



Regional Center of the East Bay

Cultivating Connection - Empathetic Stewardship - Seizing Opportunities - Intentional Adaptability

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, January 27, 2025

Virtual Meeting

Approved 02/24/2025

RCEB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Frank Paré, President/Supports & Services Co-Chair | 8. Rose Coleman |
| 2. Sadia Mumtaz, Vice-President/Diversity & Equity Co-Chair | 9. Geneva Carlos-Valentino, PVAC Representative |
| 3. Renee Perls, Secretary | 10. Dan Hogue, PVAC Representative |
| 4. Nyron Battles, CAC Chair | 11. Teresita DeJesus |
| 5. Lisa Soloway | 12. Dr. Steven Whitgob, Vice Treasurer |
| 6. Brian Blaisch | |
| 7. April Key-Lee | |

ABSENT:

N/A

STAFF PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director | |
| 2. Dr. Rebecca Nanyonjo, Executive Director | |
| 3. Ronke Sodipo, Director, Client Services | |
| 4. Lynn Nguyen, Director of Finance & Administration | |
| 5. Caylin Patterson, Director Of | |
| 6. Human Resources & Support Services | |
| 7. Chris Hanson, Associate Director of Client Services/Adults | |
| 8. Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Associate Director of Client Services/Children | |
| 9. Ben Braun, Associate Director of Early Start and Young Children | |
| 10. Lindsay Meninger, Associate Director of Client Services/Young Adults and Federal Programs | |
| 11. Michael Minton, Manager of Risk Management and Quality Assurance | |
| | 12. Jenifer Castañeda, Federal Programs Supervisor |
| | 13. Lucy Ravello, Director Behavioral Health |
| | 14. Ashley Harmon, Executive Assistant |
| | 15. Genia Lindberg, Admin. Services Manager |
| | 16. Kim Limato, Case Management Supervisor |
| | 17. David Leon, Transfer Coordinator |
| | 18. Cristie Raynor, Case Management Supervisor |
| | 19. Helene Court, Case Management Supervisor |
| | 20. Rose Casarez, Case Management Supervisor |
| | 21. Ian Mendoza, Case Management Supervisor |
| | 22. Margaret Casebeer, Case Management Supervisor |
| | 23. Priscilla Gomez, Community Services Supervisor |
| | 24. Mariana Varela, Manager of Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion |

GUESTS:

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Chris Aguire/DDS | 10. Sonia M. | 20. TamelaLloyd-Carraway |
| 2. Assata Olugbala | 11. Adam Turner | 21. Johnny Taboada |
| 3. Dominique, FUFU | 12. Vi Ibarra | 22. Sara Martinez de Osab |
| 4. Jenica Hadley | 13. Ann Pringle | 23. Denise Bradley |
| 5. Lesa's iPhone | 14. Wendell James | 24. Joanna |
| 6. Maria Ramirez, FUFU | 15. Liz Toki | 25. Gilda Giron |
| 7. Maureen Fitzgerald | 16. Marcie Lyn | 26. Kausha King |
| 8. mr2125@att.net | 17. Megan | 27. Lilian Piruzan Ansari |
| 9. Sheraden | 18. Carleene Antoine | 28. Jex |
| Nicholau/SCDDC | 19. Adam Turner | |

CALL TO ORDER

Frank Paré called the regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay to order at 7:04 pm. A quorum was established and the motions were revisited. Our Mission, Vision, and Core Values were introduced and added as a standing item on the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA / MINUTES

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the January 27, 2025 Agenda as presented”
 [Steve/Nyron] Unanimous - The motion was adopted

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the November 25, 2024 Minutes”.
 (Nyron/Lisa] one abstention - 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.

Maria Ramirez, FUFFE: Presented a call for Never Again, an international holocaust remembrance day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT - Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director

Ms. Kleinbub formally introduced Dr. Rebecca Nanyonjo as the new Executive Director of RCEB and thanked the search committee for their efforts in selecting her. Dr. Nanyonjo introduced herself to the Board Committee, the public, and staff, sharing her background and enthusiasm for the position and her eagerness to get to know the team.

