

**GOLDEN GATE REGIONAL  
CENTER BOARD of DIRECTORS  
MEETING AGENDA Draft-Revised  
Tuesday, May 21<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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)

**ACTION** II. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** (Jacy Cohen)  
**ACTION** A. Agenda  
B. Record of April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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. Line of Credit Approval

V. **State Council on Developmental Disabilities – Update on SCDD Activities**

6:05 pm VI. **COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)**

C. Services Committee (David DeLira)  
1. Update on the GGRC Website  
2. Board Presentation: “GGRC’s Education and Orientation Program – lighting the way to the future of improved service access”- Israel Pichardo, GGRC Supervising Social Worker

D. Board Operations Committee (Lynn Pulliam)  
1. Committee Recommendations for Board Officers and ARCA Delegate

**ACTION**

2. Board Resolutions Related to New Bylaws
  - a. Executive Committee – Timely Action
3. Recap of Special Board Operations Committee Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>

E. Service Provider Advisory Committee (Kate O'Connor)

- F. Legislative Committee (Edith Arias)
1. Recap of Legislative Breakfast Events in Marin and South San Francisco
  2. Master Plan on Developmental Services Committee Meeting Update

6:35 pm **VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (Eric Zigman)

3. The Governor's May Revision of the CA Budget – Highlights and Challenges

7:15 pm **VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION** (Office Lease)

**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*

RECORD of May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 5:30 PM  
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING

PRESIDING:                           Jacy Cohen

DIRECTORS                           David DeLira                           Lynn Pulliam  
PRESENT:                           Michael LoBue                       Michael Bernick  
  Kate O'Connor                      Sharon Jones  
  Shirley Poitier                      Tracy Bullock  
  Brindicy Alcaraz                    Edith Arias  
  JJ Khin                                Marta Guzman

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

STAFF:                               Eric Zigman                           Aria Alokozai  
  Brenda Gonzales                    Ihsan Shagiwal  
  Lop Hou                              Amanda Pyle  
  Jennila Worrell                      Israel Pichardo

GUESTS:                             Chris Aguire                         Oscar Arteta  
  Sheraden Nicholau                 Maureen Fitzgerald  
  Rachel Kripke-Ludwig             Melinda Cuthbert  
  Valerie Rynne                      Dr. Clarisa Kripke  
  Tammy Stevens                     Ludwig

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CALL TO ORDER (Jacy Cohen)

Ms. Cohen called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Welcoming remarks and introductions followed.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (Jacy Cohen)

**ACTION    A. Agenda**

*The Agenda for today's meeting was approved.  
M/S/C (Edith Arias motioned /David DeLira seconded)*

**ACTION    B. Record of April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Meeting**

*Michael LoBue pointed out a typo in the minutes and requested correction. The Record of Meeting of April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, was approved with the correction stated.  
M/S/C (Kate O'Connor motioned/JJ Khin seconded)*

**PUBLIC COMMENT / ANNOUNCEMENT**

Dr. Clarisa Kripke- Ludwig about the Re-Inspire the Letterboard Conference on May 11<sup>th</sup> which had 170 attendees! Dr. Kripke- Ludwig reported on one of the organizers added that there were 10 nonverbal presenters who were presenting on a variety of topics. Dr. Kripke-Ludwig deeply appreciated GGRC Leadership, Amanda Pyle and Lisa Rosene (as well as Sheraden Nicholau from the State Council) for their participation in the event.

Melinda Cuthbert also thanked Amanda Pyle and other representatives who participated at the Re-Inspire the Letterboard Conference. Ms. Cuthbert spoke about her son's remarkable progress. He is now graduated, can articulate his own goals, and wants to go to college. Ms. Cuthbert added that Lisa Rosene has been instrumental in supporting the development of a home program on an individualized basis... Ms. Cuthbert emphasized understanding and supporting treatment programs for adolescence and young adults in addition to the programs that support young children with Early Intervention services.

Valerie Rynne thanked GGRC for launching the ACC needs assessment program. Ms. Rynne emphasized making this program a priority and focusing beyond young adults and those who do not have a robust and reliable communications system. As the parent of a 40-year-old son, Ms. Rynne would like to see a path made available for her son to support access to approach his goals. Ms. Rynne added that the importance of transformation in the IPP that changed from goal centric approach to inviting information focused on the individual by using person-centered thinking.

Amanda shared that we intend to look at all ages and not just school transition age (in the AAC assessment currently underway). Ms. Rynne can contact Amanda if she or her loved ones would like to be a part of the community assessment program and outreach.

Sharon Jones shared that she spoke at the Self-Advocacy Conference on Saturday in Sacramento and the topic of discussion was Healthy Friendships. Sharon shared her experience from attending the conference and presenting as an advocate and GGRC Board Member – and added that she would like to attend the conference again next year.

Jacy Cohen shared that the Board would have an Executive Session at the end of this meeting discussing an office lease.

### **Finance Committee (Michael Bernick)**

Monthly Financial Statement: [Financial Status as of March 31, 2024]

Lop reported GGRC's monthly financial statements as follows:

#### Operations:

After nine months of operations, year to date expenditures are under budget by 12.5%. 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 POS expenditures are under budget by 5.3%. While this will fluctuate as caseloads increase and as services are provided throughout the year, the current estimated projected surplus is approximately \$7.2 million for the fiscal year.

#### Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) Funding

Placement funds have been allocated and are being used, however, funds related to any start-up projects have been approved, but not yet allocated by DDS.

#### **ACTION: Line of Credit Approval**

Lop shared information about the Line of Credit that we use rarely but is needed if the State Controller's office is unable to transfer funds quickly enough after the state budget is signed. As a recommendation from the Finance Committee, the Line of Credit amount is \$44 Million with US Bank

that will be for a term of June to September with prime interest rates. There were no further discussions. After discussion, the Board unanimously voted to approve the line of credit as per the Finance Committee's recommendation.

*MSC (Michael LoBue motioned/Lynn Pulliam seconded)*

**State Council on Developmental Disabilities Update on SCDD Activities:**

Sheraden Nicholau introduced the State Council on Developmental Disability, how they are funded by the federal Administration on Community Living, and what projects they manage.

Sheraden shared SCDD updates and timely information on events, trainings and opportunities including the following:

Today's State Council meeting in Sacramento, covered budget related items, and a report out and listening session for the CA HHS Developmental Services Master Plan.

The Master Plan for Developmental Services Committee consists of a diverse group of individuals who bring varying backgrounds and experiences to help build the Master Plan. The members of the Committee have been appointed by the CalHHS Secretary for a one-year term with the intent that they collectively deliver a Master Plan by March of 2025.

The next public meeting will be in early June, and there are opportunities to host public listening sessions and roundtables in the region.

Example statewide SCDD trainings and meetings coming up:

- Tiger Talks with State Council and the Learning Rights Law Center: all trainings are 10a – 12p. They have a series about how to be an influencer in policy that impacts people with IDD. May 22: CA law and budget process, June 12: Giving Public Testimony, June 26, how to be an effective board member in English and Spanish.
- Flyer with log on info: <https://scdd.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2024/03/How-to-Be-an-Influencer-with-SCDD.pdf>
- June 5-6: Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (will be hybrid)
- The next Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee Meeting is on Wednesday, June 26th from 5:30-8:00 p.m. In the April Bay Area RAC meeting, we heard from a Health and Healthcare Equity Work Panel. This upcoming June meeting we will hear on work from San Mateo Co's Abuse Roundtable and the statewide caregiver abuse registry working group exploring the state's past and current initiatives around registries tracking of those who commit abuse against people with disabilities they work for. This will be a hybrid meeting. You can Join In-Person at the Marin Co Office of Ed or over Zoom.

Kudos: Earlier this month, GGRC's Director of Regional Center Services, Lisa Rosene, and Director of Community Services, Amanda Pyle, served on and collaborated in a multi-regional center listening session panel at the Re-Inspire Conference, comprised of 170 attendees including youth and young adult non-speakers, family members, and allies. The conference planning team and attendees expressed excitement about GGRC's needs assessment of AAC users.

A reminder about the State Council's Year-round Sponsorship Opportunity:

The California State Council supports events that promote self-advocacy, leadership, and education, thereby enabling people with developmental disabilities and their family members to expand their

knowledge and skills. Toward that goal, organizations may apply for Council sponsorships for events that promote self-advocacy and family-advocacy. The Council will give special consideration to entities that provide free or discounted services or event registration fees to people with IDD and their families or offer other help so that people with IDD and their families can fully participate. The Council especially seeks to support events where people with IDD participate as panelists and presenters.

Submit a request at least 90 days before your event. \$2500 limit per sponsorship. Read more about the request process: <https://scdd.ca.gov/sponsorships/>

Other reminders:

- Self-Determination Statewide Orientations (this month offered in English, and Spanish and Korean): <https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/> • PPE for orgs and community groups. Email to make a request: [Sheraden.nicholau@scdd.ca.gov](mailto:Sheraden.nicholau@scdd.ca.gov).
- SCDD Annual Calendar, you can subscribe at the bottom right corner: <https://scdd.ca.gov/scddcalendar/>
- SCDD Virtual Trainings Calendar, you can subscribe at the bottom right corner: <https://scdd.ca.gov/scdd-trainings/>
- Share your Bill ideas: [https://scdd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8c9wD1u72jkHEF0](https://scdd.sjc1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8c9wD1u72jkHEF0)

Q and A followed.

### **Services Committee (David DeLira)**

David DeLira shared the following report from the Services Committee:

#### **Future Planning Projects**

The Services Committee was given an update on the May 6th meeting with Jordan Lindsey, Executive Director of ARC California and their Director of Communications, Julia Ballantyne, who oversees the Caring Futures grant funded project. The meeting was to discuss the possibility of a collaboration with GGRC to provide Future Planning Classes to Cantonese speaking families.

The biggest takeaways are the followings:

- There are many steps that would need to happen including a multitude of items that would need to be translated. Some of these include slide decks, marketing, course workbooks (2 at 30 pages each), planning guide, handouts, staffing costs, website etc.
- Sustainability is a critical issue and how to figure out the train- the- trainer model and where does the project go once the classes are offered.

#### **Listening Sessions**

GGRC staff Alex Madrid and Aren Watts conducted two listening sessions with the people served. One at The Arc SF (held in English) and one at the Marin County Service Provider, ICS (held in Spanish). A Cantonese speaker's session is planned for May 14th at The Arc SF.

Listening session for social workers will probably happen in June. Most participants did not know about a future plan or if they had one. It was very emotional for participants to talk about the future possibilities of the death of those who care for them (like parents).

#### **IPP Update**

Lisa attended the DDS statewide IPP Template Development input meeting. The follow up to that meeting has not been scheduled yet and the final draft is due by June.

Coordinated Career Pathways:

Information sessions were held on a new service category for vendors called “Coordinated Career Pathways” targeting people leaving Work Activity Programs and transition age youth (transitioning from secondary education to a career pathway/employment track).

GGRC Website Update:

Eric reported that we are working on a new, accessible website that Amanda will discuss, but he wanted the board and public to know that we have launched a translation application on our current GGRC Website. The website pages will now have the option to be translated into 11 languages (including Vietnamese, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Khmer, Punjabi, Portuguese, Lao, Filipino and Spanish).

Amanda shared that we have sent out a survey for our focus group to schedule time to discuss input about the new GGRC website. We did a survey with the staff and received about 40% of responses. We did a provider service focus group and a community partners focus group. For people served and families we will offer focus groups in Spanish, Cantonese and ASL this June. We are finalizing contract negotiations with a company who would do the end user testing and accessibility testing as well as facilitating community advisory meetings.

***Board Presentation: “GGRC’s Education and Orientation Program – lighting the way to the future of improved service access”- Israel Pichardo, GGRC Supervising Social Worker***

Eric shared a background on Education and Orientation Program.

