

**Provider Vendor Advisory Committee**  
**Regional Center of the East Bay**  
**June 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Ron Halog, CRIL; Sister Marygrace, East Bay Services; Geneva Ziaoure, Manos; Will Sanford, Futures Explored; Nancy Eddy, Deaf Plus; Ramsay Mashy, California Autism Foundation; Julia Lowe, Dungarvin; Wesley Moss, Premier.

**Also Present:** Bruce Bird, ACo VOAD; Leslie Werosh, Ability Now Bay Area; Santi Rogers, RCEB; Silvia Yeh, FCSN; Michael Pereira, Ala Costa; Craig Rose, CIWP; Jonathan Stickels, Enriching Lives; Kristen Caron and Jody Barstow, Pacific Homecare; Sandi Soliday, ACDDC; Arden Fredmen, NIAD; Steve Everson, APT Transit; Jan Behr, Stepping Stones; Karen Toto, Alegria; Michael Minton, RCEB; Beth Dewitt, RCEB; Jen Miller, Seppa Center; Cinthia Flores, Bay Respite Care; Sheraden Nicholau, SCDD Bay Area Office; Denise Bradley, Harambee Community Services.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 9:41 am. Introductions. May 12<sup>th</sup> minutes reviewed and approved

**Update: Santi Rogers**

- State news
  - Concerns about the cost of living and availability of housing: “Where is everyone going to live?”
  - Aging is also a concern; never before have we had so many individuals over 60 years old in our system
  - May announce the new RCEB Executive Director within the next thirty days

**Presentation**

Bruce Bird, Alameda County Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (ACo VOAD)

- ACo VOAD is a non-governmental group made up of many different types of organizations are part of this group: non-profits, for profits, government agencies, faith-based groups, etc.
  - Does not respond to disasters per se, but links resources together for emergency preparedness and situations, i.e. emergency management
    - Shelter, financial support, food distribution, mental health, language translation, donations, etc.
  - Meetings occur quarterly all over the county. The next meeting is July 27<sup>th</sup> at American Red Cross in Oakland on Broadway.
    - Presentation by the Better Business Bureau
  - ACo VOAD is looking for new member organizations. Contact Bruce Bird for more information.

**Reports**

**RCEB Staff—Beth Dewitt**

- HCBS RFP monies have been distributed
  - Waiting on more information from the Department, but agencies have been contacted
- ABx2-1 Funding for new vendors
  - Three regional centers have heard that some programs that received their vendorizations July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 or later are now eligible for ABx2-1 wages and benefits funding, but RCEB has not been contacted.
  - Seems to be only CPP providers with local negotiated rates that are affected. The State already adjusted the non-negotiated provider rates.
- RCEB is committing to updating the Community Services webpage more regularly.

- Rose Dawd, RCEB's Employment Specialist, is making her way to providers. Currently working on organizing data, teams, and case managers.
- No word yet from the Department on vendor reporting of ABx2-1 funds due October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
  - RCEB recognizes that it will be a challenge to reach smaller and monolingual vendor organizations
- Reminder about Jacob Hulthage, who is on leave for 8 weeks starting May 26<sup>th</sup>. SLS budgets will be reviewed by Beth.

#### **RCEB Board—Sister Marygrace**

- The Board approved additional POS and Operations contracts with the Department
- Still looking for more board members: family members and consumers. If interested, please contact Michi Toy at RCEB. Would like more Contra Costa County representation, if possible.
- Consumer Advisory Committee Report:
  - Sent a letter to Wendy's asking for washroom access and entry door access
- Diversity and Equity Committee Report:
  - Funds from the State have been granted
    - Asian Communities to link families with services
    - Day Adult Program for Mein, Cambodian, and Laotian communities
  - Also meeting with a group with Middle Eastern ancestry (Afghan, Iranian, etc.) regarding options and opportunities
- Executive Director search:
  - Board is getting close to a decision.

#### **SCDD Regional Advisory Committee—Sheraden Nicholau**

- Regional Advisory Committee Meeting scheduled for June 28<sup>th</sup> at RCEB Concord at 7 pm
- On June 29<sup>th</sup>, there will be a presentation on Immigration Rights and Resources at UCSF
- On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Assurance Wireless in partnership with CRIL will hold a day of free phones and monthly data plans in Fremont. RSVPs required.
- State Council will meet in Sacramento on July 25<sup>th</sup>
- July 24<sup>th</sup> Statewide Self Advocacy meeting
- July 10<sup>th</sup> Statewide Employment Task Force meeting.
- Special Education Law workshop on July 10<sup>th</sup> in San Mateo and July 11<sup>th</sup> in Martinez.
- Still collecting "What Medicaid means to you" stories by hard copy and email.
  - What services would you have to give up if you didn't have Medicaid?

#### **DD Councils**

##### **Sandi Soliday, Alameda County**

- No Council meeting in June.
- Annual joint county council dinner at Zio Fraedo's went well. Margy Kane, RCEB Quality Assurance Supervisor won an award. Sheraden won the first John Rodriguez award.
- ACDDC will hold a program planning meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup> at RCEB San Leandro at 9:00 am.
- Cal D-CAD Day: June 13<sup>th</sup> there is a rally at the capital. Bus leaves at 7:45 am.

##### **Josh Sullivan, Contra Costa County**

- Awards dinner left a surplus of \$3,000 in proceeds, will use monies to funds consumer attendance at future dinners.
- CCCDDC Board is on summer break; no public meetings scheduled until September

- Josh will be stepping down from the role of Executive Assistant to the Council; he has been promoted to another position. The Council is currently looking for a new Executive Assistant.

#### **Legislative Committee—Will Sanford**

- Budget process update: Social Recreation and camps were denied funding, State may lift cap on respite care. Augmentation to DDS Operations budget to hire 300 new case managers around the State.
- Lanterman Coalition push to keep funds within the community
- Bills: AB279 and AB1607 moved to State Senate for consideration
- East Bay Legislative Coalition (EBLC): Focused on plans for next fiscal year's outreach message:
  - Savings generated from the DC closures, particularly housing
  - In September, October, and November, we want elected officials to visit service providers, the full breadth of what services look like.
    - Looking for hosts (providers, families)
    - Attendance at local town halls
  - We want to engage our federal elected officials as well.
  - Next meeting July 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the Alameda County Department of Public Health in Oakland
  - Will Sanford is now the new EBLC Co-Chair representing Contra Costs County

#### **Membership—no report**

#### **Programs-Wesley Moss**

- Solicited ideas from PVAC about future presentations
- Heidi Morgan from the CEU Institute will present at next PVAC meeting

#### **Public Comments**

- Sister Marygrace expressed concerns about staff recruitment and retention
  - Suggestions from the attendees included making partnerships, presenting at university and college classes, and recruitment advertising tips

#### **Announcements**

- Disability Capital Action Day June 13<sup>th</sup> 10-3 downtown Sacramento
- DDS publications were released last month, available on the website:
  - Crisis Intervention
  - Plan for Crises and other safety net services
  - May Revise highlights for DDS
  - Factbook has simple charts and graphs

*Meeting adjourned 11:22 am.*

*Respectfully submitted for review by Geneva Ziaoure, substitute secretary.*