

Board of Directors' Meeting

September 26, 2005

Presiding: Dick Long

Board Members

Present: Nyron Battles Bill Dycus  
Chi Lee Sister Marygrace  
Carmen Quinones Claudia Sladen  
Anne Struthers Mike Treppa  
Steve Whitgob

Board Members

Excused: Rose Coleman Tom Florin  
Theresa Woo

Staff Present: Jim Burton Francine Davis  
Susan Driggs Erick Glentzer  
Nancy Kubota Marc Sugars

Guests Present: Barbara Garcia Sharon Hagerty  
Cleo Manspeaker Rocio Smith  
Todd Struthers

CALL TO ORDER

President, Dick Long, called to order the regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay at 7:15 pm. Self-introductions were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the agenda for September 26, 2005 as presented." (Struthers/Sladen) Unanimous.

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the minutes of August 22, 2005 as presented." (Battles/Sladen) Unanimous.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Manspeaker reported that she would be attending this year's Supported Life Conference in Sacramento and thanked Rocio Smith and Area Board 5 for sponsoring her attendance. Ms. Manspeaker also shared her colorful and unique artwork with the group and noted that she will be presenting some of these pieces as gifts at the conference.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Dick Long

Mr. Long reported that this committee had not met this month but will return to their regular meeting schedule in October.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Steve Whitgob

Dr. Whitgob distributed and reviewed the Financial Status Report for August and the Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR). The SOAR for F/Y 2005-06 was submitted to DDS last week and may be subject to revision after a joint review by DDS and ARCA. This preliminary report details our POS and growth projections for the year and is the basis on which DDS determines if the current allocation is sufficient to cover our projected expenditures.

RCEB is currently projecting a balanced POS budget for F/Y 2005/06 contingent upon an adjustment to our base allocation. The SOAR projects a mid range base insufficiency of \$9.5 million and we anticipate that DDS will provide an adjustment to our base allocation of approximately \$9.6 million consistent with the current allocation methodology if sufficient funds are available.

Dr. Whitgob also reported that staff has completed a preliminary Operations budget but will now include the recent unanticipated increases of the 19% increase in the IRS mileage rate and a 20% increase in the Kaiser Health Benefit rate. The Operations budget is being carefully reviewed so that we can ensure a balanced budget for the year.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Mike Treppa

Mr. Treppa reported that as part of our ongoing recruitment efforts, his committee has contacted Ralph Griffin and asked that he consider rejoining the Board. Mr. Griffin is well-known to this Board and this community and completed six years of service on the Board in July 2003. Mr. Treppa placed Mr. Griffin's name into nomination and noted that the election would take place at the October meeting of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Treppa reminded members that two candidates, Rebecca Loya and Emily Whitgob, had been nominated for Board membership at the previous meeting. Following a ballot election, Mr. Treppa reported that both Ms. Loya and Ms. Whitgob had been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for three-year terms from October 2005 through September 2008.

**PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Sister Marygrace**

Sister Marygrace reported that her group had met on September 16<sup>th</sup> and the entire focus of the meeting was on Medicare Part D with an informative presentation by Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB Director of Health and Behavioral Services. The deadline for this critical change to prescription coverage is rapidly approaching and RCEB staff and service providers are gathering as much information as possible so they will be able to assist consumers in accessing needed benefits.

Sister Marygrace distributed and reviewed a list of the voting membership of the Provider/Vendor Advisory Committee. PVAC members represent a wide array of service categories and they continue their recruitment efforts to include representatives from children's services.

**CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Nyron Battles for Rose Coleman**

Mr. Battles reported that Nancy Kubota had attended the last CAC meeting and provided an updated review of the budget for the group. Members also discussed the roles and responsibilities of facilitators. Mr. Battles reported that Sandy Pimperton has announced she will step down as CAC facilitator in January. With the recent departure of Gabriel Rogin from the position, the CAC will have two facilitator positions to be filled. The group discussed what qualities they will look for in filling these positions and reviewed the selection process. Finally, Mr. Battles reported that elections for new officers for the group will take place in November.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton**

Mr. Burton informed the Board that Sheryl Kuhn has been ill and is currently hospitalized at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland. He noted that while Sheryl would not be with us this evening, she is in our thoughts each day.

Mr. Burton acknowledged that disaster preparedness is a huge concern for everyone right now. RCEB staff are reviewing our disaster plan and will present the plan to the Board after it has been updated. The recent hurricanes have been a cruel reminder of the importance of each of us being as prepared as we possibly can be in a natural disaster. Mr. Burton also reported that regional centers throughout the state are trying to provide immediate support to victims of Hurricane Katrina who have re-located to our area.

Mr. Burton reported that the transition of the Miller Center programs to CCARC is continuing. Strong family advocacy has been the key to keeping the transfer process on track and this has been an extraordinary accomplishment on the part of these dedicated and caring families. We anticipate the transfer of all services will be completed by November 1<sup>st</sup> with no disruption in service.

Mr. Burton informed the group that there continues to be significant activity in preparing to close Agnews Developmental Center. Changes to public policy are necessary to ensure the successful completion of this project and Mr. Burton thanked Senator Chesbro and his staff for their substantial efforts. SB 962 (Chesbro) establishes a pilot project creating a new type of licensed residential care facility to provide community-based services to 120 current residents transitioning from Agnews. AB 1378 (Lieber) authorizes the Department of Developmental Services to use Agnews staff to work in the community to provide clinical and other support services to ensure the safety and well-being of residents transitioning from Agnews into community-based settings. AB 609 (Lieber) would provide a task force to look at the use of Agnews property after the facility has been closed. The Bay Area Housing Plan has been approved by the Administration and CalHFA has approved the initial \$20 million in bond funding with the remaining \$80 million is scheduled for review at their November meeting. Mr. Burton noted that the public policy work is nearly done and that we can all direct our efforts toward providing outstanding community living arrangements to all Agnews residents.

Mr. Burton reminded everyone that Congreso Familiar will be held this Saturday at Chabot College in Hayward. This annual conference is one of the most important events that occurs at this regional center. Mr. Burton encouraged everyone to attend since an incredible amount of information is available at the conference and it also provides a unique networking opportunity for families. A group of five mothers has worked to establish a private, non-profit status for the organization and their outstanding efforts produce this remarkable annual event for our community.

Mr. Burton informed the Board that we are again struggling with case management vacancies. We currently have nine case management vacancies and we are having difficulty filling the positions because our budget does not support a competitive wage in the bay area. We face a similar struggle with our nursing positions and continue to look at ways to overcome the problem.

Mr. Burton reported that the Contra Costa Developmental Disabilities Council had planned a presentation on Self-Directed Services for their next meeting (9/28/05) but it will need to be re-scheduled due to scheduling conflicts of the speaker. Members were also reminded that Area Board 5 will hold a community outreach meeting on the same evening. This month's meeting will be held in Oakland and everyone present was encouraged to attend.

Mr. Burton explained that our staff has been heavily involved in the Medicare Part D changes in prescription coverage. Regional centers have been given a budget allocation that will allow us to provide counseling and support to consumers who will be affected by this change. Members were reminded that this is a very complex issue and we have a lot to do in a very short period of time. Regional centers will be the safety net for consumers and we will monitor the process very carefully to ensure that consumers continue to receive necessary medications.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Rocio Smith expressed her appreciation for RCEB's support of Congreso Familiar. RCEB's fiscal and staff support of Congreso demonstrate the true sense of collaboration and partnership that continue to make this event so successful.

### ARCA REPORT: Anne Struthers

Mrs. Struthers stated there had been no ARCA meeting this month and there would be no report this evening. Mrs. Struthers asked Mr. Burton to present the ARCA Vision Statement.

Mr. Burton explained that the Vision Statement had been drafted to position the ARCA body to take a leadership role on public policy issues rather than to function in a reactive mode. The organizational structure of ARCA provides a unique opportunity for the organization to take a leadership role in shaping public policy. The draft Vision Statement outlines key challenges and a conceptual approach that ARCA might consider to lead in shaping the new public policy vision.

M/S/C            "The Board moves to approve and support the ARCA Vision Statement Draft as presented." (Struthers/Treppa) Unanimous.

Mrs. Struthers announced that ARCA will meet in San Francisco on January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and will help GGRC celebrate its' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at that time. Board members were encouraged to attend the ARCA meetings as their schedules allow.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Long reminded the group that tonight is the last meeting for Mr. Treppa after six years of service to the Board and this community. Mr. Long recognized Mr. Treppa for his outstanding support and work. Mr. Treppa has been an exceptional role model for Board members and we have all learned a great deal under his leadership. Mr. Long presented Mr. Treppa with an award honoring his

many contributions and work on behalf of the Board. Mr. Long noted that it has been a tremendous privilege to work with Mr. Treppa and he will be missed.

Mr. Treppa thanked Mr. Long and the Board and acknowledged that Board service comes with many challenges but the arrival of Mr. Burton made the job a lot easier. Finally, Mr. Treppa stated that serving the consumers and families of this regional center has always been an honor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Coleman  
Secretary  
RCEB Board of Directors