

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, November 19, 2015
Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson (via phone), Janet Brandon, Romilda Jones, Walter Kaweski, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor (via phone), Jon Nelson, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi

Absent (* excused): Nasim Hedayati*, Steven Sanchez*, Austin Taylor, Kristin Wright

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, David Rydquist, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Amy Fulk

Visitors: Sonya Bingaman, Kathy Brian, Lucy Myers, Ed Plon, Anna Shands, Dani Sloan, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:01 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Mr. Peacock read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved:** a) excused absence for Nasim Hedayati and Steven Sanchez; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of October 22, 2015; and c) accept Board Development, CAC and Executive reports.

**change in agenda was noted – no Finance Committee Report*

4. **New Business**

◆ *Community Comments*

- No comments were shared.

◆ *2016 Performance Contract*

Issue: Approval of the 2016 Performance Contract

Discussion and Action: ACRC's 2016 Performance Contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has been reviewed by all of the Board's committees throughout the month.

Mr. Bonnet provided an overview of the contract. He noted that the baseline, as well as the state average, is from December 2014.

- ACRC considers preserving the family environment as one of the top priorities for the clients that we serve.
- It's important to note that each regional center across the state uses Supported Living Services (SLS) a little differently.
- There are several items that have been "under development" for several years. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is working on developing measurement methodology on these items.
- A new public policy measure has been added to the contract this year – "Increase awareness of the cultural diversity and improve services for all ethnic groups served by ACRC using Purchase of Service data relating to age, race, language, and disability, to measure outcomes." Mr. Bonnet reviewed the activities that are planned in order to meet this measure.

M/S/C (Janet Brandon) **To approve the 2016 Performance Contract as submitted.** (11 in favor)

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on November 9th to discuss the following:
 - The ongoing Board Sponsored Trainings – one is scheduled in January.
 - Board and Committee surveys – Kristin Wright volunteered to draft these.
 - Committee meeting times – no changes at this time.
 - A Board application – an interview is scheduled for January.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Ms. Lampe shared that the CAC met on November 10th.
 - Mr. Bonnet shared that the letter that the CAC sent to a Southern California regional center's CAC was well received.
 - The group discussed the change in the law regarding overtime for In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS). More information will be available soon.
 - The CAC assisted in choosing the recipients of the Client Recognition Awards; the ceremony took place just prior to this Board meeting.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Ms. Brandon shared that the PAC met on November 12th.

- Providers are disheartened with the lack of rate increases across the state. Some are worried that they might have to close their doors and hope there is a plan in place so that clients' services aren't disrupted.
- The "We Are Here to Speak for Justice" protest has been moved to Raley Field on Thursday, December 10th, at 10 a.m. Interested individuals are encouraged to join the group in their march to the State Capitol.
- A new website has been set-up: www.shameonyou.news.
- A Cultural Diversity Sub-Committee has been formed; providers will be working with ACRC staff to bridge the gap with clients who might have barriers to understanding services or to feel more comfortable with having services with a provider that has staff who understands their language and/or culture.
- The group is planning to hold a job fair in January at the Sacramento Convention Center. A Job Fair Prep Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 3rd.

◆ *President's Report*

- Mr. Peacock acknowledged the amazing ceremony that was held just prior to the Board meeting. It's wonderful to learn all about the clients that ACRC serves!
- He encouraged everyone to visit the "Together We Shine" section on ACRC's website.
- The Board of Directors will be adopting a family for the holidays. An envelope is being passed around if you would like to make a donation.
 - Ms. West has volunteered to do the shopping this year.

◆ *Executive Director's Report*

- California's Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2016. Governor Brown continues to insist that if the legislature fails to extend the tax, he will initiate over \$1 billion in cuts to California's health and social service programs. Yesterday, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) reported that the state is poised to post a budget surplus of more than \$10 billion for the current fiscal year (FY) as revenues are up and expenditures are under control. Mr. Bonnet remains concerned about what might happen to our statewide service system if we need to rely on a specific tax to fund it.
- A new budget issue that is causing great concern for regional center and service providers has to do with a recent federal order regarding the payment of overtime for "domestic" workers who have

previously been exempt. DDS has not made a decision as to how the money will be released to regional centers to help pay for this change and when. This morning, Mr. Bonnet participated in a conference call with the other regional center Executive Directors across the state and this remains a major concern for all of us. This is now a federal requirement. The department's budget includes nine months of payments to our providers for this overtime, but we just don't know when we will be getting the money.

- Santi Rogers, Director of DDS, has announced his retirement at the end of this month. He has spent his entire professional career advocating for those Californians affected by developmental disabilities.
- Today began our holiday season here at ACRC. As mentioned, we have an adopt-a-family program, which help brings holiday cheer to our most needy ACRC clients and their families. Next month, we will continue our long-standing annual tradition known as Santa Day! This years' celebration returns back to the regional center on Friday, December 18th.
- DDS is still awaiting word from the federal government regarding the status of the Self-Determination Waiver that was submitted to the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) on September 29th. Meanwhile, our local Self-Determination Advisory Committee continues to meet.
- With Sonoma Developmental Center's (SDC's) closure set for December 2018, our team at ACRC has been working with our clients, families and providers to develop outstanding residential and service options for people leaving SDC.
- Mr. Bonnet shared that David Rydquist, ACRC's Director of Adult & Residential Services, has announced his retirement from the regional center next spring. Mr. Rydquist lives his work and does his work with great passion. He is amazing and has been an inspiring member of our team.

5. **Closed Session** – At 5:02 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session in order to discuss personnel and legal issues.

6. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** - At 5:39 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which personnel and legal issues were discussed.

7. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet