



EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER  
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**ELARC Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2022  
Approved as Recorded on September 13, 2022**

**Board Members Present:**

Young Sun, Vice-Chair  
Richard Helgeson, Treasurer  
Devora Reed, Secretary  
Pat Gomez, Parent  
Joe Utar, Parent  
Marisol Guerrero, Consumer  
Nestor Nieves, Consumer  
Virgilio Orlina, Consumer  
Kimberly Bermudez,  
VAC Representative  
Terry Munoz, Parent  
Alex Wu, Consumer  
Dalia Mendoza, Consumer

**Staff Present:**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director  
Edith Hernandez-Daniels,  
Chief of Consumer Services  
Lonetta Johns-Yarleque,  
Associate Chief of Consumer Services  
Rhoda Tong,  
Associate Chief of Consumer Services  
Judy Perez,  
Associate Chief of Consumer Services  
Elizabeth Harrell,  
Community Services Division Manager  
Roxy Ortiz,  
Information & Training Supervisor  
Johnny Trombley, IT Supervisor  
Angie Salas, Executive Secretary

**Absent:**

Dr. Linda Lopez, President

**Guests:** Refer to Sign in Sheet

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**DUE TO THE CURRENT HEALTH CRISIS THE BOARD MEETING WAS HELD BY REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY**

**I. Welcome & Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Richard Helgeson, Treasurer, as Board President, Dr. Linda Lopez, was on vacation. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Board meeting was held remotely. The arrangement consisted of a Zoom Conference/Teleconference line and material was displayed on agency website and available to all visitor participants with a link from the agency website. Mr. Helgeson welcomed all to the Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center Zoom Board of Directors Meeting.

Roll call was conducted. A quorum was established in order to conduct necessary business.

**II. Community Introductions/Opening Round:**

The Board members and guests were asked to introduce themselves and were noted on the "Sign-In" sheet.

**III. Community Input:**

No comments from the community.

**IV.**

**Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Motion Required - Attachment #1**

*M/S/C (Pat Gomez/Devora Reed) To approve the BOD Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2022 as corrected. Unanimous.*

**V.**

**Nominating Committee  
Motion Required**

**Nominating Committee**

Mr. Helgeson provided background information on the three (3) new Board members being nominated: Alex Wu, Dalia Mendoza and Maria Teresa (Terry) Munoz.

*M/S/C (Devora Reed/Pat Gomez) To approve new Board members Alex Wu, Dalia Mendoza and Maria Teresa (Terry) Munoz. Unanimous.*

Gloria Wong, Executive Director, reported Board members Virgilio Orlina and Nestor Nieves will be coming off the Board after serving a full term for seven (7) years. Ms. Wong expressed her appreciation for their dedication and thanked both for their commitment to the agency.

Ms. Wong welcomed the three (3) new Board members.

## VI. Executive Director's Report

### 1. 2023 Performance Contract (PC) Year End Report Attachment #2

#### Attachment #2

Gloria Wong, Executive Director, shared information on the upcoming 2023 Performance Contract (PC) meetings scheduled for:

- Tuesday, August 16, 2022 from 10am – 12pm  
and
- Tuesday, September 13, 2022 as part of Board presentation to start at approximately 6:30pm

Both meetings will be held via Zoom. Information on the PC Contract meetings is posted on ELARC's website.

Ms. Wong provided brief background information on the PC Contract. The 2023 draft PC presentation will focus on public policy performance and compliance measures. Which includes the following topics:

- Children at Home
- Employment
- Purchase of Services (POS) Disparity
- Early Start

Additionally, there will be an update on:

- PC 2021 year-end report
- PC 2022 mid year-data
- Fiscal Year 2022-'23 Budget Highlights

No comments from the community.

## 2. Performance Measures Attachment #3 and #4

Ms. Wong went over the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Vision and Measure Areas of Focus. The vision guiding these principles are that people with intellectual and development disabilities experience respect for their culture and language preference, their choices, beliefs, values, needs and goals from a person centered service system made-up of a network of community agencies that provide high quality outcome based and equitable services.

Ms. Wong shared Regional Centers and service providers will be evaluated on standards, which are currently under development, on the DDS vision and guiding principles. The following are six (6) areas of focus:

- Early Intervention
- Employment
- Equity and Cultural Competency
- Individual and Family Experience and Satisfaction
- Person Centered Services Planning
- Service Coordination and Regional center Operations

Elizabeth Harrell, Manager of Community Services, reported on the development of the Quality Incentive Program (QIP) which is an enhanced person centered outcome based system to be completed by July 1, 2025. This fiscal year (FY) the timeline for rate increases was accelerated and the fully funded rate models will need to be implemented by July 1, 2024 and the QIP is in alignment. The law requires that DDS, in conjunction with implementing rate reform, implement the quality incentive programs to improve consumers outcome, service provider performance and the quality of service.

For service providers the following are six (6) areas of focus:

- Early Intervention
- Employment
- Informed Choice and Satisfaction
- Service Access
- Workforce capacity

➤ Prevention and Wellness

Phase one establishes baselines of data on timeliness. The baseline of data includes Direct Service Professional (DSP), DSP shortage, vacancy rate and language that includes non-English language DSP. Phase two includes tracking improvement in all areas previously noted and in phase three the results of the alignment with the needs of the community with ends results being the rate increase. Detailed information can be located on the DDS website.

Comments from the community were addressed.

**3. Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver  
Final Rule Update**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director, provided background information on the federally funded program Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver and introduced the Manager of Community Services to offer additional details.

Elizabeth Harrell, Manager of Community Services, stated that in order to be eligible for the federal funds service providers need to be in compliance with the 10 federal requirements by March of 2023. The purpose of the final rules is to ensure that individuals receive services in settings that are integrated and support full access to the community in their effort to access employment, work in a competitive setting and to engage in community life.

Lizette Villa, ELARC Supervisor, shared detailed information on the HCBS Waiver Final Rule can be located on ELARC's website and the DDS website.

Comments from the community were addressed.

**4. Return to Work Plan Update**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director, provided an update on ELARC staff "Return to Office" plan. Due to the recent increase in COVID-19, the OMICRON variant, we have deferred the full return to office for all staff. Currently the majority of staff rotate working from office and home on what is referred to as a "50/50" schedule. The long-range plan is for staff to return 100% to office based work when the spread of the current variant stabilizes. Staff will be notified two (2) month in advance of the 100% return to office plan is implemented.

Comments from the community were addressed.

## **5. Self-Determination (SDP) Local Volunteer Advisory Committee (LVAC) Attachment #4**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director, provided background information on the Self-Determination Program (SDP) and the Local Volunteer Advisory Committee (LVAC).

Ms. Wong reported the last SDP LVAC meeting was held on June 21, 2022. The SDP LVAC is governed under the Bagley Keene Act, which has strict guidelines on how meetings are to be conducted. Recently approval was obtained to continue to operate virtually.

Elizabeth Harrell, Manager of Community Services reported for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-'22 the LVAC was granted \$89,760.00 to support implementation of Self-Determination Program.

Ms. Wong shared the next LVAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2022 from 6pm – 8pm via Zoom. The LVAC meetings are all open sessions and detailed information is available on ELARC's website.

### **Attachment #4**

Judy Perez, Associate Chief of Consumer Services, reported on the current number of consumers in the Self-Determination Program throughout the various stages of the SD process:

- 78 Individuals that are currently active in the Self-Determination Program
- 50 Successfully transitioned over to SDP
- 33 Completed Person Center Plan
- 53 Obtained FMS
- 55 Completed and signed IPP's
- 50 Spending plans completed
- 53 Individual budgets certified
- 75 SD Participants completed orientation for SDP

Mrs. Perez reported the Self-Determination orientations continue to be well attended.

No Comment from the community.

**6. Consumer Services Report**  
**Edith Hernandez-Daniels - Chief of Consumer Services**

Edith Hernandez-Daniels, Chief of Consumer Services, reported on mental health services. Mrs. Hernandez-Daniels reported in the 2021-'22 California State Budget the behavioral health continuum was created. Federal and State funding was awarded to address the mental health needs of individuals. Following are resources created:

- ❖ Crisis Teams Established
- ❖ Training for Law Enforcement
- ❖ No Wrong Door Policy to help avoid a gap in Medi-Cal or Managed Care benefits
- ❖ Outpatient Alternative Services
- ❖ Wellness Centers

Mrs. Hernandez-Daniels reported ELARC is working in collaboration with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to streamline referrals.

