



EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER

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**ELARC Board of Directors Meeting
May 10, 2016
Approved as Corrected June 14, 2016**

Present:

Robert Hazard
Lida Chavez
Tony Borrego
Diane Lasell
Anthony De La Rosa
Terry Munoz
Felicitas Navera
Yue Li, VAC Representative
Virgilio Orlina, CAC Representative

Staff Present:

Gloria Wong, Executive Director
Felipe Hernandez, Chief of
Consumer Services
Rosalie Estrada,
Executive Assistant

Absent:

Deborah Gallardo*
Joe Utar*
Elias Fonseca*

Guests:

Refer to Sign-In Sheet

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I. Welcome & Roll Call

The ELARC Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M. by Anthony De La Rosa, Board President. A quorum was present to conduct necessary business.

II. Introduction/Opening Round

Introductions of the board members and of the audience were conducted.

III. Community Input

There was no community input.

IV. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

A. Minutes of April 12, 2016

M/S/C (Diane Lasell/Virgilio Orlina) To approve the Minutes of April 12, 2016 as edited. Unanimous.

B. Minutes of Executive Session of April 12, 2016

M/S/C (Felicitas Navera/Robert Hazard) To approve the Minutes of Executive Session of April 12, 2016 as recorded. Unanimous.

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Public Meeting:

1. Public Meeting Notice/Discussion

The Notice of the Public Meeting to review ELARC Caseload Ratio Plan of Correction was posted on March 30, 2016 on the ELARC website, Facebook, and the Alhambra and Whittier offices reception areas. Additionally, the Office of Clients Rights Advocacy, Family Resource Center, State Council, Chinese Parent Association, Fiesta Educativa, Autism Society/San Gabriel and Long Beach Chapter were included in the distribution of this flyer. Vendor Advisory Committee and the Consumer Advisory Committee were also notified. ELARC staff was notified through the agency intranet posting.

The caseload ratio survey is conducted every year on March 1st by all twenty-one regional centers. The purpose of the public meeting is to share with the Board and the community the official results of the caseload ratio analysis. A copy of the Public Notice was distributed as noted above.

There are a total of five categories requiring varying caseload ratios. ELARC met three of the five categories as mandated by Welfare & Institutions Code Section 4640.6(c).

As of March 1st ELARC did not meet the required average caseload ratio in three categories: "Medicaid Waiver", "Ages 36 months and under" and "All Others". The following table compares ELARC's ratios to the statutory requirements in each of the five categories.

	Medi-Caid Waiver	Age 36 Mo. & Under (Early Start)	Moved from DC since 4/14/93	Moved from DC Within Last 12 mos.	All Others
Actual Ratio	67.1	63.6	46.5	28.8	78
Required Ratio	62	62	62	45	66

The Medicaid Waiver, Age 36 months and under, Moved from DC since 4/14/93 and Moved from DC within last 12 months are caseloads which generate federal funding and the standards for caseload ratios are set by the federal government. The "All Others" category includes all cases that do not fall under the other four categories.

During the time period when regional centers sustained severe financial cuts the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) suspended the 1:66 ratio and allowed for an open-ended caseload for about a four year span. Approximately three years ago DDS reinstated the cap of 1:66 for this category.

2. Statewide Caseload Comparisons

The ARCA Service Coordinator Caseload Survey for March 2016 was reviewed. The report reveals there are no regional centers meeting all the required caseload ratios.

As of March 1, 2016, ELARC needs to hire 17 additional service coordinators to meet the required ratios. It was noted that as of February 2016 ELARC hired an additional twelve (12) new service coordinators which significantly reduced all ratio requirements, although insufficient for meeting the mandated ratios..

The Governor's Budget for 2016-'17 includes funding for 200 service coordinators statewide. The 200 positions are funded based on the core staffing formula which is significantly outdated. On the average SC's are funded at approximately \$34,000 per year, which is substantially below current salaries.

The plan of correction for ELARC to comply with the required ratios is to use the additional funding in the proposed 2016-'17 budget to hire additional service coordinators to further reduce current caseload ratios.