Israel Pichardo shared the following points:

- Purchase of Service disparities definition and understanding: a difference in level or treatment, especially one that is seen as unfair. To understand the phenomenon of POS disparities, a multidimensional lens of cultural, linguistic, systemic, personal, and general socioeconomic is needed.
- GGRC POS Data: Individuals identifying as Hispanic have the lowest rates of services authorization purchases and expenditures. Percentage of individuals with no POS: Hispanic 23.9%, Asian 18.8%.
- Addressing POS Disparities: Service Access and Equity Grants are available for community-based organizations to support outreach, education, and engagement especially for groups traditionally impacted. Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center used these funds to create the Enhanced Service Coordination Pilot Project: 5-year Pilot Project. The regional center provides Enhanced Service Coordination and Educational Curriculum to traditionally underserved individuals and families. The Pilot program demonstrated very positive outcomes and was expanded to all Regional Centers.
- DDS Directive Guidelines for Enhanced Service Coordination: Statewide implementation: this program is available for people with history of low/no POS (\$0-\$2000), monolingual Spanish/Mandarin/Cantonese and recently deemed eligible.

- GGRC Education and Orientation Program operates as follows: 1:40 Social Worker to Individual ratio with Quarterly contact or as needed. Has 6 modules of education, a series of surveys and data collection.
- Main goals of the education and Orientation program is to address POS disparities by increasing outreach, education, and engagement with GGRC. Gain knowledge and understanding about the cultural and linguistic needs of the individuals we serve, and the barriers face to access serves. Data is gathered on engagement, service access needs and other important points to the larger conversation.
- Year 1 Update: Operations opportunities and challenges as follows:
  - o We are over capacity and have a waiting list for caseloads onboarding.
  - o Increased expenditures in the Latino/A/X population.
  - o Partnered with Community services department and Family Resources centers.
  - o Delivered 6 SDP workshops and 5 educational workshops.
  - o Have similar challenges as the RC Ongoing services.
  - o The IDD system is over complex.
  - o General and language capacity within providers.
  - o Lack of system integration.
  - o Issues beyond the regional center such as SES, culture, macro-sociological concerns, literacy skills.
  - o General operational learning curves when rolling new initiatives.
  - o Changing the case management culture.

The presentation was very well received, and Q & A followed. Jacy highlighted the importance of this topic and shared that we can discuss this more in detail in the Services Committee.

### **Board Operations Committee (Lynn Pulliam)**

#### **Board Committee Recommendations for Board Officers and ARCA Delegate**

Lynn shared that the Operations Committee’s met and discussed nominations and recommendations regarding Board Officers and the ARCA Delegate. After that meeting, the nominees and Operations Committee recommendations were sent to the full Board (on May 20<sup>th</sup> via email) prior to this meeting, as per GGRC’s Board Bylaws. Elections will be at GGRC’s June Board Meeting. The Board Officers and ARCA delegate will serve for a one-year term beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup> and ending on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Lynn reported that eight Board members offered nominations and seven of those Board members nominated the current Officers and ARCA Delagate of the board.

Michael LoBue shared his objection to the Operations Committee’s interpretation of the bylaws and the recommendation process.

Eric commented that he honors Michael’s right to object. Eric added that both he and the Board’s Attorney agreed that the Operations Committee’s nomination and recommendation process follows GGRC Board Bylaws. Eric stated that, consistent with the bylaws, the Board Operations Committee met, reviewed the nominations, and provided their recommendation as had been the procedure for at least the last 12 years at GGRC. He added that, based on his experience serving on or supporting 10 nonprofit boards of directors, the GGRC Operations Committee’s presentation of a recommended “slate” of offices was consistent with common nonprofit board practices. .



Eric praised the Board Operations Committee for their due diligence (and meeting the timeline) in terms of reviewing Officer nominations and making the Committee’s recommendations to the full board.

Michael LoBue shared his concerns about the Board Operations Committee meeting schedule. Eric and Lynn responded that GGRC’s Committees’ meeting schedule has been shared and posted on the website. Eric added that the Operations Committee meetings do not have a regular schedule and meet at the discretion and upon the call of the Chair. .

Lynn shared that any board members interested should contact Aria and/or the chair of the committee if they want to attend any committee meeting.

Jacy shared that she and Lynn will make sure the Board members receive information for any future Board Operations Committee meetings.

