



DIVERSITY & EQUITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Monday, November 27, 2017

Time: 6:00 pm

Location of This Meeting: Regional Center of the East Bay

500 Davis Street, San Leandro

1320 Willow Pass Road, Concord

ATTENDEES:

Staff Present: RCEB: Lisa Kleinbub, Ronke Sodipo, Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Jairo Güiza, Sylvia Cabrera, Sandra Coss

Guests: Patricia Albeno, Nancy Eddy, Morena Grimaldi, Vi Ibarra, Arthur Lipscomb, Nicole Manzana, Sheraden Nicholau, Sister Marygrace Puchac, Sandi Soliday, Josh Sullivan, Jean Tehaney, Geneva Ziaouré

PENDING ISSUES/QUESTIONS FROM THE MEETING

Not applicable for this particular meeting

SUPPORT GROUPS SUMMARY – Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez

In November 2017, two community meetings were attended to present to Spanish Speaking families regarding RCEB services. On 11/8/17, Mariana Varela, Spanish speaking Children's Supervisor and one of her Spanish speaking Case Managers, Jenifer Castaneda, were invited by the San Lorenzo Unified School District to present to Spanish Speaking parents where roughly 25 families attended. RCEB staff shared info on RCEB and some of the discussions held were regarding respite, specialized child care services, parental share of cost and the Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP). On 11/13/17, Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Children's Associate Director along with two Spanish Speaking Supervisors, Mariana Varela and Liz Rosas, met with a Spanish Speaking Support Group in Livermore. About 10 parents attended this presentation coordinated by the Family Resource Navigator, Yaneth Maldonado. Information was shared on the regional center system, RCEB services, and the roles of case management, IPP meetings, children/transition/adult services and self-determination. Evaluations and feedback were obtained where the presenters scored an overall 5 from a scale of 1-5. In these evaluations, parents indicated that they wanted more info on generic community services such as recreational services, sports and social security information. When asked what they learned from the presentation, some reported they learned how respite works, about RCEB, and how to

ask for services.

RCEB welcomes outreach opportunities and invitations to present to the community about the Regional Center system.

DIVERSITY & EQUITY SPECIALIST SUMMARY – Jairo Guiza

1. Submitted proposals to DDS for the following continuation projects:

- Cultural competency for staff & service providers.
- Production of information materials in languages spoken by at least 30 consumers/families at community events.

Other Activities:

2. Presentation@DDS's hearing in Oakland on Nov 6th.
3. Supported the planning of a Christmas celebration for the Asian community.
4. Participated at a Spanish speaking parent support group in San Leandro.
5. Facilitated a meeting hosted by Sister Marygrace, with contractors implementing equity and diversity projects on November 14th.
6. Participated in a regional meeting of diversity and cultural specialists.
Some comments at this meeting included the following:
 - The time and location of DDS's hearing in Oakland not being the best for most.
 - The development of a regional center internet chat for staff to discuss cultural issues.
 - Regional centers are looking for ways to support staff who are fatigued.
 - One regional center experiencing a cultural clash with the concept about 'promoting independence.'
 - The GGRC Executive Director ended the meeting with this thought: "We're moving from an approach intended to *fix* the individual to a different one where the community embraces people with disabilities."

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER

**** There will be no December Diversity & Equity meeting.****

Next Meeting:

Monday, January 22, 2018 at 5:00pm [Board of Director training session will be from 6:00-7:00]

- San Leandro
- Concord