3. Public Input

As of the close of May 10, 2016 there was no public input received. The meeting notice was posted and circulated as of March 30, 2016 and allowed for input through May 10, 2016.

M/S/C (Lida Chavez/Robert Hazard) To approve the submittal to DDS the Plan of Action to hire an additional twelve service coordinators. Unanimous.

Lanterman 50th Anniversary:

Gloria Wong reported on the activities around the 50th Anniversary of the Lanterman Act. All twenty-one regional centers are working on developing a video with a brief statement from consumers and families by responding to the concept of "What the Lanterman Act Means to me." Board members wishing to be part of the video were asked to contact Elizabeth Harrell to schedule an appointment. The "Community Report" for 2017 will focus on stories that celebrate the 50 years of the Lanterman Act.

B. Performance Contract (PC) Report

The DDS contract with each regional center requires an annual review of pre-established standards. The PC is based on a calendar year review versus the typical fiscal year. The PC final report focuses on the individual center outcomes as compared to the state-wide average.

ELARC served approximately 10,700 consumers last year. There are goals which must be reported on and are based on the Lanterman Act as to whether regional centers are adhering to and promoting the philosophy of the Lanterman Act. There is also a compliance section which relates to contract requirements with DDS.

The PC was reviewed and the following key points were emphasized. Less consumers live in developmental centers, ELARC is at 0.14% with the statewide average a little higher at 0.36%; More children live with families (under the Lanterman to keep families united), ELARC is at 98.42%, and statewide is at 99.15%. ELARC is a little below the statewide average due to a number of DCFS cases. The large facilities in the ELARC area includes the Whittier Self-Acute and Maryvale which is a large setting for foster children. The children are usually adolescent foster children who are very difficult to place due to complex issues. There are 7 regional centers in Los Angeles County and all are vying for resources for DCFS consumers. There are homes and resources scattered throughout L.A. County. Maryvale is for troubled children and serves as a resource for L.A. County Regional Centers. ELARC has a few children at Maryvale. There are not enough resources for children in L.A. County. When beds become available for children in ELARC's area other regional centers request placement in the available beds.

Felipe Hernandez also reported there is a home, Helen Evans, in the San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center (SGPRC) area for children. It is a larger facility but SGPRC will not accept children from other regional centers as it is large facility and it is going against the regulations that a child must be placed in a home with a capacity of fifteen or less.

Felipe also reported in Los Angeles County ELARC ranked first in having the least amount of individuals in developmental centers.

Also shared with the Board was a comparison of Southern California Regional Centers and Northern California Regional Centers as it relates to Performance Contract results.

C. Self-Determination Update

1. Federal Application Status

The application to date has not been submitted to the federal government. DDS is still working on the 180+ questions received from Center for Medicaid & Medicare Services. (CMS). The main issue relates to service standards to be used in the Self-Determination program which will ensure compliance with the new CMS rules upon approval of the application. Existing regional center vendors funded under CMS are being allowed a transition period to come into compliance with the existing regulations by March 2019. All new applications, such as California's Self-Determination program, must ensure all services rendered under this program are meeting the regulations from the time the application is approved.

DDS expects to continue to consult with CMS staff on an informal basis in preparation for submitting the SD application by August 2016.

2. DDS Stakeholder Meetings

The next DDS Stakeholder Meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2016 in Sacramento.

3. Local Advisory Committee (LAC)

(a) April 5, 2016 Meeting

The April 5, 2016 meeting notes were shared with the board.

(b) Next Meeting: June 7, 2016

The next LAC meeting is scheduled for June 7th and agenda items will include a presentation on Person Centered Planning, Statewide Implementation Update and Outreach, and discussion on future Fiscal Management Services (FMS) training sessions.

A fact sheet regarding the "Development of the Individual Budget Under California's Self-Determination Program" was distributed.

