



EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER

1000 S. Fremont Ave. • P.O. Box 7916 • Alhambra, CA 91802-7916

(626) 299-4700 • FAX (626) 281-1163

ELARC Board of Directors Meeting

April 11, 2017

Approved as Corrected May 9, 2017

Present:

Anthony De La Rosa
Terry Munoz
Diane Lasell
Nestor Nieves
Felicitas Navera
Virgilio Orlina

Staff Present:

Gloria Wong, Executive Director
Felipe Hernandez, Chief
of Consumer Services
Brendali Maldonado,
Information & Training

Absent:

Robert Hazard (excused)
Tony Borrego (excused)
Lida Chavez (excused)
Elias Fonseca (excused)
Joe Utar (excused)
Jose Reyes (excused)

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 6:05 pm by Anthony De La Rosa, President. A quorum was not established, therefore the meeting was held for informational purposes only. Action items deferred.

II. Introduction/Opening Round

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

III. Community Input

Josefina Nieves, parent, thanked the Board of Directors and the Regional Center for giving her the opportunity to participate in Grassroots Day on April 4 & 5, 2017 in Sacramento. She indicated it was a wonderful experience.

Anthony De La Rosa stated the ELARC representatives, Brendali Maldonado and Maribel Garcia did a wonderful job and were extremely helpful, even though this was their first time at Grassroots Day.

Gloria Wong thanked the board members who were able to participate in the Grassroots Day events and indicated their participation was truly appreciated.

IV. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

A. Minutes of March 14, 2017

Since a quorum was not established the approval of the Minutes of March 14, 2017 was Deferred and will be placed on the April Board Meeting Agenda for review and approval.

V Executive Director's Report

A. 2015-'16 Purchase of Services (POS) Equity Expenditure Report

1. Community Meetings Update

The Regional Centers are required to compile data relating to purchase of service authorization, utilization, and expenditure by each regional center as it pertains to consumer age, ethnicity, primary language, residence type and disability. The report was posted on the ELARC website by December 31, 2016. ELARC held three public meetings as follows.

The March 20th meeting was held in the ELARC Boardroom and attendance was low. There were four individuals in attendance. Interpretation services in Spanish, Mandarin and Cantonese were offered but not utilized.

On March 25th the public meeting was held in partnership with the Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled (CPAD) at the Asian Youth Center located in San Gabriel. There were a total of 22 individuals in attendance. Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese interpretation services were provided.

On March 28th the public meeting was held in partnership with Fiesta Educativa at the East Los Angeles Library. There were 28 individuals in attendance and the meeting was conducted in Spanish.

2. Power-Point Presentation, Review & Discussion

A power-point presentation of the Purchase of Service (POS) Data Report for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 was presented at the community meetings. The community meetings on the average were approximately 2 hrs. The focus of the report was on the three largest demographic groups: Hispanic, Asian and White.

A thorough review and discussion of the power point data was conducted as part of the Board Meeting. Highlights noted and discussed included:

- Comparison of Per Capita Authorizations and Utilization since 2011-'12, inception of the POS report to 2015-'16 fiscal year. Over this 5 year period a modest increase in per capita was noted:
 - ✓ Hispanics increase of 7.26%
 - ✓ Asian increase of 6.05%
 - ✓ White increase of 12.63 %

3. Handouts

Consumer Handbook: A copy of the ELARC Consumer Handbook was distributed to the Board for their information. The handbook provides information on the services offered in addition to general information which families may find helpful. The handbook is produced in English and Spanish. Copies of the handbook were distributed at community meetings.

Service Categories Defined: In order to meet the request from families to better understand the types of services available, material was developed which highlights the more frequently used service categories. These categories include: Living Options, Transportation, Respite, Social and Behavioral Supports, Day Programs, and Employment. The material is available in English, Spanish and Chinese. Review and discussion of material conducted.

4. Performance Contract

Ms. Wong reported two objectives have been added to the performance contract, Purchase of Services (POS) Equity and Employment. Two added objectives were reviewed and discussed.

5. Final Report to DDS: May 30, 2017

DDS is requesting a detailed report of the public meetings conducted by May 30, 2017.

