SCLARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES OF
JANUARY 22, 2013

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) was held on January 22, 2013 at 7 p.m. at the corporation's place of business, 650 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007

Members Present: Lisa Sanchez, Dr. Anissa McNeil, Rennetta Clough, Karen Washington, Sandra Casado, Claudia Hernandez, Veronica Moser, Ana DaSilva, John Harris, Manami Go, Joycelyn Baber-Gant, Edgar Hererra, and Alfredo Farfan

Members Absent: Allan McDowell, Bill West

Staff Present: Dexter Henderson, Roy Doronila, Reuben Lee, Marsha Mitchell, Phyllis McClean, Maria Figueroa, Deanna Corbin, and Georgina Mendoza

Public: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The January 22, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Lisa Sanchez, SCLARC Board President at 7:00 p.m.

2. BOARD ACTION

SCLARC Board of Directors Minutes of December 11, 2012 were approved as presented. (M/S/C) John Harris/Ana DaSilva/Unanimous

3. ARCA REPORT - Dr. Anissa McNeil

Dr. McNeil attended the ARCA meeting of January 17th and 18th to represent SCLARC’s board president, Lisa Sanchez. A key agenda item was in regards to SCLARC’s financial position; ARCA reviewed our governors 2012-13 budget and indicated several increases for the Regional Center. Due to an anticipated increase in caseloads the Purchase of Service and Operations budget for both 2012-13 will receive an increase [the ARCA position paper is available online for your reference].

We also reviewed the ARCA draft Strategic Plan, and ARCA is recommending each board member provide feedback on the vision, mission, values and priorities of the plan to the Executive Committee so that the board president can provide input to ARCA as whole. The input should be provided by March 22, 2013 to Ami Sullivan at ami.sullivan@kinecticflowcrop.com.
The closure of Lanterman continues to be an agenda item for ARCA. More specifically our Regional Center has identified 22 clients to move into homes within the community. Our Regional Center has begun that movement and continues to move clients into homes within our attachment area. We are scheduled to have more clients leave the Lanterman Development Center, and the leadership team here at the Regional Center have identified a plan to move those clients from the Lanterman Center.

The final item is in regards to prevention, ARCA supports the full restoration of the Early Start Program from the initial cut. The loss of the program is significant to clients that we serve, and we have begun to collect some initial data in regards to our specific Regional Center. Data such as what dollar amount did it cost us to implement the Early Start Program in 2009, what did it cost in 2010 and 2011. We have the privilege of having our Executive Director lead the initiative for prevention.

4. BOARD MEMBERSHIP - Dexter Henderson

Dexter Henderson requested the approval of the term renewal of the board president, Lisa M. Sanchez. Ms. Lisa M. Sanchez has served 3 years in her first term, and a motion to recommend her continuing to a 2nd term as a member of the Board of Directors was presented. (M/S/C) John Harris/Anissa McNeil/Unanimous

Mr. Henderson was delighted to introduce two new board members, Mr. Edgar Herrera and Mr. Alfredo Farfan. He had the pleasure of meeting and speaking with both gentlemen three months ago, and reiterates that he believes that they will be a wonderful asset to the board. The great news is that we will be having two new male members added to SCLARC’s Board, but most importantly is significant that Mr. Herrera and Mr. Farfan are very involved in their children’s lives and in the community. Both gentlemen’s biographies were handed out, but Mr. Henderson asked that they each also provide a brief introduction of themselves before their nomination.

Mr. Herrera is a Mechanical Engineer Student. His 1st daughter was born with Down syndrome, and before his daughter’s birth he was unaware that the Regional Center existed. Mr. Herrera feels that he has been plummeted into this whole new world, and is now trying to adapt to it. He is content to be given the opportunity to become a board member, and to express on the level of a parent, parent concerns and to speak on their behalf so that their voice is heard.

Mr. Farfan had not realized what Down syndrome was or that it existed when his son was born. He and his wife had not realized that their son was going to be born with this disability, and the day they found out they were both in shock. Mr. Farfan’s initial reaction was to become better informed about the disability, and to do everything in his power to help his son with whatever his son may need “As parents that’s all we want to do for our children.” When
Mr. Farfan and his wife became involved with the regional center, it just opened his eyes to see that everything that could happen for his son that appeared impossible was possible; therapy and help.

Mr. Farfan now knows so much more about Down syndrome, that he would like to share it with everyone else. His parents, siblings, and friends now know as much as he does because when they come around and see his son he explains it to them.

Mr. Henderson commented that both of the gentlemen were referred to SCLARC by our Family Resource Center (FRC). They have both been active participants with the FRC, and have been involved in some activities and shown leadership in their involvement. Mr. Henderson is pleased that they have already been a part of our service system, and that they came to tonight’s meeting.

SCLARC’s Board President, Lisa M. Sanchez, was thankful to both of them for joining the meeting and was very impressed with their backgrounds. She requested the motion to support the addition of the two new board members, Mr. Edgar Herrera and Mr. Alfredo Farfan. The motion was approved and Ms. Sanchez welcomed both of them to the board, and immediately asked them to take a seat. 

(M/S/C) Ana DeSilva/John Harris/Unanimous.

5. COMMITTEE AND DIRECTOR UPDATES/REPORTS.

Budget Update and Finance Report - Roy Doronila

Roy Doronila presented the POS Expenditure Projection Summary, the Statement of Expenditures and Revenue, and the Balance Sheet for month ending December 31, 2012 (FY 2012-13). The following financial highlights were reported to the board. There was a net increase in the projected POS expenditures in the amount of $37,311 as a result of a combination of less growth and base adjustments. The current projected expenditures exceed our initial budget allocation (D1) in the amount of $12,442,539 in regular POS and $3,671,550 in CPP. The main reason for this variance is the fact that SCLARC has not received all of the budgeted funds from the State. It is anticipated that the majority of the shortfall will be covered in the D2 Allocation for both POS and CPP. We continue to not treat this shortfall as a budget deficit for that reason. Our current cash position indicates adequate balance to pay for budgeted expenditures. Staff’s outlook remains positive for the rest of the fiscal year.

Analysis of the FY 13-14 Budget - Roy Doronila

Roy Doronila presented the ARCA’s analysis of the FY 13-14 Governments Budget dated January 10, 2013. The analysis states that the 1.25% payment reduction will begin June 30, 2013. It also states that the November revision estimated the regional center community caseload for January 31, 2013 to be 256,875, an increase of 900 consumers (a 0.35% increase). The budget year anticipates an increase of 9,228 consumers (a 3.6% increase) over the 256,875
The analysis also states that the Purchase of service had a $16.8 million increase (a 0.5% increase). The budget year anticipates a $156.9 million increase (a 4.4% increase) for POS. For Operations the analysis states a $3.5 million increase (a 0.6% increase), and the budget year anticipates a $26.4 million increase (a 4.9% increase).

**Consumer and Support Services Report (CSS) - Reuben Lee**

**Consumer Characteristics**

Reuben Lee presented a report on Consumer Characteristics for period ending December 2012. This report provides the characteristics for the consumers SCLARC serves. It provides very good information about the various disabilities and number of consumers that are made eligible under these disabilities. It provides information on Intellectual Disabilities such as Autism (PDD), Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy and other potent disabilities. It talks about the number and types of consumers that SCLARC serves in various prodigious settings such as those that live at home, at a residential placement and ICS. It provides information on the consumer’s gender and spoken language, for example the participants that speak English versus non-English speakers. These characteristics help us get a better picture of the consumers we serve here at the Regional Center. We are closed to serving over 10,000 consumers clients. For statistical numbers please view report attached (Attachment 1).

**Vendor Advisory Committee Report (VAC) - John Harris**

Mr. Harris did not have anything to report on the VAC. He just notified the board that they were down in December and had no activity.

**Consumer Advisory Committee Report (CAC) - Alan McDowell**

Alan McDowell was absent, so Karen Washington presented the latest on the CAC. She reported that in December they had a potluck. The Health Fair is scheduled for May 16th; they will have a station to show children about safety, and another station for blood drive where they will talk about high blood pressure and diabetes.

She also informed the board that they were getting ready for March 2, 2013 to have a conference to talk about “Relationships” including having the Marriage part. They also did the relationships presentation on January 8, 2013 in a group home, and another presentation took place on January 16, 2013 at Jenkins Infant Development program. Deanna Colding also provided training on Over Protective Parents on January 18, 2013. She also provided this training to 60 people in her home.

Mr. Henderson asked “what’s the reaction of the people that have experienced the training in general?” Desiree Boykin responded that there is an understanding difference between friendship and relationship. Phyllis McClean also said that some of the questions were very relevant, such that the participants wanted to know the difference between engagement and marriage. And the largest presentation by far has been the one with 60 people.
Dr. Anissa McNeil asked if the parents asked about social media, and Phyllis McClean responded yes that it was part of the PowerPoint presentation. Phyllis also reported that they are working with Clinical Services; that they are working a panel, and will have workshop here at SCLARC on May 16, 2013 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Statewide CAC-ARCA Report – Desiree Boykin

Desiree Boykin presented the following:

1. Disability Rights of CA on voting rights regarding how to exercise the right to vote.

2. The National Core Indicators Data Study was discussed which allows CA and the rest of the nation to compare quality of life issues related to persons with disabilities:
   a. Do you choose where you live? CA 40%, Nationwide 50%.
   b. Do you feel safe at home? CA 80%, Nationwide 90%.
   c. Do you feel safe at work or adult day care program? CA 90%, Nationwide 90%.

3. By attending the ARCA meetings we learn a lot. We felt that the numbers for CA should be higher since we have a lot of resources available to persons with disabilities. For example only 30% of consumers in CA participate in Self-Advocacy Groups versus 20% for the nation. All assumed that the numbers should be much higher.

4. New Business:
   a. Transportation: everyone will bring information from their local area to discuss about Access, Dial-A-Ride and other local bus information.
   b. Increase participation, Self-Advocacy at local levels.
   c. ARCA-CAC would like to have its own like page on Facebook.

Community and Family Support Report (CFS) – Marsha Mitchell

Marsha Mitchell presented on the highlights of SCLARC’s Newsletter. The newsletter opens with providing an update on the State Budget Cuts, and on the community outreach activity for the month of January. It follows with an update on the two new board members, and the February National Children’s Dental Health article written by SCLARC’s very own clinician Dr. Rouintan. It follows with a couple of health stories, and toward the end it provides information on consumer spotlights, CAC students and advisory committee.

Marsha mentioned that they must continue to grow the Facebook Page. It grew quite a bit over the Christmas break. Desiree Boykin continues to print out great stories and she is doing a great job. Reach is continuing to be worldwide; all over the world people are checking in on this page.

Marsha informed the board that the kiosk project is going great. One of the things that CFS
has wanted to do is to get a kiosk that represents the Regional Center within the community. A lot of the times people don’t know about the Regional Center, just like both our newest board members before having children who had been diagnosed had no idea that the Regional Center existed. What CFS have wanted to do is to have these ambassadors sort of speak in the community, so the first kiosk was placed at the Crenshaw Mall as a test, and it’s beautiful and colorful and it draws people over.

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CFS actually just finished reprogramming so the text is much simpler, there is a keyboard now to find information that is interesting to you or that you’d like to email yourself. You can also get other resources, you can touch the screen and it will take you to that page or you can email the link to yourself. There is a contact section and this information can come back to the Regional Center, to Maria or Marsha so that they can follow-up if people have questions. CFS is now in the process of trying to make it as interactive as possible so that it is more user-friendly. SCLARC’s entire site can be quite overwhelming when you don’t know what you are looking for. CFS would like to provide more immediate information to the public.

Mr. Henderson mentioned that CFS is looking for new locations (new sites) to place the kiosk, so if anyone knows of any locations or knows anyone that has any connections to please let CFS know. The reason why the Crenshaw Mall was first to get a kiosk was because it ended up being for free; only the insurance is being paid for but not the location. CFS are both looking for resources to duplicate the project, and looking for new locations. The cost of the kiosk is about $5,000-6,000 and CFS is trying to reduce that cost. Mr. Henderson suggested that Marsha bring the computer itself to the next meeting for showing.

Executive Director Report – Dexter Henderson

CA State Budget

Dexter Henderson presented the latest on the CA State Budget. He reported that the State budget was 97.7 billion dollars. SCLARC had a 1 billion dollar reserve in that 97.7 budget. 15 billion dollars of the 97.7 billion was a result of the passing of proposition 30, and that is when most of Californians went to the polls and agreed to increase the sales tax. As a result the passing of proposition 30 was very instrumental in erasing the deficit that SCLARC had. The dollars from proposition 30 was primarily supposed to go to higher education; a good percentage of that was sent to higher education but not all of it. In general, because of the almost total elimination of deficit, SCLARC is experiencing a much better budget this year.

Mr. Henderson reported that the economy is a little bit better; that is also an added benefit of both the national economy, and CA economy was doing much better 2-3 years ago. The support of the developmental services comes from the federal government; it is a combination of dollars coming in from the Federal and the other half from our State taxes. We talked about
that, the fact that the 1.25% has been reduced.

