

**Provider Vendor Advisory Committee
Regional Center of the East Bay
Meeting Minutes January 11th 2019**

Members Present: Geneva Ziaoure, Manos; Sister Marygrace, East Bay Services; Rhonda McGlashon, Compass; Nancy Eddy, DPAC; Ron Halog, CRIL; Jonathn Stickles, Enriching Lives; Maureen Wright, Respite Inn; Craig Rose, CIWP; Leslie Visbal, Ability Now; Donna Feingold, ALC; Julia Lowe, Dungarvin

Guests Present: Shani Stewart, Manos; Deborah Cunningham, Stepping Stones; Keith Nauman, Strides; Mike Pereira, Ala Costa Centers; Sandi Soliday, DD Council of Alameda County; Michael Minton, RCEB; Mike Palomino; Maxim Healthcare; Denise Bradley, Harambe; Ramsay Mashy, California Autism Foundation; Katy A Santillan, Sonia Corina, Inc; Stephanie Llamas, Sonia Corina, Inc; Emily Correia, ELM; Nicholas Aguilar, Premier; Lori Ojeda; Sonia Corina; Sylvia Yeh, FCSN; Heather Hackett, Futures Explored; Shelly Crayton, Family Support Services; Karen Ligenfelter, MDAE; John Bolle, Contra Costa ARC; Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB; Steve Robinson, RCEB

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 9:37 am. Introductions. The November 9th, 2018 and December 14th, 2018 meeting minutes approval - (M/Nancy Eddy; S/Maureen Wright). Passed unanimously, no abstentions.

RCEB/State - Lisa Kleinbub

- Lisa started with the Governor's budget. She reminded everyone that the budget is the administration's idea of what they would like to spend money on over the next year. It goes to the legislature, where it will be modified. Additionally, there will be a lot of wrangling that goes on between now and June, and that we should expect changes in the May revise.
- Lisa continued that since this is a new governor, much of what is in the proposal was developed by the previous administration, so should expect to see some changes, probably based on what the new governor is thinking about.
- Within the budget, Lisa highlighted some areas in systems other than ours that she felt were important: making permanent, the restoration of the 7% cut to IHSS; a move for people who get medical through managed care, their prescription drugs will go back through fee-for-service, which means the managed care plans will not be individually be negotiated, but will instead be negotiated on a statewide basis; funding for earlier developmental screenings through medical and funding for treatment for early psychosis.
- Lisa noted that Governor Newsom mentioned that there was nothing in the budget about the rate study that is expected at the end of March. She continued that the governor is aware that there may be different implications for the budget based on what the rate study shows, which Lisa considered positive because it means they know there will be costs associated with the rate study.
- There were details in the budget about caseload growth, with increases in purchase of service and operation funding for regional centers based on anticipation of caseload growth, which is expected be an increase of 60,000 more consumers than last year. Lisa clarified that the increase was simply to accommodate the larger number of consumers, and that there was nothing for about increases for rates or salaries for regional centers or providers.

