

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2020
Minutes

Present:

Rita Walker, President
Ron Mainini, Vice President
Michelle Rewerts, Secretary &
ARCA-CAC Rep
Yang Sun, Finance Comm. Chair
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large

Board Members:

Johnny Deng
Retha Seabron

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Visitors:

Maureen Fitzgerald

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Financial Officer
Lori Banales, Deputy Executive
Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met at 5:14 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020, by Webex/ teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) 2021 Performance Contract with DDS; 3) Reschedule October Committee Meetings; 4) ARCA Academy; and 5) Correspondence from Community, ARCA & DDS. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Rita Walker made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of July 13, 2020 as submitted.

1. ***Executive Director's Report***

- POS Expenditure Data & August Public Meeting
 - ACRC held our annual Purchase of Services (POS) Expenditure Data Meeting virtually on the evening of August 25th, with 65 people in attendance. This was the most collaborative meeting that we have held on this subject.
 - Ms. Banales shared that we received some constructive feedback on how to reach out to different populations and suggestions to help us re-engage with folks.
 - Staff will be drafting a report which will include the data that was presented and the suggestions that were gathered at the meeting. The report will be submitted, as required, to the Department of Development Services (DDS).
- COVID-19
 - Currently, the statewide regional center system has 2,613 clients who have tested positive for COVID-19, with 147 deaths and 325 clients that are hospitalized. There are also over 1,400 direct support professionals (DSPs) and over 105 regional center employees who have tested positive.
 - Mr. Bonnet noted that ACRC's total number of clients represents about 8% of the state's developmentally disabled population. We currently have 129

- clients who have tested positive for COVID-19, with nine deaths, 65 DSPs and one staff member.
- The seven-day statewide average is decreasing slightly; 22 clients a day are testing positive. DDS is encouraged with the trend.
 - Transitioning non-residential services & DDS emergency regulations
 - The department has released 27 emergency regulations/directives during this pandemic. The most recent one is regarding alternative billing for non-residential service providers and it is somewhat confusing, but it will keep the federal reimbursement flowing into the state which is critical for our statewide service system.
 - This directive explains that alternative services can be delivered via telephone, computer or drop-off. DDS is giving service providers a very wide latitude when continuing to serve our clients.
 - ACRC's Community Services Department held a vendor forum today to help work through this most recent directive. Over 200 service providers were in attendance, and the information was in general positively received.
 - Mr. Bonnet shared that both ACRC and Disability Voices United (DVU) conducted surveys earlier in the pandemic. Our agency didn't receive a huge response, but overall things were positive. In the near future, DDS will be sending out a random, electronic survey to clients/families across the state.
 - Ms. Banales noted that initially, Service Coordinators (SCs) were to have Planning Team Meetings (PTMs) with the clients on their caseload in order to gather information on the individual's needs during the state's shutdown. Just recently, DDS rewrote the directive to place the responsibility onto the service provider to connect with the clients that they serve to figure out what types of alternative services can be provided during this trying time. Once that conversation is completed, the service providers are required to notify the SCs so that they can document what was agreed upon.

2. **2021 Performance Contract with DDS**

- Mr. Bonnet shared that regional centers were recently notified that their 2021 Performance Contract will be due to DDS by December 1st, not November 1st.
- Ms. Banales clarified that we are seeking input on the planned activities for the public policy measures regarding employment and those related to reducing disparities and improving equity in purchase of services expenditures. She noted that ACRC has a detailed plan that will not be listed in this Performance Contract.
 - The measures regarding disparity cannot be changed, but the planned activities can be modified as necessary to increase our outcomes.
 - The Board would appreciate it if ACRC staff would provide them with more information regarding ACRC's disparity efforts at the September Board or October committee meetings.
 - Ms. Banales has been working with agency staff to target some initiatives so that clients can access our services. This information will be shared with the Board.

- We will use this extra time to gather feedback from our community partners, integrate their suggestions and bring forward a revised draft in November for Board approval.

3. ***Reschedule October Committee Meetings***

- The Board's October BDC, Finance and Executive committee meetings fall on an ACRC holiday.
 - Ms. Walker will make the recommendation to the full Board that these meetings be rescheduled for Monday, October 19th, beginning at 4 p.m.

4. ***ARCA Academy Survey***

- Per Ms. Walker's request, Ms. West sent an email to Board members at the beginning of the month requesting that they complete the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Academy Survey. Regional center have asked that ARCA continue to hold trainings for Board members across the state. The deadline to complete the survey is September 30th.
 - Ms. Walker encourages Board members to complete this survey; she will send out a reminder email.

5. ***Correspondence from Community, ARCA & DDS***

- Ms. Walker noted that this section was added to the Executive Committee agenda for review and discussion of correspondence sent to the Board. Board correspondence includes:
 - A letter from the Sacramento County Developmental Disabilities Planning and Advisory Council which request an update on program closures in ACRC's catchment area.
 - Ms. Fitzgerald noted that because the landscape continues to change, the council is requesting monthly updates from ACRC.
 - If the Board would like this information, Mr. Bonnet would like to also include information on the new programs that are opening, as well.
 - He will include this as a standing item in his Board report.
 - The supplemental letter that was submitted to DDS with ACRC's Board Composition Survey.
 - DDS' letter which provides regional centers with the requirements for their Board of Directors' Training Plan.
 - Ms. Walker also received a letter addressing a recent devendorization and the Board will discuss this issue in the near future.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 19, 2020**, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet