



Regional Center of the East Bay
REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, April 22, 2019
500 Davis Street, San Leandro
Approved 5/20/19

RCEB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Hebert, President
Lilian Ansari, Vice President
Evangeline Iyemura, Treasurer
Nyron Battles, Secretary
Morena Grimaldi, Diversity & Equity Chair
Brian Blaisch
Chloe Page
Frank Paré
Sister Marygrace Puchac, PVAC
Dinah Shapiro
Lisa Soloway
Linda Stevens

ABSENT [excused]:

Gerald Tamayo
Steven Whitgob

STAFF PRESENT:

Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director
Terri Jones, Director of Human Resources
Lucy Rivello, Director of Health & Behavioral Services
Steve Robinson, Director of Community Services
Lynn Nguyen, Director of Finance & Administration
Ronke Sodipo, Director of Client Services
Evelyn Hoskins, Associate Director of Federal Programs
Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Associate Director of Children Services
Julie Whiskeyman, Case Manager
Herb Hastings, Consumer Advocate
Michi Toy, Executive Assistant

GUESTS:

April Hope
Vi Ibarra, CCCDDC
Gwen Nash-Butler
Caroline Ortiz

Reneé Perls
Jeri Pietrelli
Carmen Quinones

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Kathy Hebert called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay to order at 7:05 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions were made and a quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA / MINUTES

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the April 22, 2019 agenda with a revision under the category of Membership Development. The ByLaw Update is just informational tonight and will be voted on next month.” [Battles/Shapiro] Unanimous

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the March 25, 2019 minutes as presented.” [Battles/Puchac] Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeri Pietrelli questioned RCEB’s Performance Report for year-end 2018 which was presented at the last board meeting regarding the Annual Earnings figure listed by the Cornell University Disability Status report. This inquiry will be looked into and discussed with Ms. Pietrelli at a later date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Kathy Hebert

CONTRACT APPROVALS

There were no contracts that needed approval this evening.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Budget and Finance Report for April 22, 2019 – Evangeline Iyemura

Purchase of Service

Through March 2019, 74% of our fiscal year 2018-19 POS expenditures are in base. At this time, we are projecting a deficit ranging from approximately \$3.2M (best case) to \$4.5M (worse case) for NON-CPP POS Expenditures. This is an increase of \$0.15M (best case) and decrease of \$0.16M (worse case) over the previous month’s projections.

Currently, 14 Regional Centers including RCEB are reporting a deficit in their POS projections. Statewide, the projected deficit is at \$1M (best case) and a high of \$21M (worse case). Overall, the statewide system deficit is decreasing compared to last month’s deficit of \$38M at a low projection and \$62M at a high projection with more regional centers reporting sufficiencies and

fewer deficits. We continue to project a deficit of \$3.9M for CPP POS Expenditures and will work with the Department to request additional CPP funding.

Operations

We continue to report a balanced operations budget for the current FY2018-19. As of March 2019, we have 69% of expenditures in base, which is comparable to last year's OPS expenditures of 68% at this time.

Cash Flow status & Investment Account

The agency is currently maintaining a stable cash flow. To date, we have been receiving full reimbursement for our claims through February. In January, the Board approved the opening of an investment account for the Liquidity Operating Fund associated with the Agency's BAHP Bonds which mature on February 1, 2026. In April, we invested \$1.2M in 60-days US Treasury Bonds earning interest at a rate of 2.326%.

Audited Financials Statement Submission

RCEB has met our reporting deadline for FY2017-18 Audited Financials sent to the Federal Clearinghouse on 3/30/19.

DDS Audit Schedule

DDS has sent RCEB a notification for an audit of FY 2017-18 & FY2018-19 sometime in January 2020.

Questions were asked by the Board and addressed by Lynn Nguyen.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Kathy Hebert

Board Member Nomination

In March, the Membership Development Committee interviewed one board applicant. In following with our Board ByLaws, Section 5.5 Election, *Directors shall be elected at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation following the meeting of the Board at which the Director was nominated.* Ms. Hebert nominated that individual this evening and an election will commence at the May board meeting.

Board Election

At our last board meeting in March, Ms. Hebert had nominated four individuals; Teresita DeJesus, Caroline Ortiz, Reneé Perls and Carmen Quinones to serve as board members. Therefore, a board election was conducted this evening. The ballots were distributed to the Board members and tallied by Lilian Ansari resulting in a unanimous vote for all the nominees to serve on the board effective this meeting.

ByLaw Update

Ms. Hebert explained the reasoning behind adding additional board members to our Budget & Finance Committee. The rationale was discussed in detail at the Executive Committee meeting

on April 10th and explained to the Board this evening. Therefore, a point (1) new sentence was suggested to be added to our ByLaws on page 19 under Section 8.4 Standing Committees (b) Budget & Finance Committee:

- (1) *The Budget and Finance Committee shall be comprised of no less than three (3) members of the Board of Directors, one of whom shall be the Treasurer and act as chair of the committee.*

The Board will vote on the proposed sentence addition next month.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE [PVAC]: Sister Marygrace Puchac

The PVAC meeting was on April 12th and Sister Marygrace acknowledged Geneva Ziaouré, who provided a clear summary of the rate study which captured the important aspects of each area in particular productivity, wages, benefits and administration.

There was also a well-received presentation titled *Mission Impossible: "Controlling the Uncontrollable"* from a Bender Insurance Solutions representative. This presentation focused on all details of Worker's Compensation and proactive preventive approaches to developing a culture of safety in our agencies and work sites by looking at risk management, safety control and prevention programs.

Questions were asked and responded to regarding the ongoing difficulty for clients to achieve IPP goals due to limited available programs.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE [CAC]: Nyron Battles

Mr. Battles summarized the Monday, April 8th CAC meeting. There was a report on Grassroots Day and how the key frustrations of transportation and housing as well as the 8% increase needed for service providers were discussed. The next CAC meeting will be on May 13, 2019.

DIVERSITY and EQUITY COMMITTEE: Morena Grimaldi

Ms. Grimaldi stated that the Diversity & Equity Committee met before the board meeting. They received updates from the different family support groups. There were a couple of events discussed; the Oakley Congreso Familiar Conference on April 27th at the O'Hara Park Middle School, as well as an Asian conference titled "Empowering Asian Families" hosted by Helping Hands East Bay on June 1st at Ways of the Elders in San Leandro. The deadline for Family Home Agencies [FHA's] application is April 26th.

Also discussed was the Community Resource Development Plan [CRDP] survey for the community to advise what types of supports and services they feel are needed for new program development, as DDS will direct some funding for the development of these services. The deadline to provide your input is April 30th. <https://www.rceb.org/carousel/survey-deadline-april-30th>.

Detailed minutes of our monthly meetings are available on the Diversity & Equity page of our website <https://www.rceb.org/pod/agenda-minutes>. The next Diversity & Equity meeting will be on May 20, 2019 in San Leandro at 6pm.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director
Governor's Budget

Next month we will have more information on where we are in terms of the budget when the May Revise is available, likely on May 13th. This will be followed by many hearings in a very rapid fashion as the budget needs to be passed by the Legislature by June 15th. Today was the deadline for DDS to send a rate study roadmap to the legislators. On the day that the Assembly was having their budget hearing, the rate study was not available. Therefore, DDS was told that they needed to provide that roadmap which will indicate what should be prioritized this year to implement at least some portion of the rate study. There continues to be an 8% increase asked for service providers in July to sustain them for the next year while the rate study is being implemented. No one believes that the rate study will be implemented by July 1st. We will await DDS's report as well as the final study from Burns & Associates, Inc., due on May 1st. That should incorporate some of the feedback they receive.

Ms. Kleinbub stated that our provider community was amazing in terms of their analysis of and focus on accurate feedback on the rate study. She is hearing similar reports across the State about local advisory committees. The providers collaborated on what was positive about the rate study as well as identified where the problems were and what assumptions were made that were incorrect. One of the major incorrect assumptions made was under employee categories where some workers were seen as "aides" instead of persons with more skills such as teachers, educators, and behavioral support personnel. As there are many flaws in the rate study, we will continue to make comments until we see it implemented in a way that can sustain our system or until something else needs to be done. Without sustainable rates, the Lanterman Act's promise cannot be fulfilled. This is the promise that states that people with developmental disabilities in California are entitled to services.

On May 9th the State Senate will also have a separate hearing on the rate study. Their budget hearing on May 2nd will focus on items not related to the rate study. Questions were asked by the board and addressed by Ms. Kleinbub.

Community Resource Development Plan [CRDP]

Ms. Grimaldi reported on the CRDP survey in her Diversity & Equity meeting summary. We are asking for ideas where we should ask DDS for money for start-up of new programs. There are overall priorities in all crisis services, emergency types of services and for underserved populations. To make our request to DDS, we use the information from this survey; information that is gathered from our POS diversity meetings as well as input from case managers and crisis staff who know what the issues are on a day-to-day basis. Last year we requested and received funding for multi-family housing, behavioral respite and Enhanced Behavioral Support Homes [EBSH] but we also had funding requests for 8-10 additional projects. DDS prioritizes among all

the regional centers on what they will fund, as there is not enough funding for all the needs across the State. The survey is on our website: <https://www.rceb.org/carousel/survey-deadline-april-30th>.

Anka Behavioral Health, Inc.

Ms. Kleinbub spoke about the current situation with Anka Behavioral Health, Inc., a major provider in California. They provide services to individuals with a forensic history [involvement with the court system] as well as to our more severe behavioral consumers. Anka informed us that they will cease to provide Intellectual Developmental Disability [IDD] services in this State. This will affect RCEB's adult crisis home and four other homes and day services that we have contracts with through Anka. They are a large provider and had been responding to our request-for-proposals for new services up until last year. This decision will impact ten regional centers across California. Anka gave us approximately a 60-day notice of their closure and we are working with DDS on this as we may not have the resources to serve the 45 RCEB consumers affected. One of the homes is owned by the Housing Consortium of the East Bay [HCEB], so we know that at least that property is secured. Ms. Kleinbub added that it has been discouraging because they had been offered opportunities to look at health & safety waivers at these homes, but they did not opt for those plans. Although we have had homes in the past that informed us of pending closures, they partnered with us to work on judiciously planned transitions.

This situation will be a challenge for both our Community and Consumer Services Divisions as these clients have serious needs for support in the community.

Questions and concerns were raised by the Board and addressed by Ms. Kleinbub.

Self-Determination

Ms. Kleinbub stated that we are moving forward with the self-determination trainings starting at the end of April. There are two orientations for self-determination participants currently scheduled. Others will be calendared soon. RCEB's total number of individuals selected was 153, but we are finding out that a number of selected people are no longer interested in moving forward with the Self-Determination program. Therefore, we are anticipating that in the next fiscal year DDS will decide on how those who were on the list but not selected [siblings and spouses among others] will be drawn again and selected in order to continue with 153 people in the pilot program.

Autism Awareness Month

Starting on April 2nd and throughout the month of April, the San Leandro Police Department scheduled several fundraising activities for autism awareness month and took that opportunity to register those individuals in their DD database. Proceeds will be donated to our Helping Hand Fund.

Autism Speaks had their annual fundraiser Walk on April 14th, and also had a table at the Autism Awareness Day Oakland A's game on the 20th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathy Hebert for Sandi Soliday, Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council [ACDDC]

Thank you to all the RCEB staff who volunteered at the 2019 Alameda County Transition Faire on March 23rd, we couldn't have done it without you! We were fortunate to have a sunny day and full workshops.

April 25: Our next Transition Team meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, April 25th from 3:30 to 5 pm at RCEB.

April 26: The East Bay Employment Task Force meeting is from 10 am - 12 pm at the Concord RCEB office.

April 26: The Health & Wellness Committee meeting is also scheduled the same day but from 2 to 4 pm at the Oakland Public Health Department.

May 1: The next EBLC meeting is scheduled at the Oakland Public Health Department Office.

May 8: The next Alameda County DD Council meeting is from 9:30 am - 12 pm at the Public Health Department. We will explore social isolation issues in our community.

June 6: The 30th Annual Awards Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, June 6th at Zio Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill. Invitations will be available soon. Mark your calendars!

The Schreiber Center will be relocating to the Eastmont Mall in Oakland, probably within two months.

Note: The Public Health Department in Oakland will be moving to the Creekside Plaza, right next door to RCEB. The timeline is unclear, but the lease is up in 2020.

We're recruiting for new members, and are especially interested in self-advocates and family members who are interested in serving on the Alameda County DD Council Board.

Vi Ibarra, Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council [CCCDDC]

April 24: This is the next CCCDDC meeting at RCEB/Concord where there will be a presentation by Darin Lounds/Housing Consortium of the East Bay and Mary Eble/North Bay Housing Coalition on *Housing Options: California Legacy Homes Program*.

April 27: West County Transition and Special Education Transition Fair will be from 10am-12:30pm in Richmond.

May 16: This is the next Contra Costa County Transition Task Force meeting at 3:15 at RCEB/Concord. Over the summer the task force will be working on updating the resource guide.

June 6: This is the DDC yearly awards dinner and the Excellence in Service nomination forms are available. It is really important that we recognize these individuals who have gone above and beyond to enrich the lives of those in our community.

Kathy Hebert for Sheraden Nicholau, State Council on Developmental Disabilities [SCDD], Bay Area Office

Starting mid-May, the SCDD grant-funded Get Safe trainings will begin, and registration is open now for self-advocates, family advocates and professionals.

An NCI update: Our office is gearing up for a second mailing of National Core Indicators surveys in early May. Please share this info with families with children under 18 using Regional Center Services, and ask them to watch their mailbox for this important way to contribute to systems change.

April 24: The SCDD Regional Advisory Committee Meeting from 6:30 to 9 pm at SF's Support for Families. We will have an agenda item covering self-determination updates from the two local committees, as well as member reports, etc.

May 8: Legislative and Public Policy Committee

May 20: Self-Advocates Advisory Committee meeting

May 21: SCDD Council Meeting

June 5/6: Statewide Self-Advocacy Network

June 19: Legislative and Public Policy Committee meeting

Dinah Shapiro informed all that the yearly Creative Growth Fashion Show starts at 4:00pm on April 27th at the Oakland Scottish Rite Center.

ARCA REPORT: Lisa Kleinbub

Ms. Kleinbub spoke about ARCA's Strategic Plan draft for F/Y 2019/20 – 2021/22. This document was sent in the board packet along with ARCA's write-up of the Background/Analysis/Discussion. ARCA is asking all regional center boards to review the plan by the end of May with feedback on areas that are of concern. This is a high level plan for ARCA to take on advocacy work in the Capitol over the next three years. This plan was developed from October 2018 up to now. There was a great deal of preparation work as they looked at the important issues in the system and what kind of advocacy efforts will be needed moving forward.

The three core areas that they are looking at are:

1. Funding and Sustainability of our system;
2. Inclusive Communities; and
3. Flexible and Sustainable Service Models.

Under each of these categories there are details on what should be done, what kind of support might be given, and what kind of partnerships will be developed. An example would be the inclusive communities where the change would be implemented by pursuing funding for affordable housing and accessing critical resources for individuals with developmental disabilities. There are other areas in term of flexible and sustainable service models, such as pursuing freedom and flexibility for regional centers to support individuals with innovative and creative service models based on the individual's needs. This would free us from some of the regulatory responsibilities.

Questions were asked and briefly discussed. We will be expecting more feedback at our meeting next month.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The board meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be at 7:00 PM on May 20, 2019 in **San Leandro**