B. ARCA Equity Committee

1. Disparity Study

The proposal ARCA developed as it relates to "Understanding Barrier and Implementing Effective Strategies to Address Disparities in Services to Californians with Developmental Disabilities" was shared with the Board. The proposal is a two-year project with Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Lanterman Regional Center will be the fiscal agent for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

C. Budget Update

1. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget Hearings

- Senate Committee on Human Services Oversight Hearing

Ms. Wong reported she was asked by ARCA to present to the Senate Human Services Committee on ELARC's Purchase of Services Equity projects which were developed with ABX2-1 funds. A copy of the agenda and the background and an historical overview of the equity concerns were discussed. The background also includes the concerns the Legislature has over the slow progress on per capita equity.

Additional panel members presenting with Ms. Wong included Barbara Wheeler, Associate Director, and University of Southern California, Catherine Blakemore, Executive Director, Disability Rights California, Amy Westling, Interim Executive Director, Association of Regional Center Agencies and Nancy Bargmann, Director, Department of Developmental Services.

Ms. Wong reported she provided background information and presented on the projects ELARC is currently undertaking with the funds made available through ABX2-1 funding. Ms. Wong reported over the past five years the per capita authorized for Hispanic families increased approximately 7% and anticipates it will go up even more this year with the implementation of the special projects. There were also testimonials from individuals in the audience. The Senate Committee on Human Services has requested that the Department of Developmental and ARCA submit a report on the issues presented at the hearing and to submit recommendations that would improve the lower per capita for given ethnic groups. Two separate reports will be submitted by ARCA and DDS within 60 days (May 30th). ARCA will be developing the initial draft response through the ARCA Equity Committee, of which Ms. Wong is the Chair.

Ms. Wong announced the Department of Developmental Services was awarded a grant from Georgetown University on leadership practices on equitable funding for the low per capita ethnic groups. Ms. Wong has been asked by DDS to serve on this committee once established.

Governor's Budget Update: Budget hearings continue in Sacramento.

Federal Issues: Five years ago SPA (State Plan Amendment) allowed states to expand Medi-Cal. It is unknown at this time how federal changes will impact the regional center system.

- ARCA Grassroots Event Update

Ms. Wong reported the Grassroots Day event in Sacramento turned out to be a very successful event. Efforts will continue at the local level.

2. Fiscal Year 2016-'17

- Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR)

Currently ELARC is projecting a surplus. Additionally the C-2 allocation is pending which will raise the surplus.

- Operations

Currently ELARC is projecting a deficit of approximately \$90,595. This deficit is from the Clinical Team allocation, it is expected that the C-2 allocation will erase this temporary deficit. The next item POS Disparity projects show a deficit of \$324,720, since the C-2 allocation is pending.

The May Budget Performance Report will reflect the C-2 contract amendment and reverse the above deficits.

D. Caseload Ratio Results – March 1, 2017

A copy of the notice for the Public Meeting to Review ELARC Caseload ratio Plan of Correction was reviewed. There are a total of five categories requiring varying caseload ratios. ELARC met four of the five categories as mandated by Welfare & Institutions Code Section 4640.6(c). The graph below was reviewed.

	Medicaid Waiver	Age 36 Mo. and Under	Moved from DC since 4/14/93	Moved from DC Within Last 12 months	All Others
Actual Ratio	60.6	59.6	41.2	29.3	71.5
Required Ratio	62	62	62	45	66

Ms. Wong reported ELARC hired twenty-five new service coordinators through March 1, 2017 which resulted in four out of five ratios being met as indicated above.

The Public Meeting notice has been posted, the meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

E. Self-Determination Update

1. Federal Application Status

The federal application was to be submitted by DDS at the end of March. No further news has been received.

2. Local Advisory Committee

Virgilio Orlina reported the last Local Advisory Committee meeting was held on April 4, 2017. David Castaneda, Service Coordinator presented a power-point presentation on *Learning from the Self-Determination Pilot*. Mr. Castaneda also provided an update on outreach and information and planning.

The next Local Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for June 5th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VI Consumer Services Report (Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Services)

Mr. Hernandez reported on the following:

(1) An in-service for case management staff on "Crisis Services" was held on Monday, April 10th. The Crisis Services Project is originally from Northern California and they are now providing services in Southern California. The project provides crisis response to consumers in the community. They have two programs one of which is a 24/7 response which allows for individuals to call in or referrals. They have a contract with ELARC and have been working with ELARC for approximately three months. In those three months they have reduced the number of 5150 admissions into psychiatric hospitals. The project reported seventy-two holds were prevented and six were not. Consumer may be dual diagnosis or forensic. Most of the contacts made to Crisis Services come from residential providers or day programs.

