



COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA

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DATE: Tuesday, September 16, 2014
TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Hilton Sacramento Arden West
2200 Harvard Street
Sacramento, CA 95815
Phone: (916) 922-4700

Pursuant to Government code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact Robin Maitino at (916) 322-8481 or email robin.maitino@scdd.ca.gov. Requests must be received by 5:00 pm, September 10, 2014.

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1.	CALL TO ORDER	M. Kennedy
2.	ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM	M. Kennedy
3.	WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS	M. Kennedy
4.	PUBLIC COMMENTS <i>This item is for members of the public only to provide comments and/or present information to the Council on matters not on the agenda. Each person will be afforded up to three minutes to speak. Written requests, if any, will be considered first. The Council will provide a public comment period, not to exceed a total of three minutes, for public comment prior to action on each agenda item.</i>	
5.	APPROVAL OF JULY 2014 MEETING MINUTES	M. Kennedy 4
6.	CHAIR REPORT	M. Kennedy
7.	MTARS/AIDD UPDATE	M. Kennedy 14

For additional information regarding this agenda, please contact Robin Maitino,
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	Respecting Choice, Creating Innovation, and Fulfilling Dreams: A Statewide Informational and Networking Conference on California’s New Self-Determination Program	M. Clark	67
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	G. Employment First Committee	K. Weller	
	i. Summary of September 3 rd Meeting		
10.	STATEWIDE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK	D. Forderer	

11. STAFF REPORTS		129
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B. Chief Deputy Director	A. Carruthers	
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12. NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURNMENT	M. Kennedy	

JULY COUNCIL MINUTES



DRAFT

**Council Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2014**

Members Present

April Lopez
Bill Moore
Catherine Blakemore
Dan Boomer
David Forderer
Eric Gelber
Gina Guarneri
Janelle Lewis
Jonathan Clarkson
Jorge Aguilar
Kecia Weller
Kerstin Williams
Kris Kent
Molly Kennedy
Nancy Clyde
Nicole Smith
Ning Yang
Rebecca Donabed
Sandra Smith

Members Absent

Carmela Garnica
Feda Almaliti
Max Duley
Olivia Raynor
Robert Jacobs
Steven Kapp

Others Attending

Aaron Carruthers
Angela Lewis
Bob Phillips
Dawn Morley
Dena Hernandez (phone)
Gabriel Rogin
Mark Polit
Mary Ellen Stives
Mike Clark
Natalie Bocanegra
Robin Maitino
Sarah May
Sherry Beamer
Sonya Bingaman
Wayne Glusker
Vicki Smith
Susan Eastman
Julie Eby-McKenzie
Carlyn Meshack
Kristie Allensworth
Robert Phillips

1. CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Molly Kennedy, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and a quorum was established.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Members and others attending both in person and on the phone introduced themselves.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. **APPROVAL OF MAY 2014 MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved/seconded (Smith/Yang) and carried to approve the May 29, 2014, Council meeting minutes as presented. (1 abstention)

5. **MTARS UPDATE**

Molly Kennedy and Michal Clark provided members with a progress update on implementing the corrective action plan as well as an overview of their visit to Washington D.C. with Mark Polit the week of July 6-10, 2014. While in D.C., the three attended the 2014 NACDD Conference and had meetings with both NACDD and Commissioner Aaron Bishop. Meeting outcomes were positive. Commissioner Bishop felt the Council was on track in addressing the Corrective Action Plan. It was suggested that perhaps SCDD speak with other state councils when developing their next State Plan.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Executive Committee – April Lopez provided a written summary of the June 10, 2014 meeting.
- b. Administrative Committee – Molly Kennedy provided a written summary of the June 18, 2014 meeting. Catherine Blakemore commented on the fiscal and budget issue portion of the written summary, stating she would be willing to volunteer sitting on a cost savings working group.
- c. Legislative and Public Policy Committee – Janelle Lewis provided a written update on current legislation.
- d. Membership Committee – April Lopez provided a written summary of the June 19, 2014 meeting.
- e. Self-Advocates Advisory Committee (SAAC) – Ning Yang provided a brief summary of the July 15, 2014 meeting.

- f. State Plan Committee – Nancy Clyde provided a written summary of the June 23, 2014 meeting and provided a handout to the Council that summarized the Committee’s Cycle 37 Mini-Grant Recommendations from July 8, 2014. The following actions were taken to fund the mini-grants:

Area Board 1

Get Safe - Amount Requested: \$19,964

Project Summary – Get Safe will organize and provide four (4) workshops called “First Responder Training: Enhancing Your Ability to Effectively Respond to Persons with Developmental Disabilities.”

It was moved/seconded (Blakemore/Weller) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee’s recommendation to fund Get Safe at the amount requested and to obtain additional information on measureable outcomes.

Area Board 2

AMJaMB, Beyond Inclusion - Amount requested \$20,000

Project Summary - AMJaMB proposes to expand the work of The Call Connection in the following ways: 1) Build upon its customer base through advertising in the community at-large which will increase consumer employees from 6 employees to 10 within the first year.

It was moved/seconded (Yang/Lewis) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee’s recommendation to fund AMJaMB, Beyond Inclusion at the amount requested contingent upon receiving clarification of the 15% indirect costs portion of the budget detail sheet.

Area Board 4

TransGen, Inc. - Amount requested \$20,000

Project Summary - Although the idea of Employment First is gaining ground across the country, some people, especially those with more significant disabilities, still do not see integrated, direct hire

employment as a viable option. To eliminate service gaps, address programmatic barriers and encourage people with more significant disabilities to pursue employment, TransCen, Inc. established Worklink, a San Francisco-based employment program that braids community-based day services with VR-funded Supported Employment.

It was moved/seconded (Smith/Yang) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund TransCen, Inc. at the amount requested contingent upon receiving clarification of the budget detail sheet.

Area Board 5

Community Gatepath - Amount requested \$20,000

Project Summary - The goal of this project is to build the capacity of service providers to implement job development programs more effectively.

It was moved/seconded (Yang/Donabed) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund Community Gatepath at the amount requested.

Area Board 6

Vocational Coaching and Development Institute, Inc. -Amount requested \$20,000

Project Summary - Vocational Coaching and Development Institute, Inc. (VCDI) envisions creating a subsidiary, to be named Transitional Coaching and Development Institute (TCDI), with the sole purpose of providing transition aged individuals living with developmental disabilities pertinent and necessary information.

It was moved/seconded (Smith/Williams) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund Vocational Coaching and Development Institute at the amount requested contingent upon receiving clarification of the budget detail sheet.

Area Board 7

Get Safe - Amount requested \$19,964

Project Summary - For the past 15 years, Get Safe has successfully worked with Regional Centers and Area Boards throughout California to create collaborative partnerships between communities and the agencies that provide services for persons with developmental disabilities through its safety education, Self-advocacy forums and diversity-awareness trainings.

It was moved/seconded (Blakemore/Weller) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund Get Safe at the amount requested and to obtain additional information on measureable outcomes.

Area Board 8 (Proposal Submission 1)

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Center, Inc. - Amount requested \$8,750

Project Summary - The Youth Employment Services (YES!) program focuses on preparing Deaf and Hard of Hearing middle and high school students for the world of employment and encourages them to establish attainable post-high school educational and career goals.

It was moved/seconded (Smith/Lopez) and carried to direct staff to seek clarification from Area Board 8 on the funding level and on whether or not the grant would serve students with developmental disabilities.

Area Board 8 (Proposal Submission 2)

Clovis Junior Soccer League, Inc. - Amount requested \$11,250

Project Summary - TOPSoccer provides an environment where individuals with developmental disabilities can feel safe, have fun, make friends, and learn to play soccer. For the past decade, TOPSoccer has demonstrated its ability to achieve and exceed these goals.

It was moved/seconded (Smith/Forderer) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to not fund the Clovis Junior Soccer League, Inc.

Area Board 10

Get Safe - Amount requested \$19,964

Project Summary - For the past 15 years, Get Safe has successfully worked with Regional Centers and Area Boards throughout California to create collaborative partnerships between communities and the agencies that provide services for persons with developmental disabilities through its safety education, self-advocacy forums, and diversity-awareness trainings.

It was moved/seconded (Blakemore/Weller) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund Get Safe at the amount requested and to obtain additional information on measureable outcomes.

Area Board 11(Proposal Submission 1)

Get Safe - Amount requested \$10,000

Project Summary - For the past 15 years, Get Safe has successfully worked with Regional Centers and Area Boards throughout California to create collaborative partnerships between communities and the agencies that provide services for persons with developmental disabilities through its safety education, self-advocacy forums, and diversity-awareness trainings.

It was moved/seconded (Blakemore/Weller) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund Get Safe upon receipt of funding level clarification, up to the original proposal amount, and to obtain additional information on measureable outcomes.

Area Board 11(Proposal Submission 2)

Goodwill Industries of Orange County - Amount requested \$10,000

Project Summary - In response to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities' goal #9 in its five year plan, Goodwill of Orange County (Goodwill) proposes to establish a community-based service model to help working age adults with developmental disabilities transition from work activity programs to community-based integrated work programs.

It was moved/seconded (Forderer/Donabed) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to not fund Goodwill Industries of Orange County.

Area Board 13

Get Safe - Amount requested \$19,522

Project Summary - For the past 15 years, Get Safe has successfully worked with Regional Centers and Area Boards throughout California to create collaborative partnerships between communities and the agencies that provide services for persons with developmental disabilities through its safety education, self-advocacy forums, and diversity- awareness trainings.

It was moved/seconded (Blakemore/Weller) and carried to adopt the State Plan Committee's recommendation to fund Get Safe at the amount requested and to obtain additional information on measureable outcomes.

- g. Employment First Committee (EFC) – Kecia Weller provided a written summary of the June 17, 2014, EFC meeting. The EFC requested that the Council take action on the following four (4) items:

SCDD Legislation on Employment Data

It was moved/seconded (Weller/Ning) and carried to sponsor legislation that will require the Employment Development Department and/or the Franchise Tax Board to release income data on individuals who are regional center clients to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). The legislation would also require that DDS collect data from regional center service providers on all working age regional center clients on hours worked, income earned, type of job, and other relevant employment data to better assess the

implementation of the employment first policy. The legislation will contain provisions to protect individual privacy. (5 abstentions)

Sheltered Workshops and Subminimum Wage Resolution

It was moved/seconded (Weller/Lewis) and carried to adopt EFC's policy on the phasing out of sheltered work and subminimum wage and the transition to integrated competitive employment. (5 abstentions)

Assembly Joint Resolution (AJR) 36

It was moved/seconded (Smith/Weller) and carried to support AJR 36 which if passed, would request that the United States Congress phase out the use of subminimum wage. (5 abstentions)

Day Services Holidays

It was moved/seconded (Forderer/Weller) and carried that the Council write a letter to DDS requesting the review of the uniform holiday schedule as it impacts people with developmental disabilities. (5 abstentions)

7. STATEWIDE SELF-ADVOCACY NETWORK (SSAN)

David Forderer provided a written summary which highlighted the accomplishments of the June 23 and 24, 2014 SSAN meeting.

8. STAFF REPORTS

The Interim Executive Director, Chief Deputy Director, Deputy Director of Policy and Planning, and Area Board Executive Directors provided written reports that were included in the packet.

9. CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL

The Council went into closed session.

10. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

The following action was reported in open session: The Council voted to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to conduct the Executive Director search.

11. W&I CODE SECTION 4551; CIVIL SERVICE RULES

Legal Counsel Natalie Bocanegra provided a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the exempt rules for exempt positions within State Government. Ms. Bocanegra described the Council's current structure and state law that governs the Council's existing exempt positions. She further explained that, due to governance changes required in order to continue to receive federal funding and under AB 1595, the Council's exempt positions will no longer align with the exempt rules and therefore there will be a need to convert existing exempt positions, other than that of the Executive Director, to corresponding civil service classifications. The following action was reported in open session:

Following the presentation and in-depth conversation, the following action was taken:

The Council moved/seconded (Kent/Forderer) and carried to authorize Council staff to work with the appropriate entities to develop the necessary statutory language and corresponding processes to effectuate the transition of the exempt positions of the Council with the exemption of the Council Executive Director to similar civil service positions. (1 abstention)

12. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for September 16th. Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

MTARS UPDATE



State Council on Developmental Disabilities



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

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MTARS Corrective Action Plan

PROGRESS REPORT August 1, 2014

"The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families."

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ADMINISTRATION	
II.1 Staff	2013 MTARS Finding (1)
The Director shall hire, supervise, and annually evaluate the staff of the Council. Sec. 125(c)(9)	<p>The Council Director (not the Governor) should hire Council staff and supervise and annually evaluate them. Instead the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Director submits hiring recommendations to the Governor and the Governor has the final authority to hire two deputy level staff. • The Council has the final approval for the hiring of other staff.
California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response	
<p>COUNCIL RESPONSE (1): The Council agrees with this finding.</p> <p>CORRECTIVE ACTION (1): The Council proposes amending state law, the Lanterman Act, to provide that the Executive Director of the Council is the hiring authority for all Council staff. It is the Council’s intent to propose substantive revisions to the Lanterman Act to address this and other MTARS findings of noncompliance. The Governor’s office has indicated its support for relinquishing hiring authority in order to come into compliance with the DD Act.</p> <p>STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning and Natalie Bocanegra, Staff Counsel; Council’s MTARS Committee to oversee process.</p> <p>TIMELINES: Effective January 17, 2014, Assembly Member Wesley Chesbro agreed to sponsor a bill with intent language. Assembly Bill 1595 (AB 1595) was introduced on February 3, 2014. The Council anticipates that the bill will pass out of the Legislature by August 30th, be signed by the Governor in September 2014 and take effect January 1, 2015.</p> <p>August 1st Status Update (1): On August 4th, Ab 1595 is scheduled to be referred by the Senate Appropriations Committee to the Senate Floor through Senate Rule 28.8. Senate Rule 28.8 allows the chair of the committee to refer a bill to the floor without a hearing if it has been deemed to not have a significant cost to the state general fund. The final amendments, including one responding to AIDD concerns, will be made on the Senate Floor: Incorporating language on transition of exempt staff to civil service positions, clarifying language on the authority of the Council to establish regional offices, and any technical changes to conform the bill to changes in law made through the budget process. A copy of the amendments is attached.</p>	
III. MEMBERSHIP	
III.1 Membership policies	2013 MTARS Finding (2)
Membership recommendations solicited by Governor from a broad range of organizational sources including non-state agency members of the Council. Sec125(b)(1)(B)	The Council’s membership nomination and appointment process has been historically inhibited by state bureaucracy. It is unclear if and how membership recommendations are solicited from a broad range of DD/ID organizational sources and non-state agency members of the Council.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (2): The Council agrees that it is in limited compliance with this finding. In this instance, California state law is consistent with the DD Act. The Lanterman Act, Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 4521 includes the following provision:

4521(c) Prior to appointing the 31 members pursuant to this section, the Governor shall request and consider recommendations from organizations representing, or providing services to, or both, persons with developmental disabilities, and shall take into account socioeconomic, ethnic, and geographic considerations of the state.

However, the Council has historically been somewhat passive in its involvement in the recruitment of new Council members. Currently, individual Council members may informally recommend that a colleague or acquaintance apply for appointment, but there is no organized process for soliciting their recommendations and submitting them to the Governor's Appointment office as required in Section 125(b)(1)(B). The Governor does proactively seek input from a variety of ID/DD organizations, but that effort is conducted independent of the Council's involvement.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (2): The Council will amend its bylaws to establish a Membership Committee to recruit, solicit and advise the Governor on appointments to the Council. Its membership will consist exclusively of self-advocates and family advocates who are community leaders and who may or may not be Council members. Part of the rationale for selecting non-Council members in addition to Council members to sit on this Committee is to permit the Council to strategically reach out to influential individuals in the I/DD field who have extensive contacts. In many cases, these individuals are not eligible to themselves sit on the Council because they wear multiple hats as both self/family advocate and disability professional. The Committee will consist of at least three members, a majority of whom are Council members. Consistent with Council Bylaws, the Chair shall be a Council member. The Committee will meet quarterly at minimum and more frequently as needed. The bylaws will define its membership and responsibilities and will include language in Section 125(b)(1)(B) that the Membership Committee will "coordinate Council and public input to the Governor regarding all recommendations." Among its duties will be to develop recruitment materials and publicity strategy. The Membership Committee will, at least quarterly, solicit recommendations for candidates via social media, and email/web alerts from among the regional advisory committees, self-advocacy groups, family support groups, the Federal Partners and service providers. The Chair of the Membership Committee will be charged with submitting the Committee's recommendations to the Governor's Appointment Office.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director; MTARS Committee to oversee implementation.

TIMELINES: Council to amend Bylaws to create Membership Committee at its March 20, 2014 meeting. Chair to complete appointments to the Committee by May 9, 2014. Membership Committee to hold first meeting in June 2014.

August 1st Status Update (2): The Membership Committee held its second meeting on July 31st (agenda attached). The committee is staffed by the incoming Interim Executive Director, Dr. Mike Clark and chaired by Council Vice Chair, April Lopez.

III.1 Membership policies (continued)	2013 MTARS Finding (3)
<p>Members reflect the state’s diverse geographic locations, race, and ethnicity. Sec.125(b)(1)(C)</p>	<p>The appointment process for obtaining new Council members has hindered compliance with the DD Act. Currently, SCDD’s membership composition does not meet the requirements for geographic, racial, and ethnic diversity.</p>
<p>California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response</p>	
<p>COUNCIL RESPONSE (3): The Council has historically had several vacancies and currently has four vacancies for positions recommended by the Area Boards. However for the current 15 non-agency members of the Council, the ethnic and racial representation is as follows: 21% Latino, 7% black, 7% Asian. The membership is currently geographically diverse as well. By design, the Council has historically enjoyed geographic diversity, since 13 seats are filled by members from the 13 regions covering the entire state.</p> <p>CORRECTIVE ACTION (3): The newly constituted Membership Committee will formally take the lead in conducting outreach to unrepresented regions of the state and underserved communities. The Chair of the Membership Committee will solicit from among non-agency Council members, the regional advisory committees, self-advocacy leaders and family support groups, especially those whose membership is composed of individuals from traditionally underserved ethnic or racial minority communities. Based on the many findings relating to membership policies, the Council has begun to develop legislative language to amend the Lanterman Act. This will result in an appointment process that continues to promote geographic, racial and ethnic diversity. Currently, geographic diversity is established by having a seat assigned to each of the 13 regional advisory committees. It is anticipated that revisions to the Lanterman Act will preserve the geographic diversity by assuring that there will be at least one Council member from the geographic area encompassing each of the Council’s regional offices. The local regional advisory committees will be encouraged to recommend potential candidates, but the Governor retains authority to select the Council membership.</p> <p>STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director; MTARS Committee to oversee</p> <p>TIMELINES: As cited above with Membership Committee holding first meeting by June 30, 2014. Based on conversations with the Governor’s Appointment staff, we are optimistic that all vacancies will be filled by July 2014. Please see Attachment F for Council roster effective February 6, 2014.</p> <p>August 1st Status Update (3): As discussed under corrective action #2, the membership committee met for the second time on July 31st. As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 will be referred to the Senate Floor on August 4, and there receive its final amendments. There are no planned amendments relevant to this corrective action.</p>	
III.1 Membership policies (continued)	2013 MTARS Finding(4)
<p>The Council has provisions to rotate membership. Sec.125(b)(2)</p>	<p>Each regional office (i.e. Area Board) representative has to be nominated by the governor. Membership rotation</p>

	has been historically inhibited by the state’s bureaucratic appointment process. For example, one regional office has not had representation on the Council for two years.
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (4): There have historically been challenges in filling Council vacancies. The requirement that these seats be filled by Governor-appointed representatives of each regional office’s board has complicated the appointment process.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (4): The anticipated revisions to the Lanterman Act which are being proposed, will streamline the appointment process significantly. The Council intends to also request that statutory language be revised so that a member’s term begins on the date of their appointment. Additional statutory language will be crafted so that members can continue to serve while awaiting replacement.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director, for activities of the Membership Committee; Mark Polit to oversee the legislative process; both overseen by MTARS Committee.

TIMELINES: As cited above, by June 30 2014 for first meeting of Membership Committee. Anticipated revisions to state law will go into effect January 1, 2015. Beginning no later than June 30 2014, via the Membership Committee as its vehicle, it is anticipated that the Council will enjoy a collaborative and shared mission with the Governor’s office in constituting the Council.

August 1st Status Update (4): As discussed in correct action (1), AB 1595 is moving to the Senate Floor on August 4, and there receive its final amendments. There are no planned amendments to AB 1595 relevant to this corrective action.

III.1 Membership policies	2013 MTARS Finding(5)
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The Council has provisions that allow continuation of membership until a new member is appointed. Sec.125(b)(2)	The Council did not provide evidence of a policy for allowing the continuation of Council membership until a replacement member could be appointed.
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (5): The Council agrees with this finding, as there are conflicting provisions of state law.

In compliance with the DD Act, the Lanterman Act currently states:
4521(g) A member may continue to serve following the expiration of his or her term until the Governor appoints that member's successor.

However, the Lanterman Act also contains a provision which contradicts both the DD Act and Section 4521(g), quoted above:
4521(d) ... In no event shall any member described in paragraph (1) of, subparagraphs (E) and (H) of paragraph (2) of, and paragraph (3) of, subdivision (b) serve for more than a total of six years of service.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (5): The Council is proposing an amendment to the Lanterman Act to clarify that

Council member may continue serving until a new member is appointed. The bylaws will be updated in November 2014 to reflect changes in the Lanterman Act from AB 1595.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning with oversight by MTARS Committee

TIMELINES: As previously cited, legislation has been introduced with the assumption that it will be signed by the Governor in September and go into effect January 1, 2015.

August 1st Status Update (5): As discussed in correct action (1), AB 1595 is moving to the Senate Floor on August 4, and there receive its final amendments. There are no planned amendments to AB 1595 relevant to this corrective action. The bylaws have already been revised.

<i>III.1 Membership policies (continued)</i>	<i>2013 MTARS Finding(6)</i>
The Council has a process to notify Governor re: membership and vacancies. Sec. 125(b)(2)	The Council did not provide evidence of a transparent and effective process to notify Governor regarding membership vacancies.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (6): Although a process exists in state law to address vacancies, in practice there have indeed been long-standing vacancies. The Lanterman Act states:

4521(g) ... The state council shall notify the Governor regarding membership requirements of the council and shall notify the Governor at least 60 days before a member's term expires, and when a vacancy on the council remains unfilled for more than 60 days.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (6): The Membership Committee shall propose to the Council a formalized process for documenting these provisions and the Council will adopt revisions to its bylaws accordingly. This will include: 1) Notifying the Governor six months in advance when feasible; 2) Submitting multiple recommendations to the Governor for consideration; 3) Soliciting support from the DSA when vacancies remain for more than four months; 4) Reporting persistent vacancies to AIDD through the PPR process; 5) Soliciting technical assistance from AIDD when persistent vacancies exist.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director, with MTARS Committee overseeing process

TIMELINE: Membership Committee to propose revisions to bylaws by December 31, 2014.

August 1st Status Update (6): As discussed in correct action (1), AB 1595 is moving to the Senate Floor on August 4, and there receive its final amendments. There are no planned amendments to AB 1595 relevant to this corrective action.

The Membership Committee held its first meeting on June 19th. The committee is staffed by the incoming Interim Executive Director, Dr. Mike Clark and chaired by Council Vice Chair, April Lopez. A copy of the meeting agenda is attached. The first meeting identified the roles and responsibilities of the committee and the documents that they must function by (bylaws and relevant portions of the MTARS CAP). They decided

to focus on Council vacancies, as opposed to reviewing vacancies on area boards). Their next meeting will take place the last week of July or the first week of August. Prior to that meeting, the Interim Executive Director will distribute the member recruitment flyer once again and compile from the regional offices any recommendations for membership received from the communities across the state for presentation to the Membership Committee.

The bylaws have been revised establishing the Membership Committee, and they will be revised again in November to reflect changes in statute from AB 1595 and these corrective actions.

III.2 Membership requirements	2013 MTARS Finding(7)
<p>60% of membership represent individuals with DD in the following categories: Sec.125(b)(3); Sec.125(b)(5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/3 individuals with DD • 1/3 parents and guardians of children with developmental disabilities or immediate relatives of guardians of adults with developmental disabilities • 1/3 combination • At least one is immediate relative or guardian of an individual with developmental disabilities who resides or previously resided in an institution or an individual with developmental disabilities who currently/previously resided in an institution in the State. Sec.125(b)(6) 	<p>Historically the Council has had long term vacancies. Several membership rosters have been submitted since last year and four membership vacancies were filled just prior to the on-site monitoring visit. An updated membership roster is requested as part of the FY14 State Plan Amendment to AIDD to ensure compliance.</p>

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (7): The Council has historically had several vacancies.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (7): With the creation of the Membership Committee, we foresee a more engaged Council, wherein the Council will actively involve itself in seeking out and promoting candidates for the Governor’s consideration. The Chair of the Membership Committee and the staff assigned to support that Committee will be working with the Governor’s Office to rapidly fill existing vacancies. An updated membership roster was submitted as part of the FY14 State Plan Amendment. (**Attachment F** contains the current Council roster as of February 3, 2014.) It should also be noted that the Governor’s Assistant Appointment Secretary, Sarah Greenesid, sits on the MTARS Committee with the commitment of the Governor’s office to ensure the state’s compliance with the DD Act.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director, with oversight by MTARS Committee

TIMELINES: Immediate and ongoing, calls to Governor’s office bi-monthly, at minimum. A follow-up email will be sent to document the contact. Council members, staff and regional advisory members will be informed of an aggressive campaign to recruit new members via an email to be disseminated by February

28, 2014.

August 1st Status Update (7): As discussed in corrective action number (2), the Membership Committee held its second meeting on July 31st. The committee is staffed by the incoming Interim Executive Director, Dr. Mike Clark and chaired by Council Vice Chair, April Lopez.

IV. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

IV.1. Five Year State Plan

2013 MTARS Finding(8)

The plan shall focus on Council efforts to bring about the purpose of this subtitle, by specifying 5-year goals, as developed through data driven strategic planning, for advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change related to the areas of emphasis, to be undertaken by the Council. Sec.124(c)(4)(A)

There was inadequate evidence that the:

- Council engages in data-driven strategic planning to develop the State Plan and takes the primary role in the planning process.
- State Plan is the Council’s Plan and that activities are undertaken by the Council versus the State Plan being one that is configured by and for the Area Boards.
- Council is free from state interference in the development of the State Plan. The state’s DD agency awarded the Council two contracts: (1) Client Rights Advocacy and (2) Volunteer Advocacy Services. This state supported work is documented in the Goal 2 in the Council’s State Plan which states: “local offices provide assistance that include systems navigation, technical assistance, attendance to Individualized Education Plan meetings and assistance with due process”. The review team heard more about these two projects during interviews and public forum testimony than any other Council supported activity. While AIDD does not question the merit of the projects and the quality of the work being done by Council staff, it raises serious questions about whether the state is directing the Council’s State Plan or whether the Council is developing the State Plan.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

IV.1. Five Year State Plan

2013 MTARS Finding(9)

Plan must include assurances related to:
 ➤ (B) USE OF FUNDS - *At the request of any State, a portion of such funds provided to such State under this subtitle for any fiscal year shall be available to pay up to 1 /2 (or the entire amount if the Council is the designated State agency) of the*

The Council did not provide adequate evidence that the plan is supported by the assurances in Section 125(c)(5)(B - D) and (K - L).

Regarding (B) *Use of Funds*, the review team could not draw any conclusions about the Council based on the

expenditures found to be necessary by the Secretary for the proper and efficient exercise of the functions of the designated State agency, except that not more than 5 percent of such funds provided to such State for any fiscal year, or \$50,000, whichever is less, shall be made available for total expenditures for such purpose by the designated State agency

- (C) STATE FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION.—*The plan shall provide assurances that there will be reasonable State financial participation in the cost of carrying out the plan.*
- (D) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—*The plan shall provide an assurance that no member of such Council will cast a vote on any matter that would provide direct financial benefit to the member or otherwise give the appearance of a conflict of interest.*
- (K) STAFF ASSIGNMENTS.—*The plan shall provide assurances that the staff and other personnel of the Council, while working for the Council, will be responsible solely for assisting the Council in carrying out the duties of the Council under this subtitle and will not be assigned duties by the designated State agency, or any other agency, office, or entity of the State.*
- (L) NONINTERFERENCE.—*The plan shall provide assurances that the designated State agency, and any other agency, office, or entity of the State, will not interfere with the advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities, budget, personnel, State Plan development, or plan implementation of the Council, except that the designated State agency shall have the authority necessary to carry out the responsibilities described in section 125(d)(3).*

Sec.124(c)(5)

information provided about the expenditures for the DSA. It was stated during interviews that:

- The DSA charges the Council an indirect rate for the services it provides.
- The rate stated by Council staff was in excess of the 5% or \$50,000 limit.
- Staff did not know the DSA’s indirect policy and no written policy was provided.
- The Council is required to pay the indirect rate. The Council staff stated it does so from two contracts the state awards to the Council.

In regards to (C) *State Financial Participation*, when the review team inquired about how the state provides match, there were comments about state contract funds being factored in but there was a tremendous lack of clarity on this matter.

In regards to (D) *Conflict of Interest*, the majority of the Council is comprised of non-agency representatives who are Area Board representatives. There are 13 Areas Board representatives on the Council and 7 “at large” members. The Area Board representatives sit on the State Council and on the Advisory Committee to the Area Boards. This dual role presents a conflict of interest and gives the appearance of a conflict of interest. The Council does not have a policy or procedure to address this.

In regards to (K) *Staff Assignments*, it appears that Council staff is carrying out work directed by the state and not necessarily the Council through the state funded Client Rights Advocacy and Volunteer Advocacy Services projects. Through these contracts, Council staff conducts assessments and monitoring in the State’s developmental centers. Providing direct services is outside the purview of the Council’s responsibilities. Furthermore, this work is in support of the two state contracts and therefore directs the work carried out by Council staff located in the regional office. Since it is work created by and for the state, it raises questions as to whether the Council staff is assisting the Council or the state.

In regards to (L) *Noninterference*, it is very difficult to

	<p>conclude whether the Council is free of interference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid duplication, issues related to interference with the budget process are described under <i>VI.1 Fiscal Requirements</i> • To avoid duplication, issues related to interference with personnel are described under <i>II.1 Staff</i> • To avoid duplication, issues related to interference with State Plan development are described in the Section above <i>IV.1. Five Year State Plan</i>.
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (9 B and C): The Council agrees that there has been a lack of clarity on the two issues of (B) Use of Funds; and (C) State Financial Participation. With the staff turnover experienced in recent years, there is a lack of institutional knowledge. This is an area in which the Council would appreciate technical assistance.

To clarify our current practice, the Council has an Interagency Agreement (IA) in the amount of \$390,000 with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide administrative support services in the areas of accounting; some IT support; some human resources services; procurement; and contracting. We have assigned \$50,000 of these costs to the DSA functions. However, the scope of administrative work performed by the Department of Social Services far exceeds the required duties of the DSA. For example, the Council does not have state-approved delegated purchasing authority. Its purchasing authority is held by DSS and therefore, all contracts are encumbered by DSS on behalf of SCDD. We believe it is appropriate for the Council to assign some of the cost of our CDSS Interagency Agreement as General Management costs. If not for this Interagency Agreement, the Council would have to bring these functions in-house, at substantially greater cost. The \$390,000 CDSS IA is broken down as follows:

- \$50,000.....DSA Functions
- \$136,960..... Council General Management costs
- \$92,040.....Funds from State CRA/VAS contract
- \$111,000.....Funds from State QA (NCI) contract

The CDSS states that the cost of providing the support services as outlined in the IA, far exceeds the \$390,000 paid by SCDD. According to the CDSS, the services more accurately cost \$620,000. Therefore, the difference between the \$620,000 worth of support services provided to the Council versus the \$390,000 paid for these services, represents California’s State Financial Participation.

Please see **ATTACHMENT K** for a copy of the CDSS Interagency Agreement as well as supplemental information from CDSS on this matter.

Additionally, it should be noted that, to a very large degree, the California Council implements its State Plan through staff activities which requires no match. In Fiscal Year 2013, the Council awarded \$580,414 in

grants, which represents 9% of our allotment. The grantees did provide matching/in-kind funds for a total match of \$284,276 or nearly 50% of the funds awarded. Please see **ATTACHMENT L** for (FY 2013) Cycle 35 Grants and the current (FY 2014) Cycle 36 Grants.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (9 B and C): We provide this added documentation in order to assure sufficient clarity. The Council welcomes input from AIDD if further evidence is required to ensure that we are properly addressing assurances.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director; Administrative Committee to oversee and report to MTARS Committee

August 1st Status Update (9B, 9C): No action planned regarding this finding

Response(9) Regarding (D), Conflict of Interest

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) is comprised of 31 members; 11 members are agency representatives, 7 members are statewide, or “at-large” and 13 members are from the local area advisory boards.

The regional advisory board members are appointed first by the Governor to the area advisory board and secondly by the Governor to the Council.

For California, the Legislature expressly determined that the planning activities of the Council depend on the direct involvement of Council members familiar with the structure and operation of services and programs for persons with developmental disabilities in areas throughout the state. The Legislature found this necessary due to the expansive geographical size of the state of California and its complexity and diversity. To this end, WIC 4525 expressly exempts Council members from the local area advisory boards from the conflict of interest criteria.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (9 D): Based on the many findings relating to membership policies, as previously reported, the Council has begun to develop legislative language to amend the Lanterman Act. This is intended to result in an appointment process that eliminates the perceived conflict of interest. Currently, geographic diversity is established by having a seat assigned to each of the 13 regional advisory committees. It is anticipated that revisions to the Lanterman Act will preserve the geographic diversity by assuring that there is at least one Council member from each of the geographic areas that encompasses each regional office. The local regional advisory committees will be encouraged to recommend potential candidates to the Council’s Membership Committee and directly to the Governor’s Appointment Office, but the Governor retains authority to select the Council membership.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning for legislative action; MTARS Committee to oversee.

TIMELINES: As previously noted, legislation is expected to be effective January 1, 2015.

August 1st Status Update (9D): The revisions in law through AB 1595, discussed above in Status Update (1), will move on August 4 from Senate Appropriations to the Senate Floor. There are no planned amendments to AB 1595 relevant to this corrective action.

RESPONSE TO K (Staff Assignments): Our response is addressed under **Response 8**, previously cited. It should again be noted that the Council’s activities with respect to serving the residents of state developmental centers is documented in the State Plan under Objective 2d; thus staff who implement the CRA/VAS contract are carrying out work that is consistent with the Council’s role and mission, with leveraged state funds.

IV.2 State Plan Implementation

2013 MTARS Finding(10)

The Council shall implement the State Plan by conducting and supporting advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities Sec.125(c)(5)

The Council’s 5-year plan implementation does not promote advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change at the state level. As discussed above, the review team heard more about the two state funded projects implemented by the Area Boards. Since so much attention was paid to the two state funded projects, the review team did not hear about a coherent set of activities implemented by the Council at the state level.

The Council is providing direct services through the two state contracts. This type of activity is outside the purview of the Council’s responsibilities and appears to overlap with P&A functions.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (10): The Council believes it is in compliance with this provision of Sec.125(c)(5).

The review team focused a great deal on the relationship between the Council’s local offices and the Council. As such, we did not fully explore our state level work on advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change. Apparently, the Council and its staff did not adequately communicate the state level work the Council performs. We will discuss some of this information below and add information on activities since the review team has visited.

In 2013, the Council sponsored AB 1041, Employment First Policy, and played a major role in SB 468, Self-Determination, a bill sponsored by Disability Rights California and Autism Society of Los Angeles. On October 10, 2013, Governor Brown signed both bills into law, creating a turning point in how California delivers services and supports to people with IDD. Combined, these bills may be the most significant change in California law affecting people with IDD since the passage of the Lanterman Act in 1969. These bills are fundamental to the purpose of the DD Act in promoting self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life. Also, as the DD Act envisioned, the Council worked very closely on both bills with some of our federal partners (DRC on SB 468 and the Tarjan Center, UCLA, on AB 1041).

With respect to state-level capacity building, for example, the Council worked with self-advocacy leaders to establish the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN). The SSAN is supported by the Council, but will eventually be an independent 501(c)(3) organization. It is comprised of representatives from each of the 13 regions, the Council’s Self-Advocacy Advisory Committee, each of the four federal DD partners, the

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, and People First of California. This is a dynamic group of self-advocacy leaders from around the state that is focused on influencing state level policy and building self-advocacy capacity and leadership at the local level.

Other examples of state level capacity building would include our sponsorships of major statewide conferences, an annual major contribution to the Youth Leadership Forum, which trains self-advocacy leaders of the future, and the Council's Program Development Grants.

With respect to state level advocacy, the PPRs submitted annually contain significant information on the extent of state level advocacy. Since the review team visited in January, the Council wrote 308 letters (including 240 to state legislators, 10 to the Governor, and 57 to the California Congressional Delegation and US Senators). In addition, the Council had over 145 legislative, Congressional and administration meetings.

Besides AB 1041, Employment First Policy, the Council sponsored two other bills: (1) The Council worked closely with Autism Speaks to co-sponsor SB 163, which sought to protect the rights of families to be reimbursed for insurance co-pays and deductibles for autism therapies approved by the state. That bill was defeated. The Council will continue to work with autism advocates to seek protection for those rights. (2) The Council also co-sponsored SB 577 which would create a new service category for job exploration and discovery. This bill is an important part of the strategy to remove barriers to the employment of people with developmental disabilities in integrated competitive employment. This was a two-year bill, passed out of the Senate in January 2014, and is now being considered by the Assembly.

At the federal level, the Council opposed the proposed sequestration cuts to health and human services and wrote the entire California Congressional delegation, informing them of the potential impact on individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The Council also opposed proposed federal cuts to federal health programs, such as Medicaid. Council staff visited and spoke with staff and members in 15 congressional offices.

With respect to systems change, the Council has been a leading advocate for the last six years for making integrated competitive employment an option for people with developmental disabilities in the state. For example, during this time, the Council sponsored six pieces of employment related legislation. Three of these were signed into law: (1) SB 1270 (2006) authorized the Council to conduct extensive public meetings with stakeholders, consumers, and family members to recommend to the Legislature and Governor steps to increase integrated employment options and more individualized day services. (2) In 2009, at the Council's request, AB 287 established the Employment First Committee within the Council that serves as a forum for all relevant departments and stakeholders to meet and develop strategies to improve employment outcomes. (3) In October of 2013, the Governor signed AB 1041, the Employment First Policy. In part because of the Council's work over the years, this Employment First Policy was not just an executive order or a statement by the department, but represents a consensus view of the DD stakeholder community.

Also with respect to systems change, the Council has played a key role, since 1998, in development of the Self-Determination option in California. The area boards have been partners with the regional centers in implementation of the five Self-Determination pilots. They staffed the pilot advisory committees at the

local and state level. The Council contributed significantly to the first Self-Determination bill in 2011 and to the legislation that was signed into law this year.

Beside these highlights, the Council is active in most of the key state level policy forums affecting people with IDD. The Council is a lead agency in California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY), a project of national significance funded by AIDD. The Council convenes the Employment First Committee which complements the work of CECY in providing a forum for key stakeholders and departments to address barriers to employment of people with IDD. The Council was recently represented on the Secretary's "Future of the DCs Task Force", which made recommendations supported by the Administration for the downsizing and closure of the DCs and the development of a new generation of community services for people with high behavioral needs. We are represented on the ODEP Vision Quest state team comprised of key department, academic and advocacy representatives. We participate in a cross-disability collaboration between leaders of the Tarjan Center and Councils and Committees with statutory responsibilities for the employment of people with disabilities. We participate in stakeholder workgroups convened by the department on state budget and, currently, Self-Determination. We have participated for the last 12 years in broad stakeholder collaborations within the I/DD advocacy and stakeholder communities (The Community Imperative Strategy Group and the Lanterman Coalition). And finally, the Council has a strong internal policy structure with a Deputy Director of Policy and planning, policy support staff, and a Legislative and Public Policy Committee that usually meets 8 or 9 times per year and makes recommendations to the Council on legislation, policy, regulation and state budget issues.

While there is already a great deal of activity, we strive to have a much larger influence and more effectively drive state level policy on a broader scale. We are also increasing the exchange of information between headquarters and regional offices. We appreciated the MTARS' team suggestions for improved work with the regional offices.

Our state level policy work is inextricably linked to and benefits enormously from the Council's regional presence. The Legislative and Public Policy Committee (LPPC) and the Council benefit from the regional offices and regional advisory committees' close connection to their communities. What is happening locally informs our decision making at the state level.

The Council also benefits from our reach into local communities when advancing policy change. For example, the information alerts distributed by the Council are typically forwarded on through our local office databases to what is ultimately a broad statewide network of local/regional/minority organizations and their contact lists. This multiplier effect would indicate that a Council information alert on a topic of high interest would reach at least 30,000 individuals. In 2013, the Council's work on both Employment First Policy and Self-Determination legislation helped contribute to a huge outpouring of support for these bills, and ultimately, their being signed into law.

Finally, once new policy is adopted, it is necessary to ensure implementation of that policy through information dissemination; training people with developmental disabilities, families, professionals and local regional centers; monitoring the implementation in local communities, where the policies are being implemented; and advocating for corrective actions when implementation lags.

Please refer to **Attachments M** and **N** for further information on the Council's self-advocacy activities and

its most recent Employment First Report, which is disseminated to the Legislature and the Governor.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (10): The newly reconstituted State Plan Committee, which will hold its first meeting by June 30, 2014, will develop a template that captures data on state plan implementation at both the local and statewide level. It will be distributed on at least a quarterly basis to the full Council and utilized to complete the PPR.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning; Staff planning analyst, Janet Fernandez; State Plan Committee.

TIMELINES: Starting no later than June 30, 2014 and quarterly thereafter.

August 1st Status Update (10): The State Plan Committee met on July 8 to review grant applications, as had been scheduled. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for August 25, when they will review data on State Plan Implementation from a geographical perspective. This is the next step in the Council exercising greater control over the implementation of the current plan.

The Council’s ability to oversee implementation of the State Plan has been hampered by the lack of a planning specialist, a position appointed by the Governor. The Council has now hired a Planning Analyst through civil service to perform the major functions of the Planning Specialist. The new planning analyst, Janet Fernandez, started work on July 31st. Janet is a parent of a young man with developmental disabilities, who has been active in the autism parent movement for many years. She has a BS in Career Technical Services and has worked professionally with people with developmental disabilities and their families for years, both as a trainer and working with law enforcement. She has consulted with law enforcement agencies throughout the state, training first responders on working with people with developmental disabilities. She has also consulted with law enforcement to work with people with developmental disabilities (and their families) who have been victims of crime. Her support of people during some of the worst moments of their lives, helping them to re-build their self-esteem and sense of personal empowerment, gives her a unique perspective on the broad set of issues facing DD services and the struggles of people with disabilities to be safe, belong, be in control, and be a part of their communities. Her ability to communicate with people with developmental disabilities, their families, and other stakeholders, combines with her broad knowledge of disability issues prepare her well for this new assignment. She will be the primary staff to the State Plan Committee under the direction of the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning.

The June 25th MTARS Committee meeting decided to seek technical assistance from AIDD and NACDD on the CRA/VAS issue. Specifically, since CRA/VAS is a state authorized activity funded 100% with state funds, it may be appropriate to remove these contracted activities from the State Plan. Under that option, the CRA/VAS contract would continue, but not as a state plan activity.

V. EVALUATION AND REPORTS

<i>Program Performance Report</i>	<i>2013 MTARS Finding(11)</i>
The Council annually prepares and transmits to the Secretary a report containing information about the progress made in achieving the goals. The report includes:	Overall the Council’s Program Performance Report does not specifically describe how each Area Board is contributing to State Plan implementation. Because there are 13 regional offices implementing different parts of the

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which each goal of Council was achieved. Sec.125(c)(7)(A) • Description of strategies that contributed to achieving goals. Sec.125(c)(7)(B) • Extent to which each goal was not achieved, describes factors that impeded goal achievement. Sec.125(c)(7)(C) • Separate information on self-advocacy goal. Sec.125(c)(7)(D) 	<p>Council State Plan, it is difficult to determine how State Plan achievement is being measured and evaluated.</p> <p>Some Area Boards referenced using "mini-plans" to document which parts of the Council State Plan they were implementing. Other Area Boards did not provide evidence of having "mini-plans". Without consistent use of Area Board "mini-plans" or some other tool it is unclear how the Council can assess progress made in achieving goals.</p>
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (11): The State Council funds 13 regional offices throughout the state. Each office has program staff that offer ongoing outreach, education, training and technical assistance to their local community. These activities are aligned with the Developmental Disabilities Act and are vital in furthering the objectives of the State Plan. The Council provides ongoing monitoring of the regional offices to ensure their activities correlate to the implementation of the State Plan.

The Council is cognizant that it is the Council’s State Plan, not the Area Boards’. With a broad ambitious State Plan and many staff throughout the state implementing it, the compiling of data for the Program Performance Report is challenging. We have been further hampered in that the position of Planning Specialist that would assist in coordination of this effort has been vacant for two years.

For the 2012 PPR, California used DD Suite for the first time. All program staff were given access to DD Suite and each staff entered activity narratives directly; however, staff were not held to a specific schedule for reporting activities and outcomes. As a result, the PPR data lacked continuity and cohesion. This year the Council developed an Activity Form, which is a tool to achieve consistency in reporting progress on State Plan-related activities. All program staff now use the Activity form for reporting on each distinct activity. The Activity Reports are turned in to the Deputy Director for Policy and Planning on a bimonthly basis (per the timeline structure of DD Suite) and data is entered into DD Suite by one individual. This approach has resulted in a far more cohesive PPR. It has also resulted in a far more accurate document, demonstrating even better outcomes.

While the PPR is a comprehensive report of the Council’s overall performance in implementing the State Plan, the individual Activity Forms provide the more specific data and document the details on how each objective is being implemented. The Activity Forms tell the Council what each regional office is doing to implement the State Plan. The State Plan Committee will be able to use the Activity Forms to better assess the performance of each regional office and the Council overall in implementing the State Plan. This in turn will also permit the Council to do more accurate budget planning and grant planning to fill the gaps in achieving outcomes. Please see **ATTACHMENT O** for a sample of several Activity Forms and **ATTACHMENT P** for the 2013 PPR.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (11): The Council had a Strategic Planning Committee to oversee the development of the State Plan and the ongoing progress in implementing the State Plan. When the Planning Specialist position became vacant two years ago, however, the Strategic Planning Committee became inactive. In

2013, the Council took steps to reinstate a re-named State Plan Subcommittee; however, at this point it has not yet convened. The Council Executive Director is in the process of filling the Planning Specialist position, having identified a qualified candidate to fill the position of Planning Specialist on January 23, 2014. It is anticipated that the individual will begin her position on or around April 1, 2014. The Planning Specialist will be responsible for training program staff in reporting obligations and ensuring that the Council is kept abreast of progress made in implementing the State Plan. The State Plan Committee will be charged with reviewing the individual Activity forms and based on that data, developing a matrix that illustrates the Council’s progress in implementing the State Plan. The chart will be provided to the Council at least quarterly. The information will be used by the Program Development Committee (PDC) to assist in determining priorities for grants. It will be used by the Administrative Committee to help guide fiscal priorities.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy; MTARS Committee to oversee.

TIMELINES: The State Plan Committee will meet beginning no later than June 30 2014 and will convene at a minimum, quarterly. The Chair will appoint the members of this Committee no later than April 1, 2014.

August 1st Status Update (11): See status update (1), above.

<p>An accounting of the manner in which funds paid to the State for a fiscal year were expended. Sec.125(c)(7)(G)</p>	<p>The Council presented several documents that detailed different aspects of how the federal allotment is being spent, but overall the review team could not determine how the budget is developed and executed and how expenditure data is calculated.</p>
<p>VI. FISCAL</p>	
<p>VI.1 Fiscal Requirements</p>	<p>2013 MTARS Finding(12)</p>
<p>Council has authority to prepare, approve, and implement a budget to fund programs, projects, and activities. Sec125(c)(8)</p>	<p>The Council did not provide adequate evidence on how it developed or implemented its budget to fund programs, projects, and activities. Council members expressed a strong need for more fiscal transparency and training on state versus federal fiscal policy and the Council’s budget development/implementation process.</p> <p>In addition, the Lanterman continues to include language that is inconsistent with the DD Act, posing challenges for the Council to be in compliance with the federal law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lanterman Act requires the Council to provide funding to Area Boards. • The Lanterman Act provisions require the Council to hire staff at the deputy director level thereby interjecting a line item in the Council’s budget and limiting its authority to develop a budget.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (12): In this section we address both Sec 125(c)(7)(G): The PPR includes an accounting of the manner in which funds paid to the State for a fiscal year were expended; and Sec 125(c)(8) Fiscal Requirements since both specifically address the Council's role in developing, implementing and tracking its budget.

As the MTARS report later states, at the time of the site visit the Council lacked a Budget Officer (Administrative Service Manager) and unfortunately, the previous Executive Director had provided little budgetary information to the Council. The Administrative Committee was re-established in January 2013 and has met ten (10) times in 2013, nearly monthly. The Administrative Committee's first undertaking was to develop a 2013 Administrative Work Plan, based on the recommendations of the November 2012 Audit Report from the Department of Health Care Services. Additionally, the Committee ensured that the Council received quarterly expenditure reports in 2013 and approved the Council's budget for FY 2014.

In May 2013, Council members received governance training, which included their obligations to approve and monitor the budget, from NACDD technical assistance staff.

At its July 2013 Council meeting, members received training from our Department of Finance (DOF) Analyst on the state budgeting process. Because the California Council implements its State Plan largely through staff activities and because it also retains a network of 13 regional offices, a large proportion of the federal grant is assigned to personnel and facility costs. Since these are largely predictable costs, much though not all, of the budget is necessarily based on historical expenditures. The budget approved by the Council breaks out costs in two categories: Personal Services and Operating Expenses and Equipment. However, the Administrative Committee reviewed a more detailed line item budget. It was the Administrative Committee that examined the Council's allocation of funds to determine how we would absorb the sequestration cut in FY 13 and into the future. The Administrative Committee recommended and the Council agreed that staff vacancies at the local area offices would not be filled.

Additionally, the re-established Administrative Committee receives programmatic and grant information from the Program Development Committee (PDC) that is used to guide fiscal decisions. The Chair of the Administrative Committee also sits on the PDC.

In 2000, California Department of Finance staff devised a cost allocation methodology that would enable the Council to assign costs by state plan goal. That methodology has been reviewed and revised periodically, most recently with the development of the current state plan. The formula is utilized by the state's primary accounting system, known as **Calstars**. As a result, Calstars provides monthly expenditure data, broken out several different ways, including by state plan goal.

For further insight into the Council's efforts to correct identified fiscal weaknesses and inadequacies, please also refer to the attached Fiscal Integrity and State Manager's Accountability Act report (FISMA Report). The FISMA report is a required biannual report of California state departments to examine the adequacy of the agency's system of internal controls.

As previously stated, the Council is pursuing legislation that will bring state law into compliance with the federal DD Act. This will include revised language that removes any provision that interferes with the

Council’s autonomy in establishing its budget.

ATTACHMENT Q: Administrative Committee Roster; **ATTACHMENT R:** Administrative Committee packets of January 2013, February 2013, March 2013, April 2013, June 2013, July 2013, August 2013, October 2013, November 2013, January 8, 2014, January 22, 2014. Quarterly budget reports and Council’s approved 2014 budget (two versions, with and without sequestration cut) are included. **ATTACHMENT S:** November Calstars report; **ATTACHMENT T:** FISMA Report

CORRECTIVE ACTION (12): The Council has made steady progress in establishing the necessary oversight and ensuring that the Council members are well informed about fiscal and budget processes. The Council now receives quarterly expenditure reports, develops and approves the annual budget. Further, the Council recognizes and welcomes that AIDD staff will be providing close supervision of our progress in this area. The Administrative Committee will continue to meet monthly. The Administrative Committee has set the following priorities for its work in 2014:

1. Ensure that all MTARS noncompliance findings of a fiscal/administrative nature are resolved.
2. Take a more active role in developing the Council’s 2015 budget. (Presented at May 2014 Council meeting)
3. Ensure that the Council has a comprehensive Policies and Procedures Manual. (Completion by December 31, 2014)
4. Oversee the process of establishing an MOU with the DSA and evaluating the functions of the DSA. (Evaluation completed by May 2014. MOU completed by November 30, 2014.)

(Refer to Attachment U: 2014 Administrative Work Plan

STAFF ASSIGNED: Aaron Carruthers, Chief Deputy Director; Mark Polit, Deputy Director of Policy and Planning; Administrative Committee to oversee administrative activities. MTARS Committee to oversee legislation.

TIMELINES: Ongoing, monthly

August 1st Status Update (12): Staff Counsel is reviewing the status of current procedures and the need for updating or creation of new policies and procedures. The November Council meeting is scheduled to approve a full policies and procedures manual.

Council staff has begun work on the MOU with the DSA, after Staff Counsel review of MOUs from other states.

As discussed in corrective action (1), AB 1595 will be referred to the Senate Floor on August 4th. It will be amended on the Senate Floor.

VI.2 Fiscal Policies	2013 MTARS Finding(13)
Council has policies to carry out appropriate subcontracting activities. Sec.125(c)(8)(A)	The Council did not provide adequate evidence of that is has accurate financial accounting and record keeping:

<p>Council directs expenditures of funds for grants, contracts, interagency agreements that are binding contracts and other activities authorized by State Plan approval. Sec.125(c)(8)(C) Grantee shall keep records that disclose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount and disposition of assistance by recipient • Total cost of project or undertaking in connection with assistance given • Amount of project costs supplied by other sources • Such other records that will facilitate an effective audit <p>Sec.103</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the time of the on-site visit, the Administrative Services Manager position was vacant and the Council did not have a staff person dedicated to managing the Council's finances. • The Council could only provide limited information on the Council's fiscal policies during the on-site visit pertinent to the requirements in the DD Act. • The Council experienced fiscal impropriety under the previous Executive Director (Board Resource contract) • The state auditor's findings substantiate the immediate need for financial management systems. (Reference: <i>California Department of Finance Management Letter dated August 17, 2012</i>)
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (13): The Council agrees that these findings accurately describe the Council in January 2013, but has since taken a number of strong steps to rectify that situation. We believe that the Council is now on a far stronger fiscal footing and that our policies and practices are transparent to the members, the public, and our business associates.

In July 2013 the Council was able to hire a new Budget Officer (the delay was due to legal procedures associated with the previous budget officer) She has been working closely with Department of Finance staff and our accounting colleagues at the CDSS.

Immediately following her appointment as Acting (now Interim) Executive Director, Ms. Newton sought and received approval from the Council to enter into an Interagency Agreement for the California Department of Health Care Services Financial Audits Branch (FAB) to expand upon the Department of Finance Management Letter's findings, issued August 17, 2012. (Note: Department of Finance (DOF) staff were unavailable to conduct the follow-up.) The DSA was instrumental in securing the services of the FAB audit staff. Specifically, the request was for the audit team to examine all of the Council's practices around contracting and procurement and to provide recommendations. Those recommendations became the basis for an **Administrative Work Plan** which staff has been implementing throughout 2013 and Council has been overseeing, through the Administrative Committee. The Administrative Committee regularly reports to the Council on our progress.

In December 2013, staff completed a draft **Contract and Purchasing Manual** that to a large degree is based upon the manual utilized by the Department of Social Services. The Manual focuses on the Council's procedures for contracting and procurement. The draft Manual was reviewed by the Administrative Committee in January 2014. A second draft will be presented at the February 27, 2014 Administrative Committee meeting. It is anticipated that the Contract and Purchasing Manual will be one element of a more comprehensive Policies and Procedures Manual to be developed throughout 2014. Target completion date: December 31, 2014. The Council does continue to be hampered by staff management vacancies, especially that of the Chief Deputy for Administration. We have been assured that the Governor's Appointment Office will cooperate with the Council's Interim Executive Director in filling these positions

expeditiously during this transitional period while legislation is pending to remove the Governor’s hiring authority.

Please see **ATTACHMENT V:** Department of Health Care Services Audit Report and **ATTACHMENT W:** 2013 and 2014 SCDD Work Plans and **ATTACHMENT X:** SCDD Draft Contract Manual

CORRECTIVE ACTION (13): The Council is advertising for a Chief Deputy for Administration (advertisements have been placed in Monster, Idealist, Opportunity Knocks, Exec Searches, and Capitol Weekly) and a Deputy for Area Board Operations. The Administrative Committee will review a second draft of the Contract and Purchasing Manual in February 2014 and it will go to the Council for review and approval thereafter. As opportunities arise, administrative staff are attending contract development and oversight classes. For example, the contract analyst is registered for a two day class titled “Monitoring Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Federal Personnel” in April 2014.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Aaron Carruthers, Chief Deputy Director, and Administrative Committee

TIMELINES: Refer to Corrective Action above

August 1st Status Update (13): The new executive management team is comprised of the new Interim Executive Director, Mike Clark, the new Chief Deputy, Aaron Carruthers, and the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning, Mark Polit. Each member of this team has tremendous depth of experience in their areas. The team has been working well together and with Council leadership. Of special note, the Chief Deputy is supporting budget, personnel, contracting, and other staff to grow professionally, and he is continuing the process of strengthening internal procedures and controls. Morale among administrative staff at Council headquarters has improved significantly.

VII. DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY

VII.2 Responsibilities of DSA

2013 MTARS Finding(14)

- Receives, accounts for, and disburses funds under subtitle based on State Plan. Sec125(d)(3)(C)(i)
- Provides the appropriate fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to assure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, funds paid to the state. Sec125(d)(3)(C)(ii)
- Keeps and provides access to records as Secretary and Council may determine necessary and timely financial reports regarding status of expenditures, obligations, and liquidation by agency or Council, and use of Federal and non-Federal shares. Sec125(d)(3)(D)
- Provides required non-Federal share.

As mentioned above the Council’s recent experience with fiscal impropriety under the previous Executive Director (Board Resource contract) and the state auditor’s findings substantiates the DSA’s need to establish processes, policies, and procedures that promote:

- Accurate receipt, accounting, and disbursement of funds
- Provision of appropriate fiscal control and fund accounting procedures necessary to assure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, funds paid
- Access to records as the Secretary and Council may determine necessary
- Timely development and dissemination of financial reports regarding status of expenditures, obligations, and liquidation by agency or Council, and use of Federal and non-Federal shares

<p>Sec125(d)(3)(E)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assists in obtaining appropriate State Plan assurances and consistency with state law. Sec125(d)(3)(F) Enters into MOU at request of Council. Sec125(d)(3)(G) 	<p>The Council does not have a Memorandum of Understanding with the DSA.</p> <p>There was no evidence that the Council has conducted a formal evaluation of the DSA at any point and time.</p> <p>Several Council staff position and DSA functions appear duplicative. Several DSA functions are performed by Council staff at the central office, specifically in the areas of: contracting, budget, fiscal, and personnel.</p>
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (14): The Council Interim Executive Director has met on multiple occasions with the DSA throughout 2013, specifically to discuss DSA functions.

Currently, the DSA is in the process of obtaining final approval from the California Department of General Services on their revised fiscal control and purchasing authority policies and procedures. Based on these policies and procedures, the Council’s legal Counsel has adapted it and developed a Contract and Purchasing Manual policy handbook that establishes procedures to ensure accurate and appropriate fiscal controls. As previously noted, that manual is currently under review by the Administrative Committee. Once approved by the Committee, the Full Council will review and approve, anticipated at the May 2014 Council meeting. (Please refer to **ATTACHMENT X**)

Council staff members have already attended several trainings regarding their fiduciary obligations as well as proper and standard accounting procedures that will ensure accuracy and dependability in accounting and disbursement of funds.

All policies and procedures ensure that while staff is responsible for the daily work, the full Council retains control over authorizing expenditure of funds in accordance with federal laws, rules, and State Plan goals and objectives.

Neither the Council nor the DSA perceive duplication of Council staff duties with DSA functions. The Department of Social Services’ Interagency Agreement (Attachment K) identifies DSA functions in considerable detail. We have attached the Duty Statements for our Contract Analyst, Contract/Procurement Analyst, Personnel Specialist, Budget Officer, and Information Systems Specialist. While it is certainly true that those positions correspond to DSA functions, Council staff coordinate duties with DSA (DSS) staff. They are complementary, not duplicative. For example, the Council’s Personnel Specialist is the first line contact with our 65 (federally funded) employees. She handles duties associated with changes in benefits, salary, work hours, promotion or adverse actions. DSA staff have access to the state government mainframe and State Controller’s Office and therefore are charged with inputting the transactional changes. Additionally, there are no Council staff who carry out accounting functions. Without direct access to Calstars, the state’s multimillion dollar accounting system, we depend on DSS to handle these functions in a more cost effective manner than we could.

ATTACHMENT K: DSS Interagency Agreement; **ATTACHMENT Y:** FIVE (5) DUTY STATEMENTS
CORRECTIVE ACTION (14): The Council agrees that it will develop and enter into a Memorandum of

Understanding (MOU) with the DSA during calendar year 2014. This effort will be coordinated by the Administrative Committee. The DSA is represented on the Administrative Committee by Kristopher Kent, Assistant Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency. The Council itself will approve the MOU and it will be signed by the Chairperson.

The Council agrees that it will conduct a formal evaluation of the DSA during calendar year 2014 again through the Administrative Committee. It should be noted, however, that Council management has met periodically with DSA staff to address deliverables, timelines, best practices in IT support and communication, among other issues.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Aaron Carruthers, Chief Deputy Director, and the Administrative Committee

TIMELINES: Review current DSA functions; review sample MOUs from other states by April 2014 Administrative Committee. Draft MOU and meet with DSA to discuss review by July 2014 Administrative Committee. Meet with DSA and discuss/revise as needed draft MOU by September 2014. Execute and sign MOU at November 2014 Council meeting

August 1st Status Update (14): Council staff has begun work on the MOU with the DSA, after Staff Counsel review of MOUs from other states.



State Council on Developmental Disabilities



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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MTARS Corrective Action Plan

PROGRESS REPORT September 2, 2014

"The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families."

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

II.1 Staff

2013 MTARS Finding (1)

The Director shall hire, supervise, and annually evaluate the staff of the Council. Sec. 125(c)(9)

The Council Director (not the Governor) should hire Council staff and supervise and annually evaluate them. Instead the:

- Council Director submits hiring recommendations to the Governor and the Governor has the final authority to hire two deputy level staff.
- The Council has the final approval for the hiring of other staff.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (1): The Council agrees with this finding.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (1): The Council proposes amending state law, the Lanterman Act, to provide that the Executive Director of the Council is the hiring authority for all Council staff. It is the Council’s intent to propose substantive revisions to the Lanterman Act to address this and other MTARS findings of noncompliance. The Governor’s office has indicated its support for relinquishing hiring authority in order to come into compliance with the DD Act.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning and Natalie Bocanegra, Staff Counsel; Council’s MTARS Committee to oversee process.

TIMELINES: Effective January 17, 2014, Assembly Member Wesley Chesbro agreed to sponsor a bill with intent language. Assembly Bill 1595 (AB 1595) was introduced on February 3, 2014. The Council anticipates that the bill will pass out of the Legislature by August 30th, be signed by the Governor in September 2014 and take effect January 1, 2015.

September 2 Status Update (1): On August 14, AB 1595 was amended on the Senate Floor to incorporate language on transition of exempt staff to civil service positions, clarifying language on the authority of the Council to establish regional offices, and technical changes to conform the bill to changes in law made through the state budget process. The language of the non-technical amendments is attached. On August 22, the bill was amended to include a minor technical amendment to the bill, so a signature on AB 1595 would not interfere with the chaptering of another bill. No amendments were made that pertain to this corrective action.

On August 26, the Senate passed the final version of AB 1595, by a vote of 35-0. On August 27, the Assembly concurred in the Senate Amendments by a vote of 78-0. The bill is now in the legislative “enrolling” process, on the way to Governor Brown for signature. The Governor has until September 30 to sign or veto legislation. The Council wrote a support letter to the Governor (attached) and is in communication with the Governor’s Office on the legislation. We anticipate Governor Brown will act on AB 1595 near the end of the month. Please find attached, a copy of the final bill, as passed by the Legislature, reflecting “current law as amended”.

III. MEMBERSHIP	
III.1 Membership policies	2013 MTARS Finding (2)
<p>Membership recommendations solicited by Governor from a broad range of organizational sources including non-state agency members of the Council. Sec125(b)(1)(B)</p>	<p>The Council’s membership nomination and appointment process has been historically inhibited by state bureaucracy. It is unclear if and how membership recommendations are solicited from a broad range of DD/ID organizational sources and non-state agency members of the Council.</p>
California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response	
<p>COUNCIL RESPONSE (2): The Council agrees that it is in limited compliance with this finding. In this instance, California state law is consistent with the DD Act. The Lanterman Act, Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 4521 includes the following provision: <i>4521(c) Prior to appointing the 31 members pursuant to this section, the Governor shall request and consider recommendations from organizations representing, or providing services to, or both, persons with developmental disabilities, and shall take into account socioeconomic, ethnic, and geographic considerations of the state.</i></p> <p>However, the Council has historically been somewhat passive in its involvement in the recruitment of new Council members. Currently, individual Council members may informally recommend that a colleague or acquaintance apply for appointment, but there is no organized process for soliciting their recommendations and submitting them to the Governor’s Appointment office as required in Section 125(b)(1)(B). The Governor does proactively seek input from a variety of ID/DD organizations, but that effort is conducted independent of the Council’s involvement.</p> <p>CORRECTIVE ACTION (2): The Council will amend its bylaws to establish a Membership Committee to recruit, solicit and advise the Governor on appointments to the Council. Its membership will consist exclusively of self-advocates and family advocates who are community leaders and who may or may not be Council members. Part of the rationale for selecting non-Council members in addition to Council members to sit on this Committee is to permit the Council to strategically reach out to influential individuals in the I/DD field who have extensive contacts. In many cases, these individuals are not eligible to themselves sit on the Council because they wear multiple hats as both self/family advocate and disability professional. The Committee will consist of at least three members, a majority of whom are Council members. Consistent with Council Bylaws, the Chair shall be a Council member. The Committee will meet quarterly at minimum and more frequently as needed. The bylaws will define its membership and responsibilities and will include language in Section 125(b)(1)(B) that the Membership Committee will “coordinate Council and public input to the Governor regarding all recommendations.” Among its duties will be to develop recruitment materials and publicity strategy. The Membership Committee will, at least quarterly, solicit recommendations for candidates via social media, and email/web alerts from among the regional advisory committees, self-advocacy groups, family support groups, the Federal Partners and service providers. The Chair of the Membership Committee will be charged with submitting the Committee’s recommendations to the Governor’s Appointment Office.</p>	

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director; MTARS Committee to oversee implementation.

TIMELINES: Council to amend Bylaws to create Membership Committee at its March 20, 2014 meeting. Chair to complete appointments to the Committee by May 9, 2014. Membership Committee to hold first meeting in June 2014.

September 2 Status Update (2): The Membership Committee held its second meeting on July 31st (draft minutes are attached). The committee is staffed by the Interim Executive Director, Dr. Mike Clark and chaired by Council Vice Chair, April Lopez.

Committee Members reviewed the status of Council appointments, the composition of the Council, the appointment process, and their responsibilities under the revised Council Bylaws. The committee discussed coordinating on appointments with the Governor’s Office. There was also a discussion on how to gain public input regarding possible nominees and appointments, including use of social media. While the Membership Committee is required by the Bylaws to meet quarterly, it will meet more often in order to gather information and invigorate the recruiting process. The committee also discussed the current recruitment flyer and possible modifications to make it more effective for self-advocates and our diverse communities. They also discussed possible recruiting flyers for regional advisory committees. The next meeting of the Membership Committee will be September 8.

III.1 Membership policies (continued)	2013 MTARS Finding (3)
Members reflect the state’s diverse geographic locations, race, and ethnicity. Sec.125(b)(1)(C)	The appointment process for obtaining new Council members has hindered compliance with the DD Act. Currently, SCDD’s membership composition does not meet the requirements for geographic, racial, and ethnic diversity.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (3): The Council has historically had several vacancies and currently has four vacancies for positions recommended by the Area Boards. However for the current 15 non-agency members of the Council, the ethnic and racial representation is as follows: 21% Latino, 7% black, 7% Asian. The membership is currently geographically diverse as well.

By design, the Council has historically enjoyed geographic diversity, since 13 seats are filled by members from the 13 regions covering the entire state.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (3): The newly constituted Membership Committee will formally take the lead in conducting outreach to unrepresented regions of the state and underserved communities. The Chair of the Membership Committee will solicit from among non-agency Council members, the regional advisory committees, self-advocacy leaders and family support groups, especially those whose membership is composed of individuals from traditionally underserved ethnic or racial minority communities.

Based on the many findings relating to membership policies, the Council has begun to develop legislative language to amend the Lanterman Act. This will result in an appointment process that continues to promote geographic, racial and ethnic diversity. Currently, geographic diversity is established by having a seat assigned to each of the 13 regional advisory committees. It is anticipated that revisions to the

Lanterman Act will preserve the geographic diversity by assuring that there will be at least one Council member from the geographic area encompassing each of the Council’s regional offices. The local regional advisory committees will be encouraged to recommend potential candidates, but the Governor retains authority to select the Council membership.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director; MTARS Committee to oversee

TIMELINES: As cited above with Membership Committee holding first meeting by June 30, 2014. Based on conversations with the Governor’s Appointment staff, we are optimistic that all vacancies will be filled by July 2014. Please see **Attachment F** for Council roster effective February 6, 2014.

September 2 Status Update (3): As discussed under corrective action #2, the Membership Committee met for the second time on July 31st. As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 passed out of the Legislature and now heads to the Governor for signature. There were no amendments relevant to this corrective action.

III.1 Membership policies (continued)	2013 MTARS Finding(4)
The Council has provisions to rotate membership. Sec.125(b)(2)	Each regional office (i.e. Area Board) representative has to be nominated by the governor. Membership rotation has been historically inhibited by the state’s bureaucratic appointment process. For example, one regional office has not had representation on the Council for two years.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (4): There have historically been challenges in filling Council vacancies. The requirement that these seats be filled by Governor-appointed representatives of each regional office’s board has complicated the appointment process.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (4): The anticipated revisions to the Lanterman Act which are being proposed, will streamline the appointment process significantly. The Council intends to also request that statutory language be revised so that a member’s term begins on the date of their appointment. Additional statutory language will be crafted so that members can continue to serve while awaiting replacement.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director, for activities of the Membership Committee; Mark Polit to oversee the legislative process; both overseen by MTARS Committee.

TIMELINES: As cited above, by June 30 2014 for first meeting of Membership Committee. Anticipated revisions to state law will go into effect January 1, 2015. Beginning no later than June 30 2014, via the Membership Committee as its vehicle, it is anticipated that the Council will enjoy a collaborative and shared mission with the Governor’s office in constituting the Council.

September 2 Status Update (4): As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 passed out of the Legislature and now heads to the Governor for signature. There were no amendments relevant to this corrective action.

III.1 Membership policies	2013 MTARS Finding(5)
<p>The Council has provisions that allow continuation of membership until a new member is appointed. Sec.125(b)(2)</p>	<p>The Council did not provide evidence of a policy for allowing the continuation of Council membership until a replacement member could be appointed.</p>
<p>California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response</p>	
<p>COUNCIL RESPONSE (5): The Council agrees with this finding, as there are conflicting provisions of state law.</p> <p>In compliance with the DD Act, the Lanterman Act currently states: <i>4521(g) A member may continue to serve following the expiration of his or her term until the Governor appoints that member's successor.</i></p> <p>However, the Lanterman Act also contains a provision which contradicts both the DD Act and Section 4521(g), quoted above: <i>4521(d) ... In no event shall any member described in paragraph (1) of, subparagraphs (E) and (H) of paragraph (2) of, and paragraph (3) of, subdivision (b) serve for more than a total of six years of service.</i></p> <p>CORRECTIVE ACTION (5): The Council is proposing an amendment to the Lanterman Act to clarify that Council member may continue serving until a new member is appointed. The bylaws will be updated in November 2014 to reflect changes in the Lanterman Act from AB 1595.</p> <p>STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning with oversight by MTARS Committee</p> <p>TIMELINES: As previously cited, legislation has been introduced with the assumption that it will be signed by the Governor in September and go into effect January 1, 2015.</p> <p>September 2 Status Update (5): As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 passed out of the Legislature and now heads to the Governor for signature. There were no amendments relevant to this corrective action. The bylaws have already been revised.</p>	
III.1 Membership policies (continued)	2013 MTARS Finding(6)
<p>The Council has a process to notify Governor re: membership and vacancies. Sec. 125(b)(2)</p>	<p>The Council did not provide evidence of a transparent and effective process to notify Governor regarding membership vacancies.</p>
<p>California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response</p>	
<p>COUNCIL RESPONSE (6): Although a process exists in state law to address vacancies, in practice there have indeed been long-standing vacancies. The Lanterman Act states: <i>4521(g) The state council shall notify the Governor regarding membership requirements of the council and shall notify the Governor at least 60 days before a member's term expires, and when a vacancy on the council</i></p>	

remains unfilled for more than 60 days.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (6): The Membership Committee shall propose to the Council a formalized process for documenting these provisions and the Council will adopt revisions to its bylaws accordingly. This will include: 1) Notifying the Governor six months in advance when feasible; 2) Submitting multiple recommendations to the Governor for consideration; 3) Soliciting support from the DSA when vacancies remain for more than four months; 4) Reporting persistent vacancies to AIDD through the PPR process; 5) Soliciting technical assistance from AIDD when persistent vacancies exist.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director, with MTARS Committee overseeing process

TIMELINE: Membership Committee to propose revisions to bylaws by December 31, 2014.

September 2 Status Update (6): As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 passed out of the Legislature and now heads to the Governor for signature. There were no amendments relevant to this corrective action.

As discussed under corrective action #2, the Membership Committee met on July 31st. Their next meeting will be September 8.

III.2 Membership requirements	2013 MTARS Finding(7)
<p>60% of membership represent individuals with DD in the following categories: Sec.125(b)(3); Sec.125(b)(5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/3 individuals with DD • 1/3 parents and guardians of children with developmental disabilities or immediate relatives of guardians of adults with developmental disabilities • 1/3 combination • At least one is immediate relative or guardian of an individual with developmental disabilities who resides or previously resided in an institution or an individual with developmental disabilities who currently/previously resided in an institution in the State. Sec.125(b)(6) 	<p>Historically the Council has had long term vacancies. Several membership rosters have been submitted since last year and four membership vacancies were filled just prior to the on-site monitoring visit. An updated membership roster is requested as part of the FY14 State Plan Amendment to AIDD to ensure compliance.</p>

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (7): The Council has historically had several vacancies.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (7): With the creation of the Membership Committee, we foresee a more engaged Council, wherein the Council will actively involve itself in seeking out and promoting candidates for the Governor’s consideration. The Chair of the Membership Committee and the staff assigned to support that Committee will be working with the Governor’s Office to rapidly fill existing vacancies. An updated

membership roster was submitted as part of the FY14 State Plan Amendment. (**Attachment F** contains the current Council roster as of February 3, 2014.) It should also be noted that the Governor’s Assistant Appointment Secretary, Sarah Greenseid, sits on the MTARS Committee with the commitment of the Governor’s office to ensure the state’s compliance with the DD Act.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director, with oversight by MTARS Committee

TIMELINES: Immediate and ongoing, calls to Governor’s office bi-monthly, at minimum. A follow-up email will be sent to document the contact. Council members, staff and regional advisory members will be informed of an aggressive campaign to recruit new members via an email to be disseminated by February 28, 2014.

September 2 Status Update (7): As discussed under corrective action #2, the Membership Committee met on July 31st. Their next meeting will be September 8.

IV. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

IV.1. Five Year State Plan

2013 MTARS Finding(8)

The plan shall focus on Council efforts to bring about the purpose of this subtitle, by specifying 5-year goals, as developed through data driven strategic planning, for advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change related to the areas of emphasis, to be undertaken by the Council. Sec.124(c)(4)(A)

There was inadequate evidence that the:

- Council engages in data-driven strategic planning to develop the State Plan and takes the primary role in the planning process.
- State Plan is the Council’s Plan and that activities are undertaken by the Council versus the State Plan being one that is configured by and for the Area Boards.
- Council is free from state interference in the development of the State Plan. The state’s DD agency awarded the Council two contracts: (1) Client Rights Advocacy and (2) Volunteer Advocacy Services. This state supported work is documented in the Goal 2 in the Council’s State Plan which states: “local offices provide assistance that include systems navigation, technical assistance, attendance to Individualized Education Plan meetings and assistance with due process”. The review team heard more about these two projects during interviews and public forum testimony than any other Council supported activity. While AIDD does not question the merit of the projects and the quality of the work being done by Council staff, it raises serious questions about whether the state is directing the Council’s State Plan or whether the Council is developing the State Plan.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response	
IV.1. Five Year State Plan	2013 MTARS Finding(9)
<p>Plan must include assurances related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ (B) USE OF FUNDS - <i>At the request of any State, a portion of such funds provided to such State under this subtitle for any fiscal year shall be available to pay up to 1 /2 (or the entire amount if the Council is the designated State agency) of the expenditures found to be necessary by the Secretary for the proper and efficient exercise of the functions of the designated State agency, except that not more than 5 percent of such funds provided to such State for any fiscal year, or \$50,000, whichever is less, shall be made available for total expenditures for such purpose by the designated State agency</i> ➤ (C) STATE FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION.—<i>The plan shall provide assurances that there will be reasonable State financial participation in the cost of carrying out the plan.</i> ➤ (D) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—<i>The plan shall provide an assurance that no member of such Council will cast a vote on any matter that would provide direct financial benefit to the member or otherwise give the appearance of a conflict of interest.</i> ➤ (K) STAFF ASSIGNMENTS.—<i>The plan shall provide assurances that the staff and other personnel of the Council, while working for the Council, will be responsible solely for assisting the Council in carrying out the duties of the Council under this subtitle and will not be assigned duties by the designated State agency, or any other agency, office, or entity of the State.</i> ➤ (L) NONINTERFERENCE.—<i>The plan shall provide assurances that the designated State agency, and any other agency, office, or entity of the State, will not interfere with the advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities, budget, personnel, State Plan development, or plan implementation of the Council, except that the designated</i> 	<p>The Council did not provide adequate evidence that the plan is supported by the assurances in Section 125(c)(5)(B - D) and (K - L).</p> <p>Regarding (B) <i>Use of Funds</i>, the review team could not draw any conclusions about the Council based on the information provided about the expenditures for the DSA. It was stated during interviews that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DSA charges the Council an indirect rate for the services it provides. • The rate stated by Council staff was in excess of the 5% or \$50,000 limit. • Staff did not know the DSA’s indirect policy and no written policy was provided. • The Council is required to pay the indirect rate. The Council staff stated it does so from two contracts the state awards to the Council. <p>In regards to (C) <i>State Financial Participation</i>, when the review team inquired about how the state provides match, there were comments about state contract funds being factored in but there was a tremendous lack of clarity on this matter.</p> <p>In regards to (D) <i>Conflict of Interest</i>, the majority of the Council is comprised of non-agency representatives who are Area Board representatives. There are 13 Areas Board representatives on the Council and 7 “at large” members. The Area Board representatives sit on the State Council and on the Advisory Committee to the Area Boards. This dual role presents a conflict of interest and gives the appearance of a conflict of interest. The Council does not have a policy or procedure to address this.</p> <p>In regards to (K) <i>Staff Assignments</i>, it appears that Council staff is carrying out work directed by the state and not necessarily the Council through the state funded Client Rights Advocacy and Volunteer Advocacy Services projects. Through these contracts, Council staff conducts assessments and monitoring in the State’s developmental centers. Providing direct services is outside the purview</p>

<p><i>State agency shall have the authority necessary to carry out the responsibilities described in section 125(d)(3).</i></p> <p>Sec.124(c)(5)</p>	<p>of the Council's responsibilities. Furthermore, this work is in support of the two state contracts and therefore directs the work carried out by Council staff located in the regional office. Since it is work created by and for the state, it raises questions as to whether the Council staff is assisting the Council or the state.</p> <p>In regards to (L) <i>Noninterference</i>, it is very difficult to conclude whether the Council is free of interference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid duplication, issues related to interference with the budget process are described under <i>VI.1 Fiscal Requirements</i> • To avoid duplication, issues related to interference with personnel are described under <i>II.1 Staff</i> • To avoid duplication, issues related to interference with State Plan development are described in the Section above <i>IV.1. Five Year State Plan</i>.
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California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (9 B and C): The Council agrees that there has been a lack of clarity on the two issues of (B) Use of Funds; and (C) State Financial Participation. With the staff turnover experienced in recent years, there is a lack of institutional knowledge. This is an area in which the Council would appreciate technical assistance.