Ms. Kleinbub then provided an update on the state budget proposal, noting the limited new funding for the system and the expected growth in the consumer population (around 40,000 individuals). She mentioned some funding for Regional Centers to implement responsibilities related to the Public Records Act by January 2026. She also highlighted potential reductions linked to federal actions, such as those related to Birthright Citizenship, Medicaid, and the Public Charge Rule, and emphasized the need for advocacy. Additionally, she discussed the relief for the Los Angeles Fires, which required \$2 billion in unbudgeted funds for wildlife relief. Ms. Kleinbub reminded everyone that California serves all residents of the state.

Ms. Kleinbub also mentioned the upcoming East Bay Legislative Coalition Breakfast on January 31st, where community partners, individuals served, and family members would meet with legislators to advocate for issues at both the state and federal levels. She addressed the implementation of rate changes for service providers, the development of the Standardized Individual Program Plan (S-IPP) template, and changes to service codes in the coming year. In response to Mr. Paré’s inquiry about how the Regional Center would monitor the success of the new service format, Ms. Kleinbub stressed the importance of ongoing training to ensure the approach is person-centered rather than simply a procedural form. She noted that Regional Center staff, individuals served, and families would receive training, with new guides for families and individuals to be distributed prior to any meetings. Surveys would also be part of the strategic plan, with a new survey now included on the IPP Signature page by DDS.

Ms. Kleinbub confirmed the receipt of the final version of the Mason Tillman Report and mentioned that they would begin presenting it at PVAC. Based on some recommendations, a consultant had been contracted. The board discussed holding two meetings: one for the board to better understand the report and another public meeting with board representation for further engagement.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – Lynn Nguyen, Director of Finance & Administration

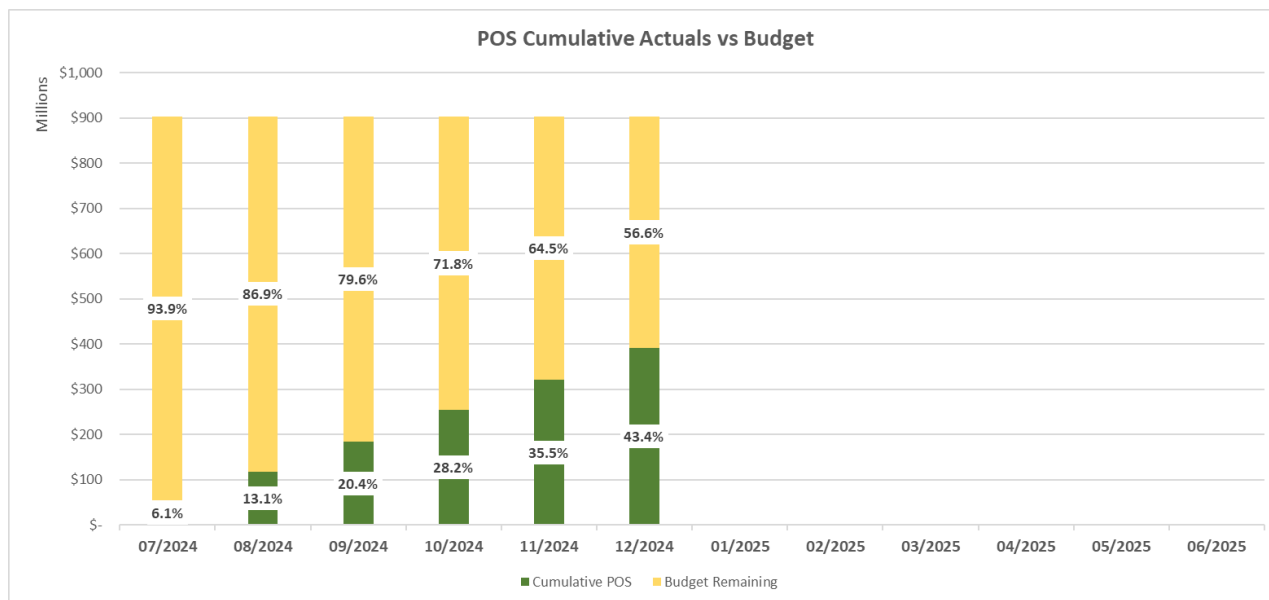
PURCHASE OF SERVICE

Through December 2024, we have expended \$392M, or 43% of the total POS budget of \$903M for FY24-25. This can be compared to \$340M, or 45% of total POS budget of \$759M in prior fiscal year.

