be on 4/25 at RCEB in Concord. The speaker is Vance Taylor from State Office of Emergency Services. He the Director of Access and Functional Needs.
- The Crossroads Speakers series has reached the halfway mark. Its a series of presentations created by the Transition Taskforce. The third of four presentations will be on Thursday, 4/19. Arthur Liscomb, the clients rights advocate will be giving a presentation on alternatives to conservatorships.
- The West Contra Costa SELPA Transition Fair is on April 28th, from 8:00am-12:30pm in Richmond.

## **East Bay Legislative Coalition- Will Sanford**

- The next EBLC meeting will be on 5/2 at Alameda Public Health in Oakland.
- There were two legislative hearings in March. Both were well attended. The proceedings between the Assembly and Senate were very different.
- In the Assembly, Frazier put in a budget ask to fund what was previously AB 1607, which would allow for the use of Tailored Day Services to be used in conjunction with day program services assist individuals much more in the area of competitive integrated employment and it would be more helpful for compliance of HCBS. It got to the Governor's desk last year, and although he felt it had merit, he vetoed it because it should have been part of the budget process, so Fraizer put in the ask at the budget hearing.
- Also, in the Assembly, they formed a Special Committee on Intellectual Disabilities that has 11 or 12 members from across the state. The stated goal is that each of those members will sponsor a bill that would benefit the I/DD community. They have not scheduled their first meeting yet. The members are listed on Frazier's website.
- The rate study is slowing moving forward. The rates workgroup has a meeting scheduled for next Monday. They will be reviewing what they want to send out the providers.
- The Self Determination group at the state level has been looking at operation logistics of self determination. One of the biggest challenges is that once someone has their budget, every service they buy has to be evaluated to make sure that it meets the settings rule. They're are trying to streamline the process so that people don't get stuck in a situation where they have a budget, but aren't allowed to spend any of the money. Another issue is that you have a budget, but it takes you six months to find the service you need, how do you pay for the services you have today. For the people who have so far enrolled, they match up pretty closely with the demographics of the state population. One area that is not as balanced is age. They are breaking it down into three age groups; 0-21, 21-42, and 42 and over. The group that has low representation is the 42 and over group. More outreach is needed.
- Ron Halog mentioned Disability Capitol Action Day (DCAD) which will be happening on June 7th. Organizations go to the Capitol for a rally in the morning and then spend the afternoon meeting with legislators. Information will be going out soon.
- Ron Halog mentioned that HR 620 has passed the House, but announced the Feinstein has finally taken a stance in opposition of the bill, so hopefully the bill will not pass.

#### **Programs- Representative**

- No report

#### **Membership- Nancy Eddy**

- Nothing to report.

#### **Break-10 Minutes**

#### **Presentation: Schreiber Center Overview: Julia McGriff, Behavioral Health Clinician; Wendy Fass Zastawney, Clinical Supervisor Schreiber Center**

- Julia McGriff and Wendy Fass Zastawney gave an overview of the Schreiber Center, including eligibility, services, and the referral process.
  - A specialty mental health clinic which means the mental health diagnoses that their clients have are in the moderate to severe range and it's impacting their functioning in a way that's not better explained by their developmental disability.
  - Provides services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
  - Supports individuals with complex behavioral, emotional, and psychiatric needs.
  - Referrals from any vendored RCEB provider, which includes any case manager at the regional center.

- Sandi Soliday mentioned that services through the Schreiber Center are for Alameda County, but Contra Costa County is working towards developing similar services.

**Public Comments - Announcements**

- Will Sanford mention SB 644, which allows alternatives to the tradition examination and appointment process when hiring persons with disabilities for state employment, and announced that EBI had their first individual hired the Dept. of Industrial Relations and has been 30 days on the job.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:44 AM

Respectfully submitted for review by Craig Rose, Secretary

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