

Alta California Regional Center
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 11, 2016
Minutes

Present:

Will Sanford, Futures Explored,
Chair
Becky Brubaker, EGACTION
Gregory Buch, Ph.D., PALS
Eric Ciampa, UCP of Greater
Sacramento, Inc.
Gerrit deGelleke, American River
Speech
Jacquie Dillard-Foss, STEP
Ed Doonan, LIFE, Inc.
Eleni Gialoyrakes, Capital Social
Services
Daina Glasson, Ambitions CA
Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting,
Inc.
Michelle Ramirez, On My Own
Robin Rhoades, Southside Art
Center
Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver
Relief
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare
Services
Yvonne Soto, DDSO (via phone)
Peter Stirling, Serenity Respite
Services
Paul Traglio, Capitol Autism
Services
Carole Watilo, Progressive
Employment

Visitors:

Nicole Basaldua
Sandy Bishop
Andrea Croom
Tim DeBack
Maureen Fitzgerald
Adriene Gaudet
Cynthia Guilford
Joe Jaquez
Kristine Johnson
Aaron Kowalski
Sabrina Oxborrow
Wesley Moss
Michelle Nobile
Nicky Schluep
Stan Schmidt
Sean Stone
Kelly Weber

Staff:

David Rydquist, Director of Adult &
Residential Services
John Decker, Manager of
CPP/Forensics Unit
Darline Dupree, Manager of
Community Services
Jean Onesi, Manager of
Community Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Absent: (* excused)

Janet Brandon*, AIM &
Associates, Co-Chair
Susan Miner, Turning Point
Dawn Montgomery*, HOPE
Consulting
Antonio Ranit*, Antelope Hills
Manor

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:33 a.m. on Thursday, February 11, 2016, in the Redwood Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Sub-Committee Updates; 3) Updates; 4) Legislative Update; 5) Board Update; and 6) Announcements /Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

**Mr. Sanford welcomed Daina Glasson & Peter Stirling to the PAC*

Without objection, Will Sanford made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of January 14, 2016 as submitted.

1. *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Rydquist shared that he is filling in for Mr. Bonnet today.
- The Governor's proposed 2016-17 State Budget supports the closure of the developmental centers (DCs). There is funding in the budget to develop resources for those individuals who will be transitioning into their own communities.
 - ACRC is on track to move all of our clients out of the DCs. The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) and staff are excited about this challenge.
- Secretary Diana Dooley has shared that the administration does not support the Lanterman Coalition's "10 for 10", but has asked for input regarding where additional funding is most needed.
- Within the proposed 2016-17 budget, there are incentives to providers who operate four bed homes. ACRC's Community Services Department has been contacted by several parties who may be interested in opening new residential facilities.
- ACRC is working to get clients signed up for the Self-Determination Program (SDP). Mr. Rydquist's goal is to have 1,000 individuals signed up prior to his retirement on April 1st. SDP is moving slower than we all thought it would. The agency is in the process of educating Service Coordinators (SCs) on the pilot project and they are spreading the word to the clients that we serve. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is in charge of choosing the clients that will take part in the initial three-year rollout of this new option. The next local advisory committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 8th; they are meeting quarterly now instead of monthly.
- As stated at last month's meeting, Mr. Decker reminded everyone that the Requests for Proposals (RFP) Orientation is scheduled for Monday, February 29th.

2. **Sub-Committee Updates:**

- Challenging Needs
 - The sub-committee met after the January meeting and discussed the RFPs which support individuals with behavioral needs.

- Cultural Diversity
 - Ms. Brandon would like to make sure the PAC is aligned with what ACRC's Board of Directors is working on.
 - The sub-committee will meet in March/April.

- Job Fair
 - The sub-committee developed a survey which was sent out to all ACRC providers. As of today, we have received 100 responses; 66 providers have indicated that they would like to participate in a job fair.
 - There is a huge diversity in the jobs that need to be filled. A suggestion was made to possibly hold multiple job fairs – each targeting certain areas of employment.
 - The survey has gathered important data that the sub-committee will use to schedule the job fair(s).
 - The group is discussing the best way to advertise for this event; possibly drafting a press release.
 - Those present would like to make sure that ACRC staff realize the dire circumstances that providers are in – they are short staffed and may not have enough people to assist all of the clients on a particular day.

M/S/C (Carole Watilo) **At the March meeting, the PAC will discuss the agenda item: "Staff Crisis in the Community".** (15 in favor)

3. **Updates:**

- Self-Determination Program
 - The State's workgroup met yesterday. Trainings for regional centers will be completed in April and May.
 - DDS is currently working on the 185 questions, which they hope to complete by February 29th.
 - The settings rule is the major issue. No state has successfully submitted a transition plan. The Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) requires a better definition of this.
 - This program is "off the clock" and once the waiver is resubmitted, CMS has 90 days to either approve or send it back for more information.

- There is \$70 million in the proposed budget for transition; \$17 million to fund additional regional center SCs, \$40+ million to fund Alternative Residential Model (ARM) rates based on a four-resident model for Community Care Facilities, and \$15 million for other transition needs. It won't buy a lot of progress, but at least the need was acknowledged.
- CMS Rules/HCBS Waiver Settings
 - There is still the assumption that providers will have to complete self-assessments.
 - Providers need to focus on the settings that the clients are in.
- DS (Disability Services) Taskforce 2.0
 - No meetings have been scheduled.

4. **Legislative Update**

- Mr. Sanford shared that the Managed Care Organization (MCO) Reform (no longer called a tax) is almost complete, but funding for our system is what's holding it up. The Governor is gathering input on where targeted increases should go. There is relief for direct service providers; it includes a "wage and benefit" cost component. There is also a proposed 5% rate increase to Supported Living Services (SLS), Independent Living Services (ILS), respite (both in-home and out-of-home), transportation services and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs). This item might be brought before a vote by next week. If approved, it will bring approximately \$400 million in additional funding into our statewide system and the effective date would be July 1st
- The legislature is discussing the 10% restoration for employment services. The push is for clients to have paid internships.
- The proposed budget also includes funding for DDS to establish a Fiscal and Program Research Unit.
- The Senate Human Services and Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 will hold a joint oversight hearing on the closure of the DCs on Tuesday, February 23rd at 1:30 p.m. in Room 4203 of the State Capitol.

5. **Board Update**

- Mr. Ciampa attended the January 28th Board meeting and he shared that the PAC is focusing on the legislative changes that are taking place.

6. **Announcements/Comments**

- Ms. Dupree encourages everyone to participate in the vendor forums so that ACRC staff are made aware of the issues discussed at these meetings.

- Ms. Rhoades shared that the PAC will need elect a Chair and the designated representative to the Board of Directors at the March or April meeting. She gave a brief description of what the Co-Chairs responsibilities are. Please keep this in mind if you are interested in either position.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, March 10, 2016**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet