

**GOLDEN GATE REGIONAL  
CENTER BOARD of DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023- 5:30 PM**

**Via Zoom Video Conference (see below)  
and  
In-Person at GGRC, 1355 Market Street, Suite 220, San Francisco, CA  
94103**

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5:30 pm    **I.    CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS** (Jacy Cohen)

**II.    CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** (Jacy Cohen)  
**ACTION**            A. Agenda (A)  
**ACTION**            B. Record of April 18, 2023, Meeting

5:40 pm    **III.    PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Jacy Cohen)

5:45 pm    **IV.    COMMITTEE REPORTS** (Jacy Cohen)  
                 A. Finance Committee (Michael Bernick)  
                 1. Monthly Financial Statement  
**ACTION**            2. Approval of Line of Credit

5:55 pm    **V.    COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)**  
  
                 C. Services Committee (Jacy Cohen)  
                 1. Listening Sessions  
  
                 D. Board Operations (Lynn Pulliam)  
                 1. Board Summer Retreat  
                 2. Election of Prospect Board Members, JJ Khin & David DeLira  
                 3. ARCA Academy  
                 4. Board Slate of Officers/ARCA Delegate Sample Ballot  
  
                 E. Service Provider Advisory Committee (Abby Yim)

- F. Legislative Committee (Edith Arias)
  - 1. ARCA-sponsored Legislation – AB649  
(removing required Appeals of Generic Service denials)
  - 2. Core Staffing Formula Advocacy

G. Executive Committee/Chairperson’s Report (Jacy Cohen)

- 6:20 pm **VI. DIRECTOR’S REPORT** (Eric Zigman)
- 1. California-Budget May Revise
  - 2. National Core Indicators Presentation (NCI)
    - a. Sheraden Nicholau and Eric Zigman

7:15 pm **VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION** (if necessary)

**You must RSVP to attend in-person or to receive the Zoom meeting information. To RSVP or if you have any questions, please contact Aria Alokozai at [aalokozai@ggrc.org](mailto:aalokozai@ggrc.org), or call 415-832-5792.**



# Golden Gate Regional Center

*Supporting Lives of Liberty and Opportunity*

BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING  
RECORD of May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 5:30 PM  
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING

PRESIDING: Jacy Cohen

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Michael Bernick  
Hank London  
Nini Aye  
Andrea Fuentes  
Edith Arias

Lynn Pulliam  
Tracy Bullock  
Abby Yim  
Michael LoBue

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

STAFF: Eric Zigman  
Brenda Gonzales  
Lop Hou  
Colin Ellsworth

Ihsan Shagiwal  
Aria Alokozai  
Israel Pichardo  
Amanda Pyle

GUESTS: James Ford  
Linghui Ruo  
Rachel Kripke-Ludwig  
Tania Your-Sarkissian  
Yuri Guillen  
Jenn Ignacio  
Kathryn Montoya  
Anh Nguyen

Sheraden Nicholau  
Corinne Sixkiller  
Erika Gonzalez  
Jacqueline Uribe  
Joshua Zhang  
JJ Khin  
Katie Rickerd  
Nea Hanscomb

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CALL TO ORDER (Jacy Cohen)

Ms. Cohen called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. *Welcoming remarks and introductions followed. Alternative Languages access for Spanish/Cantonese/ ASL instructions were provided on Zoom videoconferencing.*

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Jacy Cohen)

**ACTION A. Agenda**  
*M/S/C (Lynn Pulliam / Edith Arias seconded)*

**ACTION B. Record of April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Meeting**  
*The Record of Meeting of April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 was approved.*  
*M/S/C (Michael LoBue motioned/ Nini Aye seconded)*

**PUBLIC COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENT**

There were no public comments.

**Finance Committee (Michael Bernick)**

Monthly Financial Statement: [Financial Status as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 23]

At the request of Treasurer Michael Bernick, Lop Hou shared that most recent GGRC financial statement as follows:

Operations:

After nine months of operations, year to date expenditures are under budget by 18.8%. Expenditures will begin to increase as hiring of staff continues. All operations funds are expected to be fully expensed for the fiscal year over the normal course of operations.

Purchase of Services (POS) Excluding CPP:

After nine months of operations, year to date expenditures are under budget by 12.6%. The estimated projected surplus is approximately \$51 million for the fiscal year. Budget projections will fluctuate as provision of services continue to revert from payments of alternative service rates back to provision of traditional services and payments of traditional service rates in addition to accounting for rate increases.

**ACTION - Approval of Line of Credit:**

Lop reported that GGRC is entering into a Line of Credit for \$35 million with the U.S Bank effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Eric and Lop elaborated on the prudence of maintaining a line of credit during the transition period between fiscal years due to the CA Controller's office sometimes being slightly delayed in initial fiscal year funding to regional centers. After discussing the need, Jacy asked the Board for a motion to approve GGRC's Line of Credit for \$35 million with the U.S Bank. Michael Bernick made a motion and Michael LoBue seconded. The Board unanimously voted to approve the \$35 million Line of Credit with the U.S Bank.

*M/S/C (Michael Bernick motioned/ Michael LoBue seconded)*

Q & A followed.

**Services Committee (Jacy Cohen)**

Future Planning Listening Session:

Jacy Cohen reported that the Services Committee sent self-addressed survey letters to 13 families who were interested in participating at the Future Planning Listening Sessions. Unfortunately, the committee received confirmation from three families. Jacy stated that she would meet with the three families individually. Lisa and Jacy will contact the other families who were interested in participating in the Listening Sessions. Jacy added that the Committee will have a Spanish Listening Session in San Mateo supported by Edith Arias. A Cantonese session in San Francisco will be held in June.

**Board Operations Committee (Lynn Pulliam)**

Board Summer Retreat:

Lynn reported that the Operations Committee has put out a survey to the Board to choose a date for the Summer Board Retreat in August and will be finalizing a date soon.

**ACTION - Election of Prospect Board Member, JJ Khin:**

Lynn asked for a motion to elect JJ Khin as the new Board Member, who was presented to the Board as a prospective candidate in the Board's April Meeting. Nini Aye made a motion and Michael LoBue seconded. There were no further discussions and the Board unanimously voted to elect JJ as a new member to the GGRC Board.

*M/S/C (Nini Aye motioned/ Michael LoBue seconded)*

**ACTION - Election of Prospect Board Member, David DeLira:**

Lynn asked for a motion to elect David DeLira as the new Board Member, who was presented to the Board as a prospective candidate in the Board’s April Meeting. Michael LoBue made a motion and Michael Bernick seconded. The Board unanimously voted to elect David as a new member to the GGRC Board effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

*M/S/C (Michael LoBue motioned/ Michael Bernick)*

Eric commented that David DeLira was a former Board member who completed his 7 years term on June 30, 2021. In compliance with the GGRC Bylaws David will be returning to the Board after completing 24-month waiting period on July 1, 2023, and David’s appointment as a new Board member will start then.

**Board Slate of Officers/ ARCA Delegate Sample Ballot:**

Eric reminded Board members that the votes for the Board Officers and ARCA Delegate will be taken in June’s Board Meeting. Eric urged the Board members to be present at the June Board meeting to fill out the ballot and send it to the Board Operations Committee Chairperson, Lynn Pulliam, and to Aria Alokozai during the Board meeting or soon after the meeting.

Eric shared that based on the GGRC Board Bylaws, Section 4.02 Selection and Terms of Officers, Section (a), Board Operations Committee receives nominations for the Board Officers and ARCA Delegate and must present a recommended “slate” for these positions to the Board prior to the May meeting for election in the June meeting.

After Eric’s explanation of the Bylaws process of Officer and ARCA Delegate nominations, Michael LoBue stated his desire to withdraw his nomination for the ARCA Board delegate.

Jacy and Lynn reminded the Board members to send their short profiles to the Board Operations Committee, as Jacy had emailed the board recently.

**Service Provider Advisory Committee (Abby Yim)**

**SPAC Update**

Abby reported that the Service Provider Advisory Committee met this month and discussed the May Revise of the proposed California Budget, DDS rate study and how it will affect Service Providers. Abby added that SPAC meetings are great opportunity for the Service Providers to receive up to date information from GGRC’s leadership.

Eric acknowledged Abby Yim’s and Kate O’Connor’s remarkable work over the past several years and collaboration with GGRC as cochairs of SPAC.

Q and A followed.

**Legislative Committee/ARCA Report (Edith Arias)**

**ARCA- Sponsored Legislation – AB 649 (Removing Required Appeals):**

Edith reported updates on AB 649 which removes required appeals of Generic Services denials. This law restores access to critical services without requiring from Regional Centers to ask individuals served to seek appeals to the denials of generic services. This would return the practice to pre-2009 levels, when the appeal of generic services was installed as a “cost saving measure” by the state.

Eric shared that this Bill will be heard by the appropriations tomorrow and we will have more updates on whether it moves from appropriations. Eric underscored the efforts of ARCA, the Legislative Sponsor, GGRC AdvoCats and other supporters of this proposed legislation.

Core Staffing Formula Advocacy:

Edith shared that last month an advocacy template letter for community members was shared with the Board to utilize if they would like to contact with their Legislators to have their voices heard and support the modernization of the Core Staffing Formula, the primary funding allocation method for regional center operations (staff, offices, IT, etc.). The Formula has been using 1991 budget allocations for 30 years and Eric stated that “modernizing” this allocation methodology to current costs of hiring is absolutely essential in improving regional centers’ ability to meet the promise of the Lanterman Act.

Eric thanked Michael LoBue who sent a letter to Legislators advocating for Core Staffing Formula.

**Executive Committee/Chairperson’s Report (Jacy Cohen)**

Jacy Cohen spoke about the structure of the Executive Committee, its duties, and responsibilities as well as the meeting times. Jacy added that the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Committee are to consider policy and oversight issues that affect the corporation, make recommendations to the Board, develop GGRC’s position in state level negotiations, set the Board agenda for each meeting and play a central role in hiring and evaluating the Executive Director.

ARCA Academy

Jacy shared her experience and take aways from participating in the ARCA Academy this month in Sacramento. Jacy highlighted the importance of participating in ARCA Academy. The Academy is ARCA’s training opportunity for ALL regional board members from the 21 regional centers.

Likewise, Edith Arias shared her experience about her participation in the ARCA Academy. Edith added that ARCA Academy is an opportunity for the Board members to meet other Regional Center Board Members from across the state and learn how to develop our skills as Board members.

Michael LoBue added that there is great value in meeting other board members and appreciating the similar challenges that they face. Michael shared his take aways and feedback from the ARCA academy. Michael encouraged Board members to consider attending upcoming ARCA Academies.

**Director’s Report (Eric Zigman)**

California- Budget May Revise:

Eric talked about the Governor’s May Revision of the California Budget that was announced last Friday. He underscored the budget highlights and spoke about the advocacy and proposed bill for Independent Living Services for better rate model, and the importance of continuing the increased budget for regional center funding for social work expansion positions to address the impossibly high caseloads that the state has forced regional centers to adopt.

Eric also highlighted that \$11 million has been reapportioned into support of multifamily housing developments that would be used for apartments and spaces for long term leases to people with developmental disabilities.

**National Core Indicators (NCI) Presentation:**

Sheraden Nicholau of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities shared the following points on NCI :

- The NCI survey is used to assess services and satisfaction of support provided to people with IDD. The survey has been used as a requirement by the Welfare and Institution Code, Section 4571 to implement a nationwide quality assessment survey in 13 Medical thresholds languages since 2010 in California as a direct way to hear from people-served about their experience with the system.
- Each year 8,400 individuals from different ethnic, racial and language backgrounds are targeted for the survey and a minimum of 400 individuals are interviewed each cycle. The data gathered from the survey is utilized to compare with other states and shared with stakeholders and advocates for feedback, quality improvement, strategic planning and for research purposes.
- The survey includes the following Measures for assessment: self-determination, service coordination and access, relationship and community inclusion, rights, choices, and decision making, employment status and goals, and health, welfare, and safety measures.
- Types of survey include in-person interviews, adult family surveys, family guardian surveys and child family surveys.
- Layers of quality assurance consist multi-part interviewer training, shadow sessions, coaching, fidelity reviews and validity checks.

Sheraden shared resources to the NCI domain dashboard and regional center report on the DDS website. She spoke about the State Council's process of gathering data from the surveys and interviews of people served and their families.

Eric highlighted the following data on GGRC's National Core Indicators (NCI) survey results.

- The National Core Indicators (NCI) survey data is directly gathered from individuals and families. Some individuals may need “proxies” support with answering the NCI survey questions, however it is crucial for as much information as possible to come directly from the individuals served. The NCI has a very admirable adherence to listening directly to the people who are the direct recipients of support and services.
- The NCI is useful because we can compare the survey results with other states and between regional centers.
- The NCI survey is statistically valid and reliable — and will be used for future regional center performance measures.
- Some of the barriers to using the data are: being under-resourced, understaffed and the lag time from the end of survey data collection to data release, and reaching the target threshold of 400 individuals-served responding to the survey.
- The following examples were shared from the most recent data from in-person/individual survey for the fiscal year 20-21:
  - Community participation lower in high-cost, urban area during COVID-19.
  - Friends and family scores high for GGRC individuals.

- Rights and respect scored high for GGRC individuals.
- The following examples were shared from GGRC Adult Family survey – a survey of family members where their loved ones live with them in the family home for the fiscal year 21-22:
  - GGRC scored low on families having emergency plans in place.
  - GGRC scored lower than the statewide average in support workers speaking in their preferred language. Eric wondered if this may have to do with the extensive language diversity of the bay area.
- The following examples were shared from the Family Guardian survey – a survey of families whose loved one lives outside the family homes for the fiscal year 21-22:
  - GGRC scored high in providing IPP in families’ preferred language, and families accessing a primary care provider when needed.
- The following examples were shared from the Child Family survey, family responses for those living at the home from 3-17 years of age for the fiscal year 21-22.
  - GGRC scored slightly higher than the statewide average in “Yes” responses to the question: “ARE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS HELPING YOUR CHILD TO LIVE A GOOD LIFE?” in Fiscal Year 2019-2019, but in the next survey (FY 2021-2022) both the statewide average and the GGRC average dropped nearly 20% from about 93% to 74%.
- Regional centers need additional capacity, and the process needs to improve in term so the time between gathering the data and data reporting to make the data more “actionable”.

The Board Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aria Alokozai  
Executive Assistant