

Alta California Regional Center  
Provider Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday, November 13, 2014  
Minutes

**Present:**

Will Sanford, Futures Explored,  
Chair  
Janet Brandon, AIM &  
Associates, Co-Chair  
Eric Ciampa, UCP of Greater  
Sacramento, Inc.  
Gerrit deGelleke, American River  
Speech  
Jacquie Dillard-Foss, STEP  
Eleni Gialoyrakes, Capital Social  
Services  
Daina Glasson, California Mentor  
Dawn Montgomery, HOPE  
Consulting  
Michelle Payne, RCCA Services  
Sergio Pinto, BEST Consulting,  
Inc.  
Michelle Ramirez, On My Own  
Antonio Ranit, Antelope Hills  
Manor  
Robin Rhoades, Southside Art  
Center  
Laleh Sharpe, Maxim Healthcare  
Services  
Joy Scott, Tri-County Caregiver  
Relief  
Yvonne Soto, DDSO  
Paul Traglio, Capitol Autism  
Services  
Carole Watilo, Progressive  
Employment

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Jill Bonetti, Opportunity Acres  
Becky Brubaker\*, EGACT  
Gregory Buch\*, Ph.D., PALS  
Ed Doonan\*, LIFE, Inc.  
Susan Miner\*, Turning Point

**Visitors:**

Donna Bettencourt  
Andrea Croom  
Bonnie Douglas  
Kayleigh Davis  
Adriene Gaudet  
Agnes Ranit  
Kallie Ray  
Sam Seaton  
Akudo Unanwa

**Staff:**

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director  
Darline Dupree, Manager of  
Community Services  
Jean Onesi, Manager of Community  
Services  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met at 9:39 a.m. on Thursday, November 13, 2014, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Executive Director Comments; 2) Updates; 3) Legislative Update; 4) Board Update; and 5) Announcements/Comments. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Will Sanford made the motion to approve the Provider Advisory Committee meeting minutes of October 9, 2014 as submitted.**

1. ***Executive Director Comments***

- There may be new support for some clients as the Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) Rule takes effect. President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) into law on July 22, 2014. This bill will allow students between the ages of 18 and 25, who leave high school, to “try” employment. These individuals will be directed to the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), where there needs to be a good faith effort in finding them a job. After there is a demonstration that they cannot work, the individual could then choose to attend a day program. The bill requires that DOR work with these individuals; DOR is required to set aside at least 15% of their funding to provide transition services to individuals with developmental disabilities. The DOR work center meets with the individual twice a year and makes sure they can’t work in their community. DOR is not getting any additional money to implement this and CMS will not fund work centers.
- Mr. Bonnet shared the draft “Employment First Policy” with those present. It is his hope that ACRC’s Board of Directors will be adopting this policy, with the suggested revisions, at the November 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
- ACRC will be hosting a Holiday Art Sale on Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, from 1 to 4 p.m. Santa Day is scheduled for Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Hilton Hotel across the street from the regional center.
- Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC has rented additional office space on the first floor of the Sacramento office. This area will be used as conference room space.
- ACRC is hosting an Employment First Transformation Workshop on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Bonnet attended the Self-Determination Conference, entitled “Think Outside the Box”, last Friday & Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, in Southern California. The Autism Society of Los Angeles, Disability Rights California (DRC), and the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) hosted this well attended event.
  - Mr. Bonnet expects that there will be a push to include some of the services that are not included in the CMS Rule.
  - Families will be permitted to purchase as much respite as needed, camp, music therapy, etc.
  - The pilot project will include 2,500 clients from across the state; of those, 174 clients will be from ACRC. After the first three

years, any client, three years of age and older, will have the choice to participate in self-determination.

- If a licensed residential facility meets the definition of the new rule, then clients can reside in them. The service definitions are currently posted on the Department of Developmental Services' (DDS') website.
- The remaining question is how the selection will occur. Regional centers are asking that there is consistency across the state. The department also wants to make sure there is diversity in the selection process.
- Mr. Bonnet shared that after more details are released, ACRC will partner with SCDD/Area Board 3 to host a free conference at our regional center.

## 2. **Updates:**

- CMS Rule
  - The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released their second draft of the statewide transition plan (STP) on November 7<sup>th</sup>. This plan identifies the framework and strategy for achieving and maintaining compliance with the federal requirements for Home and Community-Based Settings (HCBS) Waiver programs. The 30-day public comment period ends on December 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - DDS has the single largest waiver. They have to submit the Self-Determination Waiver application to the federal government by December 31, 2014, and the state-wide transition plan by March 2015.
  - The plan does not include any specific rules for day services, but it is assumed that greater integration will be required. It will be a change in how providers do business though. The CMS Rule is going to drive a lot of it. There is fluidity in what providers say they are going to do, as long as it meets the criteria.
  - It was noted that providers in other states know a lot about the new CMS Rule, while providers in California don't because they work with the entitlement of the Lanterman Act.
  - Committee members expressed their desire to provide input to this plan. Ms. Dupree shared that ACRC has created a sub-committee through their Residential Vendor Forum that will be meeting to discuss the upcoming changes in law as it relates to the new CMS Rule. She will provide Ms. West with the information so that it can be distributed to PAC members.
  - INALLIANCE is hosting a Town Hall meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 7 p.m. to discuss the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Statewide Transition Plan and its impact on people with developmental disabilities.

- DS (Disability Services) Taskforce 2.0
  - The taskforce met in October. The group added a number of members, but there still are no parents of clients who are under the age of 22.
  - Sustainability is the main focus.

### 3. **Legislative Update**

- Currently, the State of California is \$1.2 million ahead in revenue.
- Instead of campaigning for his re-election, Governor Brown campaigned for two propositions, the water bond and the rainy day fund, which both passed.
- Mr. Sanford encouraged everyone to go out and meet with their local legislators.
- A group of legislators (Senator Jim Beall and others) sent a letter to Governor Brown in support of rate increases for providers and general support for our community. The Lanterman Coalition had a marketing sub-group meet to see how to get everyone to understand what is going on in the statewide developmental disabilities system. The group is meeting again this Friday, and will be focusing on the "10" – the 10%, the 10 issues, etc. Mr. Sanford believes that we, as a community, have to develop a way to market issues better.
- SB 1093 (Liu) – Developmental services: regional centers: culturally and linguistically competent services. This bill may change the way Independent Living Services (ILS) are provided to clients. Regional centers normally fund this service for six months; there is no time limit with this bill.
- The legislature is recessed until January.

### 4. **Board Update**

- Ms. Brandon attended the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting.
  - October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
  - A new candidate will be presented to the Board at the November meeting.
- Mr. Sanford will be attending the next Board meeting, scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m.

### 5. **Announcements/Comments**

- Southside Art Center is holding its "2014 Friendraiser Event" on December 6<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 6 p.m., at their gallery located inside Country Club Plaza.
- Ms. Ramirez shared that On My Own is holding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Adopt-A-Family Program which helps out clients who have children. More

information about this wonderful community program can be found on their website.

- Ms. Watilo encouraged everyone to learn more about the "Best Buddies Jobs Program by visiting the "I'm In to Hire" website at [www.imintohire.org](http://www.imintohire.org).
- The Verge Center for the Arts is presenting "Many Happy Returns: A 35 year Retrospective of Short Center North". This event runs from November 6<sup>th</sup> to December 21<sup>st</sup>. Additional information can be found on DDSO's website.
- Mr. Ciampa shared that Tanya Hartle's last day at UCP is the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, November 26<sup>th</sup>. They will be hosting an Open House that day for anyone who would like to come by and wish her well. UCP is located at 4350 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento.
- Ms. Payne shared that the Denti-Cal workshop that she attended in October focused mainly on children. She was able to get one dentist's name that works with adult clients – Dr. Guy Acheson, who can be reached at (916) 362-9247. Her agency has also met with Dr. Pan about the shortage of dental services for the clients that we serve.
- STEP is hosting a Thanksgiving food drive for the clients that they serve, and collecting toys for "Toys for Tots".
- Ms. Dillard-Foss shared that the California Supported Living Network (CSLN) is holding its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Leadership Conference on April 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at the Dana Hotel on Mission Bay in San Diego. Anyone interested can find out more information on their website: [www.supportedliving.com](http://www.supportedliving.com).
- Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC received a monetary gift to improve residential options in El Dorado County. He had wanted to develop a respite option like *The Respite Inn* in the Bay Area, but with the new CMS Rule, this may not be an option. Those present suggested using the money for a camp.
- Ms. Unanwa introduced herself and shared that she is interested in getting involved with this committee.

The next PAC meeting is scheduled on **Thursday, January 8, 2015**, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet