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**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 26, 2011**

Board and Liaison Members Present: – Suzanne Anthony - Chairperson, Nickole Bouslog, Curtis Braxton, Jim Burton, Stephanie Chapralis, Heather Hackett, Elree Langford, Ella Liggins, Stephanie Meakin, Penny Musante, Pam Perls, Craig Rose, Rocio Smith, Heidi Spalding, Carl Tolentino, Kimberly Williams.

Board Members Excused: Laura Beard, Ian Bremner, Ange Burnett, Stephen Dale, Lacey Friedman, Carol McKinney, Josh Sullivan.

Guests: Ana Arango, CSB-Headstart/Early Start; Brooke Baldree, Aspiranet Behavioral Services; Cathy Botello, C.O.P.E. Family Support; J.H. Dejhero, Parent; Linda Harrison, Arcadia Employee Services; Marianne Iversen, Down Syndrome Connection; Stacey Martinez, Bay Respite Care; Carol Anne McCrary, CCARC; Wesley Moss, Premier Healthcare Services; Beth Nevins, Planned Parenthood Shasta Pacific; Helen Yee Ornelas, parent; Caroline Ortiz, Care Parent Network; Leticia Robles, Pacific Homecare Services; Neil Rotter, Accredited Nursing Care; Will Sanford, Futures Explored; Christine Schwab, parent and respite care provider; Charles Symes, Arcadia Home Care; Ron Usac, AB5;

☛ Gina Jennings, Director; Kimberly Robinson, Acting Secretary

Welcome and Introductions – Suzanne Anthony

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am and introductions were made.

- The September 28, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved. Motion was made by Carl Tolentino with second by Nicole Bouslog.
- A presentation by Shasta-Pacific Planned Parenthood was added to the agenda.

Special Presentation-Shasta Pacific Planned Parenthood

- Health and Sexuality Education for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities – Beth Zacovic, Planned Parenthood, offers health/sexuality education classes to adults and teens which helps to prevent abuse and social mistakes that often are made. She can conduct classes at the program sites or at her office in Concord.

- Trainings available;

- for clients using a 4-part curriculum
- for staff and professional development
- for caregivers and staff as well.

- Individual consultations are available and there is no charge at this time.

Shasta-Pacific Planned Parenthood covers all of Northern California. Contact Beth Zacovic at (925)887-5227 or at bzacovic@pp-sp.org.



Employer of Record Agencies – Respite

- Leticia Robles - **Pacific Homecare Services** have been involved with RCEB for 6 years and offer “simplicity”. A complete packet is provided to the care provider for fingerprinting, Livescan, new employee orientation, and CPR. PHC pays for all fees and requests the Purchase-of-Service from Regional Center. Wages are \$8.75 per hour and are paid monthly. Main office is in Stockton and secondary office in Dublin. All admin staff are bilingual in Spanish. Contact information for Pacific Homecare Services can be found at www.phrespite.com or call (510) 239-5506.
- **Wesley Moss - Premier Healthcare Services** provide complete service similar to PHC but applicants can email, fax, or mail their completed packets. Wages are \$8.15 per hour but in process of raising the wage. Wage was raised to \$8.78 in early November. Staff is bilingual in Spanish and Vietnamese. Main office is in San Jose with branch offices in Oakland and Sacramento. Contact information for Premier Healthcare Services can be found at www.phs-west.com or call (408) 228-6701.
- **Stacey Martinez - Bay Respite Care (formerly Bay Area Respite/Jody and His Friends)** requires referral from Regional Center, caregiver does own fingerprinting. Has served NBRC for five years. Wages are \$8.50 per hour payable once or twice per month based on when timesheets are submitted. Employee orientation and CPR classes offered at various locations. Office located in Vallejo and for this process they are holding orientation meetings throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties at day program sites. Contact information for Bay Respite Care can be found at www.bayrespitecare.org or call (888) 644-4491
- **Neil Rotter - Accredited Nursing Care** is based in Los Angeles and use local vendors for CPR and orientation. Has served 17 regional centers. Has a respite care unit. Wages are \$8.50 paid weekly. Contact information for Accredited Nursing Care can be found at www.accreditednursing.com or call (800) 974-1234.
- **Charles Symes - Arcadia Home Care** is a Medicare/Medi-cal certified, provider for six years. Caregivers arrange their own Livescan and CPR and are required to apply in person. Flexible use of respite hours by families. Wages are \$8.25 per hour paid weekly. Medical, dental, and vision benefits are purchased by employees and 401k is also offered. Staff is bilingual in Spanish, Tagalog and all languages are available via teleconference. Contact information for Arcadia Home Care can be found at www.arcadiahelathcare.com or call (510) 239-5506.