The Crisis Services program also offers an on-going service for those individuals who tend to be chronically in crisis and need more time and interaction to stabilize their situation. ELARC currently has 9 consumers in this particular program.

The program has met the eligibility for CPP funding.

(2) Immigration: The Information and Training Unit has put together resources for service coordinators who can provide information and referrals to their families who may have interest or concerns as it relates to immigration. ELARC is providing referrals and resources to families.

VII Committee Reports

A. Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)

Virgilio Orlina, CAC Chair reported the last CAC meeting was held on March 21, 2017. The main topic was on Abuse and Bullying and the guest speaker was Melody Goodman, Community Program Specialist with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Goodman's presentation also included a power-point presentation on "Adults Get Bullied to". Ms. Goodman explained what is adult bullying, cyberbullying, LGBTQ bullying and how to stop any type of bullying.

Mr. Orlina reported Jesse Padilla, Consumer Advocate reported on the ARCA CAC meeting he recently attended. Mr. Padilla provided information about the ABLE Act/Cal ABLE and the HCBS training he attended. He also reported on the ACCESS meeting he attended and that there will be more “stand” signs at larger places such as UCLA.

Mr. Orlina also reported Lara Linnemann, ELARC Service Coordinator, presented and shared some resources about Muti-Faith and spirituality and explained the mission and commitment of Multi-Faith Resource Committee to provide individuals and their families with places of worship that will assist in meeting their spiritual needs.

Julie Eby McKenzie, SCDD Community Program Specialist explained to at the CAC meeting how the State Council supports people with disabilities and their families through system advocacy at the State, County and local levels and how the Council can provide training and information on rights and strategies for accessing the service system.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Alhambra Boardroom and via video conference at the Whittier Office. The topic will be about Healthy Relationships and the guest speaker will be Erin Wurtemberg.

B. Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC)

Jose Reyes, Vendor Representative, was not able to attend the Board Meeting, therefore there was no VAC report.

C. Finance/Personnel Committee

Terry Munoz, Treasurer, announced both she and Joe Utar met with the Finance Committee met with Principal Capital Investors on March 29, 2017 who provided a very comprehensive review of the investment portfolio for employees. There were no changes made to the current investment portfolio. Material was shared and reviewed with the Board.

Robert Hazard was not present as he was on vacation.

VIII Miscellaneous Announcements

✓ Armando Villegas, Vendor, expressed concerns regarding the changing of service coordinators for consumers that vendors are not notified in a timely manner. Suggestion was made to notify vendors when the parents are advised of their new service coordinator. Gloria Wong suggested he speak to Felipe Hernandez.

✓ Julie Eby McKenzie, SCDD, and the SCDD I co-sponsoring an intensive 5 day training for employment professionals/job developers. Persons interested were asked to contact Julie.

✓ Julie Eby-McKenzie also announced on July 31st they will be co-sponsoring a documentary entitled "Bottom Dollar", which is about individuals who have been in sub-minimum wage workshop environment and the move toward competitive employment. It will be held at the California Endowment Center. There will be panel discussion following the viewing of the documentary. The morning session is free, but there will be a charge for lunch and the afternoon session.

✓ Lanterman Act 2017: A copy of the latest Lanterman Act 2017 was distributed to the Board of Directors.

✓ Ms. Wong announced that ELARC is seeking a Board member to join the review committee for an ABX2-1 funded proposal. Specifically this would be for a "Request for Proposal" (RFP) on "outreach with Community Partners". The goal of the project is to identify individuals who are eligible for ELARC services and provide education about services. There will be five small grants awarded to community organizations. The RFP was released on March 23, 2017 and the deadline to submit RFP's is May 31, 2017. The team will be expected to review 5 applications submitted from interested parties. Roxy Ortiz will be part of the team.


Board members who would like to be part of the committee to review proposals should contact Rosalie Estrada as soon as possible.

IX Adjournment

***M/S/C (Diane Lasell/Anthony De La Rosa) To adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.
Unanimous.***

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Lasell, Secretary
ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Rosalie M. Estrada, Executive Secretary