Mrs. Hernandez-Daniels spoke to the gaps and cost sharing between RC and DCFS. This is critical in order to ensure the appropriate agency is funding the individuals placement needs.

Mrs. Hernandez-Daniels provided some background information on the crisis support service called System Therapeutic Assessment Resource and Treatment Team (START). Special funding was received to implement an evidence based model from the University of New Hampshire. It's a community based crisis intervention program which Regional Centers have implemented and currently in the process of developing a referral system at ELARC.

Comments from the community were addressed.

**7. Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Directive**  
**Extension of Waivers & Modifications due to COVID-19**  
**Attachment #5**

**Attachment #5**

Mrs. Wong reviewed DDS newest directive issued June 20, 2022, which extends previously issued waivers by another 30 days.



## **8. Budget Update Fiscal Year 2021-'22 Handout #1 and #2**

### **Handout #1**

#### **Purchase of Services Expenditure Report (PEP)**

Ms. Wong reviewed the Purchase of Services Expenditure Report (PEP) which is submitted to DDS on the "10<sup>th</sup>" of every month. The report indicates a sizeable surplus of \$22.3 million.

### **Handout #2**

#### **Budget Performance Report: Operations**

##### **A. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 – '22**

Ms. Wong reviewed the Budget Performance Report - Fiscal Year 2021-'22. It reflects a surplus of approximately \$73,374 based on actual expenditures through June 30, 2022.

No comment from the community.

##### **B. Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 – '23 Update**

Ms. Wong reported that the enacted budget for Regional Centers is \$12.4 billion, representing a 21% increase from FY 0221-'22. Highlights of the budget are as follows:

- Performance Improvement Plan - \$83.8 million
- Reducing caseloads 1 to 40 - \$51 million
- Tuition Reimbursement - \$30 million
- Early Start Transition from Part C to Part B - \$13.1 million
- One Time Additional Service Access and Equity Dollars - \$11 million
- Self-Determination Program - \$7.2 million



Ms. Wong will provide an update on the budget at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting scheduled September 13, 2022.

No comment from the community.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

### **A. Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) - (Marisol Guerrero)**

Patrick Schattilly, ELARC Consumer Advocate and the CAC Leadership team met last month to discuss the CAC meeting that took place in May. Detailed preparation was made for the July meeting where the topic will be on “voting”.

Mr. Schattilly hosted a Board Support Session to assist and empower Board members in understanding the agenda items before the Board of Directors meeting.

In August the CAC leadership will discuss topics for 2023. Community feedback on topics will be conserved. Following the meeting Mr. Schattilly will identify speakers or presenters for the chosen topics.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 6pm. The topic will be on “Voting”. There will be a co-presentation by Karen Sibrian, ELARC Information and Training Specialist/PCT Trainer and Patrick Schattilly, ELARC Consumer Advocate.

### **B. Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) - (Kimberly Bermudez)**

Kimberly Bermudez, Board Member, reported on the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) activities. Updates noted from the meeting and discussions included:

- Acceleration of the Rate Study
- Presentation by Monserratt Palacios, ELARC Cultural Specialist
- Preparing Trainings and Presentations for the VAC ~ suggestions welcomed
- Next meeting will be a Planning Session to Discuss Training Topics - All are Welcomed to Attend
- Next Meeting will be held on August 28, 2022

No comments from the community.

**C. Finance/Personnel Committee (Joe Utar/Richard Helgeson)**

There was no meeting of the Board Finance/Personnel Committee.

**VII. Miscellaneous Announcements**

Reminder that there will not be an August Board of Director's Meeting.

Next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 6:00pm.

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss the motion was made to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 7:56pm - Unanimous.

***M/S/C (Richard Helgeson/Joe Utar). Unanimous.***

Respectfully Submitted by:



Devora Reed,  
Secretary, ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Angie Salas,  
Executive Secretary