



Golden Gate Regional Center

Serving people with developmental disabilities since 1966

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED – MAY 19, 2009

BOARD of DIRECTORS
RECORD of MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009
6:30 PM

Golden Gate Regional Center
Building F, 5725 Paradise Drive
Corte Madera, CA 94925

PRESIDING:	Laura Bliss	
DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Daisy Ambia Yukari Baba Hal Belmont Kauai DeMarzo	Jim Engvall Allan Farrar Alexandra Joulibert Steve Sazegari
NOT PRESENT:	Alice Elliott Sarah Hoffman	Nancy Dow Moody John Weber
STAFF:	Tom Gannon Judy Leonard Felice Parisi, M.D.	Gabriel Rogin Lisa Rosene Jim Shorter
GUESTS:	Barry Benda Margery Farrar Paul Gayler	Debbie Levy Mele Sekona Tula Blas Uribe

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Bliss called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Welcoming remarks and self-introductions followed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Hearing no objections, the agenda and the Record of Meeting of March 17, 2009, were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Farrar expressed appreciation to Mr. Gayler for his efforts in ensuring that Mr. Farrar arrived at the past two board meetings in a timely manner. Ms. Farrar suggested that the Board make accommodations on board meeting nights to provide dinner for one each attendant for consumer members.

Mr. Benda announced that Lifehouse Agency is holding their annual Chefs of Marin fundraiser event this Saturday evening. Seats remain available. For first time attendees, the cost has been reduced to \$125.

www.ggrc.org

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee/Chairperson's Report – Laura Bliss

The focus at the March ARCA meeting was the budget and the plan DDS was developing to save the system \$100M. The Assembly Budget Subcommittee will be hearing those proposals tomorrow. A rally is planned at the Capitol to precede the hearing.

New legislation was also discussed. AB 287 (Beall) regarding third-party arbitration has been rewritten and introduced.

The following ARCA documents are available at www.arcenet.org: Board of Directors Minutes, ARCA Position Statement on California's Budget Crisis and ARCA Positions on the Governor's Proposed 2009-10 Budget.

Client Services Committee – Yukari Baba

Ms. Baba referenced the transportation policy and the guidelines for implementation preceding Mr. Shorter's presentation of "Transportation Quality Services Statistics" prepared by R&D Transportation. Any inquiries may be directed to Mr. Shorter.

In reference to the First Lady's employment initiative, the Mayor's Office will be employing an individual with special needs.

Ms. Rosene reported on the recent hearings held to gather testimony on two cost-reduction proposals developed at GGRC. The majority of testimony did not support service delivery on a need-responsive basis in lieu of our current caseload ratio model, nor did testimony support aligning Early Start eligibility requirements to the federal requirements. Ms. Rosene will form a task force to look at innovative service delivery models. These models will be tested and if successful, GGRC will develop and submit a 637 proposal at that time. GGRC will pursue a 637 proposal for relief from other federal and state requirements for Early Start

Finance Committee – Kauai DeMarzo

After seven months of operation, GGRC year-to-date Operations expenditures are over budget by 2.97%. Significant cost-savings measures, including staff reductions, unpaid furlough days and reduced retirement plan contributions, have been taken to ensure the GGRC Operations expenditures do not exceed the DDS allocation for this fiscal year.

After seven months of operation, GGRC year-to-date total POS expenditures are over budget by .87%. Current expenditure projections indicate that POS services may be under funded by as much as \$6,600,000. As a result, GGRC is in jeopardy of ending the fiscal year with a POS deficit. The magnitude of the deficit is still uncertain as the recent cuts were just announced.

Personnel and Bylaws Committee – John Weber

In Mr. Weber's absence Ms. Ambia announced the nominees for offices for fiscal year 2009-10. Ms. Bliss and Mr. Weber were nominated for Chairperson; Mr. Belmont and Mr. Weber were nominated for Vice Chairperson; Ms. Ambia was nominated for Secretary; and Ms. DeMarzo was nominated for Treasurer. All have agreed to serve if elected. She further advised that members should be receiving ballots by USPS.

Mr. Sazegari reported on recruitment efforts: Of the 52 interest cards returned, 22 indicated an interest in membership. The Committee will be reviewing the 22 interest cards in May and June. In May, Mr. Shorter will be asked for dates he can hold interviews. As Mr. Sazegari is the only member terming off the Board, he said there is no urgency to bring on new members.

Lengthy discussion followed concerning timelines and moving ahead with screening sooner than later so that new members could be seated starting July 1 (per bylaws Section 3.07). Ms. Bliss instructed Ms. Leonard to send letters with the official membership application to the 22 no later than Thursday, April 23, requesting the application be returned no later than May 7th. Several members volunteered to assist with the screening process. A timeline was established to expedite the interview/selection process.

Consumer Advisory Committee – James Engvall

Mr. Rogin reported that the CAC reviewed the 637 proposal on caseload ratios. The consensus being that they (the consumers) have good relationships with their social workers and wouldn't want to lose that.

Service Provider Advisory Committee – Nancy Dow Moody

In Ms. Moody's absence, Mr. Benda reported that West Bay Housing Corporation has officially purchased the two homes previously managed by California Autism Foundation. The new provider has completed the licensing process for the home in San Francisco and is in process of obtaining the license for the home in Marin County. Escrow has closed on the first home for 12 people coming out of Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH).

WBHC was awarded a contract with the City of San Francisco for coordination and oversight of all alternative living arrangements for folks coming out of LHH.

ARCA REPORT – Laura Bliss

No further report. Please see Executive Committee/Chairperson's Report above.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Shorter highlighted the 15 budget-reductions proposals from DDS to the Legislature:

1) Transportation (estimated savings \$16.9 million: Regional centers: shall not fund specialized transportation services for adults who can access and utilize public transportation; shall only fund the least-expensive transportation modality that meets the consumer's need; fund transportation to the nearest program that can meet a consumer's needs as identified on the IPP/IFSP; and shall only fund transportation services for minor children when the family provides documentation that they cannot provide transportation.

2) Uniform Holiday Schedule (estimated savings \$16.3 million): Implement a 14-day uniform holiday schedule for day programs, look-alike day programs and work activity programs.

3) New Service for Seniors at Reduced Rate (estimated savings \$1 million): Create a new service for seniors at a reduced rate and with a corresponding increase in the staffing ratio.

4) Custom Endeavor Option (estimated savings \$12.7 million): An opportunity to develop a customized employment or volunteer option with support from existing providers for 5% of current population.

5) In-Home Support Services (estimated savings \$1.3 million): Regional centers will be prohibited from purchasing personal care services for consumers who are Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

6) Supported Living Services (estimated savings \$6.9 million): Will require regional centers to review and renegotiate rates, if necessary, with SLS agencies at contract renewal; restrict the conditions under which a regional center can supplement a consumer's rent, mortgage or lease payment; regional centers will utilize the same SLS agency to provide services to SLS consumers who reside in the same home.

7) Utilization of Neighborhood Preschools (estimated savings \$8.9 million): Expand the availability and use of neighborhood preschools as a natural environment service setting which may be less costly than segregated center-based infant development programs.

8) Use of Private Insurance for Early Start Consumers (estimated savings \$6.5 million): Requires families to access private insurance for all identified medical services, other than evaluation and assessment, for service provision or denial prior to service provision by the regional center as payer of last resort (already required for children age three and older).

9) Restrict Eligibility Criteria for Early Start (estimated savings \$13.4 million): Limit eligibility for Early Start services to only those infants/toddlers at the highest risk of a developmental disability in most need of program services entering Early Start at 24 months of age or older.

10) Expansion of In-Home Respite Agency Worker Duties (estimated savings \$3 million): Expand the scope of duties performed by in-home respite agency workers to include routine skilled services.

11) Reduction in One-Time Regional Center Funding (estimated savings \$3.5 million): Reduce funding for regional center costs associated with moving and/or expansion.

12) Eliminate Triennial Quality Assurance Review (estimated savings \$1 million): Eliminate regional center funding and requirement for conducting a triennial quality assurance review of vendored community care facilities.

13) Parental Fee Program (estimated savings \$900,000): Update the parental fee program fee that applies to parents of children under the age of 18 who live in any out-of-home care arrangement, whether community or developmental center.

14) Quality Assessment Consolidation (estimated savings \$2 million): Redirect funding for the Life Quality Assessment and the Evaluation of People with Developmental Disabilities Moving from Developmental Centers into the Community (Movers Study) into a single quality assessment tool and data collection effort.


15) Group Instruction for In-Home Behavior Intervention Services (estimated savings \$6.4 million): Require parents to attend group training on behavioral interventions prior to receipt of in-home behavioral services.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors will be held Tuesday, May 19th, 6:30 pm in our San Mateo office at 3130 La Selva Street.

Respectfully submitted,


Judy K. Leonard
Executive Assistant


for: Alexandra Joulibert, Secretary
Board of Directors