One thing that Mr. Henderson is not excited about, but he thinks it is a part of the new day for the support of SCLARC’s system, is that the family program fee was made a permanent fee. That is raising about 7 million dollars during the course of the years so families will continue to provide income and information to the Regional Centers, and those who meet the standard will be paying a small percentage of income in order to continue to receive Regional Center services. SCLARC’s caseloads are going to increase, at least the projected increase from 256,000 people statewide to 266,000 people. So SCLARC will be serving 266,000 folks on a 4.9 billion dollar budget in the upcoming year. And it is also projected that SCLARC will have a reduction of about 250 people from the State hospitals. Mr. Henderson commented that he remembers the organization having about 6,000 people in State hospitals when he first started, and now by the end of this upcoming year the projection is 1,300 people.

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It will be very expensive for those 1,300 people SCLARC serves. The last number that SCLARC received about the cost of the person who is cared by the State hospital was $250,000 per person, and Mr. Henderson is sure that the number is much higher today. So again, when talking about serving people in the community, SCLARC can serve much more cheaply and safely with a better quality of life for a lesser amount of money. So that is the whole concept behind reducing or eliminating the State hospitals.

There was also reduction and estimates in terms of what we thought SCLARC was going to be receiving from copayments and deductibles as a result of certain people with autism. It was initially projected that it would be about 15 million dollars received from deductibles from families that have insurance and the services that Regional Centers are providing to them. The deductible monies are supposed to now come back to the Regional Center because we are providing the support, but things are not going as easily as anticipated. Nevertheless, this is 9 million dollars more that the State had received in prior years from the result of receiving copayments and deductibles.

Mr. Henderson also reported another concern; the problem is that DDS is to reduce the expenditures that Regional Centers are paying or using for the support of the rent for their offices. We have been given the heads up that SCLARC’s allocation for the upcoming year for rent is going to be frozen to the same allocation level that SCLARC received in the current year, and as he recalls our current year allocation is even frozen from the prior years. Roy Doronila agreed that the current year was based on prior years. Per Mr. Henderson, it did get updated in the current year, and so SCLARC is being told that next year 2013-14 the allocation will remain the same. This does not vote well for Mr. Henderson because in 2014-15 we anticipate moving to a new location, and it has been anticipated that SCLARC will have an increase in rent and an increase in the allocation from the State as a result of that as well, and particularly since we have not really received an increase. We are projecting right now a 1.2 million dollar impact; this is something that we are going to be working to change, so that we are not put in that kind of position by the time we are ready to move.

All in all, in spite of that bit of information and continued enactment of the pre-rental fee
structure that was placed not too long ago, SCLARC has a very good budget. Even some of the programs that SCLARC’s families, and consumers, and clients depend upon they did not suffer any significant increases as well; childcare for example, medi-cal, medi-caid, those entire program did not suffer the significant changes or deductions that have been impacted by over the last number of years. We have a lot to cheer about and both the Governor and State Legislative Analyst.

The State Legislative Analyst Office is kind of an independent entity that estimates expenses and revenue coming in to the State. They do not allow the Democrats or Republicans, or the legislators to estimate income and expenditures; they have an independent entity that does that. But the one thing that they are in agreement is that by 2014 the State will most likely have a surplus, when we have a budget and that is again something that has not been talked about for the last 10 years or so. We are looking forward to good things and better budgets in the current years.

Special Contract Language
Dexter Henderson presented the latest on the removal of SCLARC’s Special Contract Language. SCLARC received a letter after 10 years from the State indicating that we were going to be removed from what they called a special contract language as of SCLARC’s next amendment. Mr. Henderson thinks SCLARC holds the record for being on the special contract for the longest. SCLARC had a problem in 2002, and finally they said we will be off of detention. Many kudos goes to all of us, but in particular to our Fiscal folks that fought long and hard, and when we actually see the new contract we will do something nice for them. Actually, we have very few people who left during that 10 year period of time most of the people who are there now where there 10 years ago. You can count on one hand the number of people at the Fiscal Department and they have done an excellent job. Of course Fiscal and Case Management have to work very closely together in terms of coordinating how we deliver services. Again, kudos to all staff; this language should have been removed quite a few years ago and DDS was informed of that as well.

6. PUBLIC INPUT
No Public Input.

7. ADJOURNMENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:00 P.M.
Mr. Henderson requested moving into executive session for a 2 minute discussion matter.

8. ADJOURNMENT OF BOARD MEETING AT 9:00 P.M.
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Lisa Sanchez, Board President.

9. NEXT MEETING:
The next SCLARC Board of Directors meeting will be held on March 22, 2013, at 7 P.M., at the
corporation's place of business.

Submitted by:

___________________________________________  __________________________
Deanna Corbin                                     Date
Executive Secretary

Approved by:

___________________________________________  __________________________
Ana Dasilva                                        Date
Board Secretary