As reported in previous month, due to the changes in authorizations for the implementation of the rate reform effective January 1st, 2025, DDS has paused requiring the Regional Centers to submit Purchase of Services Expenditures Projection (PEP) reports until further notice. DDS has issued several directives regarding these changes in service codes and sub codes for regional centers to work with the vendors from now until March 31, 2025. Therefore, we can only track actual spending against total budget and will report to the Board when a PEP can be completed.

For CPP POS Expenditures, RCEB received preliminarily \$100k for placement and have spent \$150k to date. We are still waiting for DDS to approve the final CPP/CRDP plan with funding allocation in the upcoming A-2 amendment.

The graph POS cumulative Actuals versus Budget shows POS expenditures trending month-over month compared to the overall budget for FY 23-24.



OPERATIONS

The Agency completed its FY 24-25 budget for Operations (OPS) for \$86M. This OPS budget included preliminarily allocation of CPP/CRDP funding of \$1.2M and any remaining funding will be included in the A-2 amendment.

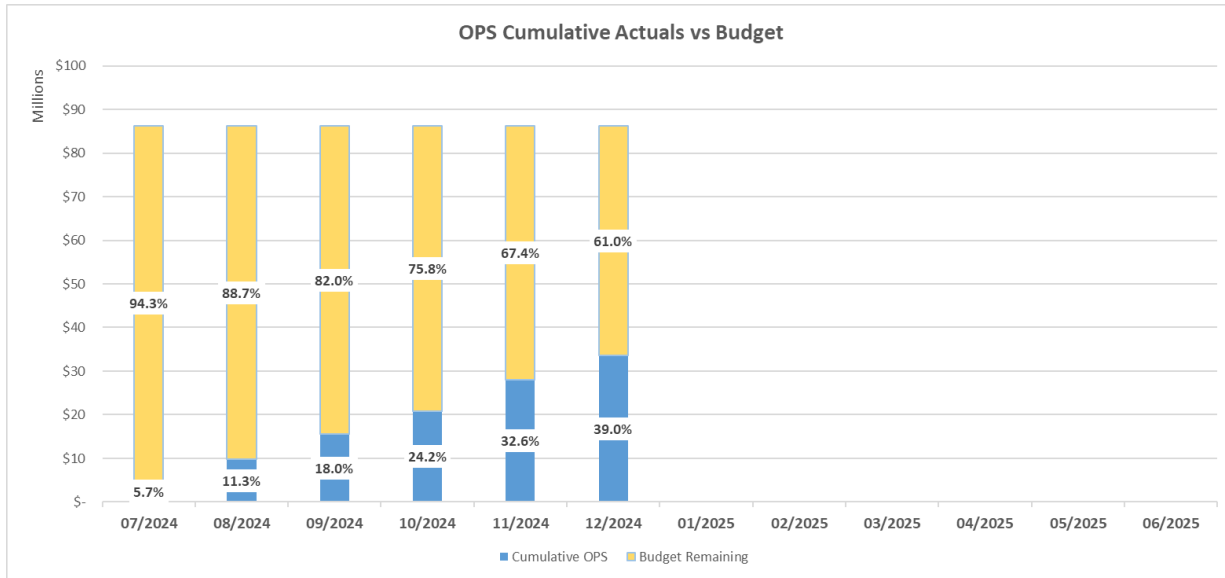
We also received \$1.5M for Language Access and Cultural Competency. With this funding, RCEB has held several resource fairs this month in both San Leandro and Concord office to provide information to our staff about our community partners. RCEB will also continue to hold other outreach events in various ethnic communities.

We will report on our hiring efforts in February after we have the results from the two job fairs held in January and February.

Through December 2024, we have expended \$34M, or 39% of the \$86M budget, which is comparable to the \$26M or 34% of \$78M for FY23-24 at this time. One noticeable high variance from budget is our insurance

expense. RCEB experienced an overall 40% increase or \$114k in insurance rates for this renewal period, with 49% increase in general liability insurance and 38% in directors’ and officers’ and employer’s liability insurance.

The graph OPS cumulative Actuals versus Budget below shows OPS expenditures trending month-over-month compared to the overall budget for FY24-25.



The additional graphs are provided for informational and comparison purposes (see attached files)

- Operations actual versus budget as compared to December 31, 2023.
- Operations 6 months YTD for the last 5 fiscal years.
- Purchase of Services actual versus budget as compared to December 31, 2023 is not included since POS budget information is not available.
- Purchase of Services 6 months YTD for the last 5 fiscal years.

THE JIM BURTON HELPING HAND FUND

The Staff would like to provide an update on how the fund has been spent in July 2024 – December 2024. During this period, the fund received donations of \$2,952. As of December 2024, the fund balance is \$924,566, of which \$839,502 were invested in US treasury bills, with remaining cash balance in the checking account of \$85,064.

Activities from July 2024 through December 2024 show a total of \$26,483 were spent: \$22,281 in grants and \$4,202 in loans for rent/lodging, utilities, food, clothing and other miscellaneous. The detailed schedule below shows each total by category for both grants and loans.

<u>Helping Hands Allocation (7/1/24 - 12/31/24)</u>			
	<u>Loans</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Rent / Lodging	4,202	19,423	23,625
Utilities	-	-	-
Food Exp	-	400	400
Clothing	-	-	-
Misc Exp.	-	2,458	2,458
	4,202	22,281	26,483

Mr. Paré requested the total amount of outstanding loans versus grants (a running total) as well as a better understanding of the defining factor that determines someone getting a grant versus a loan. Mr. Hogue inquired about a policy for the management of the Jim Burton Funds. Ms. Nguyen noted the request and we’ll continue to work on that effort.

BANK SIGNATURE CARDS and FUNDS TRANSFER FORMS

RCEB’s bank signature cards need to be updated due the changes in personnel at the Agency.

The check signers on RCEB’s Operating bank accounts will include the following individuals. Any check greater than \$5,000 requires 2 signatures.

- Rebecca Nanyonjo – Executive Director (**new**)
- Lynn Nguyen – Director of Finance and Administration
- Ronke Sodipo – Director of Consumer Services
- Lucy Rivello – Director of Health and Behavioral Services
- Steve Robinson – Director of Community Placement

At this time, we are also updating the fund transfer authorization forms which allow authorized approvers to complete transaction based on specified dollar limits. Two authorized approvers are required for any wire transactions. The designated authorized individuals are:

- Rebecca Nanyonjo – Executive Director - specified amount is up to \$10M
- Lynn Nguyen – Director of Finance and Administration – specified amount is up to \$10M
- Shannon Barnes – Controller – specified amount is up to \$5M
- Eva Vasquez-Lucero – Accounting Manager (**new**) – specified amount is up to \$1M
- Aylen Campi-Noard – Client Trust Manager – specified amount is up to \$1M
- Lolita Borja – POS Manager – specified amount is up to \$1M

Approval for bank signature cards and funds transfer authorization forms require Board resolution. Therefore, a motion will be needed to approve and authorize the bank signature cards and funds transfer authorization as noted above.

(Frank – will you make or ask for the following motion)

Mr. Paré read “I would like to make a motion that the Board duly authorize the RCEB staff persons mentioned above as check signers and funds transfer authorization for RCEB’s Operating bank accounts.

M/S/C [Frank/Renee] - Unanimous - The motion was adopted

Mr. Blaisch did inquire around the insurance increase categories. Ms. Nguyen provided additional context specifically around Cyber Security, General Liability, and carrier rate directly influencing the increase. Ms. Kleinbub informed the board that this is a statewide issue as well and a big concern. Mr. Hogue requested a presentation of the entire package that Regional Center received outlining the efforts made by the broker.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT/PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Frank Paré, President

CONTRACT APPROVAL

[Note: The contracts were submitted to the board of directors prior to the board meeting for their review and opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.]

BIM LLC, SLS

Term of Contract: January 1, 2025 and remain in effect through December 31, 2027.

- Consumers Served, 9 – Capacity 20
- The estimated average monthly volume per client is \$10,000.
- Based on total capacity of 20, the Annual total: up to \$2,400,000 (\$10,000 x 12 x20)
- Prior to ownership change, BIM had been operating as a SLS agency with RCEB for many years as Bertha Izalee Matella (HB1145). The new owner of BIM who is serving as Director has been performing the duties of director as part of Bertha Izalee Matella. Staff have also transferred over to the new

company. Likewise, all the clients that have been served by Bertha Izalee Matella will continue to be served by BIM Supportive Living LLC.