D. 2014-'15 Purchase of Services (POS) Data Report

1. Power Point Discussion

ELARC completed all four public meetings. The meeting format for all four sessions was divided into two primary phases. The first phase focused on the power-point presentation which offered an overview of the POS expenditure data. The second phase allowed for a more informal approach to the presentation.

2. Public Meeting Input

The following highlights of some of the comments raised includes:

- ✓ Regional Center is a complex system, an obstacle course which is difficult to navigate;
- ✓ How to navigate the regional center system, education, health, benefits., etc.
- ✓ Increase educational training opportunities for families;
- ✓ Need for reference material that can clarify types of services available prior to the IPP meeting.

3. Informational Material

In order to meet the repeated request by families to better understand the types of services available, new informational material was developed which highlights the more frequently used service categories. This material was shared and reviewed.

ELARC developed a housing brochure which highlights how ELARC promotes affordable housing options. ELARC has worked in the development of a range of housing resources which advances opportunities for consumers to be integrated into the mainstream of life in their home communities. The brochure highlights the most recent housing development project which is known as Teague Terrace. The brochure content has been translated into: Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese.

Additionally service fact sheets were created and translated into Spanish and Chinese on day programs, employment, living options, respite, social and behavioral supports, and transportation.

4. ELARC Sponsored Training/Presentation

ELARC “U” a series of four sessions presenting an overview of the regional center system. The course is scheduled in September 2016 and will be presented in Spanish. The course has been offered in the past in Chinese and English.

ELARC sponsored parent group “Partners in Community Inclusion (PICI)”. There are a series of five meetings with emphasis on community inclusion and transition planning. The session is scheduled for 2016 and is being offered in Spanish. The course repeats on a periodic basis and has been offered in Chinese and English.

A collaborative agreement has been established with Fiesta Educativa and CPAD parent groups to conduct presentations on Self-Determination (SD). An overview of SD is scheduled for May 21, 2016 to the CPAD parent group. Two sessions are scheduled with Fiesta Educativa this year.

A presentation to Fiesta Educativa was held on September 2015 by ELARC Management staff answering pre-established questions which were submitted by

families.

ABX2-1: \$11 million will be allocated for fiscal year 2016-'17 for POS disparity projects. It is uncertain how this money will be allocated, either by a Request for Proposal or divided amongst the twenty-one regional centers. Ms. Wong reported that on a recent call with the DDS representative, Brian Winfield, he stated that the plans for allocation have not yet been developed. Mr. Winfield also indicated that DDS has received funds for a "research" division and is working on the establishment of this new unit.

5. DDS Report: May 31, 2016

Regional Centers are required to submit their POS Disparity Report by May 31, 2016 to DDS. The report is a summary of the activities undertaken by the regional center to meet contract and statutory requirements. .

The power-point material used at the four community meetings was referenced and discussed. Additionally, the public meeting input was shared as highlighted under section #2 above, as well as actions taken by ELARC to address some of the public input as referenced in Section #3 and #4 above.

A copy of the report will be included in the June meeting agenda.

E. Budget Update

1. 2015-'16

(a) Purchase of Services (POS) Update

Gloria Wong reported a surplus on the POS Budget ranging from \$488,297 to \$986,811.

(b) Cash Flow Status

There is no case flow problem projected at the current time. Ms. Wong reported that potentially in July ELARC may have to tap into the credit line. Over the next two months regional centers will only receive a percentage of their claims to offset the initial allocation advances. ELARC has sufficient funds to last until July 10th. The budget should pass on a timely basis thereby releasing the advance allocation in early July. If the advance is not received on time ELARC will need to borrow from the credit line with City National Bank. ELARC will have two lines of credit, the first being for the first three months of the fiscal year. The second line of credit will start on October 1st as a revolving line of credit for the balance of the fiscal year. The bank signature cards will be ready for the Board Secretary to sign at the June Board Meeting.

(c) Operations: Budget Performance Report

There is a surplus of \$152,461 with two more months left in this fiscal year.