To clarify our current practice, the Council has an Interagency Agreement (IA) in the amount of \$390,000 with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide administrative support services in the areas of accounting; some IT support; some human resources services; procurement; and contracting. We have assigned \$50,000 of these costs to the DSA functions. However, the scope of administrative work performed by the Department of Social Services far exceeds the required duties of the DSA. For example, the Council does not have state-approved delegated purchasing authority. Its purchasing authority is held by DSS and therefore, all contracts are encumbered by DSS on behalf of SCDD. We believe it is appropriate for the Council to assign some of the cost of our CDSS Interagency Agreement as General Management costs. If not for this Interagency Agreement, the Council would have to bring these functions in-house, at substantially greater cost. The \$390,000 CDSS IA is broken down as follows:

- \$50,000.....DSA Functions
- \$136,960..... Council General Management costs
- \$92,040.....Funds from State CRA/VAS contract
- \$111,000.....Funds from State QA (NCI) contract

The CDSS states that the cost of providing the support services as outlined in the IA, far exceeds the \$390,000 paid by SCDD. According to the CDSS, the services more accurately cost \$620,000. Therefore, the

difference between the \$620,000 worth of support services provided to the Council versus the \$390,000 paid for these services, represents California's State Financial Participation.

Please see **ATTACHMENT K** for a copy of the CDSS Interagency Agreement as well as supplemental information from CDSS on this matter.

Additionally, it should be noted that, to a very large degree, the California Council implements its State Plan through staff activities which requires no match. In Fiscal Year 2013, the Council awarded \$580,414 in grants, which represents 9% of our allotment. The grantees did provide matching/in-kind funds for a total match of \$284,276 or nearly 50% of the funds awarded. Please see **ATTACHMENT L** for (FY 2013) Cycle 35 Grants and the current (FY 2014) Cycle 36 Grants.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (9 B and C): We provide this added documentation in order to assure sufficient clarity. The Council welcomes input from AIDD if further evidence is required to ensure that we are properly addressing assurances.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Dr. Mike Clark, Interim Executive Director; Administrative Committee to oversee and report to MTARS Committee

September 2 Status Update (9B, 9C): No action planned regarding this finding

Response(9) Regarding (D), Conflict of Interest

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) is comprised of 31 members; 11 members are agency representatives, 7 members are statewide, or "at-large" and 13 members are from the local area advisory boards.

The regional advisory board members are appointed first by the Governor to the area advisory board and secondly by the Governor to the Council.

For California, the Legislature expressly determined that the planning activities of the Council depend on the direct involvement of Council members familiar with the structure and operation of services and programs for persons with developmental disabilities in areas throughout the state. The Legislature found this necessary due to the expansive geographical size of the state of California and its complexity and diversity. To this end, WIC 4525 expressly exempts Council members from the local area advisory boards from the conflict of interest criteria.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (9 D): Based on the many findings relating to membership policies, as previously reported, the Council has begun to develop legislative language to amend the Lanterman Act. This is intended to result in an appointment process that eliminates the perceived conflict of interest. Currently, geographic diversity is established by having a seat assigned to each of the 13 regional advisory committees. It is anticipated that revisions to the Lanterman Act will preserve the geographic diversity by assuring that there is at least one Council member from each of the geographic areas that encompasses each regional office. The local regional advisory committees will be encouraged to recommend potential candidates to the Council's Membership Committee and directly to the Governor's Appointment Office, but the Governor retains authority to select the Council membership.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning for legislative action; MTARS

Committee to oversee.

TIMELINES: As previously noted, legislation is expected to be effective January 1, 2015.

September 2 Status Update (9D): As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 passed out of the Legislature and now heads to the Governor for signature. There were no amendments relevant to this corrective action.

RESPONSE TO K (Staff Assignments): Our response is addressed under **Response 8**, previously cited. It should again be noted that the Council’s activities with respect to serving the residents of state developmental centers is documented in the State Plan under Objective 2d; thus staff who implement the CRA/VAS contract are carrying out work that is consistent with the Council’s role and mission, with leveraged state funds.

IV.2 State Plan Implementation	2013 MTARS Finding(10)
<p>The Council shall implement the State Plan by conducting and supporting advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities Sec.125(c)(5)</p>	<p>The Council’s 5-year plan implementation does not promote advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change at the <u>state level</u>. As discussed above, the review team heard more about the two state funded projects implemented by the Area Boards. Since so much attention was paid to the two state funded projects, the review team did not hear about a coherent set of activities implemented by the Council at the <u>state level</u>.</p> <p>The Council is providing direct services through the two state contracts. This type of activity is outside the purview of the Council’s responsibilities and appears to overlap with P&A functions.</p>

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (10): The Council believes it is in compliance with this provision of Sec.125(c)(5).

The review team focused a great deal on the relationship between the Council’s local offices and the Council. As such, we did not fully explore our state level work on advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change. Apparently, the Council and its staff did not adequately communicate the state level work the Council performs. We will discuss some of this information below and add information on activities since the review team has visited.

In 2013, the Council sponsored AB 1041, Employment First Policy, and played a major role in SB 468, Self-Determination, a bill sponsored by Disability Rights California and Autism Society of Los Angeles. On October 10, 2013, Governor Brown signed both bills into law, creating a turning point in how California delivers services and supports to people with IDD. Combined, these bills may be the most significant change in California law affecting people with IDD since the passage of the Lanterman Act in 1969. These bills are fundamental to the purpose of the DD Act in promoting self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life. Also, as the DD Act envisioned,

the Council worked very closely on both bills with some of our federal partners (DRC on SB 468 and the Tarjan Center, UCLA, on AB 1041).

With respect to state-level capacity building, for example, the Council worked with self-advocacy leaders to establish the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN). The SSAN is supported by the Council, but will eventually be an independent 501(c)(3) organization. It is comprised of representatives from each of the 13 regions, the Council's Self-Advocacy Advisory Committee, each of the four federal DD partners, the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, and People First of California. This is a dynamic group of self-advocacy leaders from around the state that is focused on influencing state level policy and building self-advocacy capacity and leadership at the local level.

Other examples of state level capacity building would include our sponsorships of major statewide conferences, an annual major contribution to the Youth Leadership Forum, which trains self-advocacy leaders of the future, and the Council's Program Development Grants.

With respect to state level advocacy, the PPRs submitted annually contain significant information on the extent of state level advocacy. Since the review team visited in January, the Council wrote 308 letters (including 240 to state legislators, 10 to the Governor, and 57 to the California Congressional Delegation and US Senators). In addition, the Council had over 145 legislative, Congressional and administration meetings.

Besides AB 1041, Employment First Policy, the Council sponsored two other bills: (1) The Council worked closely with Autism Speaks to co-sponsor SB 163, which sought to protect the rights of families to be reimbursed for insurance co-pays and deductibles for autism therapies approved by the state. That bill was defeated. The Council will continue to work with autism advocates to seek protection for those rights. (2) The Council also co-sponsored SB 577 which would create a new service category for job exploration and discovery. This bill is an important part of the strategy to remove barriers to the employment of people with developmental disabilities in integrated competitive employment. This was a two-year bill, passed out of the Senate in January 2014, and is now being considered by the Assembly.

At the federal level, the Council opposed the proposed sequestration cuts to health and human services and wrote the entire California Congressional delegation, informing them of the potential impact on individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The Council also opposed proposed federal cuts to federal health programs, such as Medicaid. Council staff visited and spoke with staff and members in 15 congressional offices.

With respect to systems change, the Council has been a leading advocate for the last six years for making integrated competitive employment an option for people with developmental disabilities in the state. For example, during this time, the Council sponsored six pieces of employment related legislation. Three of these were signed into law: (1) SB 1270 (2006) authorized the Council to conduct extensive public meetings with stakeholders, consumers, and family members to recommend to the Legislature and Governor steps to increase integrated employment options and more individualized day services. (2) In 2009, at the Council's request, AB 287 established the Employment First Committee within the Council that serves as a forum for all relevant departments and stakeholders to meet and develop strategies to improve employment outcomes. (3) In October of 2013, the Governor signed AB 1041, the Employment First Policy.

In part because of the Council's work over the years, this Employment First Policy was not just an executive order or a statement by the department, but represents a consensus view of the DD stakeholder community.

Also with respect to systems change, the Council has played a key role, since 1998, in development of the Self-Determination option in California. The area boards have been partners with the regional centers in implementation of the five Self-Determination pilots. They staffed the pilot advisory committees at the local and state level. The Council contributed significantly to the first Self-Determination bill in 2011 and to the legislation that was signed into law this year.

Beside these highlights, the Council is active in most of the key state level policy forums affecting people with IDD. The Council is a lead agency in California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY), a project of national significance funded by AIDD. The Council convenes the Employment First Committee which complements the work of CECY in providing a forum for key stakeholders and departments to address barriers to employment of people with IDD. The Council was recently represented on the Secretary's "Future of the DCs Task Force", which made recommendations supported by the Administration for the downsizing and closure of the DCs and the development of a new generation of community services for people with high behavioral needs. We are represented on the ODEP Vision Quest state team comprised of key department, academic and advocacy representatives. We participate in a cross-disability collaboration between leaders of the Tarjan Center and Councils and Committees with statutory responsibilities for the employment of people with disabilities. We participate in stakeholder workgroups convened by the department on state budget and, currently, Self-Determination. We have participated for the last 12 years in broad stakeholder collaborations within the I/DD advocacy and stakeholder communities (The Community Imperative Strategy Group and the Lanterman Coalition). And finally, the Council has a strong internal policy structure with a Deputy Director of Policy and planning, policy support staff, and a Legislative and Public Policy Committee that usually meets 8 or 9 times per year and makes recommendations to the Council on legislation, policy, regulation and state budget issues.

While there is already a great deal of activity, we strive to have a much larger influence and more effectively drive state level policy on a broader scale. We are also increasing the exchange of information between headquarters and regional offices. We appreciated the MTARS' team suggestions for improved work with the regional offices.

Our state level policy work is inextricably linked to and benefits enormously from the Council's regional presence. The Legislative and Public Policy Committee (LPPC) and the Council benefit from the regional offices and regional advisory committees' close connection to their communities. What is happening locally informs our decision making at the state level.

The Council also benefits from our reach into local communities when advancing policy change. For example, the information alerts distributed by the Council are typically forwarded on through our local office databases to what is ultimately a broad statewide network of local/regional/minority organizations and their contact lists. This multiplier effect would indicate that a Council information alert on a topic of high interest would reach at least 30,000 individuals. In 2013, the Council's work on both Employment First Policy and Self-Determination legislation helped contribute to a huge outpouring of support for these

bills, and ultimately, their being signed into law.

Finally, once new policy is adopted, it is necessary to ensure implementation of that policy through information dissemination; training people with developmental disabilities, families, professionals and local regional centers; monitoring the implementation in local communities, where the polices are being implemented; and advocating for corrective actions when implementation lags.

Please refer to **Attachments M** and **N** for further information on the Council's self-advocacy activities and its most recent Employment First Report, which is disseminated to the Legislature and the Governor.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (10): The newly reconstituted State Plan Committee, which will hold its first meeting by June 30, 2014, will develop a template that captures data on state plan implementation at both the local and statewide level. It will be distributed on at least a quarterly basis to the full Council and utilized to complete the PPR.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy and Planning; Staff planning analyst, Janet Fernandez; State Plan Committee.

TIMELINES: Starting no later than June 30, 2014 and quarterly thereafter.

September 2 Status Update (10):

The State Plan Committee met on August 25 and discussed how data on state plan implementation will be reviewed and presented to the committee in the future. They directed Council staff to process the numerical data we collect (e.g., number of individuals trained) and create a narrative and/or graphical presentation on the implementation of the plan throughout the state. The narrative and graphical presentation would analyze state plan implementation of goals and objectives overall for the Council and by geography. In this way the Council can identify gaps in implementation and areas of success. The data could be used in decisions on shifting resources between goals and objectives, between geographies, and amending the state plan. These reports would form the basis for the State Plan Committee's routine reports to the Council on implementation of the State Plan.

The Committee reviewed the PPR process and its role in reviewing that document. The Committee was briefed that the activity reports from the area boards through April have been processed, and the Planning Analyst is working on processing those for May and June. The activity reports for the last three months of the federal year will be submitted in early October. The outcomes from the statewide and regional grants will also be reported and processed in early October along with the outcomes of headquarters activities.

The Committee directed staff to prepare narrative samples of the PPR for their October 27 meeting. The committee will review the sample narratives against the "Narrative Review Tool Rubric" (from NACDD). Staff will incorporate the Committee's guidance into the full narrative. The Council will review a draft of the PPR at their November Council meeting. The Executive Committee will approve the final version before submitting to AIDD.

The Council at its July meeting adopted a Policy on Sheltered Work and Subminimum Wage; and the Transition to Integrated Employment (attached). This policy is consistent with the Employment First Policy that the Council proposed to the Legislature and passed into law in 2013.

The Chairs of the Council and the Employment First Committee met with the Interim Executive Director

and the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning to discuss how to implement this policy on sheltered work. The Council is already implementing portions of the policy through: (1) Developing an Employment First Flyer that will be distributed widely by the 21 regional centers. (2) Working with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and others on rate incentives for integrated competitive employment (ICE). (3) Compiling best practices and success stories to disseminate through the Council website and the annual Employment First Report to the Legislature and Governor. (4) Working on development of alternative supports with the California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY), and Project of National Significance.

Additionally, Council leadership will bring a proposal to the Employment First Committee on September 3 that will include: (1) Researching practices in other states and California on downsizing sheltered work and subminimum wage. This will include consulting with national experts at ICI. (2) Meet with the Director of DDS to present the Council’s policy and request that the Department develop a plan for phasing out those services. (3) Train Council staff in the regions to train local communities, professionals, and regional centers in the Employment First Policy. (4) Develop a plan with the regions for driving implementation of the Employment First Policy in communities throughout the state. While these activities will help drive systems change on employment throughout the state, it also will serve as a model for the Council on directing statewide implementation of state plan goals.

The June 25th MTARS Committee meeting decided to seek technical assistance from AIDD and NACDD on the CRA/VAS issue. Specifically, since CRA/VAS is a state authorized activity funded 100% with state funds, it may be appropriate to remove these contracted activities from the State Plan. Under that option, the CRA/VAS contract would continue, but not as a state plan activity. Council staff discussed this issue with Sheryl Matney, who suggested that the State Plan Objective be removed. This suggestion will be returned to the MTARS Committee for review.

V. EVALUATION AND REPORTS

Program Performance Report	2013 MTARS Finding(11)
<p>The Council annually prepares and transmits to the Secretary a report containing information about the progress made in achieving the goals. The report includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which each goal of Council was achieved. Sec.125(c)(7)(A) • Description of strategies that contributed to achieving goals. Sec.125(c)(7)(B) • Extent to which each goal was not achieved, describes factors that impeded goal achievement. Sec.125(c)(7)(C) • Separate information on self-advocacy goal. Sec.125(c)(7)(D) 	<p>Overall the Council’s Program Performance Report does not specifically describe how each Area Board is contributing to State Plan implementation. Because there are 13 regional offices implementing different parts of the Council State Plan, it is difficult to determine how State Plan achievement is being measured and evaluated.</p> <p>Some Area Boards referenced using "mini-plans" to document which parts of the Council State Plan they were implementing. Other Area Boards did not provide evidence of having "mini-plans". Without consistent use of Area Board "mini-plans" or some other tool it is unclear how the Council can assess progress made in achieving goals.</p>

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (11): The State Council funds 13 regional offices throughout the state. Each office has program staff that offer ongoing outreach, education, training and technical assistance to their local

community. These activities are aligned with the Developmental Disabilities Act and are vital in furthering the objectives of the State Plan. The Council provides ongoing monitoring of the regional offices to ensure their activities correlate to the implementation of the State Plan.

The Council is cognizant that it is the Council's State Plan, not the Area Boards'. With a broad ambitious State Plan and many staff throughout the state implementing it, the compiling of data for the Program Performance Report is challenging. We have been further hampered in that the position of Planning Specialist that would assist in coordination of this effort has been vacant for two years.

For the 2012 PPR, California used DD Suite for the first time. All program staff were given access to DD Suite and each staff entered activity narratives directly; however, staff were not held to a specific schedule for reporting activities and outcomes. As a result, the PPR data lacked continuity and cohesion. This year the Council developed an Activity Form, which is a tool to achieve consistency in reporting progress on State Plan-related activities. All program staff now use the Activity form for reporting on each distinct activity. The Activity Reports are turned in to the Deputy Director for Policy and Planning on a bimonthly basis (per the timeline structure of DD Suite) and data is entered into DD Suite by one individual. This approach has resulted in a far more cohesive PPR. It has also resulted in a far more accurate document, demonstrating even better outcomes.

While the PPR is a comprehensive report of the Council's overall performance in implementing the State Plan, the individual Activity Forms provide the more specific data and document the details on how each objective is being implemented. The Activity Forms tell the Council what each regional office is doing to implement the State Plan. The State Plan Committee will be able to use the Activity Forms to better assess the performance of each regional office and the Council overall in implementing the State Plan. This in turn will also permit the Council to do more accurate budget planning and grant planning to fill the gaps in achieving outcomes. Please see **ATTACHMENT O** for a sample of several Activity Forms and **ATTACHMENT P** for the 2013 PPR.

CORRECTIVE ACTION (11): The Council had a Strategic Planning Committee to oversee the development of the State Plan and the ongoing progress in implementing the State Plan. When the Planning Specialist position became vacant two years ago, however, the Strategic Planning Committee became inactive. In 2013, the Council took steps to reinstate a re-named State Plan Subcommittee; however, at this point it has not yet convened. The Council Executive Director is in the process of filling the Planning Specialist position, having identified a qualified candidate to fill the position of Planning Specialist on January 23, 2014. It is anticipated that the individual will begin her position on or around April 1, 2014. The Planning Specialist will be responsible for training program staff in reporting obligations and ensuring that the Council is kept abreast of progress made in implementing the State Plan. The State Plan Committee will be charged with reviewing the individual Activity forms and based on that data, developing a matrix that illustrates the Council's progress in implementing the State Plan. The chart will be provided to the Council at least quarterly. The information will be used by the Program Development Committee (PDC) to assist in determining priorities for grants. It will be used by the Administrative Committee to help guide fiscal priorities.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Mark Polit, Deputy Director for Policy; MTARS Committee to oversee.

TIMELINES: The State Plan Committee will meet beginning no later than June 30 2014 and will convene at a minimum, quarterly. The Chair will appoint the members of this Committee no later than April 1, 2014.

September 2 Status Update (11): See status update (10), above.

An accounting of the manner in which funds paid to the State for a fiscal year were expended. Sec.125(c)(7)(G)

The Council presented several documents that detailed different aspects of how the federal allotment is being spent, but overall the review team could not determine how the budget is developed and executed and how expenditure data is calculated.

VI. FISCAL

VI.1 Fiscal Requirements

2013 MTARS Finding(12)

Council has authority to prepare, approve, and implement a budget to fund programs, projects, and activities. Sec125(c)(8)

The Council did not provide adequate evidence on how it developed or implemented its budget to fund programs, projects, and activities. Council members expressed a strong need for more fiscal transparency and training on state versus federal fiscal policy and the Council’s budget development/implementation process.

In addition, the Lanterman continues to include language that is inconsistent with the DD Act, posing challenges for the Council to be in compliance with the federal law:

- The Lanterman Act requires the Council to provide funding to Area Boards.
- The Lanterman Act provisions require the Council to hire staff at the deputy director level thereby interjecting a line item in the Council’s budget and limiting its authority to develop a budget.

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (12): In this section we address both Sec 125(c)(7)(G): The PPR includes an accounting of the manner in which funds paid to the State for a fiscal year were expended; and Sec 125(c)(8) Fiscal Requirements since both specifically address the Council’s role in developing, implementing and tracking its budget.

As the MTARS report later states, at the time of the site visit the Council lacked a Budget Officer (Administrative Service Manager) and unfortunately, the previous Executive Director had provided little budgetary information to the Council. The Administrative Committee was re-established in January 2013 and has met ten (10) times in 2013, nearly monthly. The Administrative Committee’s first undertaking was to develop a 2013 Administrative Work Plan, based on the recommendations of the November 2012 Audit Report from the Department of Health Care Services. Additionally, the Committee ensured that the Council received quarterly expenditure reports in 2013 and approved the Council’s budget for FY 2014.

In May 2013, Council members received governance training, which included their obligations to approve and monitor the budget, from NACDD technical assistance staff.

At its July 2013 Council meeting, members received training from our Department of Finance (DOF) Analyst on the state budgeting process. Because the California Council implements its State Plan largely through staff activities and because it also retains a network of 13 regional offices, a large proportion of the federal grant is assigned to personnel and facility costs. Since these are largely predictable costs, much though not all, of the budget is necessarily based on historical expenditures. The budget approved by the Council breaks out costs in two categories: Personal Services and Operating Expenses and Equipment. However, the Administrative Committee reviewed a more detailed line item budget. It was the Administrative Committee that examined the Council's allocation of funds to determine how we would absorb the sequestration cut in FY 13 and into the future. The Administrative Committee recommended and the Council agreed that staff vacancies at the local area offices would not be filled.

Additionally, the re-established Administrative Committee receives programmatic and grant information from the Program Development Committee (PDC) that is used to guide fiscal decisions. The Chair of the Administrative Committee also sits on the PDC.

In 2000, California Department of Finance staff devised a cost allocation methodology that would enable the Council to assign costs by state plan goal. That methodology has been reviewed and revised periodically, most recently with the development of the current state plan. The formula is utilized by the state's primary accounting system, known as **Calstars**. As a result, Calstars provides monthly expenditure data, broken out several different ways, including by state plan goal.

For further insight into the Council's efforts to correct identified fiscal weaknesses and inadequacies, please also refer to the attached Fiscal Integrity and State Manager's Accountability Act report (FISMA Report). The FISMA report is a required biannual report of California state departments to examine the adequacy of the agency's system of internal controls.

As previously stated, the Council is pursuing legislation that will bring state law into compliance with the federal DD Act. This will include revised language that removes any provision that interferes with the Council's autonomy in establishing its budget.

ATTACHMENT Q: Administrative Committee Roster; **ATTACHMENT R:** Administrative Committee packets of January 2013, February 2013, March 2013, April 2013, June 2013, July 2013, August 2013, October 2013, November 2013, January 8, 2014, January 22, 2014. Quarterly budget reports and Council's approved 2014 budget (two versions, with and without sequestration cut) are included. **ATTACHMENT S:** November Calstars report; **ATTACHMENT T:** FISMA Report

CORRECTIVE ACTION (12): The Council has made steady progress in establishing the necessary oversight and ensuring that the Council members are well informed about fiscal and budget processes. The Council now receives quarterly expenditure reports, develops and approves the annual budget. Further, the Council recognizes and welcomes that AIDD staff will be providing close supervision of our progress in this area. The Administrative Committee will continue to meet monthly. The Administrative Committee has set the following priorities for its work in 2014:

1. Ensure that all MTARS noncompliance findings of a fiscal/administrative nature are resolved.
2. Take a more active role in developing the Council's 2015 budget. (Presented at May 2014 Council meeting)
3. Ensure that the Council has a comprehensive Policies and Procedures Manual. (Completion by December 31, 2014)
4. Oversee the process of establishing an MOU with the DSA and evaluating the functions of the DSA. (Evaluation completed by May 2014. MOU completed by November 30, 2014.)

(Refer to Attachment U: 2014 Administrative Work Plan

STAFF ASSIGNED: Aaron Carruthers, Chief Deputy Director; Mark Polit, Deputy Director of Policy and Planning; Administrative Committee to oversee administrative activities. MTARS Committee to oversee legislation.

TIMELINES: Ongoing, monthly

September 2 Status Update (12): Staff Counsel is reviewing the status of current procedures and the need for updating or creation of new policies and procedures. The November Council meeting is scheduled to approve a full policies and procedures manual.

Council staff has begun work on the MOU with the DSA, after Staff Counsel review of MOUs from other states.

As discussed under corrective action #1, AB 1595 passed out of the Legislature and now heads to the Governor for signature. There were no amendments relevant to this corrective action.

VI.2 Fiscal Policies	2013 MTARS Finding(13)
<p>Council has policies to carry out appropriate subcontracting activities. Sec.125(c)(8)(A)</p> <p>Council directs expenditures of funds for grants, contracts, interagency agreements that are binding contracts and other activities authorized by State Plan approval. Sec.125(c)(8)(C)</p> <p>Grantee shall keep records that disclose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount and disposition of assistance by recipient • Total cost of project or undertaking in connection with assistance given • Amount of project costs supplied by other sources • Such other records that will facilitate an effective audit <p>Sec.103</p>	<p>The Council did not provide adequate evidence of that is has accurate financial accounting and record keeping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the time of the on-site visit, the Administrative Services Manager position was vacant and the Council did not have a staff person dedicated to managing the Council's finances. • The Council could only provide limited information on the Council's fiscal policies during the on-site visit pertinent to the requirements in the DD Act. • The Council experienced fiscal impropriety under the previous Executive Director (Board Resource contract) • The state auditor's findings substantiate the immediate need for financial management systems. (Reference: <i>California Department of Finance Management Letter dated August 17, 2012</i>)

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (13): The Council agrees that these findings accurately describe the Council in January 2013, but has since taken a number of strong steps to rectify that situation. We believe that the Council is now on a far stronger fiscal footing and that our policies and practices are transparent to the members, the public, and our business associates.

In July 2013 the Council was able to hire a new Budget Officer (the delay was due to legal procedures associated with the previous budget officer) She has been working closely with Department of Finance staff and our accounting colleagues at the CDSS.

Immediately following her appointment as Acting (now Interim) Executive Director, Ms. Newton sought and received approval from the Council to enter into an Interagency Agreement for the California Department of Health Care Services Financial Audits Branch (FAB) to expand upon the Department of Finance Management Letter's findings, issued August 17, 2012. (Note: Department of Finance (DOF) staff were unavailable to conduct the follow-up.) The DSA was instrumental in securing the services of the FAB audit staff. Specifically, the request was for the audit team to examine all of the Council's practices around contracting and procurement and to provide recommendations. Those recommendations became the basis for an **Administrative Work Plan** which staff has been implementing throughout 2013 and Council has been overseeing, through the Administrative Committee. The Administrative Committee regularly reports to the Council on our progress.

In December 2013, staff completed a draft **Contract and Purchasing Manual** that to a large degree is based upon the manual utilized by the Department of Social Services. The Manual focuses on the Council's procedures for contracting and procurement. The draft Manual was reviewed by the Administrative Committee in January 2014. A second draft will be presented at the February 27, 2014 Administrative Committee meeting. It is anticipated that the Contract and Purchasing Manual will be one element of a more comprehensive Policies and Procedures Manual to be developed throughout 2014. Target completion date: December 31, 2014. The Council does continue to be hampered by staff management vacancies, especially that of the Chief Deputy for Administration. We have been assured that the Governor's Appointment Office will cooperate with the Council's Interim Executive Director in filling these positions expeditiously during this transitional period while legislation is pending to remove the Governor's hiring authority.

Please see **ATTACHMENT V:** Department of Health Care Services Audit Report and **ATTACHMENT W:** 2013 and 2014 SCDD Work Plans and **ATTACHMENT X:** SCDD Draft Contract Manual

CORRECTIVE ACTION (13): The Council is advertising for a Chief Deputy for Administration (advertisements have been placed in Monster, Idealist, Opportunity Knocks, Exec Searches, and Capitol Weekly) and a Deputy for Area Board Operations. The Administrative Committee will review a second draft of the Contract and Purchasing Manual in February 2014 and it will go to the Council for review and approval thereafter. As opportunities arise, administrative staff are attending contract development and oversight classes. For example, the contract analyst is registered for a two day class titled "Monitoring Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Federal Personnel" in April 2014.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Aaron Carruthers, Chief Deputy Director, and Administrative Committee

TIMELINES: Refer to Corrective Action above

September 2 Status Update (13): The new executive management team is comprised of the new Interim Executive Director, Mike Clark, the new Chief Deputy, Aaron Carruthers, and the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning, Mark Polit. Each member of this team has tremendous depth of experience in their areas. The team has been working well together and with Council leadership. Of special note, the Chief Deputy is supporting budget, personnel, contracting, and other staff to grow professionally, and he is continuing the process of strengthening internal procedures and controls. Morale among administrative staff at Council headquarters has improved significantly.

VII. DESIGNATED STATE AGENCY

VII.2 Responsibilities of DSA	2013 MTARS Finding(14)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receives, accounts for, and disburses funds under subtitle based on State Plan. Sec125(d)(3)(C)(i) • Provides the appropriate fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as may be necessary to assure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, funds paid to the state. Sec125(d)(3)(C)(ii) • Keeps and provides access to records as Secretary and Council may determine necessary and timely financial reports regarding status of expenditures, obligations, and liquidation by agency or Council, and use of Federal and non-Federal shares. Sec125(d)(3)(D) • Provides required non-Federal share. Sec125(d)(3)(E) • Assists in obtaining appropriate State Plan assurances and consistency with state law. Sec125(d)(3)(F) • Enters into MOU at request of Council. Sec125(d)(3)(G) 	<p>As mentioned above the Council’s recent experience with fiscal impropriety under the previous Executive Director (Board Resource contract) and the state auditor’s findings substantiates the DSA’s need to establish processes, policies, and procedures that promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate receipt, accounting, and disbursement of funds • Provision of appropriate fiscal control and fund accounting procedures necessary to assure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, funds paid • Access to records as the Secretary and Council may determine necessary • Timely development and dissemination of financial reports regarding status of expenditures, obligations, and liquidation by agency or Council, and use of Federal and non-Federal shares <p>The Council does not have a Memorandum of Understanding with the DSA.</p> <p>There was no evidence that the Council has conducted a formal evaluation of the DSA at any point and time.</p> <p>Several Council staff position and DSA functions appear duplicative. Several DSA functions are performed by Council staff at the central office, specifically in the areas of: contracting, budget, fiscal, and personnel.</p>

California State Council on Developmental Disabilities Response

COUNCIL RESPONSE (14): The Council Interim Executive Director has met on multiple occasions with the DSA throughout 2013, specifically to discuss DSA functions.

Currently, the DSA is in the process of obtaining final approval from the California Department of General

Services on their revised fiscal control and purchasing authority policies and procedures. Based on these policies and procedures, the Council's legal Counsel has adapted it and developed a Contract and Purchasing Manual policy handbook that establishes procedures to ensure accurate and appropriate fiscal controls. As previously noted, that manual is currently under review by the Administrative Committee. Once approved by the Committee, the Full Council will review and approve, anticipated at the May 2014 Council meeting. (Please refer to **ATTACHMENT X**)

Council staff members have already attended several trainings regarding their fiduciary obligations as well as proper and standard accounting procedures that will ensure accuracy and dependability in accounting and disbursement of funds.

All policies and procedures ensure that while staff is responsible for the daily work, the full Council retains control over authorizing expenditure of funds in accordance with federal laws, rules, and State Plan goals and objectives.

Neither the Council nor the DSA perceive duplication of Council staff duties with DSA functions. The Department of Social Services' Interagency Agreement (Attachment K) identifies DSA functions in considerable detail. We have attached the Duty Statements for our Contract Analyst, Contract/Procurement Analyst, Personnel Specialist, Budget Officer, and Information Systems Specialist. While it is certainly true that those positions correspond to DSA functions, Council staff coordinate duties with DSA (DSS) staff. They are complementary, not duplicative. For example, the Council's Personnel Specialist is the first line contact with our 65 (federally funded) employees. She handles duties associated with changes in benefits, salary, work hours, promotion or adverse actions. DSA staff have access to the state government mainframe and State Controller's Office and therefore are charged with inputting the transactional changes. Additionally, there are no Council staff who carry out accounting functions. Without direct access to Calstars, the state's multimillion dollar accounting system, we depend on DSS to handle these functions in a more cost effective manner than we could.

ATTACHMENT K: DSS Interagency Agreement; **ATTACHMENT Y:** FIVE (5) DUTY STATEMENTS

CORRECTIVE ACTION (14): The Council agrees that it will develop and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the DSA during calendar year 2014. This effort will be coordinated by the Administrative Committee. The DSA is represented on the Administrative Committee by Kristopher Kent, Assistant Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency. The Council itself will approve the MOU and it will be signed by the Chairperson.

The Council agrees that it will conduct a formal evaluation of the DSA during calendar year 2014 again through the Administrative Committee. It should be noted, however, that Council management has met periodically with DSA staff to address deliverables, timelines, best practices in IT support and communication, among other issues.

STAFF ASSIGNED: Aaron Carruthers, Chief Deputy Director, and the Administrative Committee

TIMELINES: Review current DSA functions; review sample MOUs from other states by April 2014

Administrative Committee. Draft MOU and meet with DSA to discuss review by July 2014 Administrative Committee. Meet with DSA and discuss/revise as needed draft MOU by September 2014. Execute and sign MOU at November 2014 Council meeting

September 2 Status Update (14): Council staff has begun work on the MOU with the DSA, after Staff Counsel review of MOUs from other states. The Council will review a proposed MOU at the November Council meeting for submittal to the DSA for further negotiation and processing.

AB 1595 (Chesbro)
Legislative Counsel Mock-up
August 14 Non-technical Amendments

SEC. 6. Section 4520.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

4520.5. Notwithstanding any other law, the state council shall determine the structure of its organization, as required by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-402 (42 U.S.C. 15001 et seq.)).

~~SEC. 15.~~

SEC. 16. Section 4544 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

4544. (a) (1) The state council may establish regional offices that are accessible to and responsive to the diverse geographic, ethnic, and language needs of consumers and families throughout the state. As of January 1, 2015, regional offices of the state council, in existence as of December 31, 2014, shall continue to exist, within the same geographic regions of the state.

(2) Effective January 1, 2015, the state council shall have full authority to establish, maintain, and operate regional offices, including the number and location of those offices.

(b) To ensure involvement of persons with developmental disabilities, their families, and other members of the public at the regional level and to ensure the responsiveness of the state council to the geographic, ethnic, and language diversity of the state, any regional office established by the council may be advised by a regional advisory committee. As of January 1, 2015, advisory boards of the regional offices, known as area boards on developmental disabilities, in existence on December 31, 2014, shall thereafter be known as state council regional advisory committees.

(c) All references to “regional office” in this chapter shall be a reference to state council regional offices. All references to “regional advisory committees” in this chapter shall be a reference to state council regional advisory committees.

(d) Any state council regional offices and advisory committees established by the state council shall be constituted and shall operate according to policies and procedures that may be established by the council.

~~SEC. 26.~~

SEC. 27. Section 4551 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

4551. (a) Within the limit of funds allotted for these purposes, the state council shall appoint an executive director. All state council employees that the state council may require shall be appointed by the executive director.

(b) The executive director of the state council shall be exempt from civil service. All *state council staff positions exempt from civil service on December 31, 2014, shall remain exempt on January 1, 2015 and thereafter, until the position becomes vacant or is transitioned to a civil service position.*

(c) Each *person who is a member of state council staff appointed by the Governor, is exempt from civil service, and is employed by the state council on December 31, 2014, shall continue to be employed in a job classification at the same or higher salary by the state council on January 1, 2015, and thereafter, unless he or she resigns or is terminated from employment.*

(d) *The state council may transition staff positions that were exempt from civil service on December 31, 2014, to civil service positions. Civil service positions shall be established for any positions that are transitioned pursuant to this subdivision.*

(e) *Notwithstanding any other law, a person who was a state council employee exempt from civil service on December 31, 2014, shall be eligible to apply for civil service examinations, including promotional civil service examinations described in Section 18992 of the Government Code. A person receiving a passing score shall have his or her name placed on lists resulting from these examinations, or otherwise gain eligibility for appointment. In evaluating minimum qualifications, experience in state council exempt positions shall be considered state civil service experience in a class deemed comparable by the State Personnel Board, based on the duties and responsibilities assigned.*



August 29, 2014

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 1595 (CHESBRO), STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Brown:

The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) is established pursuant to the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act) and California state law (the Lanterman Act) to advocate for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and to assist the state in planning to better support their independence and productivity. The Council receives no General Fund allocation and is funded through an annual \$6.5 million federal grant pursuant to the federal DD Act.

The Council's statutory responsibilities include: identifying system needs; providing outreach to underserved communities; providing training to consumers, families, and professionals; promoting interagency collaboration; identifying barriers to inclusion; and disseminating information on rights, policy, and best practices. The Lanterman Act gives the Council a leadership role on the employment of people with developmental disabilities and oversight of the new Self-Determination program. The Council also provides leadership in supporting self-advocacy organizations at the state level and throughout California and providing advocacy, training, and systems coordination throughout the state.

The federal Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) administers the DD Act, and oversees council compliance with federal law. During monitoring reviews in 1994, 2001, 2007, and 2013, AIDD found that the provisions of the Lanterman Act that governs the Council are in conflict with the DD Act that funds the Council. Due to the long term nature of those conflicts, the AIDD has limited the Council's access to its federal grant until the Council addresses specific programmatic findings and California statute comes into compliance with the DD Act.

In response to the 2013 federal findings, the Council sponsored AB 1595, which will bring the state law that governs the operations of the Council into compliance with the federal law that funds it. To comply with federal law, provisions of the bill include:

"The Council advocates, promotes & implements policies and practices that achieve self-determination, independence, productivity & inclusion in all aspects of community life for Californians with developmental disabilities and their families."

- The Governor will be given full authority to appoint members of the Council. Limitations on that authority will be removed from statute. These statutory changes, combined with administrative remedies, will reduce long-term vacancies on the Council.
- The executive director of the Council will be given full authority to hire council staff. Limitations on that authority will be removed. These statutory changes will reduce key staff vacancies that have occurred over many years.
- AB 1595 will give the Council full authority on how it uses its funds in establishing, maintaining, and operating regional offices. This will require removing provisions currently in state law that infringe upon that authority, including establishing regional office catchment areas within statute and assigning specific responsibilities to the regional offices, independent of the Council. The Council's regional offices are currently known as Area Boards on Developmental Disabilities.
- The responsibilities and functions of the Council will be changed to mirror those established by federal law. The authorities currently assigned to area boards will be given to the Council, which may act upon those in many ways, including through its regional offices.
- The language will provide for the transition to civil service of current exempt positions and staff.

Thus, AB 1595 will create the statutory framework for retaining the annual \$6.5 million federal grant that funds the Council, its regional offices, and their continued work for the people of California in furthering the self-determination, productivity and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities.

If you have any questions, please call Mark Polit, Deputy Director of Policy and Planning at (916) 208-3823.

Sincerely,


Molly Kennedy
Chairperson

SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS

COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: Request to Sponsor Respecting Choice, Creating Innovation, and Fulfilling Dreams: A Statewide Informational and Networking Conference on California's New Self-Determination Program.

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$4,000.00

BACKGROUND: The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) 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.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION: This conference will bring together consumers, family members, professionals, and others interested in the new Self-Determination Program. The conference will feature national experts on self-determination and person-centered planning, participants in the pilot project, Connection Sessions to brainstorm about innovative services, and a networking expo so that consumers and families can meet prospective providers to hire through self-determination.

The entire purpose of this conference is to increase the ability of consumers and family members to exercise control, choice and flexibility through self-determination. Consumers and families will understand the potential of the new program for their futures and will appreciate the person-centered planning process. They will also hear speakers about their due process rights and safety protections. Finally, they will discuss ways to ensure that the SD program is inclusive of all disabilities, all income levels, and all races.

The funds provided by SCDD would primarily assist with providing scholarships to consumers and families who are unable to secure regional center funding for the conference. If additional funds remain, funds would also be used for travel expenses for speakers who are consumers and family members coming from Northern California.

The expected number of participants is 300. The attendees will include: consumers, parents, family members, traditional and non-traditional service providers, regional center and Area Board staff, advocates and special

education attorneys, and others. We expect that at least half of the attendees will be consumers and family members.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE: Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and their support and/or professional staff will increase their knowledge and skills so as to effectively access needed educational and/or community-based services through at least 225 trainings, conferences, workshops, webinars, and/or resource materials developed by the Council on topics such as rights under IDEA, rights under California's Lanterman Act etc. on an annual basis.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY: Since the beginning of FY 2014-15, the Council has awarded \$0.00 for sponsorship requests. The Council allocates \$25,000 per fiscal year for sponsorships. The fiscal year began July 1, 2014.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Award funding to Autism Society.

ATTACHMENTS(S): Autism Society's request for sponsorship request for sponsorship.

PREPARED: Kristie Allensworth, August 29, 2014



Sponsorship Request to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

1. Name of event: **Respecting Choice, Creating Innovation, and Fulfilling Dreams: A Statewide Informational and Networking Conference on California's New Self-Determination Program**

Date: **November 7 - 8, 2014**

Location: **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Los Angeles – Westside, Culver City**

Description: This conference will bring together consumers, family members, professionals, and others interested in the new Self-Determination Program. The conference will feature national experts on self determination and person-centered planning, participants in the pilot project, Connection Sessions to brainstorm about innovative services, and a networking expo so that consumers and families can meet prospective providers to hire through self determination.

2. The entire purpose of this conference is to increase the ability of consumers and family members to exercise control, choice and flexibility through self-determination. Consumers and families will understand the potential of the new program for their futures and will appreciate the person-centered planning process. They will also hear speakers about their due process rights and safety protections. Finally, they will discuss ways to ensure that the SD program is inclusive of all disabilities, all income levels, and all races.

The funds provided by SCDD would primarily assist with providing scholarships to consumers and families who are unable to secure regional center funding for the conference. If additional funds remain, funds would also be used for travel expenses for speakers who are consumers and family members coming from Northern California.

3. We expect approximately 300 attendees from throughout California, with a small number of attendees from out of state. The attendees will include: consumers, parents, family members, traditional and non-traditional service providers, regional center and Area Board staff, advocates and special education attorneys, and others. We expect that at least half of the attendees will be consumers and family members.
4. Our outreach efforts include an aggressive email and social media campaign targeted throughout the state. We are asking various coalitions to share the information with their networks. We are also asking Area Boards and regional centers to put information in their newsletters and on their websites.
5. See attached budget
6. The Autism Society of Los Angeles has never requested nor received a grant or funds from SCDD.

Self-Determination Conference November 7-8, 2014
Budget

[Budget assumes 300 conference participants.]

Expenses

Food/Room Rental	\$ 36,000
Audio Visual	\$ 2,000
ADA Stage	\$ 2,000
Printing/Signage	\$ 3,500
Speaker/Staff Travel and Hotel	\$ 5,000
PayPal Merchant Fees	\$ 1,100
Overhead, Supplies and ASLA Staffing	\$ 20,000
<i>(Note: Most staffing and planning of the conference is being provided pro bono and by volunteers.)</i>	
TOTAL	\$ 69,600

Revenue Goals

Registration	
Professionals (100 @ \$300 pp)	\$ 30,000
Consumers/Family Members	
Paid (75 @ \$175 pp)	\$ 13,125
Scholarships (60)	\$ 0
Speakers/Volunteers (47)	\$ 0
 Sponsorships	
Co-Sponsor - SCDD	\$ 4,000
Co-Sponsor - Disability Rights California	\$ 4,000
Gold Sponsor (1, incl 4 registrants)	\$ 5,000
Silver Sponsor (2, incl 4 registrants)	\$ 5,000
Bronze Sponsor (10, incl 10 registrants)	\$10,000
 Exhibitor Tables	
20 tables @ \$200 ea.	\$ 4,000
 TOTAL REVENUE	 \$ 75,125

FREDTM

Conference

A Golden Heart Ranch Production

To: California State Council on Developmental Disabilities

From: Marianne Kehler, Director, FRED Conference

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Autism Society of Los Angeles

Date: August 21, 2014

As director of the FRED Conference, an organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and dedicated to the idea that all individuals deserve to live their passions, and determine their choice of the future they live, we are pleased to present this letter of recommendation for the Autism Society of Los Angeles.

We know ASLA as an organization led by parents and grandparents of individuals with autism. ASLA volunteers have been dedicated and tireless advocates for individuals of all disabilities in Sacramento and locally. They were leaders in gaining the passage of the Self-Determination Law and are active on other important issues.

ASLA also runs programs in Los Angeles that impact our community. One of their biggest successes is the training of over 4,000 LAPD officers on autism as well as hundreds of students with autism on how to be safe with law enforcement and in the community.

ASLA also runs support groups for parents and plans conferences and programs on public benefits, public policy, budget issues, and others.

I highly recommend the Autism Society for support from SCDD. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information at Marianne.kehler@yahoo.com.

COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: Request to Sponsor 28th Annual Supported Life Conference.

AMOUNT REQUEST: \$999.00

BACKGROUND: The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) 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.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION: The Supported Life Conference is a 2-day conference designed for individuals with disabilities, families, support agencies, direct support professionals, government and support agency directors, educators, & others in the developmental disability field. The conference provides training in topics of Personal Power & Rights, Policy & Legislation, Employment, Schools, Transition, Family Supports, Health & Wellness, Safety & Abuse Prevention, Relationships, Communication/AAC & Assistive Technology, & Community Living includes an Information and Exhibit Faire with dozens of agencies and companies with information on benefits, rights, & policy issues, as well as on what products, devices, and software are available to increase the mobility, freedom, & opportunities for individuals with disabilities and families.

They will use these funds specifically to reduce the registration fees for consumers and families to attend this informative conference. This commitment to reduced fees has been instrumental in making this conference one that is "nothing about us without us" a fairly unique inclusive mix of approximately 30% consumers and 5-10% family members within a professional conference, where 60% are people working in the developmental disability field.

Keynote and Session Speakers again include a healthy mix of people with disabilities, parents and siblings, and professionals with various roles in the field.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE: Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and their support and/or

professional staff will increase their knowledge and skills so as to effectively access needed educational and/or community-based services through at least 225 trainings, conferences, workshops, webinars, and/or resource materials developed by the Council on topics such as rights under IDEA, rights under California's Lanterman Act etc. on an annual basis.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY: Since the beginning of FY 2014-15, the Council has awarded \$0.00 for sponsorship requests. The Council allocates \$25,000 per fiscal year for sponsorships. The fiscal year began July 1, 2014.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Award funding Supported Life Institute.

ATTACHMENTS(S): Supported Life Institute request for sponsorship request for sponsorship.

PREPARED: Kristie Allensworth, July 15, 2014

JUL 09 2014



Dr. Michael Clark, Interim Executive Director
 Calif. State Council on Developmental Disabilities
 1507 – 21st St., Ste 210
 Sacramento, CA 95811

Sponsorship Request – 7/7/14 for Event 10/9-10/2014:

The Supported Life Institute would like to request sponsorship support for the 28th Annual Supported Life Conference to be held at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento on October 9th – 10th, 2014. SCDD's Sponsorship will help us to continue to offer reduced-price registration fees for consumers and family members to be able to attend this inclusive and professional conference focused on community inclusion.

The Supported Life Conference

~ is a 2-day conference designed for individuals with disabilities, families, support agencies, direct support professionals, government and support agency directors, educators, & others in the developmental disability field.

~ provides training in topics of Personal Power & Rights, Policy & Legislation, Employment, Schools, Transition, Family Supports, Health & Wellness, Safety & Abuse Prevention, Relationships, Communication/AAC & Assistive Technology, & Community Living

~ includes an Information and Exhibit Faire with dozens of agencies and companies with information on benefits, rights, & policy issues, as well as on what products, devices, and software are available to increase the mobility, freedom, & opportunities for individuals with disabilities and families

Use of SCDD Funding:

We will use these funds specifically to reduce the registration fees for consumers and families to attend this informative conference. This commitment to reduced fees has been instrumental in making this conference one that is “nothing about us without us” ~ a fairly unique inclusive mix of approximately 30% consumers and 5-10% family members within a professional conference, where 60% are people working in the developmental disability field.

Attendees are All Learning From Each Other. Keynote and Session Speakers again include a healthy mix of people with disabilities, parents and siblings, and professionals with various roles in the field.

Attendees Last Year:

With 350 attendees last year, we hope to increase attendance further this year, building upon our successful Transition Faire addition in 2012 and many Health & Wellness topics initiated & developed



at the 2013 Supported Life Conference, "Wellness for All." Plus, we continue to focus on AAC ~ Augmentative and Alternative Communication – boosted by the Communication / Assistive Technology Expos we held as standalone events the past 3 years with some sponsorship support from a number of agencies including the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

2014 Supported Life Conference:

This year's Conference is themed "Supported Life 2014: Proactive ... Productive ... Progressive" and we have some 42 exciting & informative & inspirational sessions planned in the topic areas mentioned above.

~ Three of these sessions do include the Executive Directors (or interim) of three different Area Boards (2, 3, and 5) of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

We think attendees will appreciate the expertise of our mix of 4 keynote speakers:

~ a speaker from Arizona with Asperger Syndrome who will tell her personal experience of the world of Autism in a "neurotypical" universe;

~ a Parent/advocate (and AAC professional) who spoke 25 years ago and now gives her perspective on how the world of Inclusion for her now-30-year-old daughter has changed over time;

~ a self-advocacy Abuse-Prevention professional from Southern California; and

~ a longtime Employment professional, trainer, and policy advocate and leader

Outreach:

Our staff and our community-based planning team send out our Conference Brochure – at the printer's now - to about two thousand self-advocates and families who have attended the Supported Life Conference or our California Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference or our AT Expos over the past few years. In addition, we outreach to many many others via email, list servs, and social media.

Requested Amount: \$999

We need to raise a total of \$10,000 to continue to offer reduced-price registration fees for all consumers and family members who want to attend. This allows us to continue to draw our successful inclusive mix of attendees each year. \$2000 more is needed, as we expect to raise about \$8000 from major partner or cosponsorship opportunities from about 2 dozen agencies this year. A State Council \$999 Cosponsorship should get us half-way toward meeting the remainder needed.

SCDD Past Support:

We requested and received a \$999 sponsorship for our 1st Assistive Technology Expo held 4/28/11, our 2nd Communication-Technology Training Expo (3/22/12) and our 3rd Communication and Assistive Technology Training Expo, held last year (11/8/13)



Letter of Support:

Please see enclosed a letter of support from the WarmLine Family Resource Center, a well-respected family self-advocacy agency located here in Sacramento.

Acknowledgement:

We will again be happy to let attendees know that consumer and family participation in the event is made possible in part by funding from the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The MC will announce that from the stage.

Plus we will put notice of this in the Cosponsorship page of the Conference Packet which all attendees receive.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to the possibility of partnering with the State Council on Developmental Disabilities for this informative, inclusive, and influential conference to continue to meet the educational and training needs for California families and individuals with developmental disabilities.

Andy Faletti

Andy Faletti, Project Coordinator
Supported Life Institute
2025 Hurley Way, Ste 105
Sacramento, CA 95825

916-567-1974 x 201
afaletti@supportedlife.org



WarmLine Family Resource Center

2025 Hurley Way, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95825
916-922-9276/800-660-7995 Fax : 916-922-9341
www.warmlinefrc.org / email: placerrwl@warmlinefrc.org

Dr. Michael Clark, Interim Executive Director
Calif. State Council on Developmental Disabilities
1507 – 21st St., Ste 210
Sacramento, CA 95811

Dear Dr. Clark:

We are writing to endorse the efforts of the Supported Life Institute to improve consumer and family self-advocacy by increasing education and training in the many areas addressed by their Supported Life Conference, including Family Support, Transition, Health and Wellness, Personal Power and Rights, and Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC).

The WarmLine Family Resource Center's mission is to provide information, education, and support to promote and strengthen the foundation of families and children with special needs so they can face the challenges of the present and create new dreams for the future. Since 1993 we have provided this support to families in six counties (Sacramento, Placer, Yolo, Nevada, El Dorado and Alpine).

We support the Supported Life Institute's efforts to find the funding to make it easier for family members and people with disabilities to attend this informative and meaningful conference.

In our experience of attending and supporting the Supported Life Conference, we have found that families gained a better understanding in many family support and transition topics. We have noted that families learning from the Assistive Technology and AAC sessions and keynotes and through exhibit table resources, have felt more confident in their decision-making abilities to pursue resources and advocate for the needs of their child with special needs.

Personally, my daughter uses a communication device and Supported Life's events have provided me with a new vision of independence for my child. The impact of this realization cannot be underscored enough. This is the kind of vision all parents need and hope to share.

We recommend that you support these efforts to make self-advocacy and communication become realities for consumers and for parents who try so hard to find the information to be effective parent advocates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly Young".

Kelly Young
Executive Director
WamLine Family Resource Center

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

DRAFT

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2014

Attending Members

Kecia Weller
April Lopez
Janelle Lewis
Molly Kennedy
Nancy Clyde
Ning Yang

Members Absent

Others Attending

Aaron Carruthers
Mark Polit
Nancy Dow
Natalie Bocanegra
Robin Maitino

1. **Call to Order**

April Lopez called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and established a quorum present.

2. **Welcome and Introductions**

Members and others introduced themselves.

3. **Approval of June 10, 2014 Minutes**

It was moved/seconded (Yang/Lewis) and carried to approve the June 10, 2014 Executive Committee minutes as amended. (1 abstention)

Amendment

- Change minutes to reflect that April Lopez ***not*** Molly Kennedy called the meeting to order and adjourned the meeting.

4. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

5. **MTARS/AIDD Update**

Mike Clark and Molly Kennedy provided an update on the Correction Action Plan progress and notified members that Rita Stevens was no longer the Project Officer. Allison Cruz will now be the Project Officer from AIDD.

At the July 30, 2014, MTARS meeting Mike and Aaron Carruthers were tasked creating a draft “roadmap” that would assist in identifying priorities, look at the work that other states Council’s do, etc.

Finally, Aaron reported that the June reimbursements were submitted to AIDD on July 24, 2014.

6. **Self-Advocacy Grant**

Mark Polit informed the Committee that the contractor agreed to stop work on all aspects of the SSAN portion of the Self-Advocacy Support Grant. Mark then submitted a proposal to the Committee that would extend the Employment First (EFC) and Self-Advocates Advisory Committees (SAAC) portions the Self-Advocacy Support Grant to December 31, 2014. Legal Counsel Natalie Bocanegra advised that it was not clear that the proposed action could be taken due to the Department of General Services process and timing issues. Further legal research would be conducted in an attempt to identify a workable approach. After much discussion, the following action was taken.

It was moved/seconded (Lewis/Weller) and carried to extend the CAPC Self-Advocacy Support Grant until December 31, 2014 for the sole purpose of continuing to support EFC and SAAC as describe in the contract. The maximum expenditures by CAPC during the three month contract extension will be \$7,000 of the original \$155,844 grant. (3 in favor, 2 opposed,)

7. **Plain Language Accessible Meeting**

Due to a lack of time to review the material, this item was postponed until the next meeting.

8. **Contract Purchasing Manual**

Molly Kennedy reported that at the July 23rd Administrative Committee meeting, Committee members requested that the establishment of dollar amount thresholds be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and discussion at the August 12th Executive Committee meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the type(s) and various dollar amount(s) of contracts and/or grants. The consensus was that everything program related shall go to the full Council for review. The Executive Committee also requested that staff reach out to Sheryl Matney at NACDD to see if she knew what other state council’s practices are. Staff

will bring that information back to the Committee and continue discussion at that time.

9. **Establish September Council Agenda**

The following items, if applicable, will be included on the September Council agenda:

- Closed Session - Personnel
- MTARS/AIDD Update
- Sponsorship Request for Autism Conference
- Committee Reports

10. **Closed Session – Personnel**

The Committee went into closed session.

11. **Reconvene Open Session**

There were no actions to report.

12. **Adjournment**

April Lopez adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

DRAFT

**Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2014**

Attending Members

Eric Gelber
Ning Yang

Members Absent

Kris Kent
Molly Kennedy
Max Duley

Others Attending

Aaron Carruthers
Lynn Cach
Mark Polit
Natalie Bocanegra
Robin Maitino

1. **Call to Order**

Ning Yang called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

2. **Establishment of Quorum**

A quorum was not present.

3. **Welcome and Introductions**

Members and others introduced themselves.

4. **Approval of the June 18, 2014 Minutes**

No action taken due to lack of quorum.

5. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

6. **MTARS Update**

Mark Polit provided an update on the progress the Council has made with implementing the Corrective Action Plan. Some highlights over the last month include:

- Completion of the technical amendments to the bill language, which will be moving forward to the Appropriations Committee on August 4th;
- The first meeting of the Membership Committee;
- The first meeting of the State Plan Committee (this Committee replaces the Program Development Committee). The next meeting is scheduled for August 25th;
- Continued progress on the MOU development; and

- Job offer extended to individual to track the implementation of the State Plan.

7. **Fiscal and Budget Issues**

Aaron Carruthers presented a handout detailing the monthly budget projections for fiscal year 2013-14. This handout included expenditures through June 2014.

8. **DSA MOU Development Update**

Natalie presented the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Committee members present and stated she would send out an electronic copy to all Committee members to allow for input and further discussion at the next Committee meeting.

9. **Facilitation Policy Update**

Ning Yang reported that due to the loss of the presenter, this item was passed over at the July 15th SAAC meeting. Therefore, this item is planned for discussion at the September meeting.

10. **Contract Manual**

Natalie presented the revised manual to the Committee as well as providing members with a brief recap of the conclusions reached at the June Committee meeting. The Committee is referring the establishment of dollar amount thresholds to the Executive Committee for consideration and discussion at their August 12th meeting.

11. **Future Agenda Items**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 27th from 1-3 p.m. The following items will be included in the August agenda:

- MTARS Update
- DSA MOU's Development Update
- Contract Manual

12. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT



DRAFT

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
July 31, 2014

Members Present

April Lopez (chair)
Sandra Smith

Members Absent

Robert Jacobs

Others Attending

Mike Clark
Thomas Johnson

Teleconference

Linda Landry
David Forderer

1. CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

April Lopez, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present introduced themselves.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

4. APPROVAL OF JUNE 19, 2014 MINUTES

It was moved/seconded (Landry/Lopez) and carried to approve the June 19, 2014 Membership Committee minutes as presented. The only two members present at June 19 meeting were April, Mike, and Linda.

5. SCDD BYLAWS & DESCRIPTION OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE DUTIES

Committee Members reviewed the SCDD BYLAWS and the Description of Membership Committee Duties, contained in the packet of materials

handed out. There was also a brief discussion on who makes up Council Membership and the appointment process in general.

It was also mentioned that the Membership Committee develop a system that coordinates and facilitates appointments with the Governor's Office. There was also a discussion on how to gain public input regarding possible nominees and appointments. It was mentioned that the Membership Committee could utilize social media (like Facebook or Twitter) to facilitate this process. It was also suggested that prospective applicants send a copy of their application to SCDD. For this, it was emphasized that the Membership Committee has direct contact with the Governor's Office.

Sandra Smith emphasized that the Membership Committee should meet more often than quarterly in order to gather as much information as possible, and to invigorate the recruiting process. Sandra also suggested the development of a recruiting flyer that specifically caters to each Regional Advisory Board. Moreover, recruiting flyers should incorporate as much diversity as possible.

In short, a description of Membership Committee duties was summarized verbatim from the BYLAWS. This document can be accessed at:

<http://www.scdd.ca.gov/res/docs/BYLAWS%20Revised%20May%2029%202014.pdf>

6. UPDATE ON CURRENT STATE COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS, MEMBERS, AND VACANCIES

Members discussed current vacancies and how the Membership Committee can facilitate the process for new appointments and acquire the status on applicants currently held up for review in the Governor's Office.

STATE PLAN COMMITTEE REPORT

7. COUNCIL RECRUITING FLYER

It was moved/seconded (Lopez/Smith) and carried to approve that Staff develop a recruiting document for review and input at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

8. NEXT MEETING DATES

The next Membership Committee Meeting was scheduled for September 8, 2014 from 12:00pm to 3:00pm

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm.

SUMMARY

State Plan Committee Meeting

August 25, 2015

Grants

Area Board 11 Recommendation: Proposal from Get Safe. The proposal is to provide highly targeted information, techniques, and tools to help first responders and other professionals more effectively recognize and work with persons with developmental disabilities, especially in emergency situations. Get Safe will provide outreach and training to traditional first responders (e.g. police officers, EMT & fire personnel, district attorneys, criminal justice professionals, doctors, etc.) and any other service professionals (e.g. city employees, community members, etc.) that may have contact with a victim or potential victims. Get safe will conduct fifteen (15) First Responder Training (FRT) sessions in 90-minute presentations within Orange County.

The Council had approved the concept of this grant proposal, pending clarification of the funding amount up to the full requested Project amount of \$17,756.00. The State Plan Committee was empowered to approve that change in funding level. The Committee approved the full funding of the grant.

Area Board 9 Recommendation: The State Plan Committee recommended funding of this proposal, pending clarification of use of Council funds. The applicant submitted a letter clarifying the use of funds for a new service that is not currently funded. See the attached detail sheet.

State Plan Implementation

The State Plan Committee discussed how data on state plan implementation will be reviewed and presented to the committee in the future. They directed Council staff to process the numerical data we collect through activity reports (e.g., number of individuals trained) and create a narrative and/or graphical presentation on the implementation of the plan throughout the state. The narrative and graphical presentation would analyze state plan implementation of goals and objectives overall for the Council and by geography. In this way the Council can identify gaps in implementation and areas of success. The data could be used in decisions on shifting resources between goals and objectives, between geographies, and amending the state plan. These reports would form the basis for the State Plan Committee's routine reports to the Council on implementation of the State Plan.

COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM DETAIL SHEET

ISSUE: Area Board 9's recommended grant proposal for Program Development Grant Cycle 37.

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$20,000.00

BACKGROUND: Program Development Grants (PDG) provides funding for new approaches to addressing the needs of Californians with developmental disabilities that are part of an overall strategy for systemic change. Each area board selects one or more specific goals and/or objectives from the State Plan and seeks proposals that contribute to the implementation of the Plan.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION: The Early Start Transition Project will provide education and support opportunities to parents of children graduating from California's Early Start Program into special education services, Regional Center children's services and health and other community providers serving children with special needs within Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. In partnership with the Early Start funded Family Resource Centers (FRC) serving the tri-counties, Area Board funding will support the following:

1. Two Early Start Transition Workshops (one in Santa Barbara County, one in San Luis Obispo County).
2. Two Early Start Transition Training of Trainers Workshops for FRC Staff (one in Santa Barbara County, one in San Luis Obispo County).
3. An Early Start Transition Coordinator staff time in Ventura County.

All activities will be culturally responsive and facilitated to meet the needs of the participants. Community partners will be welcomed and engaged to ensure enhanced community collaboration, communication and coordination. The three funded activities have been determined by FRC directors and staff as needed strategies for their own communities to enhance support, information, skills, and confidence in families who are undergoing or preparing for transition out of Early Start. The Early Start Transition Workshop will provide parents the opportunity to learn more about accessing the services their child may need within multiple systems. The FRC staff training of trainers will ensure future replication

of the workshop in other areas of each county as needed. Through parent education and support, this project will ensure children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their family members receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential through the transition process and in years to follow. Through existing contractual responsibilities with the FRCs, ongoing parent support will be provided to ensure parental confidence in accessing the services. Parent participants will be encouraged to build upon the networks of support provided through the trainings and other FRC activities. Parent trainings will focus on the transition from Early Start, but will be open to all families seeking information. Staff training will ensure the opportunity for transition education and support in communities within each county and in both informal and formal venues. Activities will be offered in English and Spanish based upon parent preference.

COUNCIL STATE PLAN GOAL/OBJECTIVE: #7 Children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their families receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTIVITY: During the August 25, 2014 State Plan Committee meeting, the committee made the motion to recommend approval of the grant proposal pending clarification regarding the use of Council monies for program staff.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve the State Plan Committee's recommendation.

ATTACHMENT(S): Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara's proposal. Letter from Alpha resource Center clarifying the use of funds.

PREPARED: Kristie Allensworth, September 2, 2014



RESOURCE CENTER
OF SANTA BARBARA
4501 Cathedral Oaks Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

family support parent training advocacy resources & information adult services teen recreation thrift stores

August 29, 2014

Mark Polit
Deputy Director of Policy and Planning
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
1507 21st Street, Suite 210
Sacramento, CA 95811

RE: Community Program Development Grant Proposal for Area Board 9-
Early Start Transition Project

Dear Mr. Polit:

Thank you for the opportunity to address the questions presented by the State Plan Committee. We are honored that Area Board 9 recommended our proposed project, the Early Start Transition Project ("ESTP"), for funding and, thereby, it is now being considered for funding by the State Council.

We understand that the concerns around our proposed project focus are whether the project is new and/or innovative, and whether the project is an expansion of existing services/program or if it is instead supplanting existing funding. We hope that this letter will address those concerns adequately.

The Early Start Transition Project is New.

Currently the three (3) Family Resource Centers ("FRCs") included in this proposal (Parents Helping Parents ("PHP" Alpha Resource Center ("Alpha") and Rainbow Family Resource Center ("Rainbow") are funded to provide the following services to children (birth to age 3) and their families:

- Information
- Resources
- Referrals
- Targeted Outreach

If funded by the State Council, the ESTP will be a new program for the Tri-Counties community because it will allow PHP, Alpha, and Rainbow to provide supportive services to families transitioning out of Early Start that are not currently being provided. For example, current funding levels at all 3 FRCs do not allow for staff support of families in transition related

Telephone: (805) 683-2145
Facsimile: (805)967-3647

Email: info@alphasb.org
Web: www.alphasb.org

Advocacy/Children and Family Services/
Administration: (805) 683-2145

Adult Services: (805) 964-3547
Thrift Stores: (805) 964-1123

A Member of The Arc of the United States.
Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara is
a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation.
Federal Identification Number: 95-1966996.

meetings. The ESTP would provide the availability of FRC staff to attend transition related meetings with parents like Individual Education Plan ("IEP") meetings, Individual and Family Support Plan ("IFSP") meetings and Individual Program Plan ("IPP") meetings.

The Early Start Transition Project is Innovative.

Families transitioning out of Early Start services consistently provide the same feedback- when their child begins to exit Early Start services from the regional center at age 3, they often feel like the rug is pulled from out underneath them. Therapeutic services come to a screeching stop and case management support disappears into thin air. Families are left to scramble finding appropriate therapeutic services and case management services until their child is eligible for kindergarten which for most children is 6 years old. Thus, families feel deserted and isolated from the community of services and supports for up to 3 long years.

Based on the current funding structure of the FRCs, FRC staff are not funded adequately to provide the additional supports needed to assist these families cross the bridge to much needed services from other agencies. The result is that many families and thereby, their children, go without services and supports until their child starts kindergarten.

The ESTP is innovative in this respect because it supports families through the transition by providing a de facto case management function- FRC staff directly and actively connecting families with local service providers (not just a referral) and providing follow up with families (having FRC staff checking in with the family on a regular and periodic basis to see how they are transitioning and if there are any additional needs).

The Early Start Transition Project is an Expansion of Services and Programs, Not a Supplementation.

Like many agencies within California's developmental disabilities service system, FRCs have endured an ever widening schism between the funding received and the exponential growth of the population expected to be served by the FRC. Specifically, the funding allocations of the 3 FRCs of this proposed project has been stagnant for the past 25 years. Meanwhile, the population in the Tri-Counties area of which the FRCs are expected to serve has now more than doubled in size. For example, the average monthly number of children served by Early Start in the Tri-Counties area in 2001 was 1,065. This is compared to the average monthly number of children served in 2013 which was a staggering 2,152. These FRCs are expected to serve double the population with a funding allocation developed when folks still used rotary phones and Walkmans.

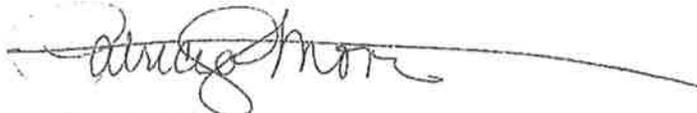
If funded by the State Council, the ESTP will allow for the first time in the Tri-Counties area, the expansion of services provided by these 3 FRCs to provide targeted outreach to families who have not been served due to the lack of adequate FRC funding. One example of the impact of the expansion is the capacity building. These 3 FRCs are only currently funded to provide targeted outreach to Early Start families; whereas with the funding of the ESTP, they will now conduct at least two "Train-the-Trainer" trainings for FRC from Early Start practitioners well known and established in Southern California. The newly trained FRC staff will then be able to

expand the targeted outreach component, reaching underserved and underrepresented Early Start families typically unable to access FRC services due to challenges related to language, transportation and/or geographical distance. They also will be able to train additional FRC staff and thereby expanding opportunities for FRC staff to provide support to Early Start families.

In conclusion, the ESTP is a new and innovative program that will provide unique and greatly needed supports and services that currently are not available to Early Start families in the Tri-Counties area. Moreover, the ESTP expands the array of services and supports available to Early Start families in our community which otherwise would not be provided since the FRCs have not been and are not adequately funded to provide this level of supports and services.

Thank you for the opportunity to address these concerns. Please contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patricia Moore", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Patricia Moore
Program Manager
Children, Family & Advocacy Services

PROJECT DATA SHEET

1. Applicant Information

Application Number: <i>(Assigned by Council)</i>	
Project Name <i>(55 characters)</i> :	Early Start Transition Project – An FRC Collaborative
Organization Name:	Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara
Organization Website:	www.alphasb.org
Organization Address:	4501 Cathedral Oaks Rd.
Organization City/State:	Santa Barbara, CA
Organization Zip Code:	93110
Taxpayer ID Number:	95-1966-996
Project Period: <i>(Month /Day/Year)</i>	Start Date 10/01/14 End Date: 09/30/15

2. Project Information

(Choices are: Non-profit, School District, County, Government Corporation, Tribal Government, For-profit, City / Town, State, Special or Regional Authority, State P & A Agency, University Center, or Other)

Type of Applicant:	Non-Profit
State Plan Goal(s)/Objective(s)	Goal 7: children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their families receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential

3. Project Funding Formula

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	COUNCIL FUNDS	APPLICANT MATCHING FUNDS
\$25,000	Amount: \$20,000 Percentage: 75%	Amount: \$5,000 Percentage: 25%
Grant Type (Poverty or Non-Poverty)	Non-Poverty	

4. Contact Information:

Name of Project Director:	Patty Moore
Title:	Manager, Children, Family & Advocacy Services
Telephone:	805 683 2145
Fax:	805 967 3647
Email:	pjmoore@alphasb.org

Check if Same as Project Director

Name of Financial Officer:	Cory Woodruff
Title:	Chief Financial Officer, Alpha Resource Center
Telephone:	805 683 2145
Fax:	805 967 3647
Email:	cwoodruff@alphasb.org

5. Signatory Authority:

Check if same as Project Director

Name of Organization Director:	Kimberly Olson
Title:	Executive Director, Alpha Resource Center
Telephone:	805 683 2145
Fax:	805 9673647
Email:	kolson@alphasb.org
Date:	05/16/2014

1a

3. Project Narrative

Abstract: The Early Start Transition Project will provide education and support opportunities to parents of children graduating from California’s Early Start Program into special education services, Regional Center children’s services and health and other community providers serving children with special needs within Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. In partnership with the Early Start funded Family Resource Centers (FRC) serving the tri-counties, Area Board funding will support the following:

1. 2 Early Start Transition Workshops (one in Santa Barbara County, one in San Luis Obispo County)
2. 2 Early Start Transition Training of Trainers Workshops for FRC Staff (one in Santa Barbara County, one in San Luis Obispo County)
3. Early Start Transition Coordinator staff time in Ventura County

All activities will be culturally responsive and facilitated to meet the needs of the participants. Community partners will be welcomed and engaged to ensure enhanced community collaboration, communication and coordination. The three funded activities have been determined by FRC directors and staff as needed strategies for their own communities to enhance support, information, skills, and confidence in families who are undergoing or preparing for transition out of Early Start. The Early Start Transition Workshop will provide parents the opportunity to learn more about accessing the services their child may need within multiple systems. The FRC staff training of trainers will ensure future replication of the workshop in other areas of each county as needed. Through parent education and support, this project will ensure children birth to 3 who are at risk of or have a developmental delay and their family members receive the early intervention services they need to achieve their potential through the transition process and in years to follow. Through existing contractual responsibilities with the FRCs, ongoing parent support will be provided to ensure parental confidence in accessing the services. Parent participants will be encouraged to build upon the networks of support provided through the trainings and other FRC activities. Parent trainings will focus on the transition from Early Start, but will be open to all families seeking information. Staff training will ensure the opportunity for transition education and support in communities within each county and in both informal and formal venues. Activities will be offered in English and Spanish based upon parent preference.

Qualifications: Rainbow, Alpha, and Parents Helping Parents have been designated Early Start funded family resource centers since the inception of Part C (then Part H of IDEA) planning through the authorization of California’s Early Intervention Services Act (CEISA) in 1994 to present. TCRC wholeheartedly supports the CEISA mandate for parents to be informed of their rights and have access to family support and referral to the FRCs. All 3 FRCs are members of the Family Resource Centers Network of CA (FRCNCA) and all three directors currently serve as leaders on the FRCNCA steering committee.

Collaboration: This is an FRC collaborative application. This project will ensure that families throughout the tri-counties will have access to quality information and resources to utilize through their child’s transition and in the years thereafter. Each FRC is a strong partner with Tri-Counties Regional

Center, their local education agency partners, and are active members of their county interagency coordinating council on early intervention with valued partnerships with their local providers. Alpha Resource Center is the lead applicant and will serve as the fiscal agent. Each FRC was active in the development of this project application. Team meetings via conference calls to monitor progress of implementation will be scheduled at the beginning and end of the project and as needed throughout the project. Each FRC has the responsibility of serving families within their respective counties and are committed to supporting each other for successful implementation of the project and follow-up activities.

Methodology:

a. The Early Start Transition Project will provide access to education and support for families preparing for or going through the process of transition from the provision of services in California’s Early Start Program to special education, regional center and other community based services after age 3. Education and support will focus on the process of transition, the Individual Education Plan (IEP), the Individual Program Plan (IPP), accessing generic resources and will include the following components:

- The role of the parent in the IFSP/IEP/IPP
- Listening and communication skill-building
- Emotional aspects of transition
- Importance of parent-to-parent support
- Process for conflict partnership and resolution
- Community resources

Two parent-professional partners, Linda Landry and Brigitte Ammons, will provide two Transition Workshops for parents, one in Santa Barbara and one in San Luis Obispo County. In addition, the trainers will provide two “trainer of trainer’s workshops” for FRC staff from Alpha, Parents Helping Parents, and Rainbow to allow for the replication of the Transition Workshop in other catchment areas of each county and the sharing of information presented in both formal and informal venues.

Linda Landry is a parent and chair of the Family Resource Centers Network of CA. She is a skilled presenter and trainer sharing over 25 years experience in the field of early intervention, parent support, and systems advocacy. She has served on numerous boards and organizations including the advisory council for the University Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at USC, the Family Resource Centers Network Los Angeles County, Club 21, and helped to develop the CA Standards for Family Strengthening & Support. Brigitte Ammons is recently retired from Disability Rights California and was the founder of an early intervention program serving Los Angeles. She has devoted over 30 years to early intervention and works as a professional partner with FRCs throughout California to ensure California meets its mandate to families with children birth to age 3 who are at risk of developmental delay or diagnosed with a disability.

Respectful of the immediate needs in Ventura County, this application supports additional staff support at Rainbow for direct parent information and support through the transition process and the exploration

with community partners of future opportunities to engage, educate and support families. This may include discussion of specialized events such as transition fairs, workshops in local communities, and other avenues for the FRC and interagency partners to build on existing practices related to Early Start transitions.

b. This project meets the Council’s mission by improving access to resources, information, and support for families who have children new to the developmental, educational and specialized systems of services. Knowledge increases informed access and participation in the utilization of services for their children. This ensures access and engages families in improving services to individuals with intellectual challenges. The Early Start Transition Project addresses the challenges parents face during the time of the earliest of transitions and builds a foundation of information and support to help their child reach their fullest potential by being active, skilled, and confident parent advocates and models for their children as future self-advocates.

c. The target population is parents of children receiving Early Start services within the Tri-Counties Regional Center catchment area of Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. As a child turns three and graduates from Early Start, parents may celebrate the progress their child has made by receiving early intervention services, but for many this transition creates anxiety about new services and reopens the emotions surrounding acceptance of a child’s special needs. Most often they have established relationships with their providers and many parents have stated with exasperation, “Just when we know who’s who and our child is doing so well, it’s time to move on to another program!” This is also a time when families learn that their child’s needs may be greater than expected and they find that they are going to require lifetime services from a myriad of systems and supports. Moving from the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) to the IEP and the IPP can be confusing and overwhelming because the focus is no longer on the family but the individualized goals of the child. During this time many families will prepare to change their regional center service coordinators as they leave Early Start and enter Children Services. In essence, all things the family has become accustomed to and comfortable with are changing. FRC staff has experienced the transitions of their own children with special needs and can offer the unique perspective of ‘having been there’ and understanding the emotions families may be feeling. FRC staff has acquired skills in systems navigation. This project respects the value of what FRC staff can offer, and, not only brings skilled professionals to local communities to engage parents in becoming active and knowledgeable in their child’s transition, but enhances the skills of FRC staff to support and replicate training for a larger number of families over a greater period of time beyond one grant cycle.

d. FRC staff is bilingual and bicultural. Trainings and specialized support services will be provided in English and Spanish. The training of trainers allows staff to enhance skills to replicate the information and training in various communities and in venues that are family centered and respectful of culture, time, location, and availability.

e. While Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties are designated as “non-poverty counties”, there are pockets of extreme poverty in each of these three counties. In Santa Barbara County FRC data reflects that 74% of families served are eligible for public insurance indicating a

majority of services are provided to those with low income. In the Piru area of Ventura County over 21% of families live below poverty level. In San Luis Obispo County, the Oak Park area of Paso Robles and the Oceano communities have an extremely high rate of poverty, particularly among families with young children. The project will target outreach to the target populations throughout the tri-counties.

f. This project focuses on parents and family members of children receiving Early Start services preparing for or currently undergoing the process of transition from Early Start to special education, Regional Center, and health and/or other specialized services. The proposed project does not utilize the role of people with developmental disabilities.

g. The lead agency, Alpha Resource Center will serve as fiscal agent and will work with Rainbow and Parents Helping Parents in full implementation of the project, including evaluation and follow-up. Each FRC will work collaboratively and within the timeline and project requirements. Alpha will facilitate communication as needed to ensure success. At the beginning of the project Alpha will facilitate a conference call between all FRCs and the trainers to provide input and overview of the timeline for successful implementation. This will help to ensure the needs of each FRC and their communities are being addressed. Each FRC director will supervise the implementation of the project within their respective resource center and will:

- Initiate and ensure outreach to parents, partners and providers
- Provide direct staff supervision
- Participate in conference calls through project implementation
- Ensure proper submission of invoices/receipt
- Support implementation of evaluation of the project

The trainers, Landry & Ammons will be responsible for the following:

- Training curriculum preparation
- Material development
- Submitting to each FRC for printing/copying, compilation prior to each training
- 2 trainings for parents, 1 in Santa Barbara County and 1 in San Luis Obispo County
- 2 training of trainers for FRC staff, 1 in Santa Barbara County and 1 in San Luis Obispo County
- Technical assistance or follow-up consultation as needed

Outcomes & Evaluation

Expected Outcomes:

1. Parents will have increased knowledge of the transition process for children graduating from CA Early Start Program in the Tri-Counties.
2. FRC staff will have increased knowledge of the transition process for children graduating from CA Early Start Program in the Tri-Counties.
3. Parents will have increased knowledge of community resources for their child.
4. Parents will have increased confidence in accessing services for their child.
5. FRC staff will have skills to provide informal and formalized training to parents on transition.

6. Community partners will have increased knowledge of the importance of supporting parents during transition.

During the period between Oct. 1, 2014 and Sept. 30, 2015 it is expected that 150 family members will receive training, information, and support. At this time it is expected that at least eight FRC staff will participate in the training of trainer's activities for increased information sharing beyond the scope of the grant. Ten or more community partners will participate in activities focused on serving and supporting families through the transition process and will support increased collaboration and coordination of services.

Evaluation will utilize surveys for services provided, including, where applicable, pre and post surveys. Qualitative input from project participants and partners will be gathered for evaluation and analysis by the FRC team. Evaluation will help to drive FRC services.

This proposal has not been submitted to any other Area Board for potential funding for this grant cycle.

4100 - State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Grant Budget Detail Sheet

Grant Period -- October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015

CATEGORY OF EXPENSE	SCDD GRANT FUNDS	MATCHING FUNDS	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS
DIRECT COSTS			
Salaries and Wages			
1) Rainbow Early Start Coordinator (TBD)	\$5,839	\$1,666	\$7,505
2) Alpha Staff	\$1,606	\$1,667	\$3,273
3) PHP Staff	\$1,606	\$1,667	\$3,273
4)	\$0		\$0
Subtotal Salaries and Wages	\$9,051	\$5,000	\$14,051
Employee Benefits	\$1,357	\$0	\$1,357
Consultant / Subcontracted Services			
1) Training Consultants: L. Landry, B. Ammons	\$2,100	\$0	\$2,100
2)	\$0	\$0	\$0
3)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal Consultant / Subcontracted Services	\$2,100	\$0	\$2,100
Other Expenses Directly Related to the Grant			
Presenter Travel	\$362	\$0	\$362
Mileage FRC Staff including Early Start Coordinator	\$1,512	\$0	\$1,512
Printing of Local and State Developed Transition Guides	\$2,040	\$0	\$2,040
Office Supplies	\$200	\$0	\$200
Postage	\$1,200	\$0	\$1,200
Other Expenses: Presenters Lodging	\$360	\$0	\$360
Subtotal Other Expenses	\$5,674		\$1,322
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	\$18,182		\$18,182
INDIRECT COSTS (Maximum 15% of grant)	\$1,818	\$5,000	\$6,818
TOTAL	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$25,000

ba

ATTACHMENT 1

CONTINUATION OF FUNDING LETTER

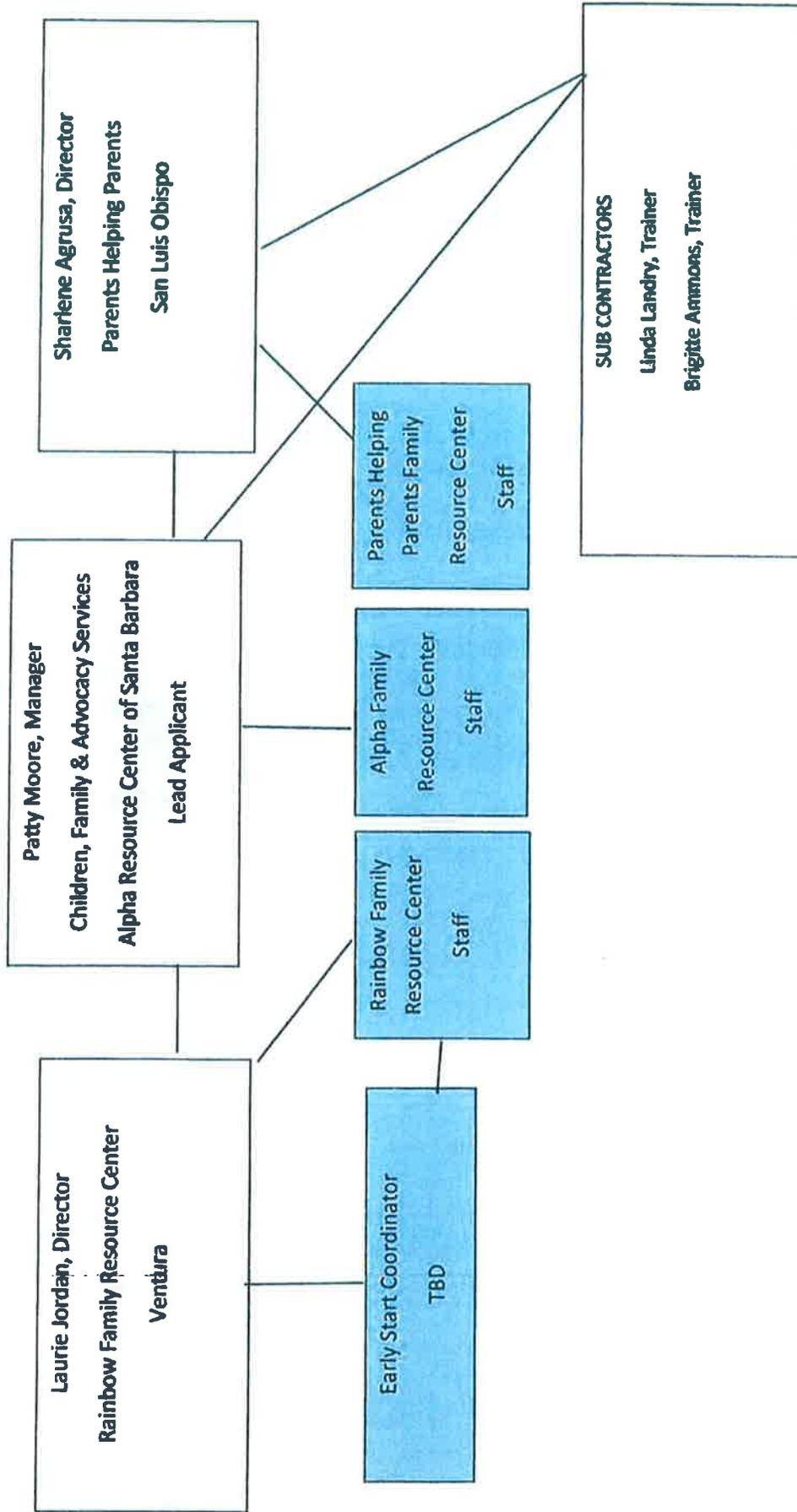
N/A

Skills and knowledge gathered through this project will be used in the future as it is related to support and resource services provided by FRC staff.

ATTACHMENT 2
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Early Start Transition Project—A Family Resource Center Collaborative



ATTACHMENT 3
PERSONNEL INFORMATION

Resume:

1. Landry
2. Ammons
3. Moore (lead agency applicant)

Linda Joy Landry
LindaJoyLA@aol.com
888 Oneonta Drive Los Angeles, CA 90065-4125
LindaJoyLA@aol.com
323/255-0354 voice 323/258-7539 fax

1995 to Present

Independent Contracts with projects directed at educating and recruiting parents of children with disabilities.
WestEd
Family Resources and Supports Insititue Planning Committee – 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012
Strategies

1995 – 2008

CALSTAT
Special EDge – Editor (review for person first and parent friendly presentation of articles)

1993 - 1994 Project Coordinator

Hollywood/Los Angeles Early Intervention Council
Los Angeles Interagency Coordinating Area (LICA)

1990 - 1993 Project Coordinator

NICU Parent Support Project
USC/University Affiliated Programs

1984 - 1985 Provost Student Services

California Family Studies Center, Burbank

1981 – 1983 Divorce Mediation Research Project

Worked part time as Research Assistant. Located pre-selected subjects; described the objectives of the project; enlisted their participation; and administered questionnaire over the telephone.

Free-lance Word Processing, Coding and Data Entry
Wordprocessed dissertations, professional paper, and articles for publication. Coded self-administered questionnaire data; mainframe data entry of raw research data.

Board and Organization Memberships:

1988-1991

Los Angeles Countywide Interagency Coordinating Council –
Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Parent Representative
Chairperson - Parent Coalition

1990 - Present

Family Resource Center/Network of Los Angeles County –
Chairperson
Secretary
Los Angeles County Representative – present

Landry 2012

1991 – Present
Family Resource Centers Network of California –
Regional Representative – Los Angeles
Vice Chair
Chairperson – 2002 to present

1992 – Present
Family Voices of California Council
Los Angeles

1993 - Present
California State Interagency Coordinating Council
Family Support Service Committee - 1993 - 1995
Quality Assurance Committee - 1995 – present
Co-Chair - 2002
Co Chair Personnel Standards Subcommittee – 1997 - 2001

1991 - 2004
Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center Board of Directors
1991 to 1997 (June)
2nd Vice President - 1995 - 1996
Secretary 1994 - 1995
Board Advisor 1997 – present
Consumer and Family Services Committee
Member 1989 - 1997
Chair 1991 – 1994

1996 – 2008
Chanda Smith Consent Decree (Los Angeles Unified School District)
Executive Committee – Member - 1996 – 2003
Finance and Budget Committee – Chair – 1996 – 2003
Modified Consent Decree Parent’s Council – Chair – 2003 – 2005
Parent member - 2007

1996 - 2003
Protection and Advocacy Inc. Board of Directors
Member – 1996
Organizational Development Committee Chair- 1998
Executive Committee Member at Large – 1999
Chief Financial Officer – 2000
President – 2002/2003
Board Development Committee 2003

1994- 2005
Koch-Young Family Resource Center Advisory Committee
Chair - 2006
Koch-Young Resource Center – Peer Support Partner

1996 - 1998
Blind Childrens Center - Program Committee

1990 - present
USC - University Center on Excellence in Developmental
Disabilities/Childrens Hospital Los Angeles
Community Advisory Committee – member

1986 – 2000
Mt. Washington Elementary School -
Site Council - 1986 - 1990
PTA - Secretary - 1988
1st Vice President/Parent Education - 1990
President – 1991
Delevan Drive Elementary School –
Cluster representative – 1997 – 2000

Landry 2012

Cub Scout Pack 188 - Advancement Chairperson - 1988 – 1990
2003 – present
California Childrens Services Los Angeles
Family Centered Care Committee
2005 – present
California Family Resource Association – Secretary
2007 – present
Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles – member
Parent Advisory Committee
2007-2008 **Westside Family Resource and Empowerment Center**

Landry 2012

BRIGITTE M. AMMONS

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, Child Development, California State University, Los Angeles, 1984

Multiple Subjects/S.H. Credential, California State University, Los Angeles, 1985

Master of Arts Program, Early Childhood/Severely Handicapped, California State University, Los Angeles

EXPERIENCE

May, 1991 – Present

Disability Rights CA (*formerly-Protection and Advocacy, Inc.*)
3580 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 902
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2512
Senior Advocate

Advocate for clients with developmental disabilities in their relations with schools, regional centers and other service providers. Interview clients and assist lawyers. Specialize in application of P.L. 99-457.

July, 1991 – July, 1993

California State University, Los Angeles
Development Office
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, California 90032
Consultant

Responsible for fundraising and program development for the expansion and renovation of the Anna Bing Arnold Child Care Center on the campus. On completion the Center will feature the full inclusion of children with disabilities.

January, 1988 – May, 1991

Centro de Niños y Padres, Division of Special Education
California State University, Los Angeles
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, California 90032
Program Coordinator

Hired, trained and/or supervised classroom and auxiliary staff and provided fiscal management and inter-agency liaison. Supervised student teachers for the University. Provided early

Brigitte M. Ammons

Page 2

intervention services for young children with developmental disabilities and their families. The program had 14 staff members and served 65 families.

September, 1978 – August, 1985

Los Angeles Unified School District,
Lowman Elementary School
Assistant Teacher

Worked in classroom for children with autism and in classroom for children in the preschool severe program.

June, 1975 – December, 1975

Linwood Children's Center
Church Lane
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043
Residence Supervisor/Assistant Teacher

Supervised dormitory staff during morning preparation and breakfast. Worked in classroom as assistant teacher at this residential school for children with autism.

August, 1973 – August 1975

Maryland School for the Blind
3501 Taylor Ave.
Baltimore, Maryland 21236
Dormitory Supervisor

Supervised the residential program and facility for 50 boys with multiple handicaps. Staff included 15 houseparents and houseparent aides, nine teacher aides and two housekeepers.

REFERENCES

Furnished upon request.

Patricia Moore

Director, Children & Family Services
Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara

Since 1990, Patricia (Patty) Moore has coordinated Family First, the Family Resource Center (FRC) serving Santa Barbara County. The FRC's were established under the California Early Intervention Services Act. Family First provides resource information, referral, training, and disability education and support for families who have children with special needs. Focused on answering the specific needs of families in Santa Barbara County, Patty has been instrumental in spearheading efforts to improve systems of care while using local, state, and national resources to enhance services to children with special needs, their families, those that serve them and their communities.

In 1992, Patty became active in the planning and implementation of California's Early Start Program, which serves families who have infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities and those who are at risk of developmental delay. Patty previously co-chaired the Family Support Services Committee of the CA Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention, is past chair of the Family Resource Centers Network of California, and represented FRC's on the legislatively mandated Early Start Workgroup. She is also past chair of the Santa Barbara County Interagency Coordinating Council, and was the first parent of a child with special needs to hold this position. In addition, Patty is a certified trainer for Project CRAFT (Culturally Responsive and Family Focused Training) for professionals in early intervention. She has served as a SEEDS Consultant, a joint project of CA Dept. of Education and the Sacramento Office of Education.

Until March 2006, Patty served as a commissioner to the First 5 Children & Families Commission of Santa Barbara County and is the past co-chair of the Advisory Council of the University of Southern California Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Research, Education, and Service.

As a parent of three sons, the youngest who was born with Down syndrome and who is currently transitioning into adulthood, Patty brings a family-focused perspective to her numerous presentation topics, including:

- "Team Building: Parents & Professionals"
- Infant to Preschool Transition; Disability Awareness
- "Early Start – Building Bridges"
- Parenting Your Child with Special Needs
- Parent to Parent Mentor Training
- "Inclusion Works!"
- Accessing Resources
- Family Voices Leadership Training
- Family Centered Care
- "Taking Care of Yourself: If You Don't, Who Will?"
- Telling Your Own Story, Family Voices of CA Leadership Series
- The Right Question
- Playing Well With Others, Family Voices of CA Leadership Series
- Ways You Can Serve, Family Voices of CA Leadership Series
- Rules of the Road, Family Voices of CA Leadership Series

EMPLOYMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICE

2008 – Present	Manager, Children, Family, & Advocacy Services, Alpha Resource Center
2003 - Present	Director, Children & Family Services, Alpha Resource Center
1991 – Present	Program Manager, Family First, Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara
1991 – Present	Member, Santa Barbara County Council on Early Intervention
1996 – Present	Member, Project C.R.A.F.T Local Training Team
2000 – Present	Member, Family Voices of California
2002 - Present	Member, Inclusive Child Care Action Team, Child Care Planning Council
2006	Completion of Training, Mediation and Negotiation
2001 – 2006	Member, Children & Families Commission of Santa Barbara County
2000 - 2005	Member, SBSB Special Education Parent Advisory Council
2002 – 2005	Co-Chair, USC – UAP Advisory Council

1998 – 2004	Member, Santa Barbara County Child Care Planning Council
1995 – 2004	Community Representative, CA State Interagency Coordinating Council
1998 – 2003	Co-Chair, Family Support Services Committee of CA State ICC
1997 – 2001	Chair, Family Resource Centers Network of California
2000	Completion of Training, Alternative Dispute Resolution
1998 – 2000	Member, Comprehensive System of Personnel Development Advisory
1998 – 2000	Member, Advisory Committee, Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Adaptive
1998 – 2000	Member, Advisory Committee, Children's Resource & Referral Center
1998 - 1999	Member, Early Start Workgroup, Legislative Mandate
1993 – 1998	Chair, Santa Barbara County Council on Early Intervention
1998	California Representative to "National Communities Can!" Bethesda, MD
1994-1998	Participant -California Connections: Assuring Access to Preventive Services Under Reformed Systems of Health Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs and their Families (MCJ-06R005)
1992	Completion of Training, "Visiting Parents", National Parent Training Institute
1989 - 1992	Instructional Assistant, SBCEO Early Intervention Program

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2007	University of California Santa Barbara, Thomas Haring Memorial Award
2007	Alpha Resource Center Employee Achievement
2006	California Parent Leadership Award
2001	Family Resource Centers Network of CA Special Recognition for Service
2000	"Hero Award", Tri-Counties Regional Center, Santa Barbara, CA
2000	Certificate of Recognition, California State Senate and Assembly
1998	"Stand for Children", Recognition, Outstanding Community Service
1994	California Conference of Executives of The Arc. Employee of the Year
1993	Arc Community Service Award

ATTACHMENT 4

PREVIOUS GRANTS/AWARDS (LAST TWO YEARS)

Lead Applicant: Alpha Resource Center, Children, Family & Advocacy Services

Grants Received:

2012 WestEd Local Training Grant

Engaging Families - \$5,000

Training for Early Intervention Providers SB & SLO Counties

Contact: Patty Moore pimoore@alphasb.org 805.683.2145

2011-2012 Area Board 9

Advocacy Training - \$2,164

Contact: Julie Badella jbadella@alphasb.org 805. 683.2145

2014 City of Goleta

Bilingual Parent Support-Education Groups Goleta - \$2,000

Contact: Marisa Pasquini mpasquini@alphasb.org 805.683.2145

ATTACHMENT 5
PAYEE DATA RECORD FORM



**Early Start Family Resource Center Letter of Support
Tri-Counties Regional Center
3450 Broad Street, Ste.111, San Luis Obispo,CA 93401
Contact Person Joe Bremm
Telephone Number 805 621 8204**

It is with great confidence that Tri-Counties Regional Center supports the proposal of Parents Helping Parents FRC, ALPHA FRC, and Rainbow FRC to Area Board 9 Cycle 37 Program Development Grant for the Early Start Family Resource Center Transition Project. This project will provide education and support opportunities to parents of children graduation from the California's Early Start Program into special education services. The expansion of their services for families would greatly benefit families of children with special needs in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties.

We support their proposal to develop the Early Start Transition Project for the following reasons:

All of our Family Resource Centers have a long history of collaboration with all elements of the Early Start community. They have been able to respond quickly and efficiently to ever changing budgetary and regulatory requirements while maintaining positive working relationships with parents, Regional Center staff, Service Providers, School personnel, and other elements of the Early Start Community. We have worked together to create and implement the Prevention Program mandated by trailer bill legislation. As that program phased out, the FRCs developed and implemented in collaboration with the Regional Center the Prevention Resource Referral System (PRRS) program. All of this work was done in a collaborative and family centered manner. They are creative, efficient and able to produce a great product in a timely fashion.

Some other things to consider when evaluating this proposal are that we have been engaged in a productive, collaborative relationship with our FRCs for many years. We have worked together on many joint projects bringing resources and high quality training to each of our three counties. Our interactions are characterized by respect, trust and partnership.

The services outlined in this proposal align with best practice recommendations from both federal and state oversight agencies. The proposed services will help to make a difficult transition less stressful for families and their children.

We encourage the Area Board 9 Grant to fund this proposal to benefit the children and families transitioning from Early Start in the Tri-Counties area.

Sincerely,



Joe Bremm
Manager, Early Start & Intake
Tri-Counties Regional Center



Mary E. Samples, Assistant Superintendent

Area Board 9
200 East Santa Clara Street, Suite 210
Ventura, CA 93001

To Grant Committee:

The Ventura County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) unconditionally supports the Early Start Transition Project, an FRC Collaborative in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. The collaborative will enhance the knowledge, skills, and confidence of parents who have children preparing for the transition from California's Early Start Program. The attached application supports local partnerships to increase coordination, communications, and collaboration among parents, FRC staff, and community partners.

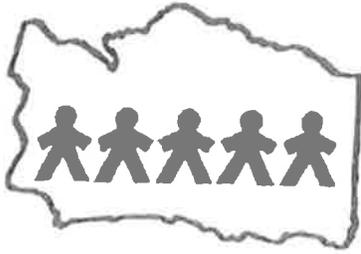
The FRCs in the Tri-Counties have a long history of providing valuable parent to parent support, information, resources, referral, and transition assistance to families. They are longtime community partners ensuring access to quality services to families. Area Board 9 funding will enhance existing efforts and build upon improved services for families by engaging providers and families in project goals, evaluation, and ongoing collaborative activities.

On behalf of the Ventura County SELPA and the children and families we serve, I urge you to approve and fund this grant application. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary E. Samples".

Mary E. Samples
Assistant Superintendent
Ventura County SELPA



**Santa Barbara County
Special Education Local Plan Area**
A Joint Powers Agency

May 15, 2014

Early Start Family Resource Center Letter of Support

It is with great confidence that Santa Barbara County SELPA supports the proposal of Parents Helping Parents FRC, Alpha FRC, and Rainbow FRC to Area Board 9 Cycle 37 Program Development Grant for the Early Start Family Resource Center Transition Project. This project will provide education and support opportunities to parents of children graduation from the California's Early Start Program into special education services. The expansion of their services for families would greatly benefit families of children with special needs in, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo counties.

Santa Barbara County SELPA (SBCSELPA) supports their proposal to develop the Early Start Transition Project. The SBCSELPA and Alpha have been collaborative partners for a long time. Along with the Community Advisory Committee and our local districts we have continued to support each other in our common vision of supporting students with disabilities and their families. Families with very young children who are just learning about special education need the support this program could provide.

We encourage the Area Board 9 Grant to fund this proposal to benefit the children and families transitioning from Early Start in the Tri-Counties area.

Sincerely,

Jarice Butterfield, Director
Santa Barbara SELPA

401 North Fairview Avenue • Goleta, California 93117-1732 • (805) 683-1424
fax – (805) 967-1960 • selpa@sbceo.org



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL PLAN AREA

8005 Morro Road
Atascadero, CA 93422
Phone: (805) 782-7301 / FAX: (805) 466-1473

May 14, 2014

Early Start Family Resource Center Letter of Support

It is with great confidence that San Luis Obispo County SELPA supports the proposal of Parents Helping Parents FRC, ALPHA FRC, and Rainbow FRC to Area Board 9 Cycle 37 Program Development Grant for the Early Start Family Resource Center Transition Project. This project will provide education and support opportunities to parents of children graduation from the California's Early Start Program into special education services. The expansion of their services for families would greatly benefit families of children with special needs in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties.

San Luis Obispo County SELPA supports their proposal to develop the Early Start Transition Project. The SELPA and Parents Helping Parents have been collaborative partners for a long time. Along with the Community Advisory Committee and our local districts we have continued to support each other in our common vision of supporting students with disabilities and their families. Families with very young children who are just learning about special education need the support this program could provide.

We encourage the Area Board 9 Grant to fund this proposal to benefit the children and families transitioning from Early Start in the Tri-Counties area.

Sincerely,

Jill Heuer, SELPA Director



May 15, 2014

United Cerebral Palsy of SLO
Mark Shaffer, Executive Director
3620 Sacramento Drive, Ste. 201
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
805.543.2045 shafmt@aol.com

To Whom It May Concern:

UCP of SLO overwhelmingly supports the Early Start Transition Project, an FRC Collaborative in Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties to enhance knowledge, skills, and confidence of parents who have children preparing for the transition from California's Early Start Program. The transition from Early Start is a critical component to the services provided to families and involves preparation, planning, and collaboration. This application supports local partnerships to increase coordination, communication, and collaboration among parents, FRC staff, and community partners.

The FRCs in the Tri-Counties have a long history of providing parent to parent support, information, resources, referral, and transition assistance to families. They have been long-time collaborative partners and a lead resource to many agencies supporting families with special needs throughout their communities. Countless families served by the Tri-Counties Regional Center rely on their ongoing support from birth through adulthood.

UCP encourages Area Board 9 funding to enhance existing efforts and build upon improved services for families by engaging providers and families in project goals, evaluation, and ongoing collaborative transition activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Shaffer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mark Shaffer
Executive Director, UCP of SLO

3620 Sacramento Drive, Ste. 201 • San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Phone: (805) 543-2045 • Fax: (805) 543-2045 • www.ucp-slo.org

Area Board 9 Proposal Checklist

Program Development Grant Request for Proposal Federal Fiscal Year 2014/15 - Cycle 37

In completing this form, the proposer acknowledges that the following items are included in the proposal, in accordance with the instructions provided in the RFP. **This checklist should be included with the proposal package and each item marked with a "X" to show that the item was sent.**

Check box below to indicate inclusion in proposal

- Cover Letter
- Project Data Sheet
- Project Narrative (not to exceed 8 pages)
- Budget Detail Worksheet (including description of identified expenses)
- Continuation of Funding Letter, if applicable.
- Organization Chart
- Curricula Vitae/Resumes and position descriptions, as applicable
- List of Previous Grants/Awards
- Payee Data Record Form
- (3) Letters of Support
- Proposal Checklist

Service Provided In (Vone): Workshop/Training ○
Support Group or Small Group Meeting ○
Home or Office Visit ○
Other ○ _____

Early Start Transition Project Pre & Post Family Member Survey

Please complete prior to the activity.

1. I believe my knowledge of the transition process from Early Start is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

2. I feel my knowledge of community resources is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

3. My confidence in accessing the services my child needs is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

Please complete after the activity.

1. With the information I have received, I believe my knowledge of the transition process from Early Start is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

2. With the information I have received, I feel my knowledge of community resources is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

3. I now feel my confidence in accessing the services my child needs is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

Helpful Tips

Circle the number that you feel best reflects your answer in completing the sentence.

There are no wrong answers! This survey helps us to know if we need to improve our services.

What does the scale mean?

Minimal 1
I have very little knowledge about this topic.

Fair 2
I know some things about this topic.

Good 3
I have a solid foundation of skills on this topic.

Fairly Strong 4
I am confident with my knowledge on this topic.

Name of Workshop/Training: _____

Early Start Transition Project Pre & Post FRC Staff Survey

Please complete prior to the activity.

1. I believe my knowledge of the transition process from Early Start is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

2. I feel my ability to provide informal training to parents and other professionals is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

3. My skills in providing formalized training are:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

4. My knowledge of good presentation skills and techniques is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

Please complete after the activity.

1. With the information I have received, I believe my knowledge of the transition process from Early Start is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

2. With the information I have received, I feel my ability to provide informal training to parents and other professionals is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

3. I now feel my skills in providing a formalized training are:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

4. I now feel my knowledge of good presentation skills and techniques is:

Minimal 1 Fair 2 Good 3 Strong 4

Helpful Tips

Circle the number that you feel best reflects your answer in completing the sentence.

There are no wrong answers! This survey helps us to know if we need to improve our services.

What does the scale mean?

Minimal 1
I have very little knowledge about this topic.

Fair 2
I know some things about this topic.

Good 3
I have a solid foundation of skills on this topic.

Fairly Strong 4
I am confident with my knowledge on this topic.



MEMORANDUM

TO: STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
FROM: ANASTASIA BACIGALUPO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 
SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED PDG CYCLE 37 RECIPIENT FOR AREA BOARD 9
DATE: JULY 2, 2014
CC: MARK POLIT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Area Board 9 initially received only 2 grant proposals and then re-opened the application process. We then received 3 additional grant proposals. Board members carefully reviewed the grant proposals using the criteria Please find the following documents for recommended grant proposal, "Early Start Transition Project":

- Cover Letter, page 1
- Project Data Sheet, page 1a
- Project Narrative, pages 2-6
- Budget Detail Worksheet, page 6a
- Continuation of Funding Letter, page 7
- Organization Chart, pages 8-9
- Curricula Vitae/Resumes and position descriptions, pages 10-17
- List of Previous Grants/Awards, pages 18-19
- Payee Data Record Form, pages 20-21
- (3) Letters of Support, pages 22-28
- Proposal Checklist, page 29
- Sample Surveys, pages 30-31

1. Cover Letter

- a. The Early Start Transition Project is a collaborative partnership between Rainbow Family Resource Center of Ventura County, Alpha Resource Center of Santa Barbara, and Parents Helping Parents San Luis Obispo. The Early Start Transition Project will provide education and support opportunities to parents of children graduating from California’s Early Start Program into services provided by local education agencies, the Regional Center, health and other providers within Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties. In partnership, the three Early Start funded Family Resource Centers have developed a project that meets the immediate needs of families within each geographic area. Area Board funding will support transition training for parents and FRC staff training of trainers to ensure future replication of the workshop in other areas of each county as needed. It will also fund FRC staff time to support one-on-one, group, informal and formal direct support to families, including the availability for FRC staff to provide parent support at Individual Education Planning meetings. Activities funded will welcome and include community partners from various systems. This project will build upon existing FRC contracts with Tri-Counties Regional Center for the provision of parent support, education, information, referral, and transition assistance to families in California’s Early Start Program.
- b. Alpha Resource Center is the lead agency in this application and will provide fiscal overview as well as financial support for the project until such time as invoices are submitted and reimbursement is received.
- c. We have carefully read and understand all the provisions in this RFP and agree to be bound by them. We fully read and reviewed the terms and conditions as stated in the State Contracting Requirements, attached to the RFP, and, that by submitting a response understands that this document represents the agreement that we will be expected to execute if we are successfully awarded a Cycle 37 CPDG from the SCDD.

STAFF REPORTS

REPORT TO COUNCIL

Mark Polit, Deputy Director Policy and Planning

September 3, 2014

Staffing: A planning analyst, Janet Fernandez, has been hired to staff the State Plan Committee and do the data collection and analysis associated with tracking implementation of the State Plan. She will also assist in public outreach and data collection for creating the new state plan, due in August of 2016. This is of course a key staff position for responding to MTARS. Janet is also the parent of an adult with developmental disabilities and comes to the Council with over a decade of experience training law enforcement on working with people with developmental disabilities. Through her ability to communicate with people with developmental disabilities and their families, she has also been able to assist law enforcement in investigations of crimes against people with developmental disabilities.

The position of Legislative and Public Information Manager remains vacant. However, a promising candidate has been identified. This position is essential to the Council's public policy work.

AB 1595 (Chesbro), State Council on Developmental Disabilities. On August 26, the Senate passed the final version of AB 1595, by a vote of 35-0. On August 27, the Assembly concurred in the Senate Amendments by a vote of 78-0. The bill is now on the way to Governor Brown for signature. The Governor has until September 30 to sign or veto legislation.

AB 1595 is a result of an inclusive process that began with the MTARS Committee crafting the Legislative Concepts over a two month period and their approval by the Council in March. Staff then translated those concepts into bill language. We then worked with AIDD to review the legislation in detail and made amendments in response to AIDD comments. The current language, if signed by the Governor, will bring California law into compliance with the federal DD Act.

SB 577 (Pavley), Employment Preparation Service. This bill, co-sponsored by the Council, was passed by the Senate 35-1 and the Assembly 78-1. It is now on the way to Governor Brown to sign or veto the bill. In my last report, I indicated the need to amend the bill to reflect the Council's position on Employment First Policy. I am pleased to report that Senator Pavley has amended the bill to clearly align the new regional center vocational development service to the Employment First Policy.

The pilot project this bill would create would be an important step in addressing one of the biggest impediments to employment which is the lack of regional center funded employment preparation. In the next week, we will distribute an alert through the area boards that informs local communities throughout the state of the importance of this bill and their ability to write or call the Governor to express their support. This public outreach to inform local communities is an important part of the Council's ability to promote systems change.

Quality Assessment Contract: The Council's Quality Assessment work for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has been extended with a three year contract ending June 30, 2017. The 2013/14 (or year 5) project has completed successfully, as discussed in the attached report from the project coordinator, Ruby Villanueva. The scope of this project is impressive, with area board staff mailing out 36,468 surveys last year and then processing the 7,626 surveys that were returned. Additionally, we interviewed 498 individuals who had moved recently from developmental centers. In 2014/15, we anticipate conducting over 8,600 face to face interviews of adult regional center clients. These interviews will be carried out largely by "volunteers" who receive a stipend for each interview conducted. Our quality assessment staff in the area boards organize this effort.

CRA/VAS Contract: We are currently contracted with DDS to perform Clients Rights Advocacy and Volunteer Advocacy Services at the developmental centers through June 30, 2017. Holly Bins manages the CRA/VAS project at the remaining four developmental centers and Canyon Springs, a community state facility. Her report is attached.

Y5 Goals:

Adult Family Survey (AFS) – 3,423

Family Guardian Survey (FGS) – 3,604

Adult Consumer Survey (ACS) - 480 Movers

Adult Family Surveys (AFS)

Regional offices mailed out **18,290** Adult Family Surveys (AFS) and received **4,071** completed surveys back for an average return rate of **22%**. Of those AFS returned, **4,004** surveys were entered into ODESA, the online data management system that records survey answers. A total **67** surveys could not be entered because they were not considered valid (ex. Respondent completed the wrong survey).

Note: The AFS is mailed out to random sample of families who have a family member with a developmental disability **residing with them**.

Family Guardian Survey (FGS)

Another **18,148** Family Guardian Surveys (FGS) were mailed, with **3,550** returned for an average return rate of approximately **19.5 %**. Of the FGS surveys returned, **3,399** were entered into ODESA. A total of **151** surveys could not be entered because they were not considered valid (ex. Respondents completed the wrong survey; residential provider completed the survey instead of family).

The statewide goal for Family Guardian Surveys was not met, largely due to the absence of family contact information available from several regional centers in Los Angeles County. A significant number of records received from ELARC, FDLRC, HRC, NLA, SCLARC, and WRC actually identified the residential facility address under family contact information. DDS has indicated they plan on resolving this issue in future data provided to SCDD.

Note: The FGS is mailed out to a random sample of families who have a family member with a developmental disability **living in the community**.

Spanish Surveys

AFS – **4,270** Spanish AFS surveys were mailed with **20%** being returned. This return rate is below the overall return rate of **22%**.

FGS – **917** Spanish FGS were mailed with a low return rate of **8%**. This return rate is significantly below the overall return rate of **19.5%**.

Adult Consumer Surveys (ACS)

In this cycle, a Mover sub-population was surveyed using the ACS in face to face interviews. This sub-population included General Movers (those who moved out of a developmental center) and a subset of Lanterman Movers (those who were identified as having moved out of Lanterman Developmental Center within the last 5 years). SCDD completed the Adult Consumer Survey (ACS) having interviewed a total of **498** Adult Consumers (**276** General Movers and **222** Lanterman Movers).

CRA / VAS

State Developmental Center Clients' Rights Advocacy and Volunteer Advocacy Services

Population

As of September 1, 2014

Fairview 306
Canyon Springs 53
Lanterman 29
Sonoma 443
Porterville 389

Canyon Springs

CRA provided multiple clients' rights trainings for staff. Investigated rights violations, assisted individuals with filing Writs of Habeas Corpus. Advocacy training provided to 26 residents via CS self advocacy group. Toured potential volunteer advocates. Coordinated self advocacy training with DRC.

Sonoma

CRA worked with consultants on Program Improvement Plan with PDC. CRA and VAS collaborated with People First to conduct self advocacy outreach. VAS provided 3 clients' rights presentations to 28 residents and 11 staff members. Acute admission unit is under construction to be a stand alone unit for the five ACA individuals.



(L-R) Robin Adams-Denner, CRA , Kelly DeElva, VAS
Connie Wilson, OT

Porterville Developmental Center

Robin Adams-Denner, CRA, has thirty years of experience working in the field of developmental disabilities. Robin served as both a Psychiatric Technician (PT) and Senior PT at Porterville DC. She spent 8 years in Quality Assurance working in risk management and in regulatory compliance. Robin came to work for SCDD in 2009. She has a bachelor's degree in Human Services, Mental Health Rehabilitation. In the past few months, Robin participated and provided input as part of a workgroup assigned to consumer rights and behaviors to develop action plans for the Process Improvement Plan (PIP) for Licensing compliance. Robin provided rights training to 40 new employees and 30



Fairview

Five individuals reside under acute crisis admission category. CRA attended transition planning meetings for consumers as well as 30 day IPP meetings for the ACA consumers. The CRA and VAS have done numerous annual rights block training. Five advocates serve 48 individuals on VAS program. VAS coordinator worked with RC to deflect DC admission. Acute admission unit is being constructed to be a stand alone unit for the five ACA individuals.

Lanterman

LDC conducting ongoing residence consolidation to maximize staffing for remaining clients. CRA attended: 12 transition meetings, 2 IPP in the community plus HRC, Behavior services, Quality Management, Executive Committee. CRA is working with DDS consultant, Del Marva. Four VAS advocates serve 32 residents. Recent systemic issue: issues: Medical concerns may delay or entirely change identified placements for a few clients. The physician is reluctant in these cases to pursue an outside or second opinion, which may prove to delay the placement process for these clients. CRA monitoring.

consumers. The CRA in conjunction with Human Rights Committee has met monthly with consumers who are officers in People's First groups monthly. The CRA facilitates discussion of consumer concerns and issues in regards to rights and advocacy.

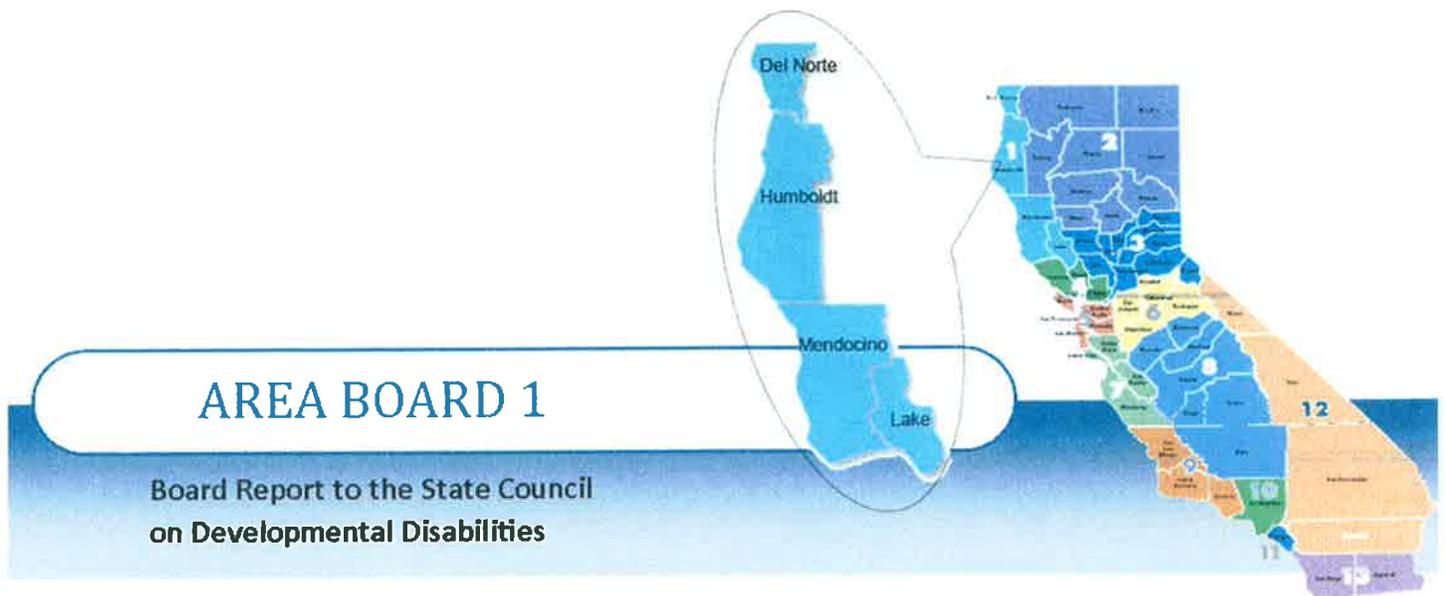
Kelly DeElva, VAS Coordinator, supervises eight volunteers that provide services for 120 consumers. She attends IPP meetings and provides self-advocacy training. She also provides services for clients not yet placed with an advocate. She loves her job!

Kelly began her career, with the SCDD, in August of 2012. She came to us with



previous experience as a Job Developer and Job Coach, for people with developmental disabilities, in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is currently brushing-up on her American Sign Language skills.

Connie Wilson, OT, is a US Navy Veteran, serving from 1984-1989, as a Yeoman (Office Worker). She went to work for California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in 1998 and worked at various prisons (as an Office Technician. Connie worked for DDS starting in June 2011. She writes, "My son has a disability. Every day is a challenge. I learned a very long time ago that if you don't advocate for your child, no one else will. When I started my journey in helping my son, I researched different Assembly Bills in hopes of finding him the help he needed. AB 36/32 was available at the time and with his dual diagnosis involving mental health, he could be placed in treatment facilities that were better suited to handle his scope of issues. Since he is no longer in school, and has become of age (now 26), it's harder to obtain services for him without sacrificing in other areas of life (namely insurance companies). I love the job I have and feel so very blessed to be a part of a system that truly cares about our clients and wants them to be treated as we all want to be treated...with respect and dignity! We are all the same, yet we are all different at the same time. We embrace those differences!



Reporting Period: July August 2014

Date: 8-25-2014

Staff contact: Dawn Morley 707-463-4700

Highlights: Area Board 1 – which serves Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake and Mendocino counties is pleased that board member Robert Taylor has been appointed to serve on the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Congratulations, Robert!

The David A. Isom Excellence in Service Award was presented to individuals who have provided exceptional services to persons with developmental disabilities in Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake and Mendocino counties. Mr. Isom honored each individual as unique and important and always kept a focus on each person’s dignity and quality of life. He spent his career enhancing the educational and treatment opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities. Area Board 1, Redwood Coast Developmental Services Corporation (the board of directors for the Redwood Coast Regional Center), client and parent representatives come together to select the recipients of the award from nominations from the community.

Area Board staff participated in the First Annual Northern California Gathering of The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices.

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal 1 Self-Advocacy

The recruitment for a representative for Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake and Mendocino Counties to Statewide Self-Advocacy Network continues. Member Responsibilities and Application forms have been distributed throughout the four county catchment area and we are working with the local Regional Center client advocates, schools and service provider agencies to spread the word about the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network to identify candidates who would like to work on advocacy issues at the state level. Individuals are interested but would like to do a “test drive” of sorts before making their

commitment. Due to the distance and travel expense it is difficult for individuals to make the trip to Sacramento prior to making the decision to submit their application. It was suggested that perhaps a meeting (or portion of a meeting) could be videotaped or people could join by conference call or Skype, which is not perfect way to assess, but would assist individuals with informed choice.

Staff provided facilitation support to client advocates to participate in the August Board Meeting.

Goal 2 Rights Training and Advocacy

Staff notified community members that the Department of Justice was coming to our area in response to complaints filed by Tri-County Independent Living previously for city (Eureka) facilities that are not accessible. The city had a time frame to complete the upgrades and, as of this date, they have not been done, thus being out of compliance of the lawsuit that was filed over 5 years ago. Staff is supporting local service providers to work with advocates to voice the need for the required changes.

The Area Board in partnership with local offices of education, Mendocino College Foster and Kinship Care Program and the Rowell Family Empowerment Center will be sponsoring an all-day training which will include sessions on: Individual Education Program (IEP) Preparation (en Español), - Positive Behavior Plan, - Action Signs: When to Seek Mental Health Services for your Child, 10 Hi-Tech Solutions for 21st Century Kids, What is up With This Behavior??, 18 Years & Beyond and a Mental Health Panel. Panelist will include local agencies and service providers and will be available to answer questions about navigating the mental health service system.

Goal 3 - Quality Assurance and Innovation

National Core Indicators (NCI)-Quality Assurance-We have closed out Year 6 of the contract. The target goals were met for both Redwood Coast Regional Center and North Bay Regional Center. We are gearing up for Year 7; many interviewers are returning and we are recruiting for: Eureka, Fortuna, Garberville and Del Norte areas.

Goal 5 – Emergency Preparedness

Enriching Lives – Cycle 36 Grantee – completed their community trainings for Lake and Mendocino Counties in August. A number of attendees contacted our agency thanking us for the trainings and indicated that the earthquake in Napa provided a very vivid reminder of the importance of preparedness. Many used the event in Napa as an opportunity to run test drills that had been developed during the training.

Goal 6 – Adult Transition

Area Board staff met with the Multi-Agency Children’s Coalition Advisory Council and brainstormed ways to successfully support our youth through Elementary, Middle School, High School, College, Vocational and Trade School. Attendees were given a tour of the new Arbor facilities (a youth-led, inter agency resource center) and a presentation about

the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) program, which provides many opportunities for youth such as: counseling, mental health resources, transitional housing for youth, job research and resume writing, help develop computer skills, parenting classes, job readiness skills, health and nutrition resources, insurance resources, nutrition classes, regional center resources and services and much more. This program is a valuable resource in the community for homeless youth and youth transitioning from foster care.

Goal 8 – Employment First

Area Board 1 continues to support the State Council in their community education efforts to inform the local communities about the adoption of the Employment First Policy.

Goal 9 – Employment/Post-Secondary Education (PSE)

Area Board 1 staff conducted interviews for the incoming Workability students. This year, two individuals will be working at the Area Board Office to gain information and job experience in general office occupational duties and clerical work. In reviewing the information to provide to the candidates, it was discovered that the duty statement posted on the CalHR website for Office Occupations Clerk is in need of updates and revision. (See also Issues/Concerns)

Goal 10 – Health

A representative from Partnership Health Plan of California, which service as the Medi-Cal managed care health provider in our catchment area, attended the Area 1 Board meeting. The board was able to increase their knowledge of the program in order to provide their local communities with important information. Many attendees were able to provide specific examples of barriers and share concerns regarding services. The presenter provided guidance about the appeal process and indicated that the feedback from the board will be helpful to provide learning opportunities to their staff.

Goal 12 – Housing Development

Area Board staff continues to monitor the progress of the 5 new units of low income housing developed in the city of Fort Bragg. Staff continues to work with local authorities to advocate for continuing the pursuit of \$1.2 million held by the State with the hope to have 32 more units available.

Goal 13 – Generic Services

Staff provided information to the service community about new social recreation opportunities available in the community. The Therapeutic Horse Riding Program, which was achieved through community support and partnership with Area Board members and staff, is now up and running and serving their first clients.

Staff continues to discuss progress of an open night at the new community center. The goal is to advocate for more and affordable opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in healthy activities that are currently not available to most clients during the fall and winter.

Staff has accepted an assignment to the youth services ad hoc committee for the Mental Health Board. The committee will be meeting quarterly to identify needs and concerns for our youth in foster care and other individuals receiving or seeking a variety of services from provider agencies.

Goal 14 – Public Policy

Staff provided notification that the Department of Justice that was coming to our area in response to complaints filed by Tri-County Independent Living previously for the City of Eureka facilities that are not accessible. The city had a time frame to complete the upgrades and, as of this date, they have not been done, thus being out of compliance of the lawsuit that was filed over 5 years ago. Staff is working with local service providers to further inform the community about the issue and will work with providers and advocates to voice the need for the required changes.

As a member of the In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Advisory Committee, staff facilitated the August meeting reviewing the most recent updates on legislation regarding SB 855 and In Home Care. The group has partnered with Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services to conduct three stakeholder meetings on establishing a protocol and timeline to get the important information out to care providers and recipients impacted by these changes in addition to training for agency staff resulting from the changes.

Staff worked with the Child Care Public Policy committee to send letters to legislators on a variety of bills and informed the group of bills affecting the disability community.

Goal 15 – Multicultural

The Family Resource Center, Momma Y Yo play group, which the Area Board has supported since its inception, has grown to twice a week with 30 participants showing up each day. Activities include: parent training, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, parent support groups for English learners and provides parenting resources and referral to early intervention services and programs including but not limited to regional center, local office of education, Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA), state preschool, Head Start, etc. In addition, Area Board staff supports the family resource centers to promote the trainings offered to the local population.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Re: Office Occupations Clerk. A copy of the duty statement referenced in Goal 9 can be found at: <http://www.calhr.ca.gov/state-hr-professionals/pages/1107.aspx>



AREA BOARD 2

Board Report to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Sarah May – SCDD-AB2 Executive Director

Reporting Period: July-August, 2014

Date: September 2, 2014

Highlights

AB2 is participating in organizing and planning several community trainings and events:

DAN presents...Medi-Cal Managed Care Forums – Everything you wanted to know but were afraid to ask!

All 3 forums are from 1-4pm. Red Bluff (Tehama County) -August 27, 2014; Oroville (Butte County) – September 18, 2014; Quincy (Plumas County) - October 8, 2014

Benefits & Employment in 2014 – Medi-Cal, Medicare, Social Security and SSI – September 3-4, 2014 in Red Bluff (Tehama County)

Tehama County Coordinating Council (TCCC) 10th Annual Circle of Champions Awards Luncheon – September 13, 2014 in Red Bluff (Tehama County)

Butte County Coordinating Council (BCCC) 19th Annual Recognition Celebration - October 16, 2014

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal #10 Objective 1 - Training Changes to Health Care Systems and Available Options

AB2 participating in the coordination and planning of 3 outreach forums in rural counties of region 2, as a member of Diversability Advocacy Network (DAN). The 3

forums will be August 27, 2014 in Red Bluff (Tehama County); September 18, 2014 in Oroville (Butte County); October 8, 2014 in Quincy (Plumas County). The time for all the events will be 1-3pm and Health Care Options, Anthem Blue Cross and California Health and Wellness will be participating, as well as DRC attorney. Topics will include: What is Managed Care? What are your rights? How will it work for you? The forums are for people with disabilities (including people with developmental disabilities) and seniors who have Medi-Cal only, their caregivers and service providers. The planning committee is hopeful that the training will be attended by 30-60 people. Marketing outreach includes email blasts, flyers and posters distributed strategically throughout the communities, radio - public service announcement, and newspaper article advertisement. The planning committee consists of 4 professionals that work for State Council-AB2, Passages, Independent Living Services of Northern California, and Disability Rights California.

The August 27, 2014 Red Bluff forum included training 30 people.

Goal #10 Objective 1 - Training Changes to Health Care Systems and Available Options

AB2 in partnership with Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) and Office of Clients' Rights (OCRA) is working together to be sure the 50 DD consumers of FNRC impacted by Sutter Health in Sacramento County stopping all dental services. Sutter Health is not the only option as FNRC has had hospital dentistry available through Enloe and Shasta Regional Hospital and others have accessed services in Stockton and Atwater hospitals. All of these options though are limited to 1 or 2 procedures they can/will do each month whereas Sutter Health allowed El Dorado Hills specialist, Dr. Rodney J. Bughao DDS, (Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon) to do over 60 a month.

Region 2 system advocates are working together closely to be sure services are available for consumers that need hospital dentistry, as well as advocating for more providers throughout the region and state. 50 FNRC consumers are impacted by needed services.

Goal #2 Objective 3 – Cross Training, Outreach and Collaboration

AB2 is participating in the planning and organizing of Tehama County Coordinating Council's (TCCC) 10th Annual Circle of Champions Awards luncheon scheduled for September 13, 2014. AS a member of the planning committee, AB2 has designed the marketing flyers, including the Save the Date, Nomination and Registration form for the event. AB2 has contributed by providing copies to the committee members of all marketing pieces for distribution through the Tehama County community, electronically mailed event flyers through the community and advocated that other agencies post on their websites. The event will be September 23, 2014 at the Red Bluff

Elk's Lodge from 11:30-1:30pm. The committee consists of 2 consumers, 3 family members, and 2 professionals.

The committee is anticipating 100 consumers, families, services providers and general public to attend.

Goal #2 Objective 3 – Cross Training, Outreach and Collaboration

AB2 is assisting in the planning of the Butte County Coordinating Council's (BCCC) 19th Annual Recognition Celebration scheduled for October 16, 2014. Numerous agencies and consumers work together to organize this event that recognizes 20 community members who have made a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities. Each year, one person receives the Frank D. Lanterman Outstanding Services Award, for demonstrating a life-long commitment to the developmental disability field. Nominations come from the community and represent a wide range of diverse individuals. AB2 develops all marketing materials, solicits financial support from community providers and employers, and suggested guest speaker for the event, who is Kim Leeseman, President of People First of California and President of People First of Chico. The committee of 9 members consists of: 1 consumer, 1 service coordinator, 1 parent, 4 service providers, and 2 professionals. The committee anticipates 200 people to attend event.

Goal #9 Objective 1 – Collaboration to Expand Employment Opportunities

AB2 participating in Butte-Glenn Partners in Transition which is a project focusing on increasing education, networking and community partnership to improve and increase employment opportunities for transition age youth. As part of Glenn County Office of Education's grant through California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY), the Butte-Glenn Partners in Transition is collaborating to plan a Community Conversation that has been scheduled for November 20, 2014 in Orland (Glenn County). Community Conversations are designed to explore the often untapped resources, creative ideas and effective problem solving strategies that can result when new and diverse perspectives come together around a shared challenge or concern. They are a fun and creative way to find local solutions and new partners to address issues that matter most in a community. They are small and held in an inviting community location such as a library or community center. The overall goal is to increase integrated competitive employment for youth with disabilities. AB2 is on the local planning team for the Community Conversation Project. The local planning team of 10 consists of 4 professionals; 2 parents; 2 consumers; 2 employers. The local planning team anticipates 45-60 employers, consumers, family members, educators and professionals to attend the November 20, 2014 Community Conversation.

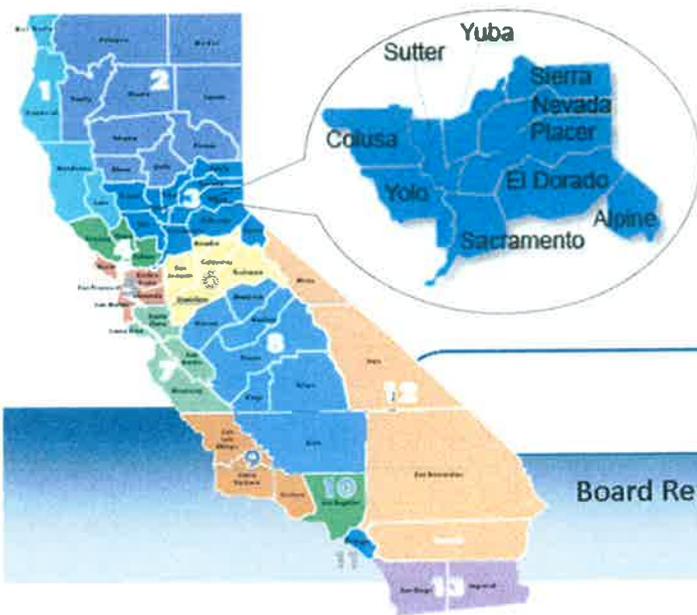
Goal #9 Objective 1 – Collaboration to Expand Employment Opportunities

AB2 participated in the outreach presentation from AMJaMB - The Call Connection to Chico People First Chapter on July 10, 2014. The Call Connection is recipient for PDG Grant cycle 36. The presentation described the program which is a free service to people with developmental disabilities who use Far Northern Regional Center and community members who live alone or not active in the community. The Call Connection individualizes the protocol for each person participating in the program; days and times to call that works best for the individual. The person designs the purpose for the "check in" calls, whether it is to be reminded to take medications, upcoming doctors' appointments, welfare check ups or just to connect with others. All the callers are hired are paid minimum wage and are people with developmental disabilities. Currently The Call Connection has 20 consumers in the program and employs 10 people with developmental disabilities. The presentation reached 17 people (15 self-advocates and 2 professionals).

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

As part of the 18 County Rural Expansion of Medi-Cal managed care, consumers living in the counties served under the 2-plan contract, seniors and persons with disabilities (SPD) remain in a voluntary enrollment status for managed care until mandatory enrollment by December 1, 2014.

The issues related to the expansion of Medi-Cal Managed Care centralize on the lack of provider adequacy in the rural communities in Region 2. The impact on provider adequacy is further deepened by the state and federal health care reform programs that implemented in January 2014; the Low Income Health Program (LIHP) and the Affordable Care Act (ACA).



AREA BOARD 3

Board Report to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Reporting Period: July - August 2014

Date: 8/29/14

Submitted by Sonya Bingaman, Acting Executive Director 916-263-3085

- Welcome to new Board Members Lisa Tomasello (El Dorado County) and Robert Rogers (Yuba County)!

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal #1

1a) *The Council will promote the stability and expansion of a statewide self-advocacy network through financial and in-kind support, which includes ensuring that local delegates are able to participate effectively in statewide meetings and events.*

Provided support to Jennifer Allen, Area Board 3's Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) representative, who temporarily stepped into the Chair position of SSAN and led the group for their June meeting.

Goal #2:

2a) *On an annual basis, the Council will provide advocacy regarding education, early intervention, regional center (community) services and other services and supports to at least 1,700 individuals and/or families, at least 300 of who are non-English speaking or limited English proficiency.*

Received and referred out to various agencies 95 calls requesting assistance with special education services during this 2 month period.

Met with various community agencies including: Warmline, Family Soup, Rowell FEC, FEAT, UCD MIND Institute, DAC, to discuss collaborating, sharing resources, and working together to meet the community's need for assistance with advocacy for special education services.

Collaborated with DRC/OCRA (7/15/14) to plan 2 special education trainings in September to provide families an opportunity to learn their legal rights and responsibilities and due process.

2b) Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and their support and/or professional staff will increase their knowledge and skills so as to effectively access needed educational and/or community-based services through at least 225 trainings, conferences, workshops, webinars, and/or resource materials developed by the Council on topics such as rights under IDEA, rights under California's Lanterman Act etc. on an annual basis.

A 2-hour Parent Training on Understanding Special Education Due Process with Bob Varma, ALJ/OAH was held on July 19th, 2014 at the Area Board 3. 20 people attended. Special Education training materials were handed to each attendee. An email invitation for this training was sent to 700 parents. 8 parents rated the training a 5 out of 5. 4 parents rated the training a 4 out of 5. They specifically like the resources that were handed out and the specific examples of cases presented by Mr. Varma.

Goal #3:

3a) The Council will implement the Quality Assurance Program, in accordance with the requirements of the Council's contract with the Department of Developmental Services and participate in analyses of its findings and implications for system improvement. At least 8400 surveys will be completed.

Activity – Objective 3a: A total of 1,544 English and Spanish NCI Quality Assessment Surveys (Adult Family and Family Guardian Survey) were mailed out to the ACRC catchment area. 1,362 English and Spanish surveys were mailed to the FNRC catchment area.

The following surveys were entered into the database to complete this project phase:

**ACRC AFS 217
ACRC FGS 166
FNRC AFS 172
FNRC FGS 185**

Attended Quality Assessment Advisory Group Meeting (NCI) (8/21/14) to review previous project results/report and discuss recommendations for changes/improvements to the project.

3b) On a statewide and local level, the Council will advocate and promote innovation in service delivery including but not limited to self-determination.

Attended CAC (Consumer Advisory Committee) at ACRC (7/8/14) and attended PAC (Peer Advocacy Connection) at SLI (7/9/14 and 8/13/14). Coordinating trainings to self-advocates at future Regional PAC meetings on emergency preparedness and first responders.

Goal #6

Attended Secondary Transition Planning Training, UCD MIND Inst. (8/26/14). Used Facebook and website posts to invite the community to this training.

Goal #10

10a) *At least 200 self-advocates, family members and advocates will receive information/training on Medi-Cal (Medicaid) managed care and the implementation of the 1115 waiver and other health related initiatives, including the availability of alternative sources for free or low cost health care services.*

A 1-hour Denti-Cal Workshop was put on with a representative from DRC at Area Board 3. Debra Payne of First5 also presented. Denti-Cal and the services it provides; Anesthesia Dentistry and who needs it; and current access to service issues were discussed. An email invitation for this training was sent to 700 parents as well as to the Board Members and other community leaders. 20 individuals attended.

Participated in meetings during July and August with other stakeholder agencies to plan for October 17th Managed Care Information Healthcare Forum in Nevada County and October 30th Managed Care Information Healthcare Forum in Yuba/Sutter Counties.

Participated in Managed Health Care in CA: Opportunities and Challenges for People with Disabilities by Center for Disability and health Policy (7/23/14) webinar.

Participated in numerous Medi-Cal Dental Advisory Committee meetings where the issue of the limited access to anesthesia dental care and hospital dentistry was being discussed. Recommendations from committees were presented to Senator Steinberg's office in August. When Sutter Hospital stops offering this service on September 25th, there will be an even greater reduction to the access of this dental care to the population of children and adults with developmental disabilities who rely on it.

Goal #11

11b) *Five hundred twenty individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will receive information on available housing options.*

Activity: The Cycle 36 Project/Accessible Housing Web Portal is in process. Johnson Media is developing an infrastructure to operate an online database of affordable/accessible housing in Area Board 3's 10- county area. Organized meeting at Area Board office (7/3/14) and invited board members and community representatives to view Beta-Version of housing website and provide feedback and input to Johnson Media representative.

Attended Residential Vendor Forum at ACRC (7/7/14).

Goal #14

14a) *The Council will take a position on proposed state and federal legislation and proposed regulations that impact people with developmental disabilities, will communicate those positions to legislators and their staff, and will disseminate this information to all interested parties.*

Attended Darrel Steinberg’s Hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Autism and Related Disorders and Employment (8/5/14). Sent email to 550 individuals and community members informing them of this hearing and inviting them to attend.

Sent email to 600 individuals and community members educating them about CRPS and encouraging support of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

14c) The Council will use media, internet, arts and entertainment and social networking to educate the general public about individuals with developmental disabilities. There will be at least 40 media contacts.

Activity: Area Board 3 uses social media, email blasts, and website postings to educate the public.

Our website, www.areaboard3.org averages 1500 hits per month. We have 201 followers on www.facebook.com/areaboard3 and our posts were seen by 4,044 individuals during this 2-month period.

The following topics were addressed on Facebook and our website during this period: Assistive Technology (2); Conferences/Trainings (25); Developmental Disabilities (30); Employment (5); Health (5); Housing (3); Legislation/Budget (9); Self-Advocacy (2); Special Education (20); Transition/Post-Secondary Education (2).

Emails on various trainings put on by Area Board 3 as well as other community agencies, as well as events and legislation were sent to a total of 3,800 individual email addresses with an average “open” rate of 35%.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Area Board 3 is very concerned about the fact that Sutter Hospital, Sacramento, will no longer offer a facility for hospital dentistry after September. There will be very few locations available for this procedure and current wait times of up to a year, will increase dramatically with fewer resources. It is hoped Senator Steinberg will be able to make recommendations to DHCS and the health plans and hospitals to solve this access to care crisis statewide.



AREA BOARD 4

Board Report to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Reporting Period: July & August 2014

Date: August 29, 2014

Highlights

At the Area Board 4 meeting in July, North Bay Regional Center Executive Director Bob Hamilton reported that the defendant in the NBRC embezzlement case pled no contest. He will be given a maximum sentence of 12 years. The probation department will meet with all of the victims and go over issues and report them to the judge; then the actual sentencing will occur. They are hoping this will be final in August. NBRC contacted their insurance carrier and the insurance limit is \$200,000 per incident. They will also be pursuing the banks that inappropriately cashed the checks. NBRC is working on to make sure this type of incident does not occur again. In response to a question, Mr. Hamilton said a special account can be established so people don't lose their SSI benefits. AB4 had been advocating for NBRC to make full restitution to the victims for months, with AB4 Chairperson Martin Weil taking a strong stand that it was legally and ethically imperative to make full restitution immediately, rather than waiting for the legal process to conclude.

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal #1: Individuals with developmental disabilities have the information, skills, opportunities and support to advocate for their rights and services and to achieve self determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

Area Board 4 developed a powerpoint training on self-determination services and will begin scheduling trainings with self advocates. AB4 also assisted a self advocate to provide 2 trainings on rights to staff of group homes.

AB4 provided support to the Statewide Self Advocacy Network to plan the September SSAN meeting. AB4 supported the Region 4 SSAN representative to complete assignments, prepare for the upcoming SSAN meeting, and obtain support to meet career objectives.

Area Board 4 produced and distributed a self advocacy newsletter (attached). The newsletter was distributed to more than 400 individuals and agencies.

Goal #2: Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families become aware of their rights and receive the supports and services they are entitled to by law across the lifespan, including early intervention, transition into school, education, transition to adult life, adult services and supports, and senior services and supports.

Area Board 4 provided assistance, advice, and advocacy intervention to 20 individuals and family members on issues regarding:

1. Two individuals concerned about home closures and transition to new homes;
2. Nursing respite and a family's inability to find nurses to fill shifts;
3. Two individuals questioning changes to their P&I checks from NBRC;
4. Individualized support to attend college;
5. In home behaviors services;
6. Access to a pediatric dentist;
7. Appropriate services for a Deaf adult;
8. Two adults seeking to have more independence from their families' influence;
9. Two individuals facing barriers to regional center eligibility;
10. Change in services when moving from one regional center to another without notice;
11. Teacher putting inaccurate information into a student's file;
12. Three families with concerns regarding new school placements;
13. One family experiencing problems with school transportation;
14. One student with escalating behavior issues at school;
15. Adult with mental illness seeking to move to a supported living setting in another county.

16. Adult with ASD seeking information on training and services to support his goal of integrated employment; and, information on how employment would affect his SSDI.
17. Information provided on regional center assessment and eligibility process.

Additionally, Area Board 4 provided information to 12 individuals and families regarding special education rights (7) and regional center rights (5).

The individual who needs individualized support to attend college tried to get 1:1 faced ongoing delays trying to get services from North Bay Regional Center. NBRC initially approved 1:1 support, then rescinded it, then reinstated a partial amount of support. The amount of 1:1 services that was authorized was not sufficient for the individual to attend college. With AB4's intervention, the individual identified college and career goals, and worked with NBRC. NBRC agreed to provide the needed amount of 1:1 support for 30 days. With the 1:1 support, the individual is getting familiar with the college campus, sitting in on different classes to find a good fit, and is completing preregistration requirements. AB4 will assist the individual at follow-up meetings to obtain needed 1:1 support beyond the initial 30 day trial period.

AB 4 pointed out to the regional center (NBRC) that they did not include their purchase of service policies on their website as required. NBRC thanked the AB4 for pointing this out and posted the policies.

One of the two AB 4 mini-grants for federal FY 2013-14 is, "Vaccine Against Abuse and Exploitation". This grant has been providing safety trainings to children and to adults in school and in adult day program programs. As of the end of the 3rd quarter, the 2-hour safety trainings had been presented to 126 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, 46 staff, and 5 parents.

Goal #5: Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families get the information to be prepared for emergencies.

AB4 participated in a meeting of DP4VP (Disaster Preparedness for Vulnerable Populations in Sonoma County which included a presentation on COPE (Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies). Following this, AB 4 staff wrote to the Department of Developmental Services to clarify what requirements the Department

placed on regional centers with regards to emergency preparedness. The conversation, coincidentally, began a few days prior to the Napa earthquake. To date, AB staff learned that the DDS contract with each of the 21 regional centers only states that, “Contractor shall develop and annually review an emergency and disaster preparedness plan.”

AB 4 staff is following up with DDS with questions on whether the contract defines “emergency and disaster preparedness plan”, and is waiting on a reply from DDS: Whether the plan is designed to enhance the preparedness of regional center clients and/or their service providers and family to assist them with preparedness for an emergency/disaster situation? Whether the contract defines or describes regional centers’ responsibility to ensure their vendors have emergency and disaster preparedness plans covering their clients? And, whether the IPP process of need determination shouldn’t address with each individual their personal emergency preparedness?

The AB4 E-News for August lead article was on Emergency Preparedness and included links to federal and state websites with additional information.

Goal #6: Young adults with developmental disabilities and their families get the information and support to be prepared for and experience a successful transition to adult life.

As a member of the Vallejo Community Advisory Committee for Special Education, Area Board 4 is planning an outreach event for students and families to inform them about community resources (attached). The outreach event will have adult service providers so transition students and families can learn about employment and other resources to help them transition to adult life. AB4 staff worked with district special education staff on logistics, created and distributed outreach materials, secured the participation of agencies, and organized activities at the event for students and families.

Goal # 9: Working age adults with developmental disabilities have the necessary information, tools and supports to succeed in inclusive and gainful work opportunities.

Area Board 4 awarded a PDF grant to TransCen to provide technical assistance and training on braided service and customized employment, including two “Imagine the Possibilities” workshops for individuals and families to create an expectation of work.

Two provider organizations will pilot the braided services model. The regional center (NBRC) has promised its collaboration with and support for the project, which will begin October 1, 2014.

AB4 has an "Employment 1st E-List" of approximately 50 people, most of whom are professionals (service providers, regional center, school, and DR staff). At least six e-mails sent to this Employment 1st Group on topics to help them be more informed on trainings and new developments in the field (eg. "How work will affect your Social Security benefits"; Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program webinars; status of "jobs bills" in California Legislature; Reports from the Department of Developmental Services showing employment data for the local regional center (NBRC) and statewide data for all regional centers, among other information.

AB4 staff attended an Informational Hearing at the State Capitol on "*Vocational Training & Employment for Individuals with ASD & Related Disorders: Challenges & Innovative Solutions*", which featured the following panel presentations:

- Employment Status for Individuals with ASD;
- Current Employment Programs-Opportunities, Challenges, Resources & Supports; Innovative Approaches & Best Practices;
- Legislation Related to Employment.

The information packets from the hearing were distributed to the aforementioned "Employment 1st E-Group" and to another list of approximately 50 persons (ASD List).

Another way AB4 distributes information is through its E-News (attached) which we send to 500 people. The August issue included information on and a link to the following items pertaining to employment:

- A. State Council's new policy on "Sheltered Work and Subminimum Wage and the Transition to Integrated Competitive Employment";
- B. Council's Employment Data Dashboard;
- C. The federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

AB4's self advocacy newsletter had an article informing individuals about innovative and individualized employment available through Tailored Day Services. Vallerie showed that employment can be based on the individual's interests (for her, art) and preferences (not be in a group). The newsletter also had an article letting people know that they could dictate the terms of their employment (Richard wanted to continue to attend his day program and work on evenings and weekends). Like Richard, many

individuals want to continue participating at their programs but want to add integrated, competitive employment.

Goal #10

Individuals with developmental disabilities understand their options regarding health services and have access to a full range of coordinated health, dental and mental health services in their community.

AB 4 has been following an issue of access to dental surgery with an announcement earlier in the Spring by Sutter Hospitals of closure of two operating rooms where patients, including those with developmental disabilities, received oral surgery and dental care where sedation and/or anesthesia was used. AB 4 staff locally initiated a meeting with senior managers with NBRC, including their Medical Director and Dental Coordinator, to discuss how the regional center and AB 4 might start a dialogue locally with Partnership Health Plan on whether PHP would be willing to augment Medi-Cal payment rates thereby addressing the problem articulated by Sutter that the Medi-Cal reimbursement was much too low. A request has been made to PHP to meet but the meeting has not occurred to date. Additionally, the planning group we initiated discussed whether a systematic program for children and adults aimed at overcoming fear associated with a dental visit might be instituted. Such programs had occurred years before but were short-term and had ended.

AB4 staff distributed a journal article to the ad hoc planning group of AB4 and NBRC staff on the importance of establishing a “dental home” early for young children. The article also addressed how a structured program of early dental care and familiarizing young children with disabilities with the dental office can be helpful in preventing the emergence of fear-based behaviors later that may require more intrusive dental procedures.

Goal #12

Affordable and accessible housing units are developed in local communities to expand housing options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

One of the two AB 4 mini-grants for the current federal FY 2013-14 is for staff of the North Bay Housing Coalition to attend and provide information on the housing needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Housing Element

Workshops in the three counties of the AB4 catchment area. The project is in progress until the end of September, 2014.

Goal #13: Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to community based services and supports available to the general population (such as recreation, transportation, childcare, etc.) that enable them to live productive and inclusive lives.

AB4's self advocacy newsletter featured a family who purchased their own home through assistance from a realtor and a city housing department. The newsletter also provided information on glasses and internet service available to people who have low incomes.

Goal #15: Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to information and resources in ways that reflect their language and cultural preferences.

Area Board 4 is working with North Bay Regional Center to plan a series of outreach and training sessions for Spanish-speaking families. The trainings will cover regional center eligibility and services.

Area Board 4 provided translated information to 38 Spanish-speaking individuals and families regarding special education resources, special education rights, and regional center appeal processes.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

It is very difficult for individuals who want anything other than traditional services to get approval from NBRC. They are repeatedly told to wait, that their request is being researched or discussed. In an attempt to be cooperative and reasonable, several individuals have waited months for a response from NBRC with no resolution. Self determination services should help with this, but for individuals not in the self determination program, they will continue to face the dilemma of hoping they will get needed services if they wait longer or filing for a fair hearing.

Sonoma,
Napa, Solano

July 2014

Regional Self Advocacy

Newsletter



"People see us
as our equipment.

We are not a
wheelchair or a walker.

I am a human being,
with abilities,
feelings, and a heart."

~ Robert Balderama,
Statewide Self
Advocacy Network
Member

"If I can do it,
they can do it."

~Sonia Jones, on
owning her own home

"Alone we can do
so little; together we
can do so much"

~Helen Keller

A Home of Their Own

Anthony and Sonia Jones live in a beautiful home in a quiet neighborhood in Vallejo. They own their home, they don't rent it. It took a lot of hard work for the Jones' to get their own home but they want other people to know that they can own their own home too.



Anthony and Sonia have been married for 11 years. They lived in an apartment in Vallejo for 11 years. Anthony works as a janitor, Sonia takes care of their two daughters.

Sonia said, "When we moved to the apartment it was beautiful. It was new and a lot of people wanted to live there. We got picked in the lottery and got an apartment. But the place slowly got worse – people throw stuff at us, harass my kids, people getting hurt, police come, people breaking my kids' toys. I cried at night. I was in hell. I just wanted to get out."

Anthony: "The apartment was too stressful, too many bad things."

Bonnie (from The Arc Solano), suggested they look into buying their own home. Bonnie helped them go to a class about getting a home. The class was 6 hours long, and when the class was over they got a certificate.

(continued on page 2)



A real estate agent helped them look at homes that were for sale. Sonia said, “You can see some horrible houses. One house had the doors ripped off, writing on the walls.” When they first saw the house they would end up buying, it was in bad shape. Sonia: “It was old, had holes in the ceiling, there was a ladder instead of stairs, and the rails were caked with bird poop.”

Sonia: “Heidi (North Bay Regional Center) has been with us since '96 and she got us connected with Patti and Mary (North Bay Housing Coalition). They helped us get the house fixed by Housing, and helped us fill out all the paperwork to buy the house.”



Sonia: “Patti had to work with social security, she worked with contractors, explained everything. If we didn't understand something, Patti would explain it another way. If she couldn't figure out another way to explain it, she said, 'I'll get back to you.' She always figured out how to explain things. She never yelled. Patti's been working her butt off. ”

“We got the keys the day before Thanksgiving. Mike (The Arc Solano) helped box up stuff. He'd say kind words. He was a tremendous help. He kept trucking along; he'd bring us boxes from Home Depot, he brought us breakfast because he said it was going to be a long day. Vanessa (The Arc Solano) and Paul (Vanessa's boyfriend) helped a lot, with packing and moving. People keep helping us. They don't want to see the Jones family fail.”

Anthony said, “Me and my wife waited for this for a long time. I like doing things for my family. I like to have my kids play in their backyard, and not have other kids cussing at my kids.”

Sonia said, “I always wanted a home. I saw my mom and dad do it. Even though I had a disability, I wanted to do it. When I wake up, I look around my house and say, Wow'. I love seeing Anthony's eyes light up. He has his man cave, so he can have a space of his own. It's not easy for disabled people to get their own house. I saw how hard Patti and others worked. We had the right team.”

* * * * *



Anthony & Sonia's amazing team: Patti Uplinger & Mary Eble from North Bay Housing Coalition, Heidi Oestreich from North Bay Regional Center, and Mike Huckins and Vanessa Van Arsdale from The Arc Solano. If you're interested in home ownership you can get learn more from the Unity Council: <http://www.unitycouncil.org/> or call 1-510-535-6943.

A New Kind of Service Tailored Day Services



Tailored Day Services, or 'TDS', is a new kind of service that is customized to fit you, your interests, and your needs. With TDS, you can get support to start a business, volunteer, go to college, or find a job, or a combination of any or all of these.



Vallerie Birdsell gets Tailored Day Services (TDS) from The Arc Solano. Vallerie said TDS is a good fit for her because: "I like that it's not a group. I get ideas on what kind of crafts to do at home. I made greeting cards and now I'm painting back scratchers. I like that I can work from home where it's quiet. I don't have to go to different location to work on my projects. I went to Michael's and found frames that I can personalize with color and add art work to sell, and people can put a picture in it. That was my idea!"

"I like to go to the waterfront in Vallejo to sell my crafts. I go to the waterfront five days a month with a few other people. I sell my crafts from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. I have 43 hours a month through tailored day services. Once a week I volunteer at the humane society. I clean cat cages, and then I get to stay a while and socialize with the cats and give them attention. It's so cute when I get to take the kittens out. They purr and cuddle in my arms."

TDS is not as many hours each week as a day program or a workshop. The law says you can't have TDS and go to another program. You have to choose either TDS or a day program or workshop. If you want to know more about Tailored Day Services, ask your Service Coordinator at North Bay Regional Center.

Congratulations Richard!



In an earlier newsletter, we introduced you to Richard, who wanted to get a job and keep going to The Arc Solano. Richard has friends at The Arc Solano and he makes and sells beautiful jewelry there. He knew it would be hard to find a job since he only wanted to work after program hours. **Richard got a job!** He's working at Walmart and his hours will be from 4pm to closing. Solano Diversified Services (SDS) helped Richard with his job hunt and will provide his job coach. Congratulations Richard!! You said exactly what you wanted – to stay at The Arc Solano & get a job – and SDS and the rest of your team listened to you and supported you.



In the Spotlight

What Talent! Jokes by Gemma

Gemma is an entertainer with a remarkable memory. If you say a word, like 'banana', Gemma can tell you a joke:

Q - Why don't bananas get lonely?

A - They hang around in bunches

How many jokes do you know?

I know around 300 jokes on 92 topics.

How do you use your talents?

I perform every year on Wine Bev's camping trip, doing this by having the audience give me topics. It's quite funny! I have fun as well cracking up with other people. Good thing we aren't eggs. I also had a joke published in a magazine.

Q - What kind of shampoo do mountains use?

A - Head and Boulders

How did you discover that you were good at remembering and telling jokes?

I discovered my talent with jokes by comparing other jokes together in the same category. Much like what I did in high school, learning how objects are different and alike. That's how I learned the skills of conversations, which is mainly staying on topic.

Q - How can you tell if a train passed?

A - By following its tracks

Are you good at remembering other things?

I'm good at remembering other things such as Amazing Facts, nature, culture differences.

Q - What did the dentist tell the golfer?

A - You have a hole in one

How long have you been memorizing jokes?

I've been memorizing jokes ever since I was seven.

Q - Why is grass dangerous?

A - It's full of blades

That was fun! Thanks Gemma!



Statewide Self Advocacy Network

The Statewide Self Advocacy Network (SSAN) met on June 23-24 in Sacramento.

