



South Central Los Angeles
Regional Center
for persons with developmental disabilities, inc.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2010**

I. MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Bill West
Ms. Manami Go
Ms. Guadalupe Barrera

Ms. Karen Washington
Davina Douthard

Ms. Desiree` Boykin
Mr. Art Dansby

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Jabulani Leffall
Ms. Gabriela Valdovinos

Ms. Mireya Ramirez
Mr. Fred Washington

Ms. Lisa Sanchez
Carla Vega

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Dexter Henderson
Ms. Marsha Mitchell-Bray
Dr. Bruce Williams

Mr. Roy Doronila
Ms. Maria Figueroa

Mr. Reuben Lee
Dr. Kim Bowie

PUBLIC:

Carol Bennett

Dr. Larry Yen

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by Board President Bill West.

2011 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT –

Dr. Kim Bowie, Chief of Community Services walked the board through the process of the 2011 Performance Contract. She explained how mid-year data from January thru June was taken from the department to create a draft agenda. We then use that to create the draft performance contract which we placed on our website with notification for individuals who had comments or suggestions to contact the regional center. We also placed copies throughout the agency and created a one page notice to let our stakeholders know that the draft performance contract was available on the website. We scheduled a public hearing for September 1st. 2010 and sent notices to 21 day programs to give to our consumers to take home. Notices were sent to the cities of Bell, Downey, Rancho Dominguez, Lynwood Compton and Huntington Park as well as two Los Angeles libraries to make copies available to the community. On September 1st, we had a public hearing with 30 Participants, 12 parents, 3 consumers, 1 service provider and 14 staff members was held. Also a focus group took place on Sept 15th, with 9 parents attended.

BOARD ACTION:

To approve the 2011 Performance Contract
M/S/C: D. Douthard / K. Washington/ Unanimous

USC RESEARCH STUDY-

Reuben Lee introduced Dr. Larry Yen, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Division of General Pediatrics Children's Hospital LA/ USC Keck School of Medicine

Dr. Larry Yen explained the Autism in Urban Context Project and the purpose of the study. This two-year urban, multi-method ethnographic study examines disparities in diagnostic processes and service delivery specifically related to children with autism in African American communities. The study proposes to follow a cohort of 16 African American children with ASDs, their primary caregivers and the practitioners who serve them, to document the children's pathways to an ASDs diagnosis and services. We want to learn and gain experience from the stories, the challenges and the hurdles of these families to receive services. San Gabriel, Lanterman, and North LA regional centers are also included in the project. We are seeking SCLARC's participation in terms of recruiting families. The study has been approved by SCLARC Human Right Committee, USC and Children's Hospital.

BOARD ACTION:

To approve the USC Research Study M/S/C: D. Douthard/ D. Boykin/ Unanimous

BOARD ACTION:

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 27, 2010

(M/S/C: D. Douthard/ A. Dansby/ Unanimous)

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT:

Board Membership:

Bill West addressed the need for more board members. We currently have five board vacancies. Mr. West encouraged everybody in the room to recruit active board members that are willing to serve. Please make your recommendations to our executive committee.

ARCA REPORT-

Mr. West reported on the August 26th ARCA Board of Directors meeting. Mr. West gave a brief summary of the impact of not having a budget. We still do not have a budget and our resources were significantly reduced. We have an obligation by law to notify our vendors and providers as well as our employees of our potential inability to pay our POS and Operations obligation. We are hopeful and have not sent letters out because we don't want our families to panic. ARCA is doing a great job of lobbying for us in Sacramento.

FINANCIAL REPORT-

Roy Doronila summarized the financial report as follows:

As of August 31, 2010, we have a negative balance of \$5.5 million in Operations. That simply means that we have not received all of our allocation from the State. In POS we have a negative balance of \$12.2 Million. We were approved for \$285 Thousand for the Perinatal Contract and \$116 Thousand in the FRC contract.

Our Balance Sheet, at the end of August indicated a \$2.5 million balance in cash compared to the \$300 Thousand we had in the bank at the same time last year. The State currently owes the agency \$53.8 Million for Operational and POS expenses that we have paid under the contract but have not been reimbursed. We only have enough in our line of credit to pay a partial of our October bills. We would need an additional \$3.5 Million to pay our October bills in full. As of this date, we have \$23.5 Million in our line of credit and have borrowed \$4 Million.

We are requesting the board to authorize Mr. Henderson to request an increase in our line of credit by \$3.5 Million to cover our October bills. Additionally, our line of credit will expire October 5,

2010. Therefore, we are also requesting the bank to extend the maturity of our line of credit to January 5, 2010. We are hopeful that we will have all our allocation by that time.

Action Items:

- Increase line of credit by 3.5 million
- Extend the maturity of the line of credit to January 5, 2010

M/S/C: A. Dansby/ D. Douthard/ Unanimous

Art Dansby posed a question regarding the 4.8 million Due to State on the balance sheet and wanted to know where the 4.8 million number came from. Roy explained the 4.8 million is the balance of all the advances we have received from the state. We still have a balance form FY '08-'09, and '09-'10 and '10-'11. The cash advances are working capital and they do off set that cost. It has not been done because they have not paid our claims yet.