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve of this contract with BIM LLC as specified”
 [Renee/Brian] 1-abstain - The motion was adopted

The board inquired if Bertha sold the Agency to the new Owner and if Regional Center would be privy to that information. Mr. Hogue mentioned just for information purpose that Adult Residential has CCL and require this information. Ms. Kleinbub stated that depending on how the agency was funded startup funds as an example there are certain requirements.

Mr. Paré expressed gratitude to the committee for their work and acknowledged the departure of Steve from the finance committee and Geneva from the board. He also welcomed Becky and Dan back to the team. Mr. Paré and Mr. Blaisch both praised Lisa for her dedication and expertise, with Mr. Paré suggesting a future opportunity for the board to share their thoughts on her contributions.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: April Key-Lee

Ms. Key-Lee started the conversation with showing praise to Ms. Kleinbub. Ms. Key-Lee discussed the membership development committee, mentioning two candidates in the wings and the ongoing need for new board members, especially in Contra Costa County. We are currently looking for new members who are Latinx who reside in the Contra Costa County. Please check our website and read about the board and e-mail your interest: <https://www.rceb.org/about-us/board-directors/members/>

Mr. Paré ended the conversation by encouraging individuals interested in finance to join the Finance Committee.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE [CAC]: Nyron Battles

Mr. Battles discussed the challenges of getting people to join meetings due to transportation issues and the need for more people to join the group. He also mentioned that he plans to start having other people give reports to practice their skills. Mr. Battles also showed appreciation to Ms. Kleinbub for all the hard work and dedication. Mr. Paré expressed appreciation for Mr. Battles kind words.

DIVERSITY AND EQUITY COMMITTEE: Sadia Mumtaz, Vice President

Ms. Mumtaz presented updates, including a new portal for SLS and ILS services that aims to eliminate bias and a new focus for the D&E committee's subcommittees. She also expressed gratitude to Ms. Kleinbub for her partnership and acknowledged the challenges faced by the RCEB team.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE [PVAC]: Geneva Carlos Valentino

Ms. Carlos Valentino thanked the Board members and Ms. Kleinbub for all her hard work, dedication, and advocacy within the Provider Community over the years. From supporting an ombudsman, position to providing a way for service providers to report missing POS's, always looking to improve even with the difficulties along the way, you are very appreciated.

PVAC welcomed two new members recently. She also highlighted the need for members in the categories of transportation, children and infant services, and support services. Ms. Carlos Valentino also discussed the upcoming PVAC meeting on February 14th (Hybrid) and the potential extension of virtual or remote services. She also mentioned the need for service providers to meet specific quality requirements to receive full rate increases and the change in service codes over the next year. Lastly, she discussed the potential for enhanced mobile crisis services and integrated substance disorder treatments. Request for Proposals listed on RCEB's website. Compliance checks will resume for day programs later on this year to ensure that programs meet the standards and Residential Homes will receive training soon about the new requirements such as additional staff consultation hours and updated reporting processes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sheraden Nicholau/SCDDC, The speaker provided several updates to the group, beginning with a discussion on the House Budget Committee's upcoming budget reconciliation legislation. This legislation includes proposed cuts ranging from \$2.3 to \$5 trillion, with over \$2 trillion of that affecting Medicaid, which would account for about a third of projected Medicaid spending over the next decade. These cuts would significantly impact healthcare services, including disability services and supports for underserved communities.

The speaker emphasized ongoing efforts to encourage individuals to contact their Congressional representatives to share their personal stories about how Medicaid impacts them, particularly those with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. To assist with this, time-sensitive sessions have been scheduled for Wednesday and Friday, where people can learn how to communicate their experiences effectively.

Additional updates included a Legislative and Public Policy Committee meeting scheduled for February 28th, a Regional Advisory Committee meeting for the Bay Area on February 26th, and information about year-round sponsorship opportunities for community organizations. The speaker also highlighted an upcoming event by Bay Area People 1st, which will feature a presentation on transforming individual advocacy into systems advocacy. The speaker concluded by thanking everyone for their efforts and noting the busy year ahead.