Michael Arbios, Region 4 Representative to SSAN said, "I thought the meeting was informative. Personally I think it could be organized better. Last minute changes are not good for all participants. I appreciate how the chair recognized all people who wanted to speak."

Mark Polit, State Council Deputy Director, said self advocates need to be the driving force behind policy changes. SSAN is the bridge to share information between different parts of the state.

Regina Woodliff from Region 5 gave a presentation on living with learning disabilities. She talked about her own experiences. Regina said, "We're all bright and intelligent in our own way."

Stacey Milbern from the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) Pacific Alliance said ASAN is funded by the federal government to help self advocacy groups to become stronger.



RESOURCES FROM SSAN

LOW COST GLASSES



The California Vision Project is a non-profit, optometric charity designed to provide low-income, uninsured families throughout the state of California with free comprehensive eye exams and low cost glasses. 1-800-877-5738 <http://www.californiavision.org/patients.html>

LOW COST INTERNET SERVICE



The Digital Access Project supports people with disabilities to get internet services at a lower cost, perfect for those who have limited incomes. <http://digitalaccessproject.org/>

Thanks to SSAN Members Ted Jackson & Julie Gaona for these resources!

A Passion for Singing



#####* & #####* are talented singers who recently performed at a concert at in Fairfield. They performed with

Dungarvin staff Holly Stell, an accomplished professional singer. Holly has performed for President George W. Bush, recorded a duet with Andrea Bocelli, filmed a PBS special, and was featured on "Oprah" and "Entertainment Tonight."

Holly was giving one last concert in this area before moving away. She wanted to include in the concert people she works with at Dungarvin who share her passion for singing.

Holly's concert included a duet with Jenny. They sang "Smile" by Charlie Chaplin. Jenny also sang a solo, "My Heart Will Go On" from the movie "Titanic."

is a trained singer. She attended a music academy for 2 years. She likes to sing show tunes and has experience acting. She has had roles in Annie, LesMiserables, Wizard of Oz, High School Musical, and Dream Street. She also got interviewed on the Aarti Party Show and the Kelly Fuller Show. #####'s dream goal would be to do voices in an animated movie.

sang a solo, "Fly me to the moon" by Frank Sinatra. He was accompanied by Dungarvin staff Jerome Thweatt who played the saxophone.

is also a trained singer. He had music training while attending Contra Costa College. ##### was in a band at the California School for the Blind. His career goal is to be a professional musician.

Congratulations #####, #####, Holly, & Jerome for a successful concert! Best wishes Holly! (*2 individuals did not want name or photo on internet)

SELF ADVOCACY TRAININGS!

Area Board 4 is available to give trainings on these topics:

- Leading Your Own IPP Meeting
- Statewide Self Advocacy Network
- Voting
- Jobs
- Self Advocacy

If there's any other topic you would like to have a training on, let us know! Please contact us at 707-953-8403 or cindy.ruder@scdd.ca.gov

* * * * *

Please feel free to copy & share this newsletter! We welcome your photos, stories, comments, and suggestions for the newsletter. Send any input

to Area Board 4, 707-953-8403, or
cindy.ruder@scdd.ca.gov



BACK-TO-SCHOOL FAMILY SOCIAL

Date: Wednesday August 27, 2014

Time: 6:00-8:00pm

**Place: Vallejo City Unified School District,
665 Walnut Avenue, Room 115 & 116, Vallejo (Mare Island)**

Come and celebrate the start of a great school year! All families in the Special Education program in the Vallejo City Unified School District are invited. Children and teens will enjoy crafts and games while parents network with other families, school district personnel and members of your CAC advocacy team. We'll provide refreshments, and we'll have resources and information available. Take advantage of this great opportunity to meet your child's education advocates!

Come learn about these agencies and programs and talk to their staff:

Area Board 4 *** Disability Rights California/Office of Clients Rights Advocacy
Matrix Parent Network *** National Autism Resources
North Bay Regional Center *** Solano Diversified Services
UC Davis MIND Institute

VCUSD Transition Partnership Project, WorkAbility, CaPromise, Project Search

Questions? Contact:

Darcel Jones, CAC Event Coordinator, darceljones1@gmail.com, 707-704-2569

Celeste Neumann, CAC Chairperson, celestethewest@comcast.net, 707-643-3701

Mike Massey, CAC Vice Chair, 707-655-7059

Nikisha Sims, Matrix Parent Network, nikishas@matrixparents.org, 707-423-2545

Cindy Ruder, Area Board 4 Advocate, cindy.ruder@scdd.ca.gov, 707-953-8403

"The Vallejo City Unified School District is providing this announcement as a public services to parents and guardians. This info has been printed by the "Vallejo Community Advisory Committee for Special Education", and not at Districts expense. The District has not evaluated or approved the program or service; Parents and guardian are encouraged to make their own evaluation of the program if it interests them."

Vallejo Comité Consejero de la Comunidad
para la Educación Especial



DE REGRESO A LA ESCUELA DE FAMILIA SOCIAL

Fecha: Miércoles 27 de agosto 2014

Tiempo: 6:00-8:00pm

**Lugar: El Distrito Escolar Unificado de la Ciudad de Vallejo,
665 Walnut Avenue, Room 115 & 116, Vallejo (Mare Island)**

Ven a celebrar el comienzo de un gran año escolar! Se invita a todas las familias en el programa de Educación Especial en el Distrito Escolar Unificado de la Ciudad de Vallejo. Los niños y adolescentes podrán disfrutar de manualidades y juegos, mientras que los padres en red con otras familias, distrito escolar personales y miembros de su equipo de defensa de CAC. Vamos a ofrecer un refrigerio, y vamos a tener los recursos y la información disponible. Aproveche esta gran oportunidad de conocer a defensores de la educación de su hijo!

Venga y aprenda sobre estos organismos y programas y hablar con su personal:

Junta de la Zona 4 * Oficina de California / de Defensa de Derechos de los Clientes
Derechos de los Discapacitados**

Matrix Parent Network * Recursos Nacionales Autismo**

Centro Regional de North Bay * Solano Diversified Services**

UC Davis MIND Institute

VCUSD Transición Partnership Project, WorkAbility, CaPromise, Project Search

¿Preguntas? Póngase en contacto con:

Darcel Jones, Coordinador CAC Evento, darceljones1@gmail.com, 707-704 - 2569

Celeste Neumann, CAC Presidente, celesteinthewest@comcast.net, 707-643-3701

Mike Massey, Vicepresidente CAC, 707-655-7059

Nikisha Sims, Matrix Parent Network, nikishas@matrixparents.org, 707-423-2545

Cindy Ruder, Junta de la Zona 4 Advocate, cindy.ruder @ scdd.ca.gov, 707-953-8403

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de la Ciudad de Vallejo está proporcionando este anuncio como un servicio público a los padres y tutores. Esta información ha sido impreso por "Vallejo Comité Consejero de la Comunidad para la Educación Especial", y no a expensas del Distritos. El Distrito no ha evaluado ni aprobado el programa o servicio; Animamos a los padres y tutores para hacer su propia evaluación del programa si les interesa



August 29, 2014

Board Members

- Martin Weil, Chairperson*
- Virginia Barraza*
- Ami Bedi*
- Vallerie Birdsell*
- Rick Cederberg*
- Maryann Cantone*
- Max Duley*
- Jeana Eriksen*
- Stephanie Hulbert*
- Andy Lunceford*
- Tina McLean*
- Celeste Neumann*

Staff

- Robert Phillips, Director*
- Cindy Ruder, CPS 2*
- Robin Tigh, Office Tech.*

What's in this edition!

1. Earthquake Preparedness and Response
2. A New Option: Self Determination
3. State Council Adopts New Policy
4. Developmental Disabilities Employment Data Dashboard.
5. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
6. Autism Therapy a Medi-Cal Benefit

Visit our web page at <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/areaboard4.htm>

*Like Area Board 4 on Facebook

*Sign up for our free e-newsletter, contact Robin.tigh@scdd.ca.gov

Earthquake Preparedness and Response

Advice from OSHA:

There are many things you can do to prepare your workplace before an earthquake occurs:

Pick "safe places". A safe place could be under a sturdy table or desk or against an interior wall away from windows, bookcases or tall furniture that could fall on you. The shorter the distance to move to safety, the less likely that you will be injured. Injury statistics show that people moving as little as ten feet during an earthquake's shaking are most likely to be injured.

Practice drop, cover, and hold-on in each safe place. Drop under a sturdy desk or table and hold on to one leg of the table or desk. Protect your eyes by keeping your head down. Practice these actions so that they become an automatic response.

[Read more...](#)

10 Ways You Can Be Disaster Prepared

1. Identify Your Risk
2. Create a Family Disaster Plan

3. Practice Your Disaster Plan
4. Build a Disaster Supply Kit For Your Home and Car
5. Prepare Your Children
6. Don't Forget Those With Special Needs
7. Learn CPR and First Aid
8. Eliminate Hazards in Your Home and The Workplace
9. Understand Post 9/11 Risks
10. Get Involved, Volunteer, Bear Responsibility

[Read more...](#)

A New Option: Self Determination



Governor Brown signed Self-Determination into law so everyone receiving regional center services will be able to choose Self-Determination, if they want. Find out more about Self-Determination by viewing [Fact Sheet on Self Determination](#)

What is Self Determination? It gives you the chance to choose the services and supports that help you have the kind of life you want!

How can I get Self-Determination? Self-Determination will not start until California gets federal approval, maybe in 2015. Once it starts, it will be phased in slowly for three years, and then opened to everyone. If you want Self-Determination, tell your service coordinator or case manager.

How does it work? Right now the regional center spends money to buy services for you. With Self-Determination, you get to use that money to buy the services you want. First, you would develop a person-centered plan. Then you develop a budget that says how you would spend the money to make your plan work. Your person-centered plan and your budget must be approved by your Individual Program Plan (IPP) team.

State Council Adopts New Policy

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities has adopted a new policy on Council Policy On Sheltered Work and Subminimum Wage And the Transition to Integrated Competitive Employment

Here is the link to the full policy statement: http://www.scdd.ca.gov/sw_policy.htm

Below is a "Plain Language" Summary of the Policy:

The State Council shall:

- (1) Advocate for phasing out sheltered workshops and subminimum wage.
- (2) Advocate for services that support people in regular jobs making regular pay.
- (3) Advocate for limiting referrals to sheltered workshops and a time to close them.
- (4) Find out what other states have done to do that. Find what is happening in California that may work.
- (5) Ask the Department of Developmental Services to develop a plan to do that.
- (6) Make sure people in sheltered workshops and making subminimum wage have other options.

Employment Data Dashboard

Welcome to California's Data Dashboard for employment of people with developmental disabilities. People with developmental disabilities seek to work, earn and be part of the economic life of their communities. On October 9, 2013, Governor Brown signed AB 1041 (Chesbro) into law, establishing an [Employment First Policy](#) in the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act. This dashboard presents up-to-date data on how well California is doing in implementing the new policy and supporting people to have regular jobs at regular pay.

[View the Employment Dashboard](#)

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

The 'Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act' includes reforms for individuals with disabilities. The federal legislation which President Obama signed into law requires individuals to try vocational rehabilitation before placement in a sheltered workshop and calls on schools and state vocational agencies to partner to help students transition to the workforce.

Read the [Disability Scoop Article](#) excerpts from which are copied below:

"...the measure would prohibit individuals age 24 and younger from working jobs that pay less than the federal minimum of \$7.25 per hour unless they first try vocational rehabilitation services, among other requirements...the legislation would require state vocational rehabilitation agencies to work with schools to provide "pre-employment transition services" to all students with disabilities...While the bill mandates that most young people try competitive employment before they could work for less than minimum wage, there are exceptions for those deemed ineligible for vocational rehabilitation and to allow individuals already earning so-called subminimum wage to continue to do so."

Autism Therapy a Medi-Cal Benefit

Senator Steinberg's Statement on Autism Medi-Cal Coverage:

"August 05, 2014

*(Sacramento) – California Senate leader Darrell Steinberg issued the following statement regarding today's announcement by California's Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) that **autism therapy, also known as applied behavior analysis, will be covered by Medi-Cal:***

"Today's announcement cements the original vision of SB-946 by ensuring that all kids, regardless of their insurance status, will have access to life-changing treatment. At the time, we recognized that SB-946 was a significant advance, but an incomplete advance. The circle has been completed."

DHCS is set to have a formal meeting at the end of the month to develop their implementation plan. The plan is expected to include treatments and therapies for all Californians with autism ages 21 years and younger, including those who previously had coverage under the Healthy Families program. The plan is also expected be retroactive to July 1, 2014.

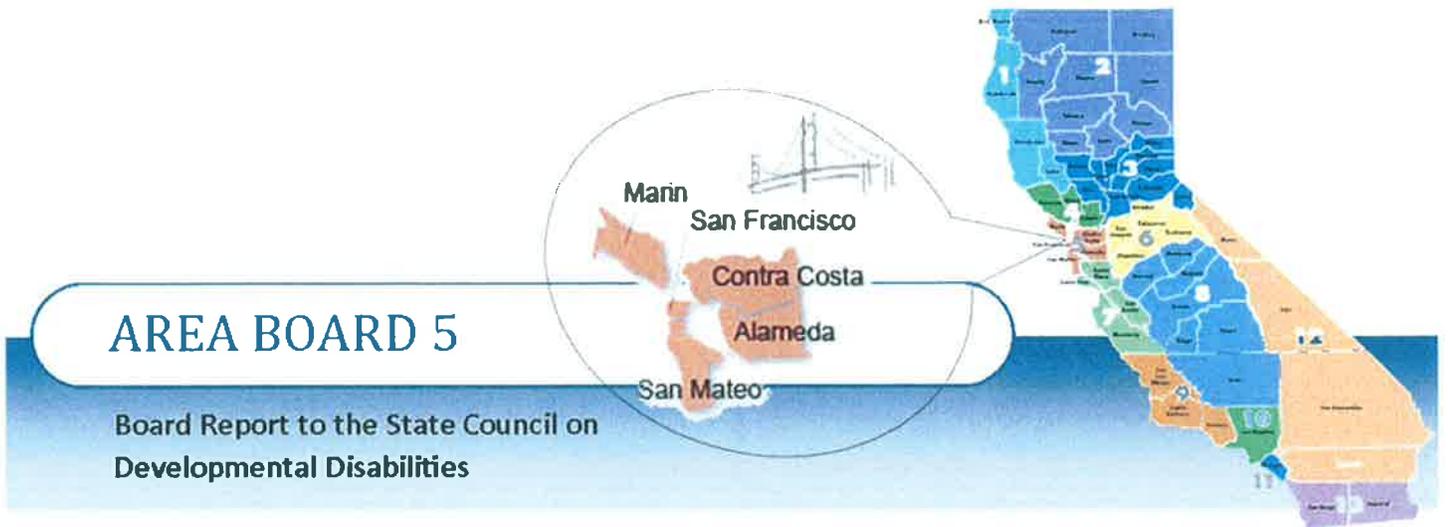
The announcement came as the California Senate Select Committee on Autism & Related Disorders was hearing testimony on workforce training and job opportunities for Californians with autism. Before the packed hearing room in the Capitol, Senator Steinberg relayed the announcement to applause from those attending the hearing.

Senator Steinberg authored SB 946 in 2011, requiring private health plans and insurance companies to provide coverage for behavioral health treatment for individuals with autism and pervasive developmental disorders. Estimates suggest that 8,500 children have benefitted from the successful legislation since it came into effect in July 2012, while the California Department of Insurance estimates annual taxpayer savings of up to \$200 million in intervention costs from regional centers and special education programs.

Autism is the nation's most rapidly growing serious developmental disability, as the number of those living with autism in the United States is 300 percent higher than it was in 2005. Nearly one in every 50 children in U.S. children exhibits signs of autism spectrum disorders. Research shows that early behavioral intervention therapies improve brain functions, promote higher cognitive functions and reduce self-injurious behaviors for a significant number of individuals with autism Spectrum disorders."

Note from Louis A. Vismara MD, Policy Consultant to Senator Darrell Steinberg:

"Yesterday the Calif Senate paid an emotional, compelling and well-deserved tribute to Sen. Steinberg. Autism insurance coverage was prominently noted by the pro Tem and other Members as a key accomplishment during his 6 year leadership. To view an interview with DS please visit <http://www.capradio.org/31058>. Many thanks to all who have contributed to and supported Sen. Steinberg's tireless efforts."



Reporting Period: July-August 2014

Date: 9/02/14

Executive Director: Gabriel Rogin

Highlights

Congreso Familiar - Annual Conference for Spanish Speaking Families
Leadership Conversations with Jim Shorter and Art & Claudia Bolton
Northern California Person-Centered Thinking Gathering

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Self-Determination

Area Board 5 continues to educate our local community on SB 468: Self-Determination. During this period, Area Board 5 gave a presentation to Regional Center of the East Bay's Consumer Advisory Committee. The presentation included an overview of the recent legislation and a discussion on the potential impact to people we support and their families. Approximately 15 committee members participated. Area Board 5 staff also met with Regional Center of the East Bay's Executive Director and Golden Gate Regional Center's Chief Counselor to begin planning the formation of our local Self-Determination Advisory Committees.

Employment & Post-Secondary Education

Area Board 5 continued to prioritize increasing employment opportunities during this period. We continued our lead role in planning a "Community Conversation" on employment for youth in Alameda County through the California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY) and a local steering committee. Area Board 5 staff continued to co-chair SCDD's Disability Advisory Committee (DAC), which focuses on reducing barriers to employment for people with disabilities within SCDD, and represented the DAC at the Youth Leadership Forum in Sacramento. We also met with a job developer from King County, Washington and are exploring opportunities to replicate their

employment strategies in our local community. Finally, we continued to participate on the planning committee for our annual College with a Disability Conference.

Early Start

Area Board 5 staff met with the Early Childhood Education Committee of Alameda County and updated them on the recent restoration of Early Start eligibility. Approximately 40 early education/childcare providers participated, as well as Assemblymember Nancy Skinner.

Multi-Cultural Outreach and Education

Area Board 5 supported the planning and implementation of Congreso Familiar, an annual event dedicated to promoting education and leadership skills within Spanish speaking families who have children with disabilities. Approximately 1,025 individuals participated with over 50 workshops on a wide range of topics, including: IHSS, SSI, Transition to Adulthood, Immigration, Special Education/IEP, Mental Health, Positive Parenting, Sign Language and ABA.

System Reform and Capacity Building

Area Board 5 organized and implemented a series of Conversations with Local System Leaders. Our second and third conversations occurred during this period with Jim Shorter and Art and Claudia Bolton, respectively. The conversations were designed to share best practices and help "pass the baton" to future system leaders. Given the positive feedback, future leadership conversations will be scheduled in the near future. Area Board 5 staff also continued to promote Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) during this period, facilitating the local PCT Leaders meeting and participating in the Northern California PCT Gathering. Area Board 5 met with a local group of system leaders to begin reviewing the new Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Rules and preparing for their implementation. Area Board 5 led a discussion with Golden Gate Regional Center's Service Provider Advisory Committee on the topic of decreasing existing segregated services. Area Board 5 facilitated the strategic planning session of Alameda County's Council on Developmental Disabilities, concluded our analysis of local day program capacity and continued planning our local STAR Conference, which focuses on educating and supporting parents of children with autism.

Self-Advocacy, Advocacy & Consumer Satisfaction

Area Board 5 continued to support self-advocates through Bay Area People First, including 5 local chapters, and the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN). Area Board 5 also continued to support the planning of Golden Gate Regional Center's annual Self-Advocacy Conference. Finally, Area Board 5 provided individual advocacy to about 10 individuals/families within this period and continued to the survey process for the NCI project. Area Board 5 is responsible for the NCI surveys for three regional centers: Golden Gate Regional Center, Regional Center of the East Bay, and San Andreas Regional Center.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Given that AB 1626 failed to become law and Supported Employment rates were not restored, Futures Explored (vendor of Regional Center of the East Bay) has decided to discontinue providing Supported Employment - Individual Placement services. This decision will result in a significant loss of Supported Employment capacity for our local community.



AREA BOARD 6

Board Report to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Reporting Period: July/August

Date: August 29, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS-

The Self-Advocacy Council 6- hosted TEAM SAFE at August Area Meeting!

Provided technical assistance to the Self Advocacy Council 6 at their August Area meeting of Self Advocates. Over 150 self-advocates from all five counties attended. The Ambulance, Fire, Police & Highway Patrol provided valuable information on how to be prepared in the event of an emergency as well as how people can help them during an emergency. Local agencies provide materials at their booths which included the Shriner's, SCDD/AB6, SAC6, DRC, and Mental Health supports.

Participated at the Community Partnership for Families of San Joaquin's Children's Fair and gave out information to over 100 families from various cultural backgrounds!

In collaboration with Valley Mountain Regional Center and Family Resource Network- SCDD/Area Board 6 offered this seminar to over 40 people- 13 included Spanish speaking only families.

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal CR.14.2-

Mayors Task Force on Persons with Disabilities- Facilitated meeting with Mayor of Stockton and other city officials regarding ADA compliance and other issues affecting Persons with disabilities in or the Stockton area. Discussed needed improvements to sidewalks around various parts of the community. Begin an action plan to to address these issues. People with Developmental disabilities , professionals from various agencies such as UCP,ARC, Drail, Community Center for the Blind, Person Centered Services (PCS), Central Valley Training Center (CVTC) and other members of the public attended attended this meeting and provided input regarding curb cuts and other ADA issues around the community.

Goal CS.02.2-

- Responded to 3 phone calls from individuals seeking information about regional center supports and how to appeal regional center decisions. Provided guidance on the IPP process including establishing the need for services and supports and documenting this on the IPP.
- Provided support and facilitation of the Employment Network with the goal of increasing employment opportunities of individuals with disabilities.
- Responded to 3 phone calls from individuals seeking information about regional center supports and how to appeal regional center decisions. Provided guidance on the IPP process including establishing the need for services and supports and documenting this on the IPP.
- Assisted a parent in a fair hearing informal meeting. The parent is requesting a wheelchair/stroller to allow mobility for her 16 year old child. The regional center denied the request and the mother does not have the training to initiate or pursue an appeal.
- Referred 6 individuals who receive VMRC services to Disability Resource Agency for Independent Living (Drail) for information regarding going to work and Social Security benefits planning. Mailed consumers flyers for hiring self-advocates to conduct QA interviews along with Employment 1st and Self Determination information.

Goal CS.04.1-

Provided outreach and support for a training opportunity for self-advocates local law enforcement and first responders at a self-advocacy meeting in Tuolumne County attended by over 150 self-advocates and 7 law enforcement and first responders. Distributed information and spoke with 75 individuals about SCDD/Area Board supports and activities.

Goal ED.02.1-

Provided advocacy for parent at IEP meeting. Provided parent with information regarding her rights and information about upcoming IEP workshops.

Goal ED.02.2-

- Responded to 5 phone calls from individuals seeking information about special education policies, laws and practices. Provided guidance on the IEP process and the method of appeal of educational decisions.
- Responded to 4 phone calls from individuals seeking information about special education policies, laws and practices. Provided guidance on the IEP process and the method of appeal of educational decisions.

Goal ED.02.3-

- Coordination and facilitation of Supported Living Network. AB6 arranged location, set up agenda and facilitated discussion between vendors and Regional center. AB6 also updated vendors and RC on status of Quality assurance project and provided information regarding upcoming trainings for vendor staff. Disseminated information regarding IHSS overtime changes and flyers for hiring QA interviewers. AB6 staff also promoted the need to higher Self-advocates to conduct QA interviews. Vendors were also provided with the latest updates regarding AB 1595, information Self-determination and Employment 1st.
- Provided information about SCDD/AB6 and what our agency does. Disseminated brochures containing website information for SCDD/AB6. Talked about AB1595, Employment 1st and Self Determination.

Goal ED.06.1-

- Summer meeting of Stanislaus County SELIT . Discussed transitional planning for 13 students who are leaving the educational system this fall and transitioning to adult services. 4 students represented themselves and provided input as to their plans for transition. 6 students desired employment and this was a major factor in the recommendations for service discussed by the team. All students were discussed by VMRC, educational staff and vendors to determine the most appropriate path to adult services in light of their interests and needs. Students were from Modesto, Ceres and Patterson programs.

Goal HO.11.2-

AB6 Staff facilitated meeting of VMRC staff, FRN staff, Family members of consumers and Vendors. The group worked together to develop planning tools for consumers to use when they transition between residential homes. AB6 staff also provided the group with suggestions and tools to develop a resident feedback survey. VMRC would like to develop this annual survey to get feedback from consumers and their family about how they feel about residential services.

Goal QA.03.1 –

Through mailings, attendance at meetings, faxes and e-mail disseminated information about hiring interviewers who are self-advocates for QA project cycle 6.

Goal QA.03.2-

AB6 staff presented information to IHSS public authority advisory committee and direct care staff about SCDD/AB6. Disseminated brochures and information regarding Employment 1st and Self determination

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Same issues as in previous report:

- Update still needed on the DDS Parental Fee issues and what SCDD is doing regarding this.
- There is a need to outreach to Spanish speaking families in our area and across the state.

AREA BOARD 7

Board Report to the State Council
on Developmental Disabilities



David Grady, Director: Reporting Period: July to August, 2014
Date: 8/29/14

- Outreach
 - Spanish and Bi-lingual outreach continues with AB7 board member becoming active in local Fiesta Educativa planning of upcoming resource fair. Board member to present on panel. At Fiesta Educativa, self-advocate and board member presented bi-lingual presentation on Self-Determination. Board president and director met with Chaparousa representative to discuss the needs of families in south Monterey County. AB7 Board has agreed to make rural outreach a priority. Staff participated in a resource fair hosted by a Chaparusa in Greenfield and King City. AB7 materials translated into Spanish. **Strategic Plan Goal 15**
 - Attended PHP Parent of Adult provider meeting and discussed with group updates to SARC website including AB's effort to have SARC have a searchable service directory online. AB7's involvement of parents and request to regional center is a response to the NCI data that indicates families do not feel they are getting enough information from the regional center to make informed decisions. **Strategic Plan Goal 2**
 - Attended SARC Board Meeting for July and August. Met with the new director of SanAndreas to discuss collaboration. Director plans to build SARC vision statements for employment and housing. Discussed strategies to get community input for these needs. Met with Regional Center Director and Client Services. Reviewed variety of needs including searchable service directory, Employment First, Self Determination, Collaboration Building. Agreed to meet with director on a monthly basis to better coordinate collaboration efforts. The request for a searchable service directory results from AB efforts to point out to regional center that NCI data results indicate families do not feel informed of all services available to them. **Strategic Plan Goal 2,13,14**
 - Attended Service Provider Advisory Committee and advocated for extending emerging self-advocacy groups into a broader network with stronger representation at the policy making level. Met with chair of SPAC to clarify role of AB among this SARC advisory committee. Attended Service Provider Advocacy Committee to discuss greater outreach for self-advocacy, self-determination, and the Disability Collaborative. **Strategic Plan Goal 1,14**
 - Attended Disability Collaborative meeting. Drafting a Road Map for Residential Services. Reviewed need for building of a website to help individuals families and providers to link into the variety of services and supports throughout all of four counties. Site possibly to include discussion forum calendar of events, resource links. Met with collaborative partner to discuss leadership development. **Strategic Plan Goal 6**
 - Attended Micro-Enterprise Committee meeting to give advice and support to individual's business plans. Meeting with a self-advocate to create micro-enterprise strategies at his Independent Living Center and day service. **Strategic Plan Goal 8,9**
 - Attended SVILC Self Advocate meeting to discuss AB collaboration with SVILC. Reviewed method of outreach to community including webpage, and an ILC open house with an invitation to developmental disability community. **Strategic Plan Goal 1, 13**
 - Hosted Office of Administrative Hearings Due Process Training at AB and at Family Resource Center in Monterey County. 48 participants. **Strategic Plan Goal 13**
 - Attended Day of Extraordinary People in Santa Cruz.
 - Mediated self-advocate and resident coordination agency discussion regarding sensitivity training from staff toward residents. **Strategic Plan Goal 12.**

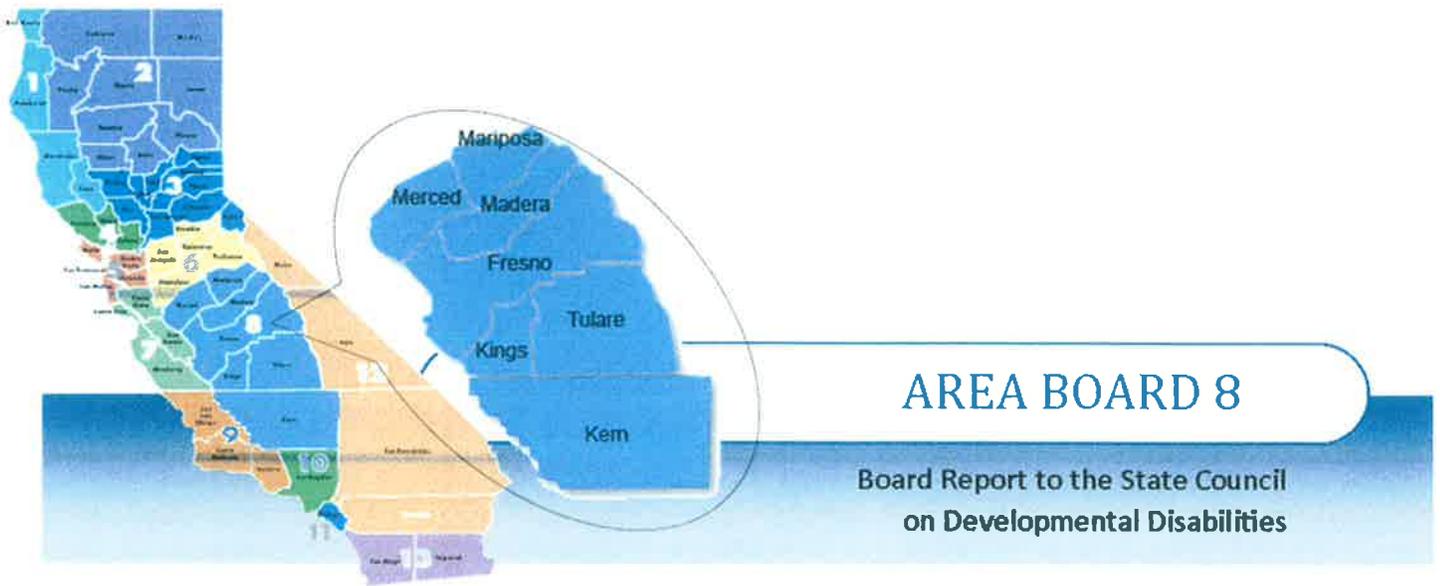
- Outreach Cont.
 - Attended Supported Living Provider meeting to legislative needs regarding SLS, including repealing audit requirements and overtime restrictions. Reviewed legislative and policy needs with Lanterman Collation representative. **Strategic Plan Goal 14**
- SSAN
 - With SSAN representative attended SVILC self-advocate meeting to discuss AB7 hosting an open house for DDS recipients at the ILC to inform individuals of the services available at ILC. **Strategic Plan Goal 1, 10, 13.**
 - With Board Member and volunteers provided Self Determination Trainings. 2 meetings held at AB7, one at College of Adaptive Arts, and one at Fiesta Educativa. 40 participants trained. **Strategic Plan Goal 1**
- Quality Management / System Change / Coalition Building
 - Assist in the development of a residential service road map. **Strategic Plan Goal 6**
 - Inclusion of Spanish Speaking Community in Disability Collaborative. **Strategic Plan Goal 15**
 - Workshops on due process, self-determination. **Strategic Plan Goal 1, 2,**
- Board & Board Development
 - Reviewed board responsibilities and potential transitions upon MTARS implementation in January.
 - Reviewed need to recruit in our catchment's rural communities.
 - Expand to include any type of volunteer support.
 - Recruiting Workability 1 volunteers to assist in office. **Strategic Plan Goal 8,9**
- Advocacy
 - Educational advocacy: 8 families: assistance with placement at community school, least restrictive placement, assessments, bullying. **Strategic Plan Goal 2,**
 - Communication and Supportive living. **Strategic Plan Goal 11**
 - Compliance complaint, individual rights and day services **Strategic Plan Goal 1**
 - Four individuals: Eligibility at Regional Center.

Activities to Implement the State Plan During this Period

- Goal 1
 - Focus on training on Self Determination, made 2 presentations by self-advocates to 40 individuals.
 - Two trainings in OAH due process special education.
- Goal 2
 - Advocacy: Provided direct advocacy for 14 individuals and families.
 - Educated 70 families on navigating regional center.
 - Arranging trainings in Monterrey and Santa Clara County of Office of Administrative Hearings on Fair Hearings and Due Process.
- Goal 3
 - Assisted 1 family with complaint process
 - Advocated with regional center to create a searchable service directory on web site to attend to the need identified in the NCI report indicating families do not feel they are getting adequate information about the full range of services.
- Goal 4
 - SCDD approved GetSafe 1st Responder Training request for Cycle 37 funding to SCDD.
- Goal 6
 - Active on the Disability Collaborative a cross agency organization to improve the services of transition students as they enter into adult services. Focus of collaborative is housing, employment, health, social/recreations, and trainings
 - Managing the design of the Disability Collaborative web site.
 - Creating a road map to residential services.
- Goal 8 & 9
 - Participated in 1 Micro Enterprise Committee to review business plans of 3 individuals.
 - Recruiting a Workability 1 group to volunteer at AB7
 - Coordinated with self-advocated to develop micro-enterprise protocols at his day/vocational program.
- Goal 11
 - Mediating between resident advocates and resident agency with development of staff sensitivity training. Collaborating with SVILC.
- Goal 15
 - Met with director and staff of two programs serving the needs of bilingual individuals and families in South Monterrey County. Provided Bi-Lingual Self-Determination training. Provided bi-lingual OAH due process training. Hosted table at resource fair in Greenfield. Provided translation.
 - Finished AB7 Flyer in Spanish.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

- Board is continuing efforts to improve atmosphere of IEP meetings within one particular school district.
- AB staff is working with Regional Center to better inform individuals and families of services in the area through development of a service directory.
- Informing community on Self Determination
- In collaboration with providers, develop parent networks for supporting of people with developmental disabilities.



Reporting Period: July/August 2014
2014

Date: 2 September

Highlights

Governor Brown appointed two new members to the Area VIII Board.

Nikko Da Paz, 49, of Los Banos, has been appointed to Area Board VIII of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities. She has been a research project manager at the University of California, Merced since 2014, where she has served in several positions since 2010, including teaching assistant, research project manager and guest lecturer. Da Paz was a research project manager at the Stanford Prevention Research Center from 2000 to 2005 and a guest lecturer for the University of Ghana in 1999. She was an inclusion specialist for Easter Seals of Central California from 1996 to 1998 and a preschool teacher for Creative Montessori from 1995 to 1996. Da Paz is a member of the Association for Behavior Analysis International. This position does not require Senate confirmation and there is no compensation. Da Paz is a Democrat.

Genevieve Hinson, 41, of Fresno, has been appointed to Area Board VIII of the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Hinson has served as a volunteer for the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Mental Health Board of Fresno County Speakers Bureau since 2014. She was social media coordinator for Children's Hospital Central California from 2010 to 2011 and held several positions at the Fresno Bee from 2006 to 2009 and from 1997 to 2002, including online design coordinator, online communities editor and online content coordinator. She held several positions at the Modesto Bee from 2002 to 2005, including online creative director and online content developer. This position does not require Senate confirmation and there is no compensation. Hinson is a Democrat.

Board Development: Continued recruiting for open board seats.

Presentations made at two Parent organizations seeking new members.

Conducted Monthly IEP Clinic with Family Resource Center in Kern County, 13 people in attendance.

Families receive one on one review of IEP's and have an opportunity to plan for their upcoming meeting.

Provided training and guidance to families who issues with their school districts over various IEP's.

Families are then able to feel comfortable in participating in their child's education to secure the necessary services/supports.

Advocacy:

The Area VIII Board provided/supported:

26 Individual/Families

Of the 26 approximately 15 were for Special Education support including:

- Least Restrictive Environment – Placement

- Behavioral Supports

- Assistive Technology

- Communication

- IEP Compliance Issues

- Transition

- Manifestation/Expulsion

- Assessment Issues

3 were Regional Center Individual/Family's needs including:

- Eligibility

- Appeal Process/Fair Hearing

- ABA Services

- In Home Respite Hours

Attended 8 IEP/504 meetings to support individual/families.

The Area VIII Board has provided technical support and information for the family in the below article:

Federal judge dismisses Fresno Unified special education case

BY HANNAH FURFARO

The Fresno Bee August 1, 2014

Read more here: http://www.fresnobee.com/2014/08/01/4051158_federal-judge-dismisses-fresno.html?rh=1#storylink=cpy

A federal judge has dismissed a case brought by Fresno Unified against the family of a special education student who has been entangled in a costly legal battle with the district for years.

Magistrate Judge Michael Seng said the district didn't have the right to bring the case against Krista Uribe, now 22, and her family since the district was contesting the remedy of a prior court's decision, not the decision itself.

"I don't think it should ever have been brought," said Tania Whiteleather, attorney for Uribe and her mother Alice de Alba-Uribe. "The latest ruling is very appropriate."

Fresno Unified spokeswoman Micheline Golden said the district's attorneys are still reviewing the case and have not decided whether to appeal.

"Once the review is complete, the Board of Education will decide what action the district should take in regard to the matter," she said in a statement.

The suit challenged a lower administrative court's 2012 judgment that said Uribe, who is intellectually disabled and was twice barred from enrolling at Duncan Polytechnical High School, was denied a free and appropriate education. De Alba-Uribe has maintained her daughter was discriminated against and unable to get basic special education services at school.

District administrators hoped to place Uribe in an adult transition program instead, court documents show.

In the 2012 decision, the administrative judge ruled the district was wrong to decide where Uribe would attend school without first conducting an education assessment that's standard for all special-needs students. The judge also ordered Fresno Unified officials to hire an independent evaluator to assess Uribe.

At the heart of the issue was whether Uribe's mother would get a say in who did the evaluation. When the district picked an assessor she didn't agree to, she refused to let the process go forward.

That made it impossible to carry out the judge's order, the district argued. School officials filed in federal court for relief.

Seng's decision dismisses the claim and says laws governing special education are designed to protect students, not school districts. While families can call on the courts for help if school officials ignore court orders, districts don't have the same protections. Districts can challenge the reasons behind lower court rulings, he said, but Fresno Unified never did.

"The district's pleadings reveal that its issues arise not from the (judge's) decision, but from (de Alba-Uribe's) conduct subsequent to that decision," he wrote.

"It is true that the district may have no forum to obtain the specific declaratory relief it seeks in this case," he continued. "However, the court cannot imply a right of action where one does not exist simply because a party has no other remedy."

De Alba-Uribe has scored several wins against the district over the past few years, each time getting her daughter readmitted to Duncan. In January, the family had a third victory in administrative court, with the judge ruling Uribe should get access to special adult education programs since she has since aged-out of the mainstream public school system.

The ruling this week resolves one of two federal court cases pending between the district and Uribe family. A separate ongoing suit filed by the district in April appeals the January administrative court decision.

The battle has become a costly one, with the district spending nearly \$400,000 on attorney fees. Officials did not have updated receipts available Friday.

The reporter can be reached at (559) 441-6412, hfurfaro@fresnobee.com or [@hannahfurfaro](https://twitter.com/hannahfurfaro) on Twitter.

Read more here: http://www.fresnobee.com/2014/08/01/4051158_federal-judge-dismisses-fresno.html?rh=1#storylink=cpy

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal 1:

Continued Support of our local SSAN Advocate

Goal 2:

Family Advocacy-

Rights Training – 1 Presentation to 2 participants

Goal 6:

Individual support preparing students transitioning from school to employment

Goal 7:

Presentation to local family agency to help young families needing information to navigate the service system

AREA BOARD 9

Board Report to the State Council
on Developmental Disabilities



Reporting Period: July to August, 2014

Date: 09/02/2014

Highlights

In addition to the technical assistance outlined below, Area Board 9 board of directors and staff were active this reporting period in the areas of legislative and public policy outreach and advocacy. In particular, our board and staff hosted a legislative panel which featured state legislators from our area answering questions related to issues faced by children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Panelists included Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assemblymember Das Williams. We also received news coverage from local papers and our local Univision television station (you can view the story by typing this link into your browser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dy7WutHFr5E>).

