

Alta California Regional Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, September 25, 2014  
Minutes

**Present:** Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Janet Brandon, Modean Gibson, Romilda Jones, Walter Kaweski, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Edward T. Lewis, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Jon Nelson, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Austin Taylor

**Absent** (\* excused): Kristin Wright\*

**Board Advisor:** Nancy Lea

**Staff:** Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, Cynthia Hunt, Glen Korengold, David Lopez, Andrew Ponce, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

**Facilitators:** Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

**Visitors:** Monique Avers, Jamie Harris, Ed Plon, Steven Sanchez (via phone), Bonnie Thurman

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 3:02 p.m. on Thursday, September 25, 2014, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Mr. Safvi read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.

*\*Mr. Tiedemann shared that the Executive Committee approved a resolution from a housing developer who wants to apply for some HUD 811 funds for up to 14 units in a 250 unit complex for our clients. The original amount was \$250,000, but moments ago, the developer contacted him and stated that they would like to raise the dollar amount to \$500,000. Mr. Tiedemann noted that this is a good thing for the clients that we serve and explained that this is part of working through the HUD 811 process. He will ask the Board to take action on this during the Finance Committee portion of the meeting.*

3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved:** a) excused absence for Kristin Wright; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of July 24, 2014; c) PAC meeting minutes; d) Ratification of new member; and e) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, and Finance.
4. **New Business**
  - ◆ Board Development Committee (BDC)

**Issue:** Approve new Board Member

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Peacock shared that the BDC is submitting Steven Sanchez to the Board of Directors for membership. Mr. Sanchez provided a brief introduction of himself.

**M/S/C** (Cindy Benson) **To approve Steven Sanchez's appointment to ACRC's Board of Directors representing Placer County.** (14 in favor)

◆ *Finance Committee*

**Issue 1:** Monthly Financial Report

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on September 8<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the July 31, 2014 financial report which reflects one month of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 7.1% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 10.7% of Operations (OPS).

ACRC received the A-1 contract amendment on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The OPS budget includes just under a \$1 million increase; a 2.8% increase considering our caseload increased by almost 3.6%. We received slightly less POS funding this FY than last FY.

ACRC is required to conduct 18 vendor audits this FY; this is for providers who are paid up to \$100,00 per year. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is responsible for conducting the audits of vendors who are paid in excess of \$100,000.

➤ **The monthly finance report was accepted as submitted.**

**Issue 2:** HUD 811 Resolution

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Tiedemann read aloud the revised resolution. This project based rental assistance would be utilized for up to 14 units in a 250 unit complex located off of Florin Road & 65<sup>th</sup> Street in South Sacramento. He clarified that ACRC is working with the developer so that ACRC's clients could have this opportunity.

Mr. Tiedemann will keep the Board informed of the results of the application.

**M/S/C** (Edward T. Lewis) **To approve the revised resolution as presented.** (15 in favor)

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
  - Mr. Peacock shared that we all see the BDC's hard work in the manuals that were distributed today.
  - The committee is looking to fill some gaps in the Board's expertise; they are interviewing two new applicants in November.
  - The next BDC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
  - Mr. Taylor shared that the CAC met at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
    - This meeting was one of the largest CAC meetings that we have ever had. He believes these meetings make a big difference to the individuals who reside there.
    - Zach Miller, the CAC Chair, shared the CAC presentation entitled "What is the CAC at ACRC?". Committee members shared their stories of living in their own communities, and SDC staff shared what it is like for the clients to live at the developmental center.
    - Mr. Taylor and other members are looking at ways to incorporate the SDC advocacy group into the monthly CAC meetings.
  - The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
  - Ms. Brandon shared that some providers attended the CAC meeting at SDC earlier this month.
  - Committee members discussed the new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Rule. They will be inviting DDS staff to come and speak to the committee.
  - ACRC is working with providers who have expressed an interest in the two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) that came out of the Living Options Workgroup (LOW) earlier this year.
  - The PAC is choosing to meet in April, even though the Board revised its meeting schedule at the July Board meeting.

◆ *President's Report*

- Ms. Gibson expressed appreciation for those Board members who attended the Board Retreat today. She thanked the agency staff that helped make it a success. A lot of valuable information was shared.
- Ms. Gibson joined Mr. Kaweski and attended the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) meeting at Harbor Regional Center in Southern California in August.

