

**Provider Vendor Advisory Committee
Regional Center of the East Bay
Meeting Minutes July 13th, 2018**

Members Present: Geneva Ziaoure, Manos; Sister Marygrace, East Bay Services; Nancy Eddy, DPAC, Ron Halog, CRIL; Craig Rose, CIWP; Will Sanford, Futures; Jan Behr, Stepping Stones

Guests Present: Cinthia Flores, Sonia Corina Inc., Mike Pereira, Ala Costa; Dan Hogue, Las Trampas; Sheraden Nicholau, SCDD Bay Area; Heather Hackett, Futures; Fruc Menchavez, RCEB; Vi Ibarra, DD Council CC County; Esther Chow, Helping Hands EB; Ramsay Mashy, California Autism Foundation; Joseph Jimenez, Ability Now; Wesley Moss, Premier; Michael Minton, RCEB; Arden Fredman, NIAD; Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 9:46 am. Introductions. Approval of the June 8th meeting postponed due to lack of quorum.

RCEB/State - Lisa Kleinbub

- Lisa gave an update on self-determination. There are 307 applicants. 9/17 is the deadline to submit applications to Sacramento for the random selection of participants. The names are supposed to be drawn on 10/1. In terms of demographics, 35% of the applicants are Caucasian, with 65% other, which is reflective of the overall demographics in general.
- Lisa discussed the rate study currently underway. She mentioned that RCEB PVAC has been assisting providers with training around the rate study. She noted that about six or seven people attended the first workshop but have several more signed up for the next training on Monday, July 16. Lisa continued that from a state-wide perspective, in the last report is that the categorized all the dollar amount of all the services that are paid for through the service codes in the rate study, so the aggregate cost of all the services that are being surveyed. Of that dollar amount, they have only gotten surveys that account for 1.6% of those dollars. Lisa felt that this meant that several of the larger providers have not yet completed the survey. The deadlines to complete the survey is August 3. As of yet, there is no listing of providers who have not submitted a survey. RCEB will continue to send out reminders to providers. Lisa mentioned that Burns & Associates has been reaching out to vendors, and that providers should contact them with any questions they may have.
- In terms of the budget, Lisa mentioned that the uniform furlough schedule has been suspended at least for this year. However, full-day/half-day billing has been re-implemented effective July 1, 2018. This came as a surprise because this is not something that had been made widely known. This is applicable for activity centers, adult development centers, behavior management programs, and look-alike programs with a daily rate. Anything less than 65% of a participant's program day is considered a half-day, half of the daily dollar rate. This is something that was in place, but due to a lawsuit was suspended. There are currently some programs that do have half-day rates in the system, but it was unclear if these had been adjusted for ABX2_1, because they were inactive at the time the law went into effect.
 - Will Sanford expressed his concern that he has had to contend with the fact that contracted transportation is bring participants late but picking up at the scheduled time

which results in less than a half-day, but at no fault to the provider. Will added that there he believes there is an allowance for individuals to have an alternative day, so for folks with health or other issues may have a reduced day, but now there will need to documentation from the regional center, in the IPP, that identifies what their full day is due to health or other reasons. But then providers would need to track multiple combinations of what constitutes a full/half-day.

- Sister Marygrace added that she finds the principle baffling. If an individual does not come for a full day due to a doctor or other appointment, what then happens with the staff; are they sent home, for example. Will responded that the two other participants would need to be sent home, and then the staff would need to be sent home.
- Dan Hogue added that we are required to have staff for the full day, but then were left with revenue that will not cover the costs of that staff.
- Lisa concluded that her hope is that things are done in a way that ensures people are being served, especially seniors and people with health concerns, and what they could do is show a varied program day in the IPP. A program day could be between 3 and 5 hours depending on health or other issues. Lisa added that if a person arrives late to program through contracted transportation and is then picked up at a time so that the hours do not constitute a full-day, she considered that the individual was there for a full-day. If participants are there when their transportation arrives until their transportation departs, RCEB considers that full day. Lisa added that because programs are required to staff to accommodate a specific number of consumers, the half-day billing ends up being an unreimbursed cost, and not an administrative overhead.
- Will Sanford noted that this was scored at \$1.4 million - \$1.9 million because there is no tangible way to calculate the true savings. Will added the Assembly member Jim Frazier is pushing back hard on the director because this issue was not really brought up and suspected there would be a potential gut and amend by Frazier to strike the language with the assumption that it will get through and pass, though the Governor would likely veto it. But the goal is to make that point that this is a huge burden that potentially affects 60,000 DDS consumers.
- Lisa concluded that for consumers who are in a program with a set number of hours per day who have potential health or other specific reasons that prevent them from attending for the full-day, then the ID team can identify it to determine what constitutes a full-day for those individuals.
- Lisa announced other budget issues; that there was no restoration of social recreation/camping, there was a small amount of money for Kern Regional Center with specific provisions for moving forward to address things that have structurally been problems at that regional center, and in the trailer bill language there was a requirement that regional centers who have policies on respite have those policies posted on their website. RCEB is still awaiting approval on its respite policy and will be updating the website soon.
- Lisa mentioned that there are only about 27 people at Sonoma Developmental Center. There are a few remaining enhanced behavioral support homes that are almost ready to open. Mid-September is looking a realistic time frame for the remaining folks to move out to the community. Also, the community crisis home, which will be available to serve people in crisis for a longer period of time, will have a delayed egress and is expected to open sometime in August.

Additionally, RCEB is continuing to work with DDS on the Northstar Homes, which is the unit at Sonoma, but is moving to community-based homes, but run by DDS.

Presentation: Working Session - Provider Updates & Resources

- Sister Marygrace recalled a presentation from a service in San Francisco that provides training on safe practices to transfer people from their wheelchairs and asked if anyone was aware of any local providers who provided that training.
 - A program called Milestones in Vallejo was mentioned that provided in-home training.
- Jan Behr with Stepping Stones mentioned that their lease is coming up as of March 2019, and is looking for a new place, and asked if anyone knows of a space in the San Leandro area to please let her know.
- Geneva Ziaoure shared that Manos provides first aid/CPR in Mandarin and Spanish
- Dan Hogue mentioned that it is more cost effective to use in-house trainers, but it also looking to get their trainings licensed through Community Care Licensing and offer them to other agencies.
- Additionally, Dan asked about affordable online training resources that are accredited through Community Care Licensing.
- Wesley Moss mentioned that GGRC is doing a train the trainer training for Person Centered Thinking. They are currently interviewing potential trainers to attend, and that the only requirement would be that the trainers are available for two trainings per year but would otherwise be an in-house trainer for their own agency.

Reports

HCBS Update - Michael Minton

- Mike Minton announced that from the current round of HCBS grant money, that 12 of the 20 grant recipients received addition money to become certified Person-Centered Thinking trainers. The idea is that DDS is giving money to get trained in the two-day training on Person Centered Thinking, but also give additional money to get other people certified. Within the RCEB community, between the 12 agencies that got extra money to do certified person-centered training, along with grant money that RCEB received to do person centered planning training amongst case managers, there are going to be about 25 people certified to train person centered thinking.
- Michael introduced Fruc Menchavez who is now the HCBS specialist for RCEB. Fruc will be coordinating the provider portion along with case management. In August, plans will be finalized, and then in September invitations will be going out to get trained. The two-day training is going to be offered to as many as 1500 people in the catchment area over the next year.
 - The grant money is going to pay for the training.
 - Agencies that received grant money will need to use that money for training, but they do not need to charge staff from other agencies for the training. Additionally, there are agencies that received grant money for more trainers than they have, so individuals from other programs could be recruited to

become trainers which would be covered by the grant money. These recruited trainers would still be responsible for providing the training for other staff and agencies.

- The two-day training sessions are designed for about 30 people at a time and will take place at various times and days to accommodate as many people as possible.
- It was mentioned that there is a possibility that the session could be broken in half and take place over multiple weeks.
- When the trainers start doing the actual training, it could be provided to both staff and consumers.
- This training will have a massive impact on the community with regards the final rule. Person centered thinking is going to be the key to determine about programs that they are not segregated, and people have choice and have the programs they want and like where they are at.
- This two-day training is specifically for individuals who will be the certified instructors. It will provide them with philosophies and tools to tailor future trainings for specific individuals.
- In closing, Michael clarified that there is the two-day training which is focused on person centered thinking in general that is being offered to most people, and then there is certification process to become a trainer to teach the two-day classes.
- The process will begin in August within RCEB and will then expand out.

RCEB Staff -

- Lisa Kleinbub announced that she is in the process of conducting interviews for the Director of Community Services position.

RCEB Board - Sister Marygrace

- Sister Marygrace mentioned that the RCEB Board meeting for June took place in Concord.
- There was a presentation by the San Leandro Police Association. They had a fundraiser and provided a check for \$10,000 to RCEB, accepted by Lisa Kleinbub. The money will go into the Helping Hand fund.
- The Board approved several contracts for various upcoming services. A contract from DDS was approved that will provide additional money to support these contracts. Four transportation services were approved, as were 20 contracts for day activity programs and two crisis homes. Additionally, 26 contracts were approved for supported living services.
- There was a report on diversity and equity, and there are several meetings taking place for parents from a variety of cultural groups.
- Sister Marygrace gave a reminder that Congreso is taking place on August 4th at Chabot College, and are looking for volunteers. Geneva Ziaoure mentioned that they still have tables available for vendors to display information about provided services.

SCDD Regional Advisory Committee - Sheraden Nicholau

- Sheraden gave out dates for upcoming meetings and events.
 - July 19th is the next statewide self-determination advisory committee
 - July 30th is the self-advocates advisory committee

- July 31st is the next state council meeting. At the meeting there will be a panel focusing on the autistic community. There will be a variety of professionals in the field, and professional and family advocates present giving updates.
- August 13th is the next legislative and public policy meeting.
- August 23 is the next Employment First committee meeting for California.
- October 19th is the date for the Annual Carlos Quintong Celebration of Self Advocacy taking place at the Ed Roberts Campus in Berkeley, 6PM-9PM.
- Sheraden announced that the next Regional Advisory Committee calendar for the upcoming Federal fiscal year will be posted soon.

DD Council - Sandi Soliday & Vi Ibarra

Alameda County

- Ron Halog announced that the Alameda County DD Council will be having a planning meeting on July 23rd.
- Sheraden Nicolau announced that Alameda County DD Council, as a subcommittee of the Health and Wellness committee just had its first forensics round table. A refreshed version of the Forensics Task Force has been going for a couple of months, but just had its first-round table. It is currently taking happening in Alameda county, but hopefully something similar can be duplicated for Contra Costa County.
- Sister Marygrace asked if anything was being planned for Sandi Soliday's departure. Ron Halog mentioned that they are planning something, and that the date will most likely be near the end of September.

Contra-Costa County

- Vi Ibarra announced that Contra Costa DD Council will be having its planning session retreat on August 22nd.
- Vi mentioned the Employment Task Force meeting that takes place on July 27th.
- The Transition Task Force is not meeting during the summer but wants to put together a forum or conference in January or February.

East Bay Legislative Coalition - Will Sanford

- Will announced that the next EBLC meeting will take place on July 18th, from 2:30PM-4:30PM.
- Legislators are currently on break, so it's a good time to visit them.
- EBLC is opposed to AB1250. It basically makes it difficult for counties to contract out for personal services.
- EBLC is rejecting the return of \$9 million - \$11 million that was unspent for purchase of services last year primarily because we don't have the ability to bring in new vendors to spend that money on. This figure is RCEB's projection.
 - Will stressed that the thing we need to educate legislators on is that the money was unspent, not because of a lack need, but the lack of the ability to provide services for the lack of rates we get, or the lack of ability to convince the development of new services because of the insufficient rates.
- Ron Halog mentioned Thurmond and Baker's seats because EBLC is trying to set up forums to get viewpoints of the candidates vying for those seats.

- Ron Halog mentioned SB1376, a transportation bill, it has language that makes it difficult for individuals with developmental disabilities from suing these transportation companies.

Programs - Representative

- Geneva Ziaoure mentioned that she is working on some topics for September and a reminder that there is no meeting in August.

Day Services Provider Group Subcommittee-Representative

- Mike Pereira mentioned that at the previous month's meeting, a few lobbying advocacy groups came to offer information about their services.

Membership - Nancy Eddy

- No report.

Public Comments - Announcements

- Esther Chow with Helping Hands announced they are partnering with MOD Pizza for a fund raiser on July 31.
- Nancy Eddy announced that Deaf Plus is hosting a BBQ on August 4th, at Kennedy Park in Union City. It is for all deaf consumers, not just participants of DPAC.
- Will Sanford announced that in the coming months Futures will be opening a kitchen at the Somersville Mall in Antioch, and that there will also be an adult personal care station that they can control and have available for adults.
- Lisa Kleinbub announced that there will not be a RCEB Board meeting in July. Additionally, she mentioned that she attended an award ceremony at Assemblymember Kansan Chu's area, and Nancy Eddy was honored as a community hero.
- Heather Hackett encouraged to be vigilant if they know of any clients getting suspensions of service, primarily from LINK. She mentioned that if you have four no shows in a year, you can be suspended from services for a minimum of 30 days. When one of her participants received a suspension, her staff was able to identify that all the fault of LINK and was able to reverse the suspension.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:46 AM

Respectfully submitted for review by Craig Rose, Secretary