Budget – State and RCEB Update – Jim Burton

- State legislators are on summer recess and no significant changes are expected until December 15, which is the date the Director of Finance determines if the ‘trigger’ must be pulled; if the state hasn’t received enough revenue at that time, additional cuts will be triggered automatically. Unfortunately, HHS/DDS is on the first tier of cuts and an additional \$100 million in unallocated budget reductions may be taken from our system. Jim noted he still has no information, at this time, of where the cuts would be made. Additional cuts proposed by DDS have to go back to the legislature and require public input to implement.
- New emergency regulations are posted on DDS website: www.DDS.ca.gov. Things are changing with little notice so it is important to stay updated as DDS is not forthcoming with information.
- SB 946 (Steinberg) was signed by the governor and mandates that health insurance providers cover behavioral health treatment for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This is a significant piece of legislature. Effective date is July 1, 2012.
- RCEB is trying to help cover costs for dental services. DDS reached an agreement with Delta Dental for Medi-cal recipients with a projected effective date of January 2012. Delta Dental will be reimbursed for services through Regional Centers based on the Medi-cal rates.
- The new regulations for parent-vouchered respite for daycare, nursing and transportation are still ambiguous and difficult to understand. Employer of Record is still required but is complicated by the parent copayment requirement. Typically the parent pays the customary charges and RCEB covers the difference. Currently 850 families are impacted by these rules.
- The Employer of Record regulations have impacted 25% of the people served by RCEB and continue to be a challenge to implement. To date, 1300 caregivers have completed the EOR process. Some caregivers will ‘fall



away' due to inability to meet EOR requirements or lack of motivation to do so. Families may forfeit respite benefits simply because they don't want to go through the process with their current caregiver. RCEB currently covers a total of 3700 respite vouchers.

Check www.rceb.org for more details.

Announcements

- Senator Mark DeSaulnier is hosting a personal meeting in Lafayette on November 5, 2011 at the Lafayette Library from 10am-1pm. Senator DeSaulnier has been supportive of our issues and would be interested in hearing how the budget cuts have impacted your lives.
- All are encouraged to attend the Town Hall meeting January 27, 2012 at the State Building Auditorium in Oakland. Legislators often attend and this would be a good opportunity to enlighten them on the problems with the new regulations and the time this is taking away from case managers and actually costing more than saving.
- The Transition Task Force will not be hosting a conference in January. Monthly meetings will continue on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 3:15pm at RCEB, with guest speakers.
- Penny is distributing information on taxi's that can accommodate wheelchair users. As our representative to the Paratransit Coordinating Council, she stated that they are looking into discharge policies of local hospitals to encourage them to discharge people during the day when support services are available.
- Dr. Renee Wachtel is hosting a workshop on Autism Spectrum Disorders November 3rd and 10th in Oakland from 6:30-8:30pm.
- Arc of California is developing a 'scorecard' to track how legislators vote on issues that impact us. Information is available on the Arc of California website.
- BART Clippercard will not be available at local retailers after December 31, 2011. Visit their website at www.clippercard.com for details on changes for DD users. It was suggested we invite a BART representative to the next Council meeting to clarify the changes. Submit any questions for the BART rep to Gina so we can give them a heads-up on what we want to know so they send someone who knows what they are talking about.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 9:45 a.m. at RCEB Concord Office.

Respectfully submitted via e-mail,

Kimberly Robinson

Kimberly Robinson
Acting Secretary