WE INVITE YOU TO A SESSION ON TELLING YOUR STORY With proposed Medicaid cuts on the table, learn how these services support individuals with developmental disabilities and how to share your story to make a difference with lawmakers!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2025 4:30-6PM JOIN ZOOM MEETING [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/82165715102? PWD=BOPASML4BTC7GSNGMAF9YYTCGPJOMT.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82165715102?pwd=BOPASML4BTC7GSNGMAF9YYTCGPJOMT.1) FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025 12-1:30 PM JOIN ZOOM MEETING [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87033406766? PWD=DHLOXWO9GMNYQAG8BTZMXUDYKADMW0.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87033406766?pwd=DHLOXWO9GMNYQAG8BTZMXUDYKADMW0.1) SCDD Council, RAC, and Committee Meetings: <https://scdd.ca.gov/scddcalendar/> • Legislative & Public Policy Committee (LPPC) January 28th • Next Bay Area RAC meeting will be 2/26, from 530p – 8p – over zoom and in-person at San Mateo City Hall. Flyer with links coming out soon and will also be posted on our webpage. And a reminder, to check out the State Council's Year-round Sponsorship Opportunity: we support events that promote self-advocacy, leadership and education for the I/DD community. You need to submit a request at least 90 days before your event. \$2500 limit per sponsorship. Read more about the request process: <https://scdd.ca.gov/sponsorships/> Bay Area People First will have their annual meeting PART 2 with a presentation on 'Transforming Individual Advocacy to Systems Advocacy'. All are welcome to join this meeting. When: Friday, January 31st, 2025, 2-3:30 PM Location – on zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85845396905?pwd=akZHRUJxdUNMOGdlQ0xhdUQxVStNZz09>

Assata Olugbala, The speaker expressed her contributions within many council meetings and her concerns around Equity and the lack of action taking place.

Vi Ibarra/ Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council [CCCDDC], The speaker shared information about upcoming meetings for the Developmental Disabilities Council for Contra Costa County. On February 26th, the monthly meeting will feature a family training on the Home and Community-Based Services final rule. In March, the presentation on the 26th will focus on the new person-centered IPP form, which is crucial for clients and their families to understand in order to work effectively with case managers.

The speaker also mentioned the ongoing collaboration with Dr. Nanyonjo and the importance of engaging through upcoming meetings. Additionally, the speaker reminded everyone about the East Bay Legislative Breakfast on January 31st at the Regional Center in San Leandro, emphasizing that registration is required for the free event. Lastly, the Joint County Transition Conference and Resource Fair will take place on March 15th at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, with flyers and registration information for both attendees and service providers to be shared soon.

Geneva Carlos Valentino, Toolworks: The speaker discussed how Toolworks is offering virtual trainings to help participants and their families understand the changes introduced by the final rule regarding HCBS (Home and

Community-Based Services). These changes impact how services are provided to individuals with IDD (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) who receive community-based and residential services funded by RCEB. Two training sessions are scheduled: one on February 13th, 2025 at 4 PM, and another on March 18th, 2025 at 12 PM. Interested individuals can register through a provided link, and contact information for the training organizers will also be shared. Additionally, the PVAC Meeting will be held on February 14th at 9:30 AM in a hybrid format, with an in-person option at RCEB San Leandro or via Zoom.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93310024404?pwd=MDZHY2RHZTZEUUpZlWZmZMxQT09>

Meeting ID: 933 1002 4404 Passcode: 190316 One tap mobile +16694449171,,93310024404# US +16699006833,,93310024404# US (San Jose)

Toolworks is hosting a virtual webinar "HCBS (Home and Community Based Services) Final Rule and WHY is it Important to me and my Family Member". February 13, 2025 at 4pm and March 18, 2025 at 12pm Use this link to register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/54P4LP5XRyCz8WMD5aG8YQ> If you have any questions, contact Donna Feingold at donna@findinggoldensolutions.com or Carolanne Forge at cforge@toolworks.org

Sara Martinez de Osaba, inquired if board training and education is provided for those who are interested in joining the board.

ARCA: Frank Paré, President

Currently there is a work group on new board members at Local and ARCA boards. Our delegates talked about best practices and supporting this work group in an effort to develop what are considered some core competencies in terms of what that onboarding process might look like. Mr. Paré discussed grassroots day, the growth within the regional center system specifically around the autism community, and an effort on the direct services or direct support professionals in terms of workforce sustainability and the rate reform.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The board meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Virtual Meetings on February 24, 2025

The next Supports and Services Committee Meeting will be at 5:30 PM

The next Board Meeting will be at 7:00 PM

Acronym List

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