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Quality Assurance/Training (State Plan Goal 1.2): We provided ongoing outreach trainings and support to the following existing self advocacy groups: People First San Luis Obispo, People First Santa Maria Chapter, People First Santa Barbara and People First Ventura County.

Education/Technical Assistance (State Plan Goal 2.1): We assisted 32 individuals with special education issues during this reporting period. 23 of the individuals served were English speaking and 9 were non-English speaking or limited English speaking.

The breakdown by county of the special education technical assistance projects (“TA”) is: Ventura County: 26 TAs, Santa Barbara County: 3 TAs and San Luis Obispo County: 3 TAs. Each TA had an initial intake and appointment with an advocate. The breakdown of assistance for these TAs is:

- 25 TAs were resolved through an appointment with an advocate and with distribution of related materials on educational advocacy topics.
- 4 TAs were resolved through an appointment with advocate, distribution of related materials and consultation with an educational agency representative.
- 3 TAs was resolved through an appointment with advocate, distribution of related materials, and preparation by the advocate for an IEP meeting.

Community Supports/Technical Assistance (State Plan Goal 2.1): We assisted 37 individuals with community supports advocacy issues during this reporting period. 26 of the individuals and families served were English speaking and 11 were non-English speaking or limited English speaking.

The breakdown by county of the community supports TAs is: Ventura County: 26 TAs; Santa Barbara County: 3 TAs; and San Luis Obispo County: 8 TAs. Each TA had an initial intake and appointment with an advocate. The breakdown of assistance for these TA is:

- 28 TAs were resolved through an appointment with an advocate and with distribution of related materials on the community support.
- 5 TAs were resolved through an appointment with advocate, distribution of related materials and consultation with a community support agency representative.
- 4 TAs were resolved through an appointment with advocate, distribution of related materials, and preparation by the advocate for a formal meeting with the agency representatives (IHSS/regional center/SSA).

Community Supports/Outreach (State Plan Goal 2.1): Area Board 9 provided the following community outreach during this review period:

- 07/02/2014: *IPP Advocacy/Abogacia en el IPP*; provided to parents and family members connected with the Rainbow Family Resource Center.
- 07/29/2014: *Lump Sum Payments & SSI Benefits: How to Spend Down to Avoid Overpayments*; provided to the TCRC Ventura County managers group.
- 08/05/2014: *Overview of State Council/Regional Office 9 Advocacy Services*; provided to the TCRC SLO, SB, Ventura County managers group.

Education/Supporting and Educating the Communities (State Plan Goal 2.3): Area Board 9 informed over 8,000 people about different informational activities related to legislative and public policy matters and educational and community supports locally and statewide.

Access to Information and Resources/Language and Cultural Competency (State Plan 15.1): Area Board 9 developed and translated the following:

- Materials for a presentation about Medi-Cal into Spanish
- Materials for a presentation about Supplemental Security Income into Spanish
- Materials for a presentation about IPP Advocacy/Regional Center Services into Spanish

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

We continue to be concerned about the following issues:

- The impact of changes to the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), fifth edition, in regard to Autism and mental health diagnostic criteria.
- The usefulness of these reports to councilmembers and AIDD since they could be more helpful if they were customized to the information sought and more uniform across the state.
- Implementation of new laws- employment first and self-determination- what people who receive regional center services and their families should expect.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Legislative Panel Focused on Legislation for Children and Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Santa Barbara, July 25, 2014- The State Council on Developmental Disabilities/Area Board 9 and Tri-Counties Regional Center will host an important legislative panel on focused on legislative issues impacting the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities. The panel will be held on Friday, August 1st from 10:30 am-11:30 am at the Tri-Counties Regional Center Annex Building (505 East. Montecito Street, Santa Barbara, California 93103). Panelists will highlight the successes and challenges of the most recent legislative term as they relate the services and supports for people with developmental disabilities. Panelists will also offer insight on their legislative priorities for the next term.

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, representing the 19th senate district covering Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, will be a panelist. Additional invited panelists include:

- Senator Bill Monning, 17th Senate District
- Senator Fran Pavely, 27th Senate District
- Assemblymember Das Williams, 37th Assembly District
- Assemblymember Jeff Gorell, 44th Assembly District

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (State Council), a state agency mandated to protect and assert the legal, civil, and service rights of people with developmental disabilities in California. The State Council has 13 regional offices throughout California. Area Board 9 is the State Council's regional office providing technical assistance and systems change advocacy to children and adults who reside in San Luis Obispo County, Santa Barbara County and Ventura County.

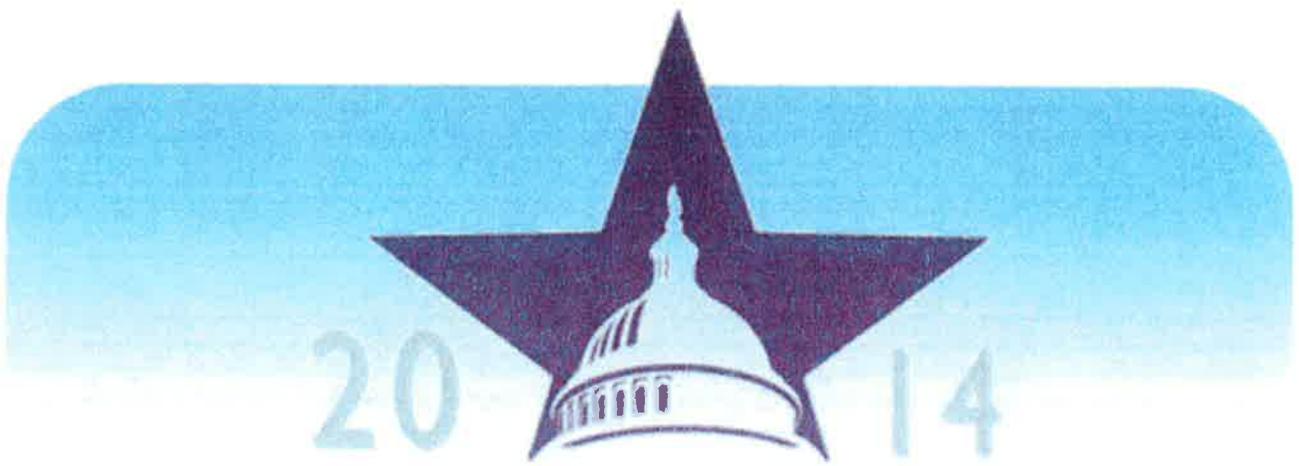
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Anastasia Bacigalupo

Anastasia.Bacigalupo@scdd.ca.gov

(805) 648-0220



LEGISLATIVE PANEL

Friday, August 1, 2014
10:30-11:30 am

Tri-Counties Regional Center Annex Building
505 East Montecito Street,
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

Invited panelists include:

Senator Bill Monning

Representing the 17th senate district covering
San Luis Obispo County

Assemblymember Das Williams

Representing the 37th assembly district
covering Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson

Representing the 19th senate district covering
Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties

Assemblymember Jeff Gorell

Representing the 44th district covering Ventura
County

Senator Fran Pavley

Representing the 27th senate district covering
Ventura and Los Angeles Counties

*Panelists will address the following
questions:*

- **What were the successes for children and adults with developmental disabilities this legislative term? What were the setbacks?**
- **What are the priorities for the next legislative term?**

Light refreshments and snacks will be served.

Limited seating available.

Please RSVP by Friday, July 25th to:

State Council on Developmental Disabilities/
Area Board 9
200 E. Santa Clara Street, Suite 210
Ventura, CA 93001

Phone: (805) 648-0220 **Fax:** (805) 648-0226

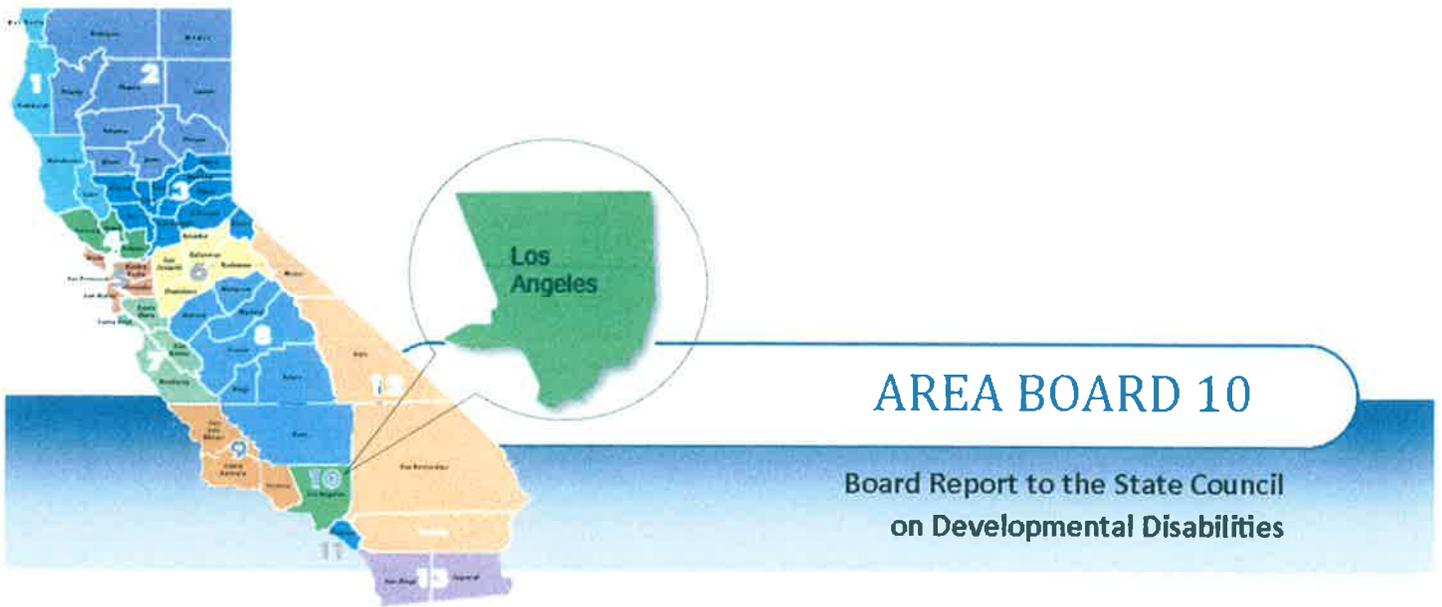
Email: ab9@scdd.ca.gov

To submit a question to the panel, please send your question with your RSVP by Friday, July 25th.

Spanish translation available upon request.

Sponsored by:





Reporting Period: July—August 2014
Executive Director: Roberta Newton

Date: 8/29/14

Highlights

Area Board 10 continues to educate its community about the coming implementation of Self-Determination pilots at each regional center. To date, staff have conducted 23 presentations to hundreds of family members, providers and regional center staff. We have developed a Plain Language version of a Self-Determination PowerPoint and have begun to schedule presentations to self-advocacy groups.

Area Board 10's Board of Directors has established an Ad Hoc Committee to address our responsibilities around implementation of the Self-Determination pilots. We have begun to solicit applications for the Self-Determination (SD) Advisory Committees. Since each regional center is required to establish a SD Advisory Committee which is composed of equal members appointed by the regional center and the area board, and Los Angeles County contains seven regional centers, Area Board 10 will have to fill quite a lot of seats. We used our e-newsletter to solicit applicants and received 40 responses on the first round. We are devising a screening application and a structured interview. One of the Los Angeles regional centers is poised to move ahead with implementation, so we are working to establish that Advisory Committee by October.

We are attending and submitting input to each of the seven regional centers' Performance Contracts. We are focusing our input on devising ways to boost employment outcomes.

The Area Board 10 Board of Directors took a position on four state bills and one federal bill.

Members of the Board of Directors have written letters to their local legislators asking for assistance in getting the Area Board 10 seat on the Council filled. During this period, a Board member also visited staff of two local legislators to appeal for support in getting representation on the Council.

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

GOAL 1 – Self-Advocacy

The Self-Advocacy Board of L.A. County's (SABLAC) September 13, 2014 Conference is fast approaching. Volunteer assignments were made. Registration information was mailed out; logistics have been finalized.

Members of the SABLAC group received information on changes to IHSS and to Medi-Medi.

With Area Board 10 staff facilitating, the SABLAC has begun a strategic planning process.

Staff secured a speaker, arranged co-sponsorship, located a venue and publicized an upcoming presentation on abuse prevention.

GOAL 2—Training and Advocacy

Area Board 10 provided individual advocacy and technical assistance to 45 individuals with needs for community supports and services. (four self-advocates, one government aide, 40 family members)

Area Board 10 provided technical assistance and consultation to 6 families regarding their child's needs for educational services and supports.

Staff provided input at two regional center Performance Contract meetings.

Staff delivered a presentation on ways to mitigate bullying to 22 members of a Family Resource Center.

Staff delivered a presentation on educational rights to a school district's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) with 50 people in attendance (40 parents, 6 administrators, 4 community members)

GOAL 3 – Quality Assurance and Innovation

Quality assurance staff have begun to gear up for the next cycle of NCI interviews, which will be all face-to-face interviews with individuals who receive regional center services. We are recruiting for 25-30 new interviewers to supplement the returning pool of interviewers. All will have to be trained during September.

Staff delivered six presentations on Self-Determination to parent and professional groups during this period with a total audience of 189 (108 family members, 81 professionals)

We have begun to gear up for the promotion and establishment of the regional center Self-Determination Advisory Committees. To date 40 people have asked to be considered for appointment.

Goal 9 – Employment

Staff met with the coordinator at Jay Nolan Community Services (JNCS) to discuss ways in which we can collaborate on their implementation of the SCDD grant aimed at increasing employment outcomes for transition-age youth. Area Board 10 will assist by reaching out to parent support groups to involve them in the objectives of the grant, namely to better prepare their children for adult life and win their commitment to embrace competitive employment.

Goal 10 – Health

As required by statute and regulation, Area Board 10 participated in monthly peer review panels overseeing the provision of electroconvulsive therapy for one self-advocate.

We are collecting information on Mediconnect and resources for resolving barriers to health care and participating as a Community Based Organization (CBO) in L.A. Care Regional Advisory Committees.

Goal 12 – Housing

We obtained information about the federally funded California Project Rental Assistance Demonstration Program to disseminate to our community.

Goal 13 – Access to Generic Services

Area Board 10's monthly E-Newsletter is distributed to 1279 people and contains both breaking news on issues of interest to the developmental disability community but also tips about community resources and upcoming events.

Area Board 10 staff support and facilitate the quarterly meetings of the L.A. Regional Center Transportation Group and the Paratransit Rider's Coalition. In July, staff participated in a summit focused on the unique challenges of the rural sections of Los Angeles County.

Goal 14 – Public Policy

Area Board 10 took a position on four state bills and one federal bill.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Area Board 10 represents over 30% of the state's population; over 83,000 people who are served by one of Los Angeles County's seven regional centers, yet has not had a representative on the Council in nearly three years. At a time when the Council is responding to concerns by AIDD with substantive changes to its structure and priorities, our community has no voice in this process.



AREA BOARD 11

Board Report to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Reporting Period: JULY/AUGUST

Date: 2 SEPTEMBER 2014

Highlights

Area Board XI is very pleased to announce that Governor Brown has appointed a new member to our Board of Directors. Rachel Osterbach has worked in Orange County since 2005, is a charter member of the Toastmasters Gavel Club, and a global messenger with Special Olympics Southern California. We look forward to meeting Rachel at our September meeting and welcoming her to the Board!

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

A. Advocacy

In July/August, ABXI staff assisted 58 new and ongoing clients, in English and Spanish, with issues involving access to regional center eligibility and services; IHSS; SSI; access to medical and dental care; and special education eligibility and services, participating in attendant meetings and advocating for consumer services and supports. Success stories during this reporting period included (1) eligibility for IHSS services for 2 consumers; (2) SSI eligibility for 6 consumers; (3) RCOC eligibility for 1 consumer; (4) increased respite for 1 consumer; (5) eligibility for special education services for 1 consumer; (6) increased educational services for 1 consumer; and (7) collaboration, on behalf of a consumer who had been wrongfully terminated from his job of 10 years, with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing and UCI's School of Law, which helped him secure a settlement from the former employer. (State Plan Goals/Objectives 1(c) & (e); 2(a); 8; 10(a); 13; 15).

B. Trainings, Outreach, and Community Meetings

Trainings

During this reporting period, ABXI provided and hosted workshops and presentations, in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Japanese, for 159 consumers and family members on IHSS eligibility, services, and assessments; accessing regional center services through the IPP; IEPs; and Special Education Due Process.

ABXI and its community partner, Whittier Law School, hosted a presentation by two Administrative Law Judges on special education due process. RCOC provided simultaneous translation equipment and translation services were provided by Language Line for monolingual Spanish, Vietnamese, and Japanese-speaking attendees (State Plan Goals/Objectives 1(e); 2(a)&(b); 8; 13; 15.)

Other community partners included Fiesta Familiar; the Chinese Parents of Adults with Disabilities; Fiesta Educativa; and Family Support Network. (State Plan Goals/Objectives 1(c); 2(a), (b), and (c); 13; 15.)

ABXI collaborates annually with UCI's School of Medicine to facilitate pairing of medical students and children with developmental disabilities for the 2-year PALS program. The program is a specialized adaptation of the big brother/big sister program, which matches UCI medical students with children with developmental and other disabilities for regular visits that include various activities and outings, including school and doctor visits. The program offers medical students the opportunity to enhance their medical trainings by spending time with the children and families to gain better understanding of their lives and offers the children and families friendship and support from relationships which have historically lasted years after the conclusion of the PALS' commitments. (State Plan Goal/Objective 13(a).)

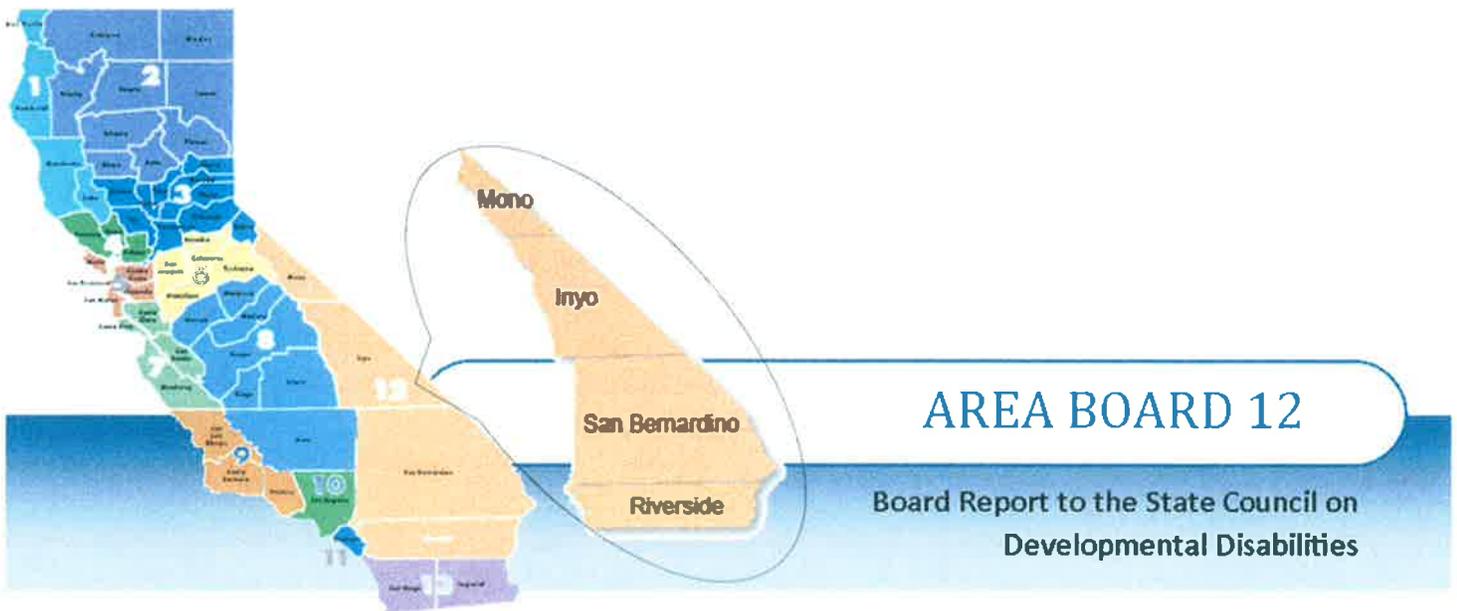
Meetings

ABXI staff co-chaired the follow-up meeting to the April 2014 Disability Rights Workshop on inclusion and, along with its community partners, has begun planning the 2015 DRW, which will focus on abuse, neglect, and individual emergency preparedness (State Plan Goals 4; 5). (Collaborating agencies: Dayle McIntosh ILC; RCOC; University of California, Irvine; O.C. Adult Services; CalOptima; and Disability Rights California/Office of Clients' Rights).

ABXI staff cochaired the quarterly meeting of the QA Collaborative, consisting of members from O.C. private and public agencies, including RCOC; Community Care Licensing; O.C. Ombudsman; O.C. Health Care Services and Behavioral Health Services; Public Health Licensing; and hosted this month's meeting of Fiesta Educativa's planning committee to discuss the agenda for the 2015 conference (State Plan Goals 4: 13; 15).

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Area Board XI shares the concerns of the people it serves, as well as those with whom it works, regarding the lag in local development of more appropriate resources for the growing number of consumers working to transition into the community.



Reporting Period: July 1, 2014 – August 31, 2014

Date: August 29, 2014

Submitted by: Vicki Smith

Highlights

CS.04.1 COLLABORATE WITH AND TRAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT

(August 2014) Developed curriculum and provided training to Riverside County Mental Health Court Judge and staff, including Public Defender's office on options available to people with developmental disabilities, including diversion, 4418 regional projects, 4425 statewide search process, PC1001.2 diversion procedures, PC 1370.1 Incompetency and 6500 for State Developmental Center or Community placements. Professionals Attending = 14 professionals. Impact of 15 cases per month or 180 cases per year through that courtroom. Public Defenders office has asked for a follow-up training on community options.

ED.07.2 INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY ON EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS WHO WORK WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

(July) AB 12 collaborated with Escuela De La Raza Unida (ERU) School and Child Care Centers in Blythe within Riverside County to provide an all staff training regarding information on types of developmental disabilities, how to include children with developmental disabilities in educational settings, play and other activities with their typically developing peers. We provided an overview of community services and resources within the local area including how to refer children 0-3 and those over age 3 to the regional center system. The training was well received by all who participated. Feedback surveys were handed out to all who attended. Attendees: self-advocates - 0 / family advocates – 1 (Spanish Speaking) / professionals – 26 (Spanish Speaking)

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

CR.14.3 USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC

(July) Eblast to 400 recipients that: The State Council website is hosting California's Employment Data Dashboard. People with developmental disabilities seek to work, earn, and be part of the economic life of their communities. On October 9, 2013, Governor Brown signed AB 1041 (Chesbro) into law, establishing an Employment First Policy in the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act. The Data Dashboard presents up-to-date and easy to understand information on how well California is doing in implementing the new policy and supporting people to have jobs at regular worksites making wages comparable to others without disabilities doing the same work. As you can see from the dashboard, we have a lot of work to do so people with developmental disabilities have that chance. The Council worked closely with the California Employment Consortium for Youth (CECY) and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to develop the Data Dashboard. The dashboard can be linked to from the council's home page or found directly at:

http://scdd.ca.gov/employment_data_dashboard.htm

100 Self-Advocates/ 100 family-advocates/ 200 professionals

CR.14.3 USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC

(August) Eblast to 400 recipients that: "Inclusive Classrooms Provide Language Boost, Study Finds" article from Disability Scoop written by Michelle Diament. 100 Self-Advocates/ 100 family-advocates/ 200 professionals

CR.14.3 USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC

(August) Eblast to 400 recipients that: "Outrage After Special Education Students Forced to Sort Trash" article from the Press Enterprise written by Sandra Stokley 8-22-2014. 100 Self-Advocates/ 100 family-advocates/ 200 professionals

CS.02.2 TRAINING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

(July/August) Area Board 12 received (21) telephone calls with questions regarding community Supports services through the regional center. Callers were provided information regarding the regional center eligibility process, appeal rights and referrals to Disability Rights California/Office of Clients Rights Advocacy for direct assistance.

CS.02.2 TRAINING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

(July/August) (24) Telephone calls were received by AB 12 and were referred to generic services within the community such as; 211, Department of Public Social Services, Department of Rehabilitation, California Children Services, Community Access Center, Rolling Start, Autism Society of Inland Empire, Children's Protective Services, Adult Protective Services and Medi-Cal.

CS.02.2 TRAINING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

(July) AB 12 in collaboration with Disability Rights California, Office of Clients Rights Advocacy hosted a clinic in San Bernardino for self and family advocates regarding the eligibility criteria for Regional Center Services. The training was prompted by several calls to both AB 12 office and OCRA requesting assistance with appealing regional center eligibility denials. The training was very informative to all

that attended and answered a lot of questions the community members had regarding regional center eligibility process, necessary documents needed and appeal procedures. Attendees: self-advocates- 0 / family advocates- 4 / professionals- 0

CS.02.2 TRAINING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

(July) AB 12 in Collaboration with DRC/Disability Rights California the Office of Clients Rights Advocacy provided training in Jurupa Valley within Riverside County on "Understanding Regional Center Fair Hearings and Complaint Procedures" to increase the knowledge of individuals with disabilities, their family advocates and professionals who support them. As well as, to better understand the protocol of the fair hearing process. Also, all attendees learned common mistakes to avoid. In addition, the 4731 complaint was discussed in detail and questions answered on when and how to use this process along with the 8331 citizen comment form. The feedback from all who attended was quite positive, even some professional groups requesting the training at their individual agencies. Attendees: 8 total self-advocates - 0 / family advocates - 4 / professionals - 4

CS.02.2 TRAINING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

(July) AB 12 in collaboration with Disability Rights California the Office of Clients Rights Advocacy provided training in Victorville within San Bernardino County on "Understanding the Regional Center Fair Hearings and Complaint Procedures" to increase the knowledge of individuals with disabilities, their family advocates and professionals who support them. As well as, to better understand the protocol of the fair hearing process. Also, all attendees learned common mistakes to avoid and crucial details not to forget. In addition, the 4731 complaint was discussed in detail and questions were answered on when and how to use this process along with the 8331 citizen comment form. The feedback from all who attended was quite positive, even some professional groups requesting the training at their individual agencies. Team of advocates for Special Kids provided Spanish translation for 5 family advocates who attended. Attendees: 35 total = self-advocates - 1 / family advocates - 26 / professionals – 8

CS.02.2 TRAINING ON COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

(August) AB 12 in collaboration with Disability Rights California the Office of Clients Rights Advocacy provided training in Temecula within Riverside County on "Understanding the Regional Center Fair Hearings and Complaint Procedures" to increase the knowledge of individuals with disabilities, their family advocates and professionals who support them. As well as, to better understand the protocol of the fair hearing process. In addition, the 4731 complaint process was discussed in detail and questions answered on when and how to use this process along with the 8331 citizen comment form. The feedback from all who attended was quite positive, even some professional groups requesting the training at their individual agencies. Attendees: 16 total = self-advocates - 1 / family advocates - 13 / professionals – 2

CS.04.1 COLLABORATE WITH AND TRAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT

(August 2014) Developed curriculum and provided training to Riverside County Mental Health Court Judge and staff, including Public Defender's office on options available to people with developmental disabilities, including diversion, 4418 regional projects, 4425 statewide search process, PC1001.2 diversion procedures, PC 1370.1 Incompetency and 6500 for State Developmental Center or

Community placements. Professionals Attending = 14 professionals. Impact of 15 cases per month or 180 cases per year through that courtroom. Public Defenders office has asked for a follow-up training on community options.

ED.02.2 TRAINING ON EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS

(July-August) Area Board 12 received (18) calls regarding educational issues. All callers were provided individual advocacy training on educational rights. Callers wanting direct advocacy were referred to TASK/Team of Advocates for Special Kids and were forwarded resource materials via email or USPS. Materials distributed; IEP Basics, IEP strategies, 18 Tips for a Quality Education.

ED.02.2 TRAINING ON EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS

(July) AB 12 in Collaboration with DRC/Disability Rights California & OAH/Office of Administrative Hearing provided training in Jurupa Valley within Riverside County on "Understanding Special Education Due Process Hearings and the Compliance Complaint Procedures" to increase the knowledge of individuals with disabilities, their family advocates and professionals who support them. As well as, to better understand the protocol of due process. Also, all attendees learned common mistakes to avoid and gained insight into how and why judges make their rulings. In addition, the compliance complaint was discussed in detail and questions answered on when and how to use this process. The feedback from all who attended was quite positive, even some professional groups requesting the training at their individual agencies. Attendees: 8 total = self-advocates - 0 / family advocates - 4 / professionals - 4

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ED.07.1 PARENT TRAINING ON EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

(July) AB 12 collaborated with Escuela De La Raza Unida School and Child Care Centers in Blythe within Riverside County to provide community outreach training on early intervention services and how to navigate the service system to better support their child. As well as understanding their services rights and providing information about local community resources. Attendee: self-advocates - 0 / family advocates - 2 / professionals - 0

ED.07.2 INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY ON EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS WHO WORK WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

(July) AB 12 collaborated with Escuela De La Raza Unida (ERU) School and Child Care Centers in Blythe within Riverside County to provide an all staff training regarding information on types of developmental disabilities, how to include children with developmental disabilities in educational settings, play and other activities with their typically developing peers. We provided an overview of community services and resources within the local area including how to refer children 0-3 and those over age 3 to the regional center system. The training was well received by all who participated. Feedback surveys were handed out to all who attended. Attendees: self-advocates - 0 / family advocates – 1 (Spanish Speaking) / professionals – 26 (Spanish Speaking)

HO.11.2 INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY ON HOUSING OPTIONS

(August) Eblast out to 400 recipients the Home Ownership Resource Guide: Rent, Buy, Live in Your Community developed by Area Board 12 and Get Safe through a Cycle 35 SCDD Grant. 100 Self-Advocates/ 100 family-advocates/ 200 professionals

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Mental Health Court Judge shared the frustration from he and his peers about the system not working properly for people with developmental disabilities not working properly because of having a lack of options due to the waiting list to get someone into Porterville and the lack of DDS being willing to look at out-of-state options, etc.



Reporting Period: July/August
Mary Ellen Stives: 619-688-3323

Date: August 29, 2014

Highlights

“Project College” provided a week- long college living experience for 11 students (8 males and 3 females) who are either already enrolled in college, or are planning to attend college following graduation. We had 12 students, but one decided it would be too stressful for him at the last minute, and dropped out. The campus of the University of San Diego was again very accommodating, and provided wonderful supports to our students. One professor in particular is very excited to have this opportunity to learn from these students, as she sees them as the students of the future. Classes were offered on communication and relationships, success in the college classroom, substance abuse and peer pressure, understanding your rights, accommodation awareness, campus services, personal safety, interpersonal skills for success, stress management, identity development, healthy eating, campus living, futures planning and two class experiences decided upon by the professor. The dormitory living experience and meal card management, in addition to the evening activities provided the students with a full week!

Worked with Ad-Ease, an agency selected by the Office of Emergency Services to create a series of videos designed to provide information to first responders regarding people with various disabilities. The series will offer information and insight on how to best approach and support people during evacuations in the event of an emergency. These videos differ from the ones created back in February, as those were geared to provide information to the actual shelter workers.

State Plan Activities Implemented During this Reporting Period

Goal #1:

Staff provided facilitation during the San Diego People First monthly meeting and at their officer meeting. 12 people were in attendance.

Staff continues to work with the San Diego Unified School District TRACE program to strengthen their self-advocacy/governance group. Provided facilitation support to the officers to plan their final meeting of the year. 15 students were in attendance.

Staff provided facilitation support to two Area Board members as they prepared for the bimonthly board meeting.

Attended three IPP meetings.

As a result of participating in the IPP meeting the client was able to express her concerns about the way she is treated by her parent and how the team can support her in establishing boundaries with her mother.

Staff attended a planning team meeting with a client and his family to discuss a supported living evaluation and the differences between Independent Living and Supported Living. Following the meeting it was determined several members of the team will meet to look at various ways the individual can be supported and begin to develop a support plan that would potentially meet the needs of the client.

Requested and attended a planning team meeting to help a client access services, specifically tailored day services.

Assisted a client living in a Level 4 home make temporary housing changes until a new placement is located.

Technical support given to a consumer at two separate meetings regarding residential living and day program options.

Attended a team meeting to support a recipient of supported living services to assist him in expressing his concerns with services being provided, and express his wishes for how his life could be improved.

Goal #2:

Staff participates at the monthly Fiesta Educativa conference planning committee. In addition to the annual conference the Fiesta committee is also assisting with the parent leadership training for 20 Spanish speaking parents of children with special needs. The focus of the training is to promote parental involvement in the decision making process, learn skills to actively participate in the school system, have knowledge of public policy issues in education and understand the difference between traditional parent involvements vs. parent leadership.

Attended one IEP meeting and the issues addressed were the development of a behavior support plan and to have the tri-annual assessments completed early due to changes in the student's behavior.

Facilitated a conference-planning meeting with representatives from the Imperial Valley SELPA, San Diego Regional Center, the Exceptional Family Resource Center, an education advocate and two parents. The targeted audience for this conference will be parents who have children with special needs. The site and speakers have been secured.

Staff provided technical assistance in preparation for and during mediation with the San Diego Regional Center regarding Regional Center eligibility. The individual and family were happy with the

outcome. There were three other families that we provided support to regarding SDRC eligibility. In one case, an authorized rep had to be provided.

Staff assisted in the preparation for and at mediation with a family in regards to an increase in nursing level respite service hours. The family was satisfied with the outcome.

Assisted a consumer to receive services in his native language, which happened to be ASL. Provided information regarding an assessment for assistive technology as well.

Assisted a guardian with necessary pre-school services for her granddaughter who had epilepsy, and the school was refusing to accept.

Provided information regarding Supported Living Services to a family that had been told that their son was "too disabled" for supported living.

Assisted a family in receiving respite and ABA services for their son with autism.

Provided authorization for a young man to be assisted with meetings regarding his services received from the regional center. The SDRC was not allowing the paid advocate (who had worked with this man since he was 3) to represent him at various IPP meetings. After meeting with the young man, it was clear that this was his request and preference. Alternatives to doing the Authorized Representative were pursued, but it became apparent that was the only way SDRC would cooperate with the representative.

Assisted a mother/conservator to access information in her daughter's file regarding a special incident that occurred at the day program her daughter had attended.

Assisted two additional families with issues surrounding obtaining adequate respite hours.

Met twice with client and group home care providers regarding physical abuse case.

Provided technical assistance with a family to prepare their documents and records to request eligibility for regional center services.

Provided information to six callers regarding regional center service issues, conservatorship, special education and dental services.

Attended one follow-up IEP meeting and assisted family with placement issues.

Attended mediation with one family that had serious educational services issues. Agreement was reached and the family prevailed with the issues.

Provided information and technical assistance to four other families regarding IEP issues, 1 family with public school transportation issues, and attended an IPP on behalf of individual/SDRC and issues with parental interference.

Goal #3:

Are in planning stages to begin the next series of National Core Indicator surveys – i.e., lining up people to do the surveys, participate in the upcoming training, etc.

Goal #4:

Provided first responder information and training to 17 transportation providers in Imperial Valley through the grant given to Get Safe.

Goal #5:

In collaboration with the San Diego Regional Center Health and Wellness committee and San Diego People First two disaster preparedness and safety trainings are being planned for late Fall.

As presented under “Highlights”, worked with the advertising company contracted by the Office of Emergency Services to create a video series for emergency first responders on training and techniques to safely and efficiently evacuate people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the event of an emergency.

Goal #6:

On a regular monthly schedule, Area Board XIII hosts a Transition Committee, which consists of a transition student, his mother, representatives from Department of Rehabilitation, San Diego Regional Center, Exceptional Family Resource Center, the San Diego State Interwork Institute, and sometimes Disability Rights CA. We did not have any training events during these months, but are planning some upcoming trainings; provide input on the Promise Grant, etc.

Goal #9:

- a.) Have met with the ED of the National Foundation for Autism Research, which is a local organization here in San Diego. This organization has a unique training program designed to create opportunities for teens and young adults with autism, building skills and experience that can lead to careers in the important field of software testing, programming and other technical professions. This program offers training modules that range from basic computer programs to the most popular programming languages allowing participants to gain and/or reinforce software skills from entry level up to advanced programming certification levels.

By providing an environment with the right supports to meet each participant's individual needs, they are helping those with autism comfortably build their technical skills, as well as learn basic employment skills such as how to interact in an office environment, with management and co-workers, take ownership of their work, as well as feel pride in their accomplishments.

I will be going to tour the location where they provide this training, as well as work on doing some outreach with various contacts to assist them in becoming a not for profit organization for now, so that they can apply for future funding opportunities. They are also seeking information from SDRC and DOR on becoming a Tailored Day Program, so this is an exciting opportunity for many of our clients.

- b.) As previously stated in "Highlights", Project College completed the 4th year of the weeklong college living experience for 11 students. The ultimate goal of our committee is to have one of the local colleges or universities take this program on as a regular offering through their school. We have worked closely with the University of San Diego for the past three years, and since they are truly mission driven, might be our best chance to accomplish this. Our planning committee has agreed to continue to provide the necessary supports, do outreach, etc. for this program to continue, but think that it is a missing piece to successful post-secondary opportunities for many students. Each year the profiles of the applicants increase, and this year we had to turn away as many students as we accepted, so the need exists. This has been a collaborative effort (and was an offshoot of our Transition Committee) that includes SDRC, Disability Rights CA, USD, UCP-San Diego, and College to Career.

Goal #10: In collaboration with the San Diego Regional Center Health and Wellness committee and San Diego People First two Health and Wellness leadership symposiums are being planned for late Fall

Goal #13:

Participation in monthly In Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee meetings as an advocate for people with developmental disabilities receiving services. Participation in monthly California In Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) teleconference calls for updates on what is happening across the state. Responsible for taking notes and presenting information at the monthly Advisory Committee meetings. Participation in setting yearly goals and the development of an Annual Report.

Goal #14:

Serve as facilitator for Governor appointed State Council Representative/SCDD Chair. Attended one Administrative Committee meeting, and one Executive Committee meeting, two MTARS Committee meetings, and one SCDD meeting with her.

Issues or Concerns for State Council Consideration

Regarding the Health and Safety Waivers necessary for someone to receive Supported Living Services are nearly impossible to obtain. In addition, there is a current situation here where needs for someone fortunate enough to have SL services thanks to a waiver has had some change in needs. The SDRC is stating that they will have to get a new Waiver because this will require SDRC to fund 48 hours more each month to the agency. The family of this young man is very concerned that if a new waiver is not approved, their son will lose his service. I would like to see the State Council request a definitive answer regarding this need. My concern is that no one has a static life, so what is going to happen to ALL the people with services received through a waiver. Would it not just be a matter of re-configuring services when this occurs?

Within this reporting period, I have received three different requests for an Authorized Representative to be appointed, all people that use the same paid advocate. The consumer and family all have utilized this representative for many years, but suddenly the SDRC is requiring they be appointed as Authorized Rep by the Area Board. One of these requests was granted so as not to impede the necessary services being put in place, but not the other two requests because there was not one single issue, they merely requested a "blanket" authorization per the SDRC. This is a concern because with the impending Self-Directed services coming into play, it is clear that regional center is not honoring the request of the individual, if they are not in agreement with their decision. I believe this to be a serious concern.

During the process of Intake, considering someone eligible under the 5th category guidelines is typically overlooked, causing mediations and fair hearings to be employed unnecessarily.



