

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY JULY 16, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Nilo Choudhry
Ben Davidson (SPAC)
Cecilia Fabulich
Dru GarciaRichardson
Fernando Gomez
Sandra Gonzalez
Paula Hilton
Philip Jackson
Portia Griffith Lane
Rene Rivas
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner

 ORIGINAL

ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Priscilla Hoe, Gail Louis, Sophia Orozco,
Jack Rose

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Danneker, Bill Feeman, Denise Fernald, John Hunt, Danise
Lehrer, Carmine Manicone, Kerwind Portillo, Liz Spencer, Mary
Lou Weise-Stusser

GUESTS: Joe Allen, Jr., Kizzy Bradley, Linda Butler, Zakir Choudhry, Nick
Coplin, Rayvone Douthard, Amy Hilton, Bo Hwang, Carmen Ibarra
(CEO, Achievable), Esther Kelsey, Barbara McCants, Todd
Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Ayode Woods

Board chair Rene Rivas called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Brand new board members, Sophia
Orozco (not present) and Larry Ryan were introduced. Returning board members, Paula Hilton
and Russell Tanner were introduced.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Rene Rivas announce that they started looking for a Human Resources firm to help in searching
for Mike Danneker's replacement. A target date has been set towards the end of the year. They
sent out a Request for Proposal to 15 different firms and received 5 responses. With help from
Denise Fernald, Rene summarized each proposal that was received. The bids ranged from
\$21,000 to \$60,000. Rene would like to have a short meeting after the board with the selection
committee to decide which firm to hire.

Rene referred to a Conflict of Interest statement and supporting documents which were distributed to each director. The Board has had trouble filling this form out in the past because of some confusing questions. Denise Fernald helped in clarifying some questions and helped the board in filling the documentation correctly.

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2014 AND JUNE 11, 2014

FINANCE

Dru Garcia-Richardson reported in Courtney Colman's place. May 31, 2014 represents 92% of the annual budget. We are within budget in OPS at 86% spent. In purchase of services we are within budget at 95.4%. Total expenditures to date are at 135 million dollars. We expect to remain within budget in operations and projecting a deficit in purchase of services.

As required by law a safe deposit box will be opened at one of our local banks to store the regional center back-up tapes. These back-up tapes will contain all of WRC's information.

Our post retirement trust fund is doing well. At this point we are getting a 12% return. It began at 1.5 million and has grown to 1.7 million. Dru reported on how it is being allocated. A small amount is kept in money market for check writing purposes. Out of the 1.7 we have invested 60% in stocks and 40% in bonds. The committee will make sure the account stays balanced and coincide with our investment strategy.

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra, CEO of Achievable reported. Patient visits are steadily increasing. They are making themselves available to any questions people may have. They believe there is enough flexibility in how they can do things. A business associate agreement is being developed to make the interaction between the clinic and the regional center much smoother. There is good progress in a number of different areas. Licensing has been fine but there has been a struggle in the provider credentialing process. They're having huge delays but are moving forward. More providers are being credentialed and the next step is getting them a provider number issued so they can start signing members. At this point it's still one provider – Dr. Benor – that has the credentialing completely done and also given a provider i.d. number.

Unfortunately Dr. Benor has given his notice to resign. The clinic will have him for another month and Achievable will be working towards insuring they have a replacement. They are close to finalizing the other providers and they will be able to just transfer the existing patients to them.

Cash flow for the clinic is very tight. They have not had enough patient visits in order to bring in the revenue needed to cover expenses. It has been a challenge but they are working on some strategies to mitigate that as much as possible. They are continuing to pursue other funding sources so they wouldn't necessarily rely on patient revenue. As a result they recently received a grant for \$31,000 from the Blue Shield Foundation of California.

Santi Rogers visited the clinic and his recommendations were to seek out a couple of other regional centers that might want to start their own clinic initiatives. This would build some traction and more likely possible that he can get funding from the state, but we are not there yet. Santi did not make any specific commitment during his visit.

Alta and Tri-Counties have been approached. But, as we've learned, it's a very complicated process. The interest is there, as Santi would like, from other regional centers, but we have to do proof of concept here first. Without bridge funding it's been very difficult. These boards would have to understand that we are talking about huge amounts of money needed to get things going. We would have to present a self-sustaining model before proceeding with a state wide initiative.

Senator Holly Mitchell is close to visiting the clinic and WRC. A date will be confirmed soon.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

From January through July the group has completed 191 hours of volunteer work. They participated in the Westside Special Olympics with several receiving medals. They attended a Dodger's game, a private tour of the Balona Wetlands where they learned about the local wild life and native Indians, and toured the La Brea Tar Pits.

The group invited a police sergeant to learn more about being responsible law abiding citizens. He enjoyed everyone's participation so much that he will be arranging ride-along tours with a few of the group members.

Dr. McCantz has visited the group and has begun a series of music therapy classes. Their first class involved steel drums. The group is looking forward to the upcoming concert season throughout the summer and will be reporting at our next board.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Nilo Choudhry reported that for the second year in a row, the California state budget was signed on time by Governor Jerry Brown. The Committee meets at 5:00 PM on the 4th Floor. There has been good news, as Early Start eligibility and federally-required services funding has been restored to pre-2009 levels. This will take effect January 1, 2015. This means babies and toddlers (ages 0-3) with high-risk conditions will again be entitled to early intervention services. The state budget also impacted IHSS, etc. The committee will continue to monitor important legislative bills.

DISPARITY COMMITTEE

Nilo Choudhry reported this committee originated after statistical state data indicated Hispanic families were not using some services or were underutilizing services. There may be socio-economic, educational, cultural, and other factors involved. It is important to be proactive, to provide information to all WRC families. Some families need more help to be comfortable in using certain services. Information dissemination to everyone is important. WRC is developing lists of services and supports available for different ages and stages of life: Young School Age Children (3-10), Adolescents (11-17), Young Adulthood (18-22) and Adulthood (23 and up). This will be useful for IPP's. Information tip sheets will help clients, families and Service Coordinators. Eventually the information will be on WRC's website. The importance of using the generic 2-1-1 info line was also stressed.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

Client services did not meet today. However, Judy Blumenthal met with Carmine Manicone and Bill Feeman and reported that many things are happening at Westside. We are bringing in new kids and hiring new case managers and our numbers are going up. The Intake department has been very busy and they spoke about the reinstatement of Early Start services. They spoke about

what it might look like in January when all these kids that were not eligible are determined to be eligible.

The college program is moving forward. A few parent groups have taken the reigns and taking it where it needs to go, dealing with the college. The parent groups are getting into the educational aspect that the committee does not need to focus on. The feeling is it doesn't need to be the committee's focus at this point as the parents are more involved.

The committee is looking to the future as the new year approaches. Congress passed a law that clients under the age of 24 can no longer go to sheltered workshops unless they demonstrate that they have already tried the traditional routes of supported employment and have not been successful. There has been a movement in congress to find alternatives to those sub-minimum wage positions. The committee will be focusing on what is self-determination and exploring workshop alternatives for this specific age group.

ARCA

ARCA had their Annual Meeting this past June. They were happy to have Joe Mantegna as a guest speaker. He continues to be involved with the developmental disabilities community. They also honored Diane Annand as she is retiring. Melinda Sullivan is her replacement.

ARCA is finding major surprises in the budget. There is one measure that really stood out. The Governor allocated 5 Million dollars for next year's World Games. The venues will be in the Los Angeles area similar to those from the 1984 Olympics. Fernando had an amazing experience at last month's Special Olympics which worked as a test run in anticipation of the World Games. Their CEO Patrick McClenahan will be presenting at ARCA's August meeting at Harbor Regional Center.

The non-profit world will be experiencing some turnover in leadership within the next 5 years. It has been a topic of discussion with Eileen Richie in anticipation of such high turnover because it also includes upper management.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Governor Brown vetoed a work group that both houses agreed on. The group was to look at wages and reimbursement rates for the system as a whole. In lieu of this work group he assigned the committee that was in charge of shutting down the developmental centers. There may be some synergy there but may not be the exact representation SPAC is looking for.

Statewide the minimum wage was raised on July 1st. Community Services held workshops to prevent any confusion and really helped out in terms of what forms to fill out and how to submit them. The fact that there has not been any noise about it is probably good news.

There was a discussion in yesterday's SPAC meeting about some of our missing clients. It's been impressive how the regional center and the developmental disabilities community in general have been able to find ways to get the word out through social media and emails. The focus now is to help clients with I.D.'s, especially with the day programs.

SPAC will not be meeting in August and will be preparing for the Great Shake out that will take place in October.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

Liz Spencer welcomed Jennifer Hernandez as part of the staff. She began as an intern and was a contract worker for the past 3 years. She runs the prevention program and does a wonderful job.

WFREC is working on 2 important projects. One is updating their website and the other is on a new data program. The current data program is out of date and it has been a struggle the past few years. They have about 6 grants coming and each demand a little bit of different data.

They're getting a new grant this year through the department of rehab. It's called the Promise Grant and they will know more about it in September. The grant will be smaller. It's going to be a 5 year study to see if there is any impact on students between ages 14 to 16 getting great transition services will do better than students just given basic services and information. Liz and Ereida will be attending a two-day training on this in September.

The WFREC will be partnering with 2 other FREC's for a two-day training on Sibling Workshops. Donald Myer will be the trainer. He develops Sibling Workshops and has a national and international sibling network. The training will take place on October 10th and 11th.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The letter of support for SB-1445(Telehealth for Individuals with developmental disabilities) has been sent to Senator Noreen Evans' office. The bill looks good but is has not passed yet.

The budget has passed and there has been a 3.6% increase in consumers. The number of consumers served in California has risen to 265,000. In POS there is an increase of almost 249 million dollars over the past year. That represents a 6.5% increase. 125 million of that increase is for caseload growth. Basically it's flat for caseload growth because the other things that are involved are money for the minimum wage increase and paying for overtime. 249 million sounds like a lot of money but it's really to maintain the status quo in POS.

In OPS there is a 17 million dollar increase which represents a 3.1% increase. This is due to increases in caseloads. Again it's flat but it's a lot better than the past few years when we were getting cuts and money taken away.

DDS has doubled their loan authority so they can borrow more money and pay the regional centers. In the past DDS did not have the authority from the legislature and when money ran out the regional centers were not able to pay their bills. This looks positive as the regional centers are not left to borrow money themselves.

Mike wanted to share these two stories with the board. We had one of our providers, a lady, audited by DDS and discovered that there was an overpayment. The overpayment was estimated to be \$275,000. DDS wrote to her saying she had to pay up, and wrote to us. We told DDS we were not going to do that or else she would be out of business. We explained that she took on a very difficult client and needed all kinds of services. It was expensive but she did an incredible job and was doing a service to us. This goes back when Mary Rollins was still here. DDS said no, we were not approved, etc. and stood firm. Mike wrote back and told them we were not going to make her return the money and if it came to it, WRC would pay the money back. Eventually Mary Lou helped and we were able to reduce the overpayment to \$30,000.

There was another regional center going through this with one of their providers. DDS said this provider owed back 2.5 million dollars. After 3 years of legal back and forth and bills that regional center was still unwilling to help. This just shows that WRC is here for our clients, and our vendors. We're here to support people. We're not going to run to the hills when things get tight. Mike felt these were interesting stories to share with the board as to compare both situations. He was thankful ours worked out.

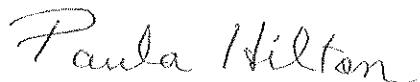
OPEN AGENDA

Cecilia reported on the annual banquet that took place this past June. She was glad that everyone had a great time. The service has been great in the past but this year it was not. She called the manager of catering at the hotel and had them drop the food price from \$62 per person to \$48 due to the poor service. Cecilia thanked everyone for putting up with the bad service.

Mary Lou announced that Esther Kelsy has been selected by DDS to be a director on the CAC Board in Sacramento.

M/S/C ADJOURNMENT 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Paula Hilton
Board Secretary



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Nilo Choudhry
Courtney Colman
Ben Davidson (SPAC)
Cecilia Fabulich
Dru GarciaRichardson
Fernando Gomez
Sandra Gonzalez
Paula Hilton
Philip Jackson
Portia Griffith Lane
Gail Louis
Sophia Orozco
Rene Rivas
Jack Rose
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner

 ORIGINAL

ABSENT: Priscilla Hoe

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Danneker, Bill Feeman, John Hunt, Carmine Manicone,
Kerwind Portillo, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser

GUESTS: Joe Allen, Jr., Bradley Kizzy, Zakir Choudhry, Nick Coplin,
Rayvone Douthard, Laurene Feldan, Amy Hilton, Bo Hwang,
Carmen Ibarra (CEO, Achievable), Marcia James, Esther Kelsey,
Adriana Madrigal, Barbara McCants, Jack Nieves, Sandy
Rubinfeld, Todd Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Lou Spitz

Board chair Rene Rivas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Alicia Bazzano from Achievable presented on two grants from the Mental Health Services Act. One of grants dealt with transition youth. They did what is called motivational interviewing training. It improved communication, engagement, and the motivation to change. They focused on families who have a lot of needs but who were not engaged. They also focused on the opposite, families who didn't have a lot of needs but took a lot of time and resources to address their concerns. They conducted two-day trainings on how to approach these two types of situations. It was very interactive with a lot of role-playing. They trained 80 service coordinator's at Westside and about 70 at North L.A.

Service coordinators came out feeling much more engaged, much more prepared to approach families. As the trainings progressed they were able to produce training videos with the help from Performing Arts Studio West. These videos will be handy for new Service Coordinators.

The second grant was on developing “indicators of quality.” By gathering data from all over the state in areas of academics and mental health care they developed a checklist which is now available on their website reachacrossLA.org. Families and service providers can now use this checklist and be better prepared when discussing matters of mental health with their doctors. The checklist can be used to guide the discussion and rate the discussion to see if it included all the indicators of quality. They also developed a guide for families for mental health conditions. It is very user-friendly and it’s also available on the website for distribution.

The last thing they did with this grant was to use these indicators of quality and provide them to mental-health providers so they can rate their own quality. Dr. Bazzano hopes that they can use this in the future to develop system-wide change in quality of care.

Lastly, Dr. Bazzano announced that they were approved for two more MHSA grants. One will be to continue and expand on transition age youth. They’re planning on developing a drop-in center for adolescents and clients who may be at risk for or have mental health conditions.

The second grant will deal on better data sharing by using those indicators of quality they developed in the first round of grants. By doing this they hope to develop shared evidence-based practices for treatment. Instead of just looking at the quality of care, now they’re moving to developing specific treatments for mental health care.

Mike Danneker lauded the group for continuing on applying for these grants as they are doing an unbelievable job. We have been very fortunate since these are difficult and rare to receive. This last series is the third series in a row of grants that they have been approved for.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Rene Rivas announced that a few board members still needed to turn in their Conflict of Interest statements. There is a Whistleblower Policy and a Whistleblower Acknowledgment Statement in everyone’s packets. He asked every board member to sign the acknowledgment and return to Kerwind. A master board information sheet will be passed around for everyone to review and to make sure that the information is accurate, phone numbers, address, etc. A committee sign up form is also being passed around. The chairperson encouraged everyone to belong to at least one committee if not more.

The Chairperson understands everyone’s concerns about Mike’s retirement. A lot of work has been done so far. An announcement for the search was sent out. We received 17 resumes from internal and external candidates. The resumes were very impressive. The selection committee will be turning down some really good candidates.

The selection committee will be meeting tonight after the board meeting. Judy Tabak from Wentworth, Co. will have a packet for everyone in the selection committee of all the resumes. She’ll have summaries of all the candidates’ qualifications. The committee will be asked to review all this information and meet again tomorrow. Once they narrow the pool down to a

smaller number Judy will begin the initial interview process. From there she will collect enough information to give back to the committee. The committee will then decide the final number of candidates they would personally interview. Then they will go on with the selection of the candidate. The tough work is still ahead. The board now has to get involved and really put in some time and effort in reviewing and thinking and talking to people.

Rene will address the WRC staff tomorrow at their "All-Staff" meeting.

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2014

FINANCE

Courtney Colman reported they reviewed the June 2014 year-end report. At 100% of the year completed we are a little bit below on operations expenses. We're over about eight to nine million on POS. We're hoping from DDS we can make that up in 2015. The July report will be included in our next meeting.

In terms of the WRC Post Retirement Medical Trust fund we have done incredibly well. From May 2013 to September 2014 the fund has grown by \$265,000, which translates to 13% or so. The committee discussed some reporting format changes that will be applied to reports for the next meeting.

There are two contracts that need