**ACTION: Board Resolutions Related to New Bylaws – Timely Action:**

Eric spoke about the details of the Timely Action Board Resolution and shared that this Board Resolution empowers the Executive Committee (composed of the Board Officers) to take timely action to make sure issues that arise which need an urgent response between the Board meetings are addressed. Eric noted that this very rarely occurs and, if does occur, then the Executive Committee will inform the full board of any actions taken under this resolution at the next regular meeting of the board.

Jacy asked for a motion to approve the Resolution to take Timely Action. The Board unanimously voted to approve the Board Resolution. There were no further discussions.

*MSC* (David DeLira motioned/Edith Arias Seconded)

Lynn reported that the Board Operations Committee had a Special Transparency meeting that was held on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The committee talked about different topics, such as Board presentation topics and education, formal ways to solicit feedback, deliberation and oversight about the Strategic Plan and Board Member resources, including the possibility of creating a “Board Portal.” The minutes from the Transparency meeting are available upon request.

**Service Provider Advisory Committee (Kate O’Conner)**

**SPAC Update**

Kate reported that the Service Provider Advisory Committee has over 240 people on the SPAC email list and has averaged 50 attendees from the Service Provider community and Regional Center in the recent meetings. The discussion topics at the Service Providers ‘Advisory Committee were the May Revise of the Budget, May Rally in Sacramento and Purchase of Service process.

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

**Update on Legislative Breakfast Event in the Spring:**

Edith reported about the successes of the Legislative Breakfast event in South San Francisco where the Mayor, Vice Mayor, US Representative Kevin Mullin, and State Senator Josh Becker also participated. There were testimonial videos from families, people served and Director Support Professionals (DSPs). There was good participation from South San Francisco (180 participants). There was an excellent teamwork with SPAC, GGRC and the AdvoCats. We had Spanish translation at the event,

and many participants deeply appreciated having Spanish interpretation available. Edith reported that the mayor sent her an email mentioning that as a city they will send a letter to the State to support the Providers Rate increases.

Kate shared a report from the Marin Legislative Breakfast where 110 attendees and Assembly Member Connolley attended and participated. In addition, local Supervisors from Marin County were in attendance. There were eight testimonials from family members, people served, and Direct Support Professionals.

#### Master Plan on Developmental Services

Edith shared that the committee had three meetings and that the purpose and discussion of the meetings revolved around how to support statewide approach, gather community input and how to improve support and services for our individuals served in the system by not just regional centers, but other state and local departments and resources as well. The next Master Plan on Developmental Services Committee meeting is on June 5<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento, and anyone interested can attend.

#### Director's Report (Eric Zigman)

##### The Governor's May Revision of the CA Budget:

Eric shared that the May Revision of the Budget was released, and the big item was the call not to delay the Provider Rate Increase. The Governor did not change his position and the delay is still in the proposed Budget that will start in July 2024. There is still opportunity for the State Senate and Senate Assembly to present the Governor with a different budget, but the Governor would have to agree to any change in his proposed one-year delay of rate increases for service providers. There were some other minor budget cuts to our system due to the budget deficit, but the provider rate increases are understandably the focus of the advocacy community (including ARCA)

In other May Revision news, Eric highlighted the growth of people served predicted in the May Revision. It is curious that between January and May numbers have been revised, increasing by an additional 9000 people served next fiscal year. This means the state predicts that the system will grow by 35,000 people served next year statewide.

In closing, Eric referenced the GGRC's values. He underscored the importance of honoring our work for people served and shared the following statement from the vision, mission and values section of GGRC's Strategic Plan 2022-2025:

*“Honor – We demonstrate honor by actively listening to others and ourselves, respecting and valuing each other's unique abilities and strengths, experiences, and diverse life experiences. The work we have chosen is honorable work and recognizes the rich tapestry of the contribution and potentials of all those we work with and all those we serve and support.”*

Eric noted that these values should govern not only staff interactions with each other, those we serve and the public, but also board members interactions with each other.

The Board Meeting adjourned to an Executive Session to discuss office lease at 7:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Aria Alokozai