- In the DDS proposal, was money for Best Buddies, which Lisa felt that in some ways that it's an odd political inclusion, because Best Buddies is listed as providing social activities, recreation, and employment, which is what many service providers offer.
- Lisa mentioned one other thing in the budget for regional centers, that it is looking at crisis homes for children. The includes development of those homes and the regulations which previously have not allowed children to be in those types of facilities. There is also DDS funding for the monitoring and oversight of the specialized behavioral homes and medical homes that regional centers funding. There is proposed specialized caseloads ratios for these homes at 1:25 to serve people with severe behavioral and medical needs.
- An additional budget item that Lisa mentioned was \$8.1 million for increase staff at DDS to provide oversight and program compliance for regional centers, both Northern and Southern California.
- Lastly, Lisa mentioned that in the budget, there was language about the funding that was formerly for developmental centers is less this year because of closures, and increases in the state operations funding at all levels for funding for retirement, benefits, employee compensation based on their actual costs of negotiating higher salaries and benefits with their employees, and these funds do come back to our community in any form.
- Lisa announced that all regional centers have published their purchase of service data for disparities. There is more information on the website. She added there was not much difference from last year, but in looking for changes, did see a decrease in the number of adults in the Mien, Cambodian, and Vietnamese community, and a decrease in people with no purchase of service. There will be meetings in February and March to meet with people about their concerns around disparities. She concluded that the funding for proposals that were submitted last year have not been announced from DDS. They were supposed to be announced at the end of December, but it is now looking like those announcements will be made at the end of January.
- Lisa discussed self determination and that in the budget, there was language about getting trainings in local communities for how to roll out orientation for the people who were selected for self determination. DDS has not yet supplied the train-the-trainer, and are not anticipating that until March. People who were selected for self determination will not start to roll into the program until May or June.
- Lisa thanked Steve Robinson and his team for moving all their folks into the community, with the last RCEB consumer moving on December 14th, and the last resident, with GGRC, moving out a few days later.

Discussion: FiveThirtyEight report - Is California Failing It's Most Vulnerable Adults?

- There was a discussion about the FiveThirtyEight.com article that highlighted abuse that has taken place in Adult Day Programs.

Break-10 minutes

Reports

RCEB Staff - Steve Robinson

- Steve announced that the CTEC training schedule has been sent out and is also posted on the website.
- Steve reminded everyone that minimum wage statewide has risen effective January 1st, from \$11 per hour to \$12 per hour if you have 26 or more employees, and \$10.50 per hour to \$11 per hour if you have 25 or fewer employees. DDS sent some guidance for on how to make complete requests

for the minimum wage increase. If rates are set by DDS, the requests go directly to them. If the rates are negotiated, then the requests go through RCEB. This can be done not only for minimum wage requests, but also Health and Safety Waivers. Steve added that doing Health and Safety Waivers is burdensome for providers, and difficult for regional center staff. They are time consuming to complete. There is one person at The Department who is very helpful in responding very quickly with Health and Safety waivers. Steve mentioned that at February's PVAC meeting, he will be discussing the process for completing minimum wage requests, and will ask the person to talk about Health and Safety waivers if he's available. The requests for statewide minimum wage increases are due by March 1st.

- Steve announced that RCEB's fiscal year for 2016/2017 is closing, so if anyone has an outstanding POS to submit a bill by March 5th. Additionally, if anyone feels that they have an outstanding POS to contact the service coordinator.
- Steve thanked his staff who put in the work to move all their consumers from SDC into their community homes. With regard to other developmental centers, Fairview DC has 91 individuals, and Porterville has a total of 272, with approximately 212 in the secure treatment area.
- The Community Resource Development Plan submitted its proposal to DDS in August, but have still not heard how much of it will be approved. Statewide, regional centers asked for \$100 million, but DDS has stated they have approximately \$20 million available.

HCBS Update - Michael Minton

- Michael noted that 51 HCBS compliance grant concepts had been submitted. The concepts ranged from vehicles to house remodels to communication to public bathrooms to integration. He added that lots of creativity went into the proposals. Mike mentioned that March 15 is the date he had been given when concept approvals would be announced. Michael expressed his excitement over day programs and a few residential providers who worked collaboratively to submit concept proposals.
- Michael passed out a calendar with all the Person Centered Thinking workshops that have been scheduled so far, and that in the next few weeks, an email with a link to register would be going out.
- Michael mentioned that some providers have been contacted by QA staff regarding the upcoming DDS audit of RCEB. If you were contacted, participants with your agency were randomly selected to be reviewed. If you were not contacted, then none of your participants had been selected.
- Michael discussed trends in special incident reports in 2018. In particular, there was an increase in allegations of a sexual nature, and an increase around financial abuse. Because of this, in the CTEC training on SIRs, these areas will be covered to provide guidance to providers and agencies. There will also be three sexuality trainings.

RCEB Board - Sister Marygrace

- The RCEB Board did not meet in December.

