



Diversity & Equity Committee

Date: Monday, July 26, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting

Time: *5:30 – 6:45 p.m.

MINUTES

I. Welcome & Introductions

Staff: Lisa Kleinbub, Chris Hanson, Ronke Sodipo, Elvia Osorio- Rodriguez, Edda Bañuelos, Jairo Guiza

Guests: Morena Grimaldi, Frank Paré, Arthur Lipscomb, Sister Marygrace, Erika Gonzalez, Christopher Egusa, Anna Wang, Esther Wong, Patricia Albeño, Esther Chow, Kelly Ko

II. Additions to the Agenda

No additions

III. Updates from sub-committees

No new developments. The committee agreed to hold a planning meeting during the month of August. Once a date is established the committee will be notified.

IV. Discussion

Lisa Kleinbub: Lisa provided an update about funds from the America Rescue Plan that will become available in 2022 for implementation of diverse activities including:

- . Four to five Case Managers with low caseloads to support individuals and families with low or no POS. This model was piloted by one of the Regional Centers in the LA area.
- . Funds to help people to advocate for health and safety issues.
- . Funds for “Implicit Bias training”. At RCEB the greatest need is in the area of initial intake and admission. We want to ensure that children are diagnosed in a timely manner.

- . Funds will become available in July 2022 for regional Centers to meet caseload ratios. One of the reasons for waiting until next year is that the DDS and the Assembly wanted metrics – performance indicators before implementation.

Frank Paré: Is this meeting the platform where Lisa Kleinbub is holding conversations with providers that are discriminated against?

Jairo: The RCEB is addressing issues related to antiracism, equity and inclusion through various venues. Currently a process is being used to address issues brought up by service providers. In this meeting our focus is to address issues related to disparities and equity among consumers and families.

Morena: The mission of this committee is “To build and promote equitable support systems for ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse communities”

V. Collaboration with the Self-Determination Program

Morena: Some areas of concern stand out regarding disparities among others, ethnicity and language.

Esther Chow: Helping Hands East Bay is collaborating with Jenifer Castaneda to implement orientations in Cantonese and Vietnamese. Currently, orientations are offered only in English and Spanish.

Edda Bañuelos: Jenifer is presenting a 3-session training to Spanish speaking families through La Familia. So far 40 families are registered for the orientation.

Lisa Kleinbub: All orientations led by Jenifer Castaneda fulfill the requirements by RCEB. Soon there will be standardized orientations by DDS. Parents who speak other languages and wish to attend an orientation should communicate with their case manager so that translation can be arranged.

Morena: The number of people using Self Determination is still small.

Lisa Kleinbub: POS data at the end of the year will reflect Self-Determination.

Patricia Albeño: The Regional Center is providing adequate training. Families have the information they need right now. Disparities will happen once families are enrolled in the program. Latino families do not have the means to know how to advocate at the level required. How can this committee provide support to the families?

Morena: Families can attend the Self Determination Advisory Committee meetings, which are announced on RCEB's website.

VI. Reports from the community

Esther Chow: DDS awarded Helping Hands East Bay a grant to help reduce disparities among Cantonese and Filipino families. In early November we will start collaborating with respite programs to offer out of home respite. Bilingual staff will be available to support the service.

Zoom meetings are being held with housing providers such as the Housing Consortium of the East Bay. The goal is to increase living options that are culturally and linguistically congruent in Cantonese.

Asian parents and parents who speak Spanish keep their adult children at home because there are no appropriate services for them.

Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez: Requested to Esther to send her the information about those services so that she can share it with Asian Case Managers.

VII. Adjourn

Next Regular Meeting: September 27, 2021