- Ms. Gibson shared that she has formally asked Nancy Lea to be an advisor to ACRC's Board of Directors per the bylaw revision that the Board adopted in July.
- There were five calls to the Board hotline since the last meeting.
  - An individual called seeking work. The Intake Department has been in touch with this individual.
  - Another individual called seeking assistance in moving his brother to Placer County. The unconserved, adult client is happy living in Galt. He frequently visits his family during birthdays and holidays.
  - Three callers were seeking services from the regional center. The Intake Department has been in touch with these individuals and will be following-up on the referrals.

◆ *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Bonnet believes we have a remarkable team here at ACRC.
- The Self-Determination Program is a big concern across the state. By December 31<sup>st</sup>, DDS must submit the application for the waiver to the federal government, but it is likely that they will submit it within the next few weeks. The process is complicated; the proposal that the department submits must meet all of the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) rules. Mr. Bonnet will be working with our local Area Board/State Council to sponsor a free conference for our clients and families to share information about the pilot project and also the long term program that will include eligibility for nearly every person served by California's regional centers.
  - A two-page fact sheet on the CMS Rule was distributed for review. Mr. Bonnet shared that this will be an ongoing conversation that we will be having with our service providers and community members.
- The shortage of quality residential care options available to our adult and transition age clients remains one of the most serious issues facing our service system. This shortage is even more pronounced when looking to serve individuals with significant behavioral needs. Mr. Bonnet will continue to work with community members, providers, and state officials to address this issue.
- The CAC's meeting at SDC was an incredibly positive experience. Mr. Bonnet shared that our clients are amazing; they are not just self-advocates, but peer-advocates.
- ACRC once again partnered with our friends at Fiesta Educativa for their annual conference this last weekend at Rosemont High School in Sacramento. Hundreds of individuals attended this yearly event. It was an incredibly uplifting experience!

- There were three calls to the comment line since the last meeting. Two calls were referrals to our agency. The Intake Department is following-up on these requests. The other call was from a parent requesting another Service Coordinator (SC) for her daughter. The Supervisor spoke with the parent and has assigned a new SC.
  
- ◆ *ARCA Report*
  - Mr. Kaweski shared that the bi-monthly ARCA Board of Directors meeting was held at Harbor Regional Center on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
    - The meeting centered on the CMS Rule and how that will impact our service system. It's important to note that there will be a five year implementation.
    - ARCA has formed an Equity Committee for the sole purpose of identifying best and promising practices that reduce service disparity in the developmental services system, identify successful outreach practices, strategies to improve health care literacy, culturally competent service delivery practices that better serve underserved individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, and to explore the analysis of received data. He has volunteered to be on this committee.
    - Mr. Patrick McClenahan, the CEO of the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games shared a presentation. The World Games will be taking place in Los Angeles starting on July 25, 2015.
    - Mr. Kaweski asked that everyone keep Rick Rollens, ARCA's Legislative Analyst, in their thoughts and prayers. His family is experiencing serious medical issues at this time.
  
- ◆ *ARCA-CAC Report*
  - Ms. Benson shared that the ARCA-CAC held a teleconference on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>.
    - Committee members are talking about developing an ARCA-CAC Facebook Page. They are discussing ideas of what might be included so that the ARCA Executive Committee can approve this.
      - Mr. Bonnet shared that the ARCA Executive Committee unanimously approved this request last week.
    - The Legislative Update – Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, was the last day of the Legislative session and ARCA has been closely watching several bills that have not yet been passed.
    - The Special Olympics World Games will be held in Los Angeles in 2015.
  - The next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, in Sacramento.

◆ *Community Comments/Announcements*

- Ms. Benson was featured in a series of articles about the Neighborhood Center of the Arts in Grass Valley.
- Ms. Lampe will be going to South Lake Tahoe with some of her friends from December 6<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>. They will be holding a fashion show while they are there.
- Mr. Tiedemann shared that on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, ACRC will be hosting a Holiday Art Show & Sale. More information will be shared soon.
- Ms. Benson is going to Disneyland next week with five of her friends!
- In August, Ms. Benson entered one of the necklaces that she made into a contest at the Nevada County Fair and won best in her division!

5. ***Closed Session*** – At 4:08 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session in order to discuss legal and personnel issues.

6. ***Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion*** - At 4:39 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which personnel issues were discussed.

7. ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet