

# **Board of Directors Meeting**

Monday, September 23, 2024 Virtual Meeting APPROVED 10/28/24

#### RCEB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frank Paré, President
Reneé Perls, Secretary
Nyron Battles, CAC Chair/Diversity & Equity Co-Chair
Brian Blaisch
Daniel Hogue, PVAC Representative
Teresita DeJesus
April Key-Lee
Lisa Soloway

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director Lynn Nguyen, Director of Finance & Administration Lucy Rivello, Director of Clinical Services Steve Robinson, Director of Community Services Ronke Sodipo, Director of Client Services Ben Braun, Associate Director of Early Start & Young Children Chris Hanson, Associate Director of Client Services/Adults Lindsay Meninger, Associate Director of Client Services/Self Determination Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Associate Director of Client Services/Children Priscilla Gomez, Transportation Manager Michael Minton, Manager of Risk Management and Quality Assurance Margaret Casebeer, Case Manager Supervisor Ashley Harmon, Support Services Supervisor Gina Rose-Sass, Case Manager Supervisor Herb Hastings, Consumer Advocate Michi Toy, Executive Assistant

## **GUESTS:**

Families United for Equity Chris Aguire/DDS Patricia Albeño Denise Bradley Wendell James Chris Johnson Dominique Mellion Monica Montgomery

# **ABSENT:**

Sadia Mumtaz, Vice-President Linda Stevens Dr. Steve Whitgob, Vice-Treasure Geneva Carlos-Valentino/PVAC

Rose Coleman Tandra DeBose Maureen Fitzgerald

Gilda Giron Jenica Hadley Dr. Greg Holler J. Douglas Hollie

**Chip Huggins** 

Sheraden Nicholau/SCDDC

Jennifer Noah Assata Olugbala Jeri Pietrelli Ann Pringle Maria Ramirez Sara Trail

Jaynette Underhill-Levingston

Sister Wynette

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Frank Paré called the regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay to order at 7:06 pm. A quorum was established a few minutes after the meeting started, and the motions were revisited.

# **CONSENT AGENDA / MINUTES**

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the September 23, 2024 Agenda with the addition of

the Mason Tillman report status." [Hogue/Blaisch] Unanimous The motion was

adopted.

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the June 24, 2024 Minutes as presented."

[Soloway/Hogue] Unanimous The motion was adopted.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Regional Center of the East Bay uses Robert's Rules of Order to guide our meetings. Robert's Rules of Order is the most used manual of parliamentary procedure in the United States. Robert's Rules of Order is designed to provide structure and guidance while facilitating the orderly operation of a meeting.

According to Robert's Rules of Order, our board members are not allowed to comment, debate or respond to the public during our public meetings. There are other meetings such as our Diversity & Equity or Supports & Services meetings that begin at 5:30pm before the board meetings.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jennifer Noah would like to see RCEB host more seminars geared towards families of RCEB clients. One example is the Social Recreation presentation that was partnered with Care Parent Network, which she found very informative. She added that given that there are many new clients, it would be helpful to continue these types of seminars.

Dominique/FUFE informed all that Families United for Equity offers parent workshops and training as well as a Navigator-to-Leaders 12-week program informing about regional center services and how to navigate it. If interested, please e-mail: <a href="mailto:dominique@fufeteam.org">dominique@fufeteam.org</a>

Website: <a href="https://familiesunitedforequity.org/">https://familiesunitedforequity.org/</a>

# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director

# **Legislative Updates**

# Personnel Changes

The Director of the Department of Developmental Services, Nancy Bargmann has retired this month. Effective September 9<sup>th</sup>, Pete Cervinka is the Acting Director. Mr. Cervinka has held many positions during his 25 years working with State agencies, including 5 years at DDS working on Strategic Plans. The governor will eventually appoint a new director who would need to be confirmed by the State Senate. CalHHS Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly, who was focused on children's and equity issues, has stepped down this month, and has been replaced by former CalDSS Director Kim Johnson as the Director. That position will require confirmation.

# Bills Approved by the Legislature

Governor Newsom has two more years as California's Governor, and has one more week to sign or veto the hundreds of bills that were approved by the Legislature. There are a number of bills that we are tracking including one has to do with restoring the ability of pharmacies to easily flavor medication, which we hope the Governor signs.

# AB1147 Addis Bill - Disability Equity, Transparency, and Accountability Act

This bill would make various changes to the act for purposes including gathering relevant data and providing increased oversight of regional center operations and performance.

- This bill would subject all 21 regional centers to the Public Records Act, which would take affect in January 2026 if the Governor signs it.
- ARCA sent the regional centers their summary of the assembly bill and what it will mean to the regional centers, as well as their reasons why they have concerns about the bill.
- The cost to implement this mandate would amount to close to \$10M to regional centers.
- The client's confidential information could be at risk without excellent controls in place.
- There are other existing methods of obtaining information including the transparency info on our web sites .
- Some service providers are wary of this bill passing since the sharing of program designs could be part of the release of documents, unless they are considered proprietary.

# **DDS Provider Portal**

Service Provider Rate Increase: The rate increase implementation will be on January 1, 2025, instead of six months later in July 2025. As you recall, the Association of Regional Center Agencies [ARCA] along with many strong advocates in our community, worked hard to push for this earlier date in 2025. The rates will be brought up to the rates in the 2019 rates study.

Ten percent of the full rate for service providers in multiple categories that were part of the rate study will be based on quality measures. For the first one to two years, the quality incentive for the last ten percent will be based on whether the provider participates in the Provider Directory. The Provider Directory will be a state-wide directory of providers and will include information relating to how providers are connected to each other, information on services provided, names of the operator, as well as many other pertinent details. DDS' goal is to make it a very public facing directory where families can receive information from it by searching through it to find what they are looking for.

By October 1<sup>st</sup>, all the service providers will receive an e-mail for their information verification. In order to promote this program, there will be incentive payments for them to proactively go into the directory to input the information. Those providers will then receive the full rate for their rate category once the program begins in January.

### **Board Questions:**

Upon inquiry from board members, Ms. Kleinbub confirmed that service providers will receive logistical support as needed. We expect DDS to share a list of vendors who have yet to input their information into the portal. Staff will reach out to them to offer information and guidance in inputting the data into the system. Our goal is to have everyone participate in this directory.

RCEB ILS/SLS Referral System. With respect to ongoing updates and improvements to the database and where the responsibility will lie, that will be with the consultant who RCEB hired as well as with RCEB staff. We will also have internal processes for when the vendor chooses to halt the referrals. Since this is a new system, we will continually be working with the providers on what is/is not working or what needs to change.

Mr. Paré reiterated that it is important to know whether the referrals are coming from external resources or internal via the case managers. This is due to the vendors concern that they are not receiving referrals from the case managers. However, Ms. Kleinbub added that to indicate where the referral would be coming from would be difficult since DDS inputs the information in a database, not via a questionnaire format and there is no field in our database system that will allow for that type of coding, but we will look into other methods. This system will be used for those who need a referral, but have not designated who they want to be referred to. An example would be a family member who informed their case manager that they want X provider, because they met them at a transition fair and they are set on that particular provider. It is not uncommon that people will be asking about 3-4 providers from one of our referrals.

Ms. Kleinbub confirmed that this is an ongoing program, so as new providers are vendored, they will also be encouraged to enter their information into the database. In order to make sure the system is working, RCEB will ensure that every authorization for ILS/SLS service shows that there is an entry into the system and that those referrals were generated through the system. There are two different systems; a stand-alone referral system and a database system of POS.

# Service Category Rate Changes

There will be changes to some service rate categories to other rates where a lot of work is being done at both the regional center and provider level.

# Mason Tillman Report

The draft report has been received and there will be a meeting with Dr. Ramsay and her team on Thursday to discuss the report. This report will be shared with the Board's Executive Committee group at their meeting on Thursday.

# Home and Community Based Services [HCBS]

Our Quality Assurance department as well as our Person Centered trainers have been working with our service providers to assure that the paper compliance that we met in 2023 is being carried out in reality throughout the community .

We are verifying that everyone can exercise choice in decisions about roommates and other important elements in their lives.

Our community is almost at 100% compliance with the audits, and have only four providers that need to come into compliance. We expect that they will, since there impacts if they do not. We foresee that by next week, everyone will be in compliance. We have an engaged service provider community.

Mr. Hogue, the PVAC representative on the Board stated that this was a huge undertaking and that having just four providers out-of-compliance is to be congratulated, as RCEB has been on top of this from the beginning. RCEB has the largest amount of providers that had to be seen, given the size of the regional center, than any other regional center.

# **Budget and Finance Committee** – Lynn Nguyen

RCEB received the A-1 allocation from DDS for FY24-25 early September. The staff has started to work on the detailed Purchase of Services and Operations budget for the current fiscal year and will submit to the Board for approval at the October board meeting.

The August financials has a different format to compare the allocation of the A-1 for FY24-25 versus the E-1 for FY23-24. POS allocation shows \$903M versus \$761M, which is an increase of 19%. OPS allocation shows \$86M versus \$78M, which is an increase of 10%. The increase in POS is mainly for rate increase in January 2025. The increase in OPS funding is mainly for additional hiring for reduced caseload ratios.

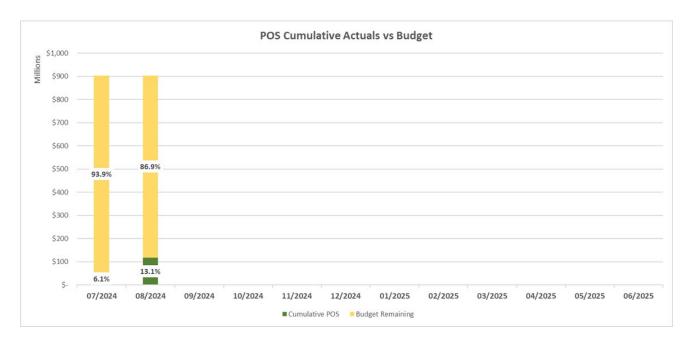
In total, RCEB received funding of \$989M for FY24-25, compared to \$839M for FY23-24, an increase of 24%.

## Purchase of Service (POS)

Through August 2024, the financial report summary shows year-to date POS expenditures of \$118M (or 13% of the \$903M A-1 budget). In comparison to FY23-24, POS expenditures through August were \$106M, which represented 14% of the E-1 budget allocation.

For CPP/CRDP, RCEB was only funded \$100k in the A-1 allocation for FY24-25. The staff has submitted our CPP/CRDP plan proposal to DDS in early September and we are waiting for the funding in the A-2 allocation.

The graph POS cumulative Actuals versus Budget shows POS expenditures trending month-over month compared to the overall budget for FY 24-25.



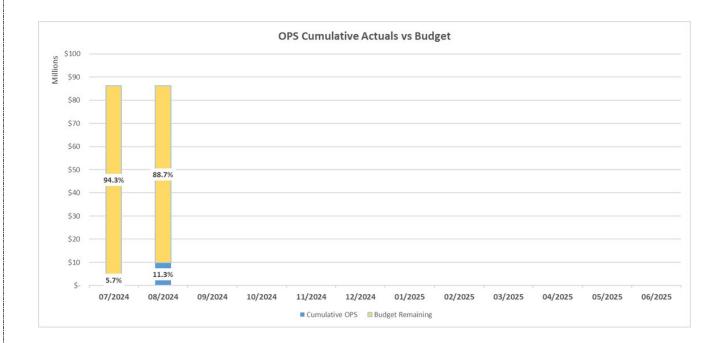
With regards to Fiscal Year 23-24, RCEB ended the fiscal year with projected spending of \$738M, resulting in a surplus of \$64M. Actual POS expenditures through August 2024 totaled \$649M, which is 91% of the total budget of \$731M. Any remaining expenditures for FY23-24 can still be claimed through March 2026.

# **Operations**

With the recent issuance of the A-1 amendment by DDS, the staff has only started to work on the OPS budget for FY24-25. The staff will provide the Board with a detailed Operations report at the October board meeting. However, we have started planning for and posting growth positions while continue to hire aggressively.

Actual year-to date OPS expenditures were \$10M (or 11% of A-1 budget) which is comparable to last year \$8M (or 10% of E-1 budget) at this time.

The graph OPS cumulative Actuals versus Budget below shows OPS expenditures trending month-over-month compared to the overall budget for FY23-24.



For FY 23-24, actual OPS expenditures through August 2024 totaled \$60M, which is 76% of the total budget of \$79M. We continue to spend and record expenditures, which can still be claimed through March 2026.

## Cash Flow Status

In July, RCEB's cash on hand reached its lowest point of the year. The Agency had just enough cash to fund our invoices for June services that were paid out mid-July and we did not have to draw on our line of credit. With the issuance of the A-prelim, RCEB received the first two advances for Fiscal Year 24-25 on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The 3rd cash advance was received on August 7<sup>th</sup>. These 3 advances replenished the Agency's cash on hand.

# Investment and Interest Income

With the advances received in July and the favorable high interest rate, RCEB invested in short-term treasury bills in accordance with RCEB's investment policy.

We resumed to invest in short-term treasury bills, earning interest rate in a range from 4.65% to 4.80%. We noted the declining interest rate as the Fed has reduced and continues to lower interest rate. Interest revenue through August was \$455k.

# **DDS** audit

The Department of Development Services' (DDS) Audit Section has completed the audit for fiscal years FY21-22 and 2022-23 and issued the final report on August 29, 2024.

In this audit, DDS reviewed 37 audit areas for compliance. RCEB did very well on all 35 areas with no exceptions. The auditors issued 2 minor audit findings which have been resolved before the issuance of the final audit report. A full audit report is posted on RCEB's website.

One finding was for overstated claims, which RCEB has fully collected the overpayment of \$128,922 to 20 vendors due to duplicate payments or overlapping authorizations from the review of the Operational Indicator Reports. Another finding was for inaccurate equipment inventory listing, which RCEB failed to remove 2 retired equipment items from its inventory list by the previous custodian.

RCEB accepted these findings and have since implemented new processes to prevent these errors and ensure that our internal processes and procedures remain compliant with regulations.

# Independent Audit for Fiscal Year 23-24

Aiello, Goodrich & Teuscher (AGT), RCEB's independent auditor, has completed field work of the financial audit for the fiscal year 23-24. No findings have been discovered to date. AGT is scheduled to present the draft report to the Board at the October board meeting.

# **Board Questions:**

Questions were asked by the board about the Audit report and below are the points made by Ms. Nguyen:

## Over-Payment to Vendors

We now run a monthly Operational Indicator Report, which highlights potential errors that were originally missed, but then rectified with collecting back the overpayments. This is a new tool that we have been using, as it captures everything. This means that we will need to do additional follow-up on what is flagged as a potential error.

# Retired Equipment

The retired equipment referred to as a finding, belongs to DDS.

The items were from the 1980's; one being an old television

RCEB reports to DDS any sensitive equipment as we purchase them or retire them.

We did file a disposal report on the two retired equipment items referred to in the audit report, but they were inadvertently not removed from the list.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Executive Committee Report/President's Report: Frank Paré

#### Acronym List ARFPSHN Adult Residential Facility for Persons with Specialized Health Care Needs **BAHC** Bay Area Housing Corporation **HCBS** Home and Community Based Services CCH Community Crisis Home ILS Individual Living Services CPP Community Placement Plan ILS Individual Living Services OPS CRDP Community Resource Development Plan Operations PEP Purchase of Service Expenditure Projection DDS Department of Development Services EBSH Enhanced Behavioral Support Home POS Purchase of Service FHA Family Home Agency SLS Supported Living Services

# **CONTRACT APPROVALS**

**Transportation Renewals – Service Code 875** where transportation is separate from the program

These providers are not vendored for any other services. This list was originally presented at the May board meeting. The Board did not approve the contracts for the entire term, pending receipt of a complaint tracker which would also show the resolutions. The motion to approve was retracted at that May meeting, and brought forth again at the June board meeting where the contracts were only approved for three months. They are being revisited this month to allow the Board to review what improvements were made.