BSA Audit Findings:

Six regional centers and DDS were audited by the BSA. The audit found the following:

- DDS did not include a review of how regional centers select vendor and establish rates.
- Most regional centers has support for expenditures but it could improve in a few areas.
- Lack of documentation for some of the negotiated rates that they established for their vendors.
- The BSA surveyed one regional center's employee's and most employees surveyed did not feel safe in reporting suspected propriety of upper management.
- DDS' complaint procedures were reviewed and they do not have any records according to the audit, so they can not evaluate the actual achievements because of lack of records.

Auditors are here for their second week. We are being audited for FY '08-'09 and '09-'10

CONSUMER SERVICES ISSUES:

Mr. Reuben Lee reported we currently have:

8,227 consumers three and above.
3,876 are Medicaid Waiver.
4,861 who are non-regional center consumers.

Each year in October, we get our numbers from DDS of consumers we need to add to the waiver. We are always on target or above in this area.

VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Ms. Davina Douthard reported the VAC is gearing up for the Vendor Resource Fair taking place on October 14th. We are nearly full and expect to be sold out. To date we have raised 7,800 dollars and we expect to clear about 10,000 this year. The vendor directory is in the process of being edited. There will be changes made to the directory this year, we will not have any free advertizing and we will be opening the directory up to other non-regional center vendors.

We also discussed the possibility that there may not be funds to cover services. Dr. Bowie did come and do a presentation on "Doing Business with the Regional Center". It was a very good and informational presentation. MTA & Access Services also came out and did a presentation on transportation and showed us how to use the straps and wheelchair access properly. We addressed some of the consumer's complaints and how to process complaints with the MTA.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE-

Desiree Boykin gave a report of the CAC conference.

Western Law Center spoke at our CAC meeting. Questions were raised about ramp access. There will be a disability conference on October 22nd and a disability winter day on October 20th.

Additionally the members discussed non-compliance regarding curb cuts. Consumers are considering suing the city for lack of compliance regarding curb cut. Octavio Figueroa came out and read the Performance Contract to us.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS-

Marsha Mitchell addressed the board regarding SCLARC's outreach efforts. We have 400 less consumers this year than last year. That's potentially \$350,000 that the regional center didn't get in Ops budget due to growth. The primary reason attributed to this lack of growth was the implementation of the Trailer Bill AB9 was as we started to implement People in the general public, as well as medical professionals, thought Early Start services were not available and that families were no longer being served. We plan to address this by:

- Convening and agency wide committee that will focus on outreach
- Identify key community partners for cross-training purposes and to join us in our information campaign.

- Some of those partners include; First 5, Best Start, DCSF, WIC, Neonatal Intensive Care Units, Churches (Spanish & English), Daycare providers and Pre-schools.

We will be asking these partners to place flyers. We will go into schools to do initial intakes and if something comes from the initial intake, the family will be asked to come into the regional center for a more thorough assessment. Leadership has decided to step up our efforts again in terms of community outreach where we had done so well in the past in terms of our growth.

Marsha spoke on the Performance Contract. The community members present for the presentation were general pleased with how SCLARC performed and some in the audience were surprised to get the Cost Statements that were sent out as a result of them being mandated by AB9. Many parents were shocked to see how much money the state spent on the services that their child/loved one receives. She also shared how another parent helped to recoup \$11K in services that her child did not receive as a result of the Cost Statement.

Lastly, Ms. Mitchell informed the board that the Lanterman Developmental Center is closing. The building is old, not up to code or earthquake safe. The cost of taking care of a consumer is more than \$200,000 a year in the developmental center as opposed to the \$13,000 on average, that SCLARC spends to maintain a consumer in the community. SCLARC has 35 consumers who currently reside at Lanterman. On October 23, 2010, SCLARC's Leadership team and other staff members will meet with our families to discuss the transition and placement. The primary reason for the meeting is to get to know the families which have never really interfaced with the regional center outside of their service coordinators. We know this is a time of uncertainty and we want to ease their concerns. The regional center is partnering with West Bay Housing Corp. to help us to successfully transition. We would like to introduce the families to some of partners, like West Bay, who will be helping us help them during this transition.

The Lanterman Developmental Center is closing. The building is not safe, not up to code or earthquake safe. The cost of \$200,000 or more to maintain our consumers in the developmental center opposed to the \$13,000 on average to maintain a consumer in the community is considerable. However, above all it's about health and safety for our consumers. SCLARC has 35 consumers who currently reside at Lanterman. On October 23, 2010, we will meet with our families to discuss the transition and placement. It's to get to know the families which have never really met with the regional center outside of their service coordinators. We know this is a time of uncertainty and we want to ease their concerns. The regional center is partnering with West Bay Housing, Corp to help us to successfully transition. We would like to introduce the families to some of partners in this transition.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT –

Dexter Henderson summarized the current details of the states budget. He did state that if we did not get a budget, we may have to seek additional funds. He reiterated we would have to send letters to our families, providers, and notify staff. In view of the fact that it was felt that the legislature was close to determining a final budget solution, Mr. H recommended that we delay sending any further communication to the community for one week. Therefore it was agreed that the board would convene a special committee of the whole meeting on October 12, 2010.

NO PUBLIC INPUT:

Good of the Order

Mr. West adjourned the September 28th meeting. Our next meeting will take place on November 16th, 2010.

Submitted by:

DEANNA CORBIN
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

DATE

Approved by:

MANAMI GO
BOARD SECRETARY

DATE