SCDD Regional Advisory Committee - Representative

- There was no report from the State Council

DD Council - Sandi Soliday

Alameda County

- Sandi announced that the Alameda County Transition Faire is scheduled for March 23, and service provider invitations went out on Monday. If anyone has not received the invitation by next week to please contact Sandi. Also, contact Sandi with updates or changes to the programs.
- The next Council meeting will be on 2/13. At the meeting, they will be having one of the first Alameda Alliance for Health listening sessions.
- The Alameda VOAD meeting will take place on January 24th at the Chabot Las Positas Community College District board room. The flier has been sent out. Ron Halog is the new co-chair.
- The next EBLC is scheduled for 1/16 at RCEB in San Leandro to work out the final details for the Legislative Breakfast which is taking place on February 1st, also at RCEB in San Leandro. Sandi did mention that the Legislative Breakfast is by invitation only.
- The next Employment Task Force meeting is 1/25, but will take place at 1000 Broadway in Oakland this month.
- The next Wellness meeting is scheduled for 1/25 from 2pm to 4pm, also at 1000 Broadway in Oakland.
- The Alameda County Transition Team meets on the fourth Thursday of each month will meet on 1/24 from 3:30pm - 5pm at RCEB in San Leandro.

Contra-Costa County

- Geneva Ziaoure announced that Vi Ibarra did not have a full update, but had asked her to pass out fliers for the Contra Costa County Transition Task Force's upcoming workshop titled Employment Is An Option. The fliers were both in English and Spanish.

East Bay Legislative Coalition - Representative

- Geneva Ziaoure reminded everyone about the upcoming Legislative Breakfast.
- She mentioned that there wasn't much of an update because they were waiting to see what would be coming from legislature and new governor.
- Geneva made an announcement for Ron Halog regarding the Disability Integration Act watch Party taking place on 1/15.

Programs - Representative

- Geneva Ziaoure announced that in February, there would be a discussion on the increase in minimum wage and also Health and Safety waiver.
- In March, there will be a presentation by Sheraden Nicholau from the State Council on Ableism.
- In April, we are looking at have someone come into to talk about workers compensation options. That could be expanded to including a discussion on risk management.

Day Service Providers subcommittee - Representative

- Mike Pereira mentioned that there was no meeting in December, but that at today's meeting the discussion would focus around HCBS. Additionally, there was interest in discussing minimum wage issues.

Membership - Nancy Eddy

- Nancy reported that Rhonda McGlashon and Ron Halog have terms that are ending, but hope they will continue to attend, and at some point return as board members. She also announced that she would be leaving the board as she is retiring.

- Leslie Visbal was nominated to return to PVAC for her second term. New nomination included Avalon Hendricks, Amy Houde, Ramsay Mashy, Mike Palomino, and Mike Pereira. Nomination approval - (M/Guy Houston; S/Julia Lowe). Passed unanimously, no abstentions.
- Geneva announced that in addition to filling the Programs Chair, we will need a new Membership Chair, and a secretary.

Public Comments - Announcements

- Heather Hackett gave a reminder about the California DSP Workforce Committee, a group of DSPs and Executive Directors working together advocating for increased wages for DSPs. Heather mentioned that a survey had gone out that was due on the 7th, but that they were still accepting responses.
- Sandi Soliday announced that she attended a census meeting, and that Alameda county is working hard to capture the hard to count populations, which includes our folks. They are doing great outreach with the disability community. Over the course of the next year, expect information to come.
- Julia Lowe announced that the National Alliance for DSPs has rolled out the DSP Badge system, which enables DSP to take online test and other competencies to receive a badge. There is different subject matter that DSPs where DSPs can excel, and then can put these competencies on resumes or use them for performance evaluations. There will be an informational webinar on Tuesday, from 11am-12pm.
- Geneva Ziaoure announced that the next PVAC meeting is on February 8th.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:25AM

Respectfully submitted for review by Craig Rose, Secretary