(d) Master Contract: 2015-'16

A copy of the master contract with DDS for fiscal year 2015-2016 was shared with the Board. Underlined language indicates new requirements in the contract. Board training to be scheduled for a concentrated review and discussion of contract language requirements.

2. 2016-'17 Fiscal Year

(a) Lanterman Coalition

A copy of the correspondence from the Lanterman Coalition to the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Health & Human Services was shared with the Board.

(b) Budget Hearings Update

Budget hearings are still in session.

(c) Governor's May Revise Budget

Governor's May revise is expected to be released on May 19th.

VI Consumer Services Report

Felipe Hernandez reported the following:

- A Statewide Forensic Forum was formed with the focus on the development of resources and collaboration within and outside of the regional center to address the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities in the criminal justice system.
- Mr. Hernandez visited Goodwill Industries located by Dodger Stadium. He reported a quarter of the individual working at Goodwill have disabilities. He was taken on a tour of the site. He discussed with administrative staff the new requirements for vendors which must be in place by 2019 and the minimum wage increase. Their administration is willing to work with ELARC.
- Within the last three to six months there have been some changes/promotions in staff:

New SIR Coordinator: Albert Guzman

New HIPPA & Fair Hearing Coordinator: Jacob Romero

Forensic Specialist: Marlen Cervantes

Lonetta Johns Yarleque: Promoted to Supervisor

Veronica Valenzuela, Supervisor in Alhambra Office, transferred to Whittier District office

VII Committee Reports

A. Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC): Virgilio Orlina

Virgilio Orlina, CAC Chair reported the CAC continues to outreach and encourage more consumers to get involved and learn more about self-advocacy. The CAC is also encouraging consumers to check and visit ELARC's website and Facebook page for schedules of different meetings, activities and community events and opportunities.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the ELARC Boardroom and via video conference at the Whittier office. The topic will be Education and Employment. The session will include discussion on the different programs available to consumer to be able to attend college and will offer tips on how to obtain a job.

The remaining CAC meetings for 2016 are July 19th, September 20th and November 1st.

Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting: Virgilio reported Aaron Carruthers, Director of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities sent out emails to the Statewide SD Advisory Committees to inform them they are scheduling the next meeting will be by phone/teleconference.

B. Vendor Advisory Committee: Yue Li

Yu Li, Chair, Vendor Advisory Committee reported the last meeting was spent reviewing their Bylaws, section by section.

She reported the committee is also reviewing the process by which the chair is selected and the need for the outgoing chair to share information with the newly elected for a smooth transition.

Liz Rodgers presented on the Person-Centered approach.

AB 1715: Yue gave background on Assembly Bill (AB) 1715. ARCA is taking the position of not supporting the bill unless there are changes in the language.

C. Finance/Personnel Committee: Robert Hazard & Terry Munoz

Bob Hazard reported the Finance/Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet with representatives from the Principal Financial Group for the annual review of the pension plan portfolio. The meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2016.

VIII Miscellaneous Announcements

- Frances Jacobs, Manager, Community Services Division, addressed both Gloria and the board regarding the recent actions taken by the Board to recognize staff for their dedication and hard work.

Anthony De La Rosa, President, stated he truly appreciates staff for the work and their dedication to serving consumers and their families.

Yue Li also stated she appreciates service coordinators and staff for all their work.

- Anthony De La Rosa shared the "Ride 4 Autism" L.A. Ride for Autism Foundation is sponsoring their 11th Annual Wine and Beer event with a silent auction at the Redondo Beach Chart House on Sunday, June 5, 2016. He encouraged everyone to support this worthy cause by buying tickets for this event.

IX Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

M/S/C (Terry Munoz/Felicitas Navera) To adjourn the general board meeting. Unanimous.

X. Executive Session

A. Personnel

The Executive Session of the Board was called to order by Anthony De La Rosa, President at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter..

XI Adjournment

M/S/C (Felicitas Navera/Terry Munoz) to adjourn the Executive Session of the Board at 7:40 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by:

Felicitas Navera, Secretary
ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Rosalie M. Estrada