

**Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**January 24, 2018**

**Board and Liaison Members Present:** Caroline Ortiz, Chair; Heidi Spaulding, Vice-Chair; Bill Trinh; Dan Denis; David Monahan; Maria Marquez; Douglas Quinn; Donna Feingold; Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez; Krista Loomis; Ken Talken; Marcelle Indelicato; Karen Lingenfelter; Nickole Bouslog; Stephen Dale; Pam Perls.

**Staff:** Vi Ibarra.

**Board and Liaison Members Excused:** Ria Mercado; Paula Senigar; Nina Vincent; Will Sanford; Suzanne Anthony; Sheraden Nicholau.

**Guests:** Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Tracy Butler, Commercial Support Services-Antioch; Murri Banis, Commercial Support Services-Richmond; Shakendra Burks, ALIVE-Antioch; Cheresse LeBlanc, CARE Parent Network; Ron Usac, SCDD; Rosa Valledor, CARE Parent Network; Leslie Werosh Visbal, Ability Now Bay Area; Lisa Kleinbub, Regional Center of the East Bay; Audrua Sysam, ALIVE-East; Juan Cacing, ALIVE-East; Jason Partos, Futures Explored; Patricia Albeno, CARE Parent Network; Julie Neward, California Sibs; Heather Hackett, Futures Explored; Megan Gandsey, Congressman Desaulnier's office; Beth DeWitt, Regional Center of the East Bay; Marianne Iversen, Down Syndrome Connection; Krista Peterson, California Children's Services; Miriam Gomez, La Familia; Naser Javaid, Assemblyman Grayson's office; Krista Loomis, Full Circle of Choices.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order by Caroline Ortiz, Chair, at 10:03 a.m. and everyone was welcomed. Introductions were made.

- o The meeting minutes of 11/29/17 were approved as submitted (M/Maria Marquez; S/Heidi Spaulding).
- o There were no additions to the agenda.

**UPDATES**

**RCEB by Lisa Kleinbub:**

Lisa will be speaking about the Governor's budget proposal later on in this meeting.

Beth DeWitt reported that they received 48 proposals for the HCBS compliance grants. They have \$11 million to spend State-wide. Grant awards will be announced in March. Beth also reported that 17 vendors did not submit their ABX2-1 surveys (out of 1200 total vendors). That means that they will revert back to their previous payment rate. RCEB will be notifying them.

**State Council on Developmental Disabilities Bay Area Office:**

Ron Usac reported that their next meeting is in February. Also they are accepting grant proposals that are due by March 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Ron reported that Gabriel Rogan has accepted the position of Executive Director at North Bay Regional Center.

**Committee Reports:**

**Executive Committee:** Vi Ibarra reported that a great retreat of the DD Council Board was held in December. They are collaborating with the Alameda County DD Council on hosting the Annual Dinner in Alameda County this June. Vi invited volunteers to join the

planning committee----with the first meeting being held on January 31, 2018 at 1000 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor in Oakland.

Vi also reported that our DD Council, along with self-advocates will be making a presentation on how to work with people with disabilities in March 2018 for nurses from the CC Health Plan.

Nominating Committee:

Rosa Valledor of CARE Parent Network was nominated to serve on the Board of the DD Council. Rosa stated that she has 2 sons on the Autism Spectrum, volunteered at CARE Parent Network for 7 years, and has been employed there for 6 years. She is on the committee to put on the Autism Star Conference that is coming up in March and is bilingual (English/Spanish). Rosa stated that she is eager to bring her experience to the Council.

A motion was made to nominate Rosa to the DD Council Board (M/Donna Feingold; S/Maria Marquez). Her nomination was approved unanimously.

Next month there will be a nomination and vote for the Chairperson of this committee.

Transition Committee:

Ken Talken reported that the 1<sup>st</sup> presentation of 4 (speaker's series) is planned for Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, with the topic of 'Diploma vs. Transition Process'.

**Community Liaison Reports**

Health and Emergency Services Engagement Committee: Vi attended this meeting in which on-line medical information was discussed. They also indicated that there is very low participation in the health plan on-line access portal by Spanish-speaking families.

Subcommittee on Employment: Elvia Osario-Rodriguez reported that their next meeting is planned for February 23<sup>rd</sup> at RCEB Concord. In their last meeting they introduced Sarah Murphy of Worklink who presented info on customized job placement utilizing the strengths and choices of job seekers.

