

Developmental Disabilities Council of Contra Costa County
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 28, 2018

Board and Liaison Members Present: Caroline Ortiz, Chair; Heidi Spaulding, Vice-Chair; Bill Trinh; Dan Denis; David Monahan; Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez; Krista Loomis; Marcelle Indelicato; Nickole Bouslog; Suzanne Anthony; Ria Mercado; Rosa Valledor; Stephen Dale; Will Sanford.

Staff: Vi Ibarra.

Board and Liaison Members Excused: Douglas Quinn; Paula Senigar; Pam Perls; Karen Lingenfelter; Maria Marquez; Ken Talken; Donna Feingold; Nina Vincent; Sheraden Nicholau.

Guests: Carol Anne McCrary, Contra Costa ARC; Patricia Albeno, CARE Parent Network; Jordane Tofighi, Adaptive Learning Center; Chereese LeBlanc, CARE Parent Network; Marnie Raymond, Parent; Jackie Johnston, CA Children's Services; Craig Rose, CIWP; Ron Usac, SCDD Bay Area; Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director, RCEB; Bruce Baginski, ALIVE-Concord; Jennifer Thomas, Go Group; David Moyer, Go Group; Tasha Branaugh, Go Group; Maria DeAlba; Mitra Mostofi, Futures Explored; Geneva Ziaoure, Manos/PVAC; Jeanine Bishop, West Contra Costa Unified School District; Lisa Steiner, Parent, West Contra Costa Unified School District; Miriam Gomez, La Familia/RCEB; Megan Gandsey, Congressman Mark Desaulnier's office.

Welcome and Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by Caroline Ortiz, Chair, at 10:02 a.m. and everyone was welcomed. Introductions were made.

- o The meeting minutes of January 24, 2018 were approved as submitted (M/Will Sanford; S/Heidi Spaulding).
- o The meeting minutes of February 28, 2018 were approved as submitted (M/Dan Denis; S/Rosa Valledor).
- o There was one additional agenda item: Caroline announced that our very own Marcelle Indelicato, Senior Planner for the Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services, was recently awarded Technical Employee of the Year by the Sheriff's Department. Congratulations were offered to Marcelle for her great work of integrating the many considerations for people with disabilities into emergency planning for our community.

UPDATES

RCEB Report by Lisa Kleinbub, Executive Director:

- Lisa reported that California is still awaiting CMS approval to move forward with Self-Determination.....approval is expected soon.....stay tuned!
- State Budget hearings were held in March and there are several items still left open for the May revision:
 - o 14-day uniform holiday schedule (in other words, 4 additional forced closure days);
 - o Provider rate adjustments for local minimum wage increases;
 - o Provider rate adjustments until a rate mechanism is in place;
 - o Use of the funds generated from the sale of Developmental Center properties;
 - o Future uses of Community Placement Plan (CPP) funding.
- Another proposal under consideration is to raise the qualifying age for Regional Center services up to 21 (it is currently age 18 in California), to be in line with the Federal definition of a developmental disability. Concerns raised on this issue involve the availability of services and funding.

- There are numerous other bills concerning health care.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Bay Area Office:

Ron Usac stated that the SCDD is meeting April 25th in San Francisco, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. SCDD is currently sponsoring 2 bills:

- AB2171 (Frazier) –interagency agreement between Education, DDS and Dept. of Rehab to share information.
- SB1274 (McGuire) –information sharing between CalWORKs and welfare-to-work programs with DDS.

SCDD is implementing “National Core Indicators” surveys----400 for each Regional Center. About ½ are completed for RCEB.

The State Council received numerous grant proposals and the funded projects will be announced in May.

Executive Assistant to the Council Report by Vi Ibarra:

Vi thanked Maria Marquez for assisting her with a recent presentation to Public Health employees.

Vi is assisting with outreach for the pre-enrollment meetings for Self-Determination projects. Please check the website at RCEB.org to get the current version of the list of meetings. The next Self-Determination advisory committee meeting is April 9th, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

PVAC has started a new committee for Day Program providers, right after the PVAC meeting. This committee is chaired by Daniel Hogue of Las Trampas, Inc.

Vi will be reviving the Council's Corner Newsletter next week---it will include award nomination forms for the upcoming banquet.

The STAR Autism Conference was a huge success this year, as registration had to be closed. The workshops were fantastic!

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: no report

Nominating Committee: David Monahan reported that there will be 7 openings on the DD Council Board. The committee is putting together a slate of nominees for Board consideration.

Transition Committee: no report---Vi stated that the Speaker Series continues through May and flyers are at the back of the room.

Community Liaison Reports

Health and Emergency Services Engagement Committee: No report

Subcommittee on Employment: Will reported that they heard a presentation on SSI/SDI. He felt that the website: DB101 is very helpful in plain language.

East Bay Legislative Coalition: Nickole spoke eloquently at the recent Budget hearings in Sacramento...other speakers referred to, "...what she said..."

Assembly member Frazier has made a major effort to recognize advocacy organizations in his Assembly Select Committee on I/DD.

The California Plan for Home and Community-based Services (HCBS) has been initially approved by CMS (Federal). A Self-Assessment will be going out soon to all service providers. With services that are in question, there will be a 2nd-tier review locally, by RCEB and the State Council.

The Rate Study workgroup is putting the finishing touches on the upcoming Rate Survey. Will reported that it has 156 tabs on an Excel spreadsheet! Yikes!

CCTA Paratransit Coordination Council (PCC): no report

Emergency Services Engagement: Marcelle distributed flyers about a 2-day training, April 19-20th, in Napa, regarding planning for people with disabilities and access and functional needs in a disaster. In addition, she will be hosting a local forum on this topic on Oct 4th.

In Marcelle's emergency planning office, they have hired a new planner, Meredith.

Marcelle distributed a flyer on all local planning meetings in our County. Tomorrow, there is a Mobility Summit in which Elaine Welch of Mobility Matters will be attending.

Lacey Friedman has received a grant for emergency backpacks (go-bags) for kids with disabilities and/or medical concerns. Contact Marcelle for more information on how to get a bag.

Livia Pop, of the County's emergency alert system is available to speak to groups on how to register to receive emergency notifications by text and emails. She will also help people to register. This is all part of a plan to increase emergency preparedness of individuals.

Marcelle also distributed a flyer on a culinary arts training sponsored by Loaves and Fishes, which starts on April 24th. They are looking for students.

There was a short break for coffee and conversation

Presentation: Life Planning Passage Project: Innovation in Managing Special Needs Trusts

Speaker: Stephen Dale and John Dickerson

Steve and John are working on a project, funded by a grant, to establish new standards of best practices for pooled trusts. Currently, in California, there are 8 pooled trusts. The trusts are set up for beneficiaries with disabilities and/or mental health concerns. They are run by non-profits and have a Trustee that approves distributions. However, there are no guidelines for the trustees at this time.

Steve and John want to set up guidelines, with the intention that they are adopted nationally:

- Want to incorporate person-centered planning;
- Improve the quality of life for the beneficiaries;
- Create standards;
- Build a new standardized tool for an assessment;
- Include employment as a viable outcome;
- Does not replace Regional Center services

- Set up a system of care managers to assess needs, while the Trustee has general oversight of assessment results.

Steve and John's vision is to utilize existing ILS/SLS workers to provide the individualized assessments, since they already do that kind of work. The fees for the care managers are negotiated with the Trustee and can be up to \$60 per hour. This could create a new funding stream for an ILS/SLS agency-----everyone benefits. That is, the trust funds are utilized to improve the quality of life, individualized, for each beneficiary. At the same time, a new funding stream is created for an ILS/SLS non-profit agency.

Their first step in this project is to create the person-centered assessment tool that is consistent with all governmental laws and regulations for pooled trusts. That is the first step in their process.

Steven and John were thanked for their enlightening presentation.

Announcements:

- The Adaptive Learning Center and the Loma Vista TOPS program are hosting an Autism Walk on April 21st at Loma Vista
- California does not yet have ABLE accounts----you can start an ABLE account in another State and move it over to California when they are up and running.
- Congreso Familiar, a conference for Spanish-speaking families, is being held Saturday, April 28th in Oakley.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

2018 Upcoming Meetings:

May 23, 2018

June 2018-to be determined

September 26, 2018

October 24, 2018

November 28, 2018

**Our next meeting is May 23, 2018
10:00 a. m.
RCEB-Concord
1320 Willow Pass Road, 4th Floor
Concord, CA 94520**

Respectfully submitted electronically by,

Carol Anne McCrary

Contra Costa ARC