

**Provider Vendor Advisory Committee
Regional Center of the East Bay
Meeting Minutes June 14th, 2019**

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 9:45 am. Introductions. Quorum was reached, allowing the approval of minutes from both April and May meetings. Noted corrections: Will Sanford was present at the May meeting. Leslie Visbal was incorrectly identified as "Lisa Visbal" in both April and May minutes.

RCEB/State - Lisa Kleinbub

- Trailer bill language introduced to include DDS and Regional Center transparency, oversight, and board structure. Included is a requirement to have someone with fiscal expertise on the Boards of all regional centers, and removing the public relations requirement. The Boards will have to be more engaged with the community. Also noted CMS, HCBS, and Health & Safety issues; for example, corrective actions taken by Regional Centers should be sent to DDS.
- Rate reform: Proposed 8.2% increase slated to be released January 2020 with possible sunset/suspension December 2021 for select programs; some programs receiving slightly less, some programs are not eligible for an increase (ex: ILS 520, Adaptive Skills, 525, etc.). The compromise is based on the rate study proposal, although there is no accounting for regional differences nor acknowledgement of public commentary. Lisa expressed fear for some programs, such as Early Intervention.
- Bridge Funding: 2.1% increase for limited DDS rate services from May 2019 through April 2020. RCEB has almost concluded updating rates for eligible programs. It was noted that the Bridge Funding did not apply to service code 826 Out-of-Home Respite. Lisa stated that we hope to learn more about the vision of the rate study implementation. We are disappointed in a lack of a deadline accountability for DDS.

RCEB/Local

- RCEB staff submitted plans to DDS for new Community Placement Plan (CPP) projects
- PG & E Power Shutoff Plans (sent in an email blast this week) will affect all service categories. PG & E stated that this may happen during high winds and high temperatures. Lisa encouraged providers to think about planning for this kind of emergency when running programs and services out in the community, especially for electronic devices and medical equipment. We may have to evacuate, etc. PG & E has an alert system; sign up at pge.com/mywildfirealerts
- KTVU story: News interviewed local regional center executive directors (RCEB, NBRC, and SARC) regarding abuse and neglect of service recipients at programs. Discussed confidentiality, lack of follow through by police, APS, CPS, as well as our chronically underfunded system, etc. There is legislation to work on pursuing these cases more effectively. Discussed having a future PVAC presentation on dealing with the media.

Presentation: The Illusion of Safety: Risk Management and Professional Liability - Key Roys

- Abusers seek out opportunities to abuse in places where there are vulnerable people. Most common victims include children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.
- Organizations can take reasonable steps to 1) prevent abusers from being employed, 2) educate employees, children and their parents, disability service recipients, the ill or infirmed, or other

potentially vulnerable populations about abuse, and 3) communicate as openly as possible institutional abhorrence of abuse and our commitment to educate and prevent to the extent possible.

- When abuse happens, the organizations can respond effectively and timely to 1) remove and report the offender, 2) reach out to the presumed victim, and 3) communicate with interested parties and stakeholders.
- Discussed definitions and options for liability insurance coverage
 - What to look for in policies: who/what is covered and for how much
 - General versus professional liability
 - Additional services insurance companies/brokerage firms can offer to organizations

Reports

RCEB Board - Geneva Ziaoure on behalf of Sister Marygrace

- The RCEB Board met on Monday, May 20th, 7 PM at RCEB's Concord office
- Public comment: Major League Baseball seems to have a mobile-only policy, which may violate ADA regulations
- Contracts: RCEB was awarded \$2.3 million to purchase and renovate enhanced behavioral support home. The folks identified to live in the home are already residing in the community. Contract to support will be awarded to Brilliant Corners. This is the first home run by DDS. No targeted area for the home yet. \$800k will go to Brilliant Corners. These homes are developed and held in perpetuity for the I/DD community.
- The Board approved 12 ILS agency contracts. The terms of the contracts range from 1 to 5 years, all in varying amounts over \$250k each with current service providers.
- Budget and Finance: 15 Regional Centers are reporting a budget deficit collectively between \$51 and \$65 million in budget shortfalls. Additional allocations will be awarded to Regional Centers over the next few weeks. DDS has reported growth in many service areas, including CPP as well as SLS and Respite. Cash flow was adequate to pay for May services in June, although RCEB may need to access line of credit in July if DDS advances are not received on time.
- Elected parent Yesenia Fantham to the Board.
- Voted on change to Bylaws: The board shall have no less than three members on the Budget and Finance committee.
- Consumer Action Committee: Discussed the use of ridesharing apps such as Uber and Lyft. Ridesharing accessibility issues, as well as how to recognize the correct driver. Also discussed the new rules of CalFresh starting in July.
- Diversity and Equity: RCEB Diversity and Equity Specialist Jairo Guiza will provide training to members of the committee to help with strategic planning to penetrate the RCEB community on not just culture and language but also other areas of inclusion.
- Discussed the closure of ANKA, a behavioral provider specializing in mental health as well as I/DD populations. All programs will be closing due to operational difficulties. Potential service providers were being identified to take over and minimize impact to service recipients. This closure affects eleven regional centers; 35 consumers are affected. There is trailer bill language to monitor large provider expansion.

SCDD Regional Advisory Committee – Sheraden Nicholau

- Sheraden announced that State Council is recruiting for Self-Determination committees in five counties.
- The next Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee is on 6/26, from 6:30pm-9:00pm at the Artist's Den at 1913 Salvio Street, Concord CA. The theme will be on transportation concerns.
-

DD Council – Joint Report sent in by Sandi Soliday and Vi Ibarra

- Sandi and Vi would like to thank everyone who attended the 30th Annual Joint County Awards Dinner last week. The turn-out was great, and it was a really nice evening spent honoring individuals in our community. It was especially nice to see our very own PVAC co-chair, Sister Mary Grace, being honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award. The keynote presentation by Alva Gardner was right on track with her message about the importance of qualified staff to support her, and the people she works with at Ability Now, in reaching their goals.
- Contra Costa DD Council: At the dinner a new chair and vice chairperson were elected, so Vi will set to work with the two of them to work on planning our upcoming year. The next regular Contra Costa DD Council Board meeting will be at RCEB Concord on September 25 at 10 am.
- Alameda County DD Council: Next meeting will be Wednesday July 10th at 9:30 am. The meeting's focus will be the annual planning session for the program year. All are welcome.

East Bay Legislative Coalition - Will Sanford

- Will stated that a lot of bills designated for our service system fell off our list by not making it out of their respective houses of introduction
- Alameda County reported that feds are ready to review the federal poverty levels
- The State Budget is much broader than previously suggested, not signed yet.
 - As previously discussed, ILS is not receiving any increases despite it meeting HCBS criteria, many other programs not addressed at all.
 - Some adjustments to employment services
 - No full implementation of rate study proposal.
 - DDS will have "conversations" this summer
- EBLC discussing having both a Legislative Breakfast as well as some kind of a Legislative Bus Tour of services in our catchment area this Fall.
- The next EBLC meeting is on July 3rd, from 10am-noon at 1000 Broadway, Oakland.

Programs – Geneva Ziaoure

- Upcoming presentation: Vance Taylor from State Office of Access and Functional Needs
- Geneva reminded everyone that she is always open to suggestions for presentation topics.
 - Possible future presentations/workshops on HCBS Self Assessments, as they are supposedly due this fall. Providers should get together and discuss how to move forward.

Day Service Providers subcommittee - Representative

- Dan Hogue is facilitating the Day Program Provider Group meeting this month immediately following PVAC. Topics include: How does this year's budget affect your programs; HCBS and PCT/P; continuing advocacy; local minimum wage; rate study implementation

Membership - Leslie Visbal

- Leslie reported that she will be reaching out to members who have not made it to meetings these first six months of 2019.

Public Comments – Announcements

- Shout out to Inclusion Films. Options4all film debut in October 2019. Went to Arkansas to a film festival. 70% of the crew were individuals with I/DD.
- Therap announced a one-day conference on electronic communication.
- NIAD art is being showcased in New York City.
- Las Trampas had their annual gala. Dan Hogue thanked Futures Films. Also announced that Las Trampas is breaking ground this fall for campus renovation which will include a universal, sensory design.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 PM

Respectfully submitted for review by Geneva Ziaoure, co-Chair

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