East Bay Legislative Coalition: It was reported that in place of the Annual Town Hall meeting, there will be a legislative breakfast by invitation. It will be held at RCEB and is a very personal opportunity to talk with legislators. There will also be awards given to legislators.

CCTA Paratransit Coordination Council (PCC): Bill Trinh reported that they are trying to get a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to look into issues with County Connection. He feels it is time to resolve the issues. Krista Loomis reported that Bill was appointed to the PCC and he was congratulated. Heather Hackett reported that Tri Delta in East Contra Costa County is starting a Pilot Project to augment their services with Uber, Lift and United Taxi. With Uber and Lift you need a smart phone and credit card, but not with United Taxi. For this project, Tri-Delta pays for the first \$16 and the rider pays the balance. They still have to work out the reimbursement process with RCEB. We are all looking forward to the results of this pilot.

Emergency Services Engagement: Marcelle Indelicato reported that she is continuing to make sure people with disabilities are integrated into the planning processes with the Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services. Marcelle, Carol Anne McCrary, Aimee Vitug-Hom, and Heather Hackett are involved in the planning of an exercise this year:

- An evacuation exercise that will be held on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, with law enforcement and Search and Rescue Teams. We will be looking for people (volunteers) to role play on that day.

**There was a short break for coffee and conversation**

**Presentation: 2018 Governor's Proposed Budget: Overview, Current Issues and Potential Action.**

**Speaker: Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director, Regional Center of the East Bay**

Lisa handed out the Governor's Budget Highlights from DDS. She stated that this is a budget proposal and we will have opportunities to comment on it in hearings and with our own legislators.

- The Governor's 'rainy day' fund will be well funded;
- For our service system, the proposal is basically status quo;
- There is money for minimum wage increases, which will go to \$12 per hour in January 2019;
- Expenditures are down, as the payment rates are low and there are no incentives to expand or start new services;
- There are funds for caseload growth at Regional Centers.

**The bad news: The Governor included a 14-day uniform holiday schedule, cutting costs by 4 days in the Purchase of Service budget. This is an action item to discuss with our legislators.**

Lisa mentioned that RCEB continues to borrow money and pay interest on it to resolve cash flow problems.

In addition:

- There is an increase to Medi-Cal reimbursements, and the application process will speed up.
- In-Home Support Services (IHSS) workers will receive 8 additional hours of sick leave.
- Home Health Care will receive a 50% increase in rates.
- There are proposals to lower the costs of the Developmental Centers, however, collective bargaining costs are automatic and will remain.
- Community Placement Plan funds are shifted to Community Development plans for affordable housing---there will be hearings on this topic.

Assemblymember Holden introduced a bill to adjust for local minimum wage increases.....but it failed. The plan is to introduce it again and it will need our support.

The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) is focusing on:

1. Demanding that social recreation and camp funding be restored. Go to [www.restoremyservices.net](http://www.restoremyservices.net)
2. Demanding the property formerly used by the Development Centers be sold and the funds given to DDS for affordable housing projects.
3. Reject the 14 day uniform holiday schedule.
4. Use Community Placement Plan funds for new start-up funding.
5. Demand funding for Self-Determination projects.

Lisa explained that there will be a Governor's forum for the I/DD community, however, no date is set. All new bills must be introduced by Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, and there is a concern about the number of democrats that are leaving, as there may not be a 2/3 majority next year.

Lisa was thanked for her presentation.

**Announcements:**

Stephen Dale left announcements regarding a 2-year project from a grant. Contact him for more information.

Vi announced that there will be Self-Determination informational meetings throughout the County in February and March. These presentations are 60-90 minutes.

Nasar Javaid announced that he reports to Assemblyman Grayson and to please contact him with any concerns and he will assist.

Julie Neward introduced herself as an advocate for her sister. She has started a sibling support network, called California Sibs. She organized a meet up for Saturday in Oakland. She left her cards in the back of the room for anyone to take.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

**2018 Meetings:**

**February 28, 2018**  
**March 28, 2018**  
**April 25, 2018**  
**May 23, 2018**  
**June 2018-to be determined**  
**September 26, 2018**  
**October 24, 2018**  
**November 28, 2018**

**Our next meeting is February 28, 2018**  
**10:00 a. m.**  
**RCEB-Concord**  
**1320 Willow Pass Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Concord, CA 94520**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

*Carol Anne McCrary*  
Contra Costa ARC