RCeB
Regional Center of the East Bay

DIVERSITY & EQUITY MEETING
NOTES

Date: May 22, 2023

Start Time: 5:30 PM **End Time**: 7:00 PM

Location of This Meeting: Regional Center of the East Bay

- ☑ Virtual
- ☐ 500 Davis Street, San Leandro
- ☐ 1320 Willow Pass Road, Concord

ATTENDEES:

Staff Present: Lisa Kleinbub, Ronke Sodipo, Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Jairo Guiza.

Host: Sadia Mumtaz - BOD Vice President

Guests: Admin Ala Costa, Angela Gattis, Ann Pringle, Arthur Lipscomb, Brian Blaisch, Edda Banuelos, Erika Gonzalez, Esther, Families United for Equity, Frank Paré, Gabriela Solval (State Council on Developmental Disabilities), Maria Ramirez, Norma Gonzalez, Nyron Battles, Patricia Albeño, Rev. Jonathan Moseley, Rose, Zack.

Spanish Interpreter: Frida Blum

Note Taker: Cristal Jimenez-Hernandez

AGENDA:

- Welcome and introductions.
- Additions to the agenda - No additions to the agenda.
- A spreadsheet tracker will be implemented on present issues.
- D&E Subcommittees and their roles:
- Assigning staff at RCEB to these committees. The board will identify if other people from the board and the community would like to participate. Anyone interested who is not part of RCEB, but would like to join and submit recommendations, please reach out to us.

- A Manager for Diversity Equity and Inclusion will be hired. This person along with Elvia will be focused on the Policy, Advocacy & Grievance.
- Jairo will be involved in the Purchase of Services (POS) Expenditures.
- Meetings will be held at the end of the month and report after the meeting. A board spreadsheet tracker might be a good idea to use as a report. Items and progress will be logged, but we will have to identify which information can be shared, as some might be confidential related to individual consumers.
- Sadia suggested that RCEB staff act as a manager coordinator related to all the committee.
- Lisa proposed that people assigned from RCEB can send an email in June to the board and Sadia, so they can decide who would like to join these meetings.

- **POS Expenditure Reports / Exploring New Community Outreach Initiatives.**
- Nine meetings were held in different languages and were partnered with different agencies. 170 people representing different cultures also attended.
- These meetings are required by law to be held every year. Participants are clients, parents and others from the community. It is a good way to hear from communities and to share the information obtained with DDS, so that they can incorporate that information on projects based on the needs of the community.
- Information was collected that showed that there is a difference between ethnicities when it comes to annual expenditures. These results will be shared on our website.
- Families ideally also want lower caseloads to CM to 30 cases so they can serve better. They were also interested in the social and recreational programs, transportation services/compensation for adult consumers, and more information about how to apply to Medi-Cal and SDP.
- Sadia asked how RCEB works with the feedback obtained when it comes to the services and initiatives. Lisa commented that the focused is on those who have no POS and the reasons why that is the case.
- Patricia and Maria mentioned that RCEB has enough data collected over years to work with and it is frustrating not seeing changes. Suggested to implement changes.
- Patricia also mentioned that a big concern is that CMs discourage families to apply to self-determination, and the reason is because CMs do not even know how it works.

- The subcommittees will help to work with families concerns.

- Sadia suggested creating the policy that the subcommittee should review denials along with her, and will be her job to submit a response. Sadia wants to be involved

when it comes to grievances and wants RCEB to give an update, response and action.

- Lisa commented that RCEB already has an Appeals and Complaints Policy. Case Managers are trained to emphasized what denials are, and explain clients/parents the reasons.

- A meeting will be scheduled by June to have a selected committee and work on the projects.