One of the biggest issues that we hear about is the timeliness of transportation; pick-up and drop-off times. The challenge is that there are not enough transportation companies providing this service. Fortunately, we are seeing the movement towards more day program service providers providing this service, and that timeliness is not as big of an issue with them. Within the next six months, we will be able to pilot rideshare programs [Uber/Lyft] for our clients. We are also working on specialized transportation services for those who have vision impairment as well as those with certain medical needs.

Mr. Blaisch brought up having a quality incentive program for the transportation companies, similar what we have for our service providers. Ms. Kleinbub stated that would be a good idea to look into incorporating that language in the contracts. We will provide a status update in November. Mr. Hogue also added that DDS should add a transportation category to their vendor quality incentive program as well, since that would be a good incentive for these vendors to provide good service.

The Board agreed that the vendors need to show their process of improvement before they could approve a three year contract extension. Therefore, the contract renewals were approved for one year instead of for three years. If the Board does not approve the contracts, then there is no contract and transportation will be very unstable for our clients.

M/S/C "Motion to approve the Transportation-875 renewals for one year instead of 3 years" [Battles/DeJesus] 1-abstain The motion was adopted

# **SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES [SLS]**

Jaqui Foundation, Inc.- This SLS renewal was presented to the board at the last Board meeting in June, where the contract term was pulled back from 3 years to 3 months pending their Corrective Action Plan. As per RCEB's request, they hired a Board Certified Behavior Analyst [BCBA].

Contractor Name: Jaqui Foundation, Inc.

25 Consumers currently served out of a capacity of 30

■ Date first vendored: 12/18/2008

- Term of Contract: Effective 7/1/2024, Term of this contract shall commence on July 1<sup>st</sup> and remain in effect through 10/1/2024 and brought back to the board in September for an extension.
- NO Variations to the Standard Contract
- Rate of Reimbursement: Estimated average monthly volume/client is \$10k. At capacity, annual total is up to \$1.800k
- Provider is vendored for these other services: HB0455 Jaqui Foundation, Inc./520
   Independent Living Services
- QA Reports: CAP currently in place

The recommendation is to approve the contract for one year instead of three years, as we carefully monitor their performance. The reason why this contract is not confirmed for three years is because Jacqui took a long time to complete the CAP, and we want to monitor how the BCBA performs.

M/S/C

"The Board moves to approve the SLS contract renewals with Jacqui Foundation, Inc. but for a one year term instead of three years."
[Battles/Hogue] 1-abstain The motion was adopted

### DDS Contract #HD249015 A1

This is the first amendment of our new contract between RCEB and DDS with \$86M in Operations and \$903M in POS allocations for a total of \$989M.

The A1 contract amendment is for fiscal year 2024-25. The term is from 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2027.

M/S/C

"The Board moves to approve the #HD249016 A1 contract amendment with DDS as presented." (Hogue/Key-Lee) Unanimous The motion was adopted

# Strategic Plan Update – Lisa Kleinbub

We are currently focusing on the Mission, Vision, and Core Values. A Values Survey was sent to our RCEB Staff, and we have received a 67% response rate. Our contractor is compiling the information and we will be meeting with them this week. This information will be used to highlight and be the foundation of the strategic plan. The rest of the measures for the metrics of the plan are being finalized. We have a meeting with the contractor this week to review those measures and look at what we want in terms of some of those metrics. It is on target to be completed by the end of the year.

Executive Director Search Committee – Frank Paré

Mr. Paré stated that the consultant, The Lawrence Advisory [TLA] has completed the Executive Director job description and it will be posted on our website. TLA was charged with reaching out to the community to garner information. Mr. Paré extended his thanks to those who participated in the interviews with the TLA group. Mr. Paré also acknowledged Ms. Kleinbub's partnership and involvement in the early stage of the process, as the bulk of the legwork was done by the Board committee created for this purpose. TLA works with the Executive Director Search Committee [EDSC], which is solely comprised of board members who are working autonomously with TLA. TLA will be conducting the initial interviews with all the applicants, and will move the most qualified individuals to the EDSC then the Board. The complete Board will be charged with making the final decision on which applicant to offer the ED position to.

# Board Membership Committee: April Key-Lee

Rose Coleman, who was interviewed on July 27<sup>th</sup> for board membership, was nominated at this board meeting. Rose is a member of the Consumer Advisory Committee and has extensive experience as an RCEB board member in the past. She will be voted on virtually and if the votes are a majority, she will be presented at the October board meeting

Sadia Mumtaz and April Key-Lee have completed their first term on three years this month. The SurveyMonkey votes show a majority YES vote approvals for continuing their 2<sup>nd</sup> term of three years on the board.

Current board member Linda Stevens is serving her last year of service and will term-out after the November 2024 board meeting.

The board is in need of members representing the Latinx community: <a href="https://rceb.org/about-us/board-directors/">https://rceb.org/about-us/board-directors/</a>

## **Consumer Advisory Committee [CAC]**: Nyron Battles

Mr. Battles reported that the committee met on Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> where the main topic revolved around getting the shingles shot and how important it is to get one, despite the pain.

# **Support & Services Committee**: Frank Paré

The Supports & Services Committee met this evening prior to the board meeting. Many subjects were discussed at this meeting but two of them were highlighted.

The new *RCEB Housing Specialist*, Nyla Hill will be charged with engaging with the community as well as the developers. This may include reaching out to Community Based Services [CBO's] to connect and work together to inform and assist our I/DD population in regards to housing availabilities.

RCEB Brochure-Mr. Paré stated that the brochures have been available for 1.5 years, but there may not be a way to measure the success of the brochure and if it has improved the communication between the case managers, clients and service providers. With the new IPP process that will be available next year, there will be more structure to the training of case managers that will include the

brochure. Another brochure is currently being worked on which is an *Early Start Brochure* [younger than 3 years old] brochure targeted towards pediatricians who may encounter a patient who falls into the developmental disability category. The first draft of the prototype is targeted to be completed in October with a print date in November. A *Lanterman Brochure* will follow the Early Start brochure, and it will target individuals who are not regional center clients.

# Provider/Vendor Advisory Committee [PVAC]: Dan Hogue

PVAC met on September 13th with a DSP Internship Program presentation from Jessica Kyles from All's Well National Recruitment. This program was piloted throughout the State, where they train individuals interested in working with our population. The service providers will be able to check to see if that individual would work out well in their agency. During their internship with the agency, they will be paid by All's Well National Recruitment. This will help with the vendor staff shortage that we all have been experiencing.

PVAC also conducted their yearly membership vote and added two new members; Geneva Carlos-Valentino, being one of them. Geneva will be the interim RCEB PVAC representative as well as participate on the ED Search Committee while Mr. Hogue is on his 3-month sabbatical.

AB2423 – This bill has passed the legislature and is awaiting the Governor's signature. This bill will require DDS to update the rate models every two years for providers. It will be beneficial to see where the gap is between what is received and the increase in operations cost impact. We will need this bill to pass: <a href="https://p2a.co/oRsYmMq">https://p2a.co/oRsYmMq</a>

The Equity Sub-Committee will be meeting this Friday and will be run by Marcie Hodge during the time that Mr. Hogue is on sabbatical.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Assata Olgugbala stated her concern over the RCEB complaint process and if it is being revised to be more equitable. She also expressed dissatisfaction over the continued unavailability of the Mason Tillman report.

Ann Pringle inquired on the number of case managers that are needed, and the importance of having quality case managers who will work closely with the vendors as partners. She also stated that payments to vendors need to be timely.

Patricia Albeño noticed that lately the focus has been on service providers, and she would like to see more concern with the clients/families, and to hire a specialist ombudsman to focus on the clients. Another concern was on the long times that it takes our Intake Department to process new clients, and thinks there needs to be an increase in staff in that department.

Maria Ramirez spoke about her dissatisfaction with how her case has been handled, and looks forward to a new leadership next year.

<u>Sheraden Nicholau, State Council on Developmental Disabilities [SCDD], Bay Area Office</u> Website of Events: https://scdd.ca.gov/scddcalendar/

**Sept 25**: Bay Area RAC Meeting from 5:30-8 p.m. Vote for Chairperson, health equity practice & policy planning, RAC member & Councilmember updates, community partner updates, and more.

# Sept 1-30

4<sup>th</sup> Annual <u>There should be a Law Contest</u>: Enter the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Contest. Send your problem and solution for consideration as future legislation sponsored by SCDD. Your idea must benefit people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Please submit your idea here: <a href="https://bit.ly/BillIdeas">https://bit.ly/BillIdeas</a> The winning idea will be announced at the Legislative and Public Policy meeting on October 15, 2024. Please email <a href="mailto:Policy@scdd.ca.gov">Policy@scdd.ca.gov</a> with any questions.

# SCDD Grant Opportunity – CYCLE 47 Tribal Health RFP

The Council has designated a total amount of \$125,000 to fund a Cycle 47 project focused on fostering relationships with Tribal health organizations to increase the Native American community's access to culturally sensitive, plain language curriculum, information, and resources pertaining to health-related topics, (for people and families with IDD). This grant project will cover an 18-month period, beginning on 3.1.2025 and ending 8.31.2026.

Tribal health flyer: <a href="https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/Cycle-47-Program-pevelopment-Grants-Tribal-Health-Flyer-.pdf">https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/08/Cycle-47-Program-pevelopment-Grants-Tribal-Health-Flyer-.pdf</a>

SCDD's 2nd Annual <u>Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) Community of Practice</u> (CoP 2.0) series, for National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM).

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN 3Q5UzezkSxy3hQpDPZWYDQ#/registration

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

Oct 23: HireAble is offering a free training on CalAble, which is a resource where clients can work and save money that is shielded from asset limits. This will be presented by Ann Osborn, Deputy Executive Director at 3pm. This presentation is open to all, including families and beneficiaries, who wants to learn more about the ABLE program or has specific questions about CalABLE. Here is the link to join: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84141967099

Oct 1 & 2: EBLC will be hosting TWO Reverse Town Halls in October via ZOOM. These Reverse Town Halls will have members of the IDD community- parents, self-advocates, service providers and others as Subject Matter Experts. EBLC is inviting all of the Legislative Offices in the catchment area to attend one-hour Q and A sessions to learn from US, our lived experiences and OUR expertise.

**Oct 11**: Candidate Forums [one seat/county is now open] for Alameda County District #7- Senator Nancy Skinner is terming out, and for Contra Costa County District #15- Assembly Member Tim Grayson is vacating his position. If you have any questions, contact <a href="mailto:vi.ibarra@cchealth.org">vi.ibarra@cchealth.org</a>

Wendell James inquired on the reasoning why the board and RCEB are not able to address questions and comments during Public Speaking time. He also spoke about how everyone should be able to speak their mind during Public Comment time.

Sister Wynette spoke about her son's program and how they are short staffed, and could not take care of him due to that reasoning. Another issue is with transportation's lack of communication to them and they have no idea when the bus will arrive, so it is hard for them to plan.

<u>Association of Regional Center Agencies [ARCA]</u> – Frank Paré No report this evening. The next ARCA meeting is mid-October.

# **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The board meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Virtual Meetings on October 28, 2024
The next Diversity & Equity Meeting will be at 5:30 PM
The next Board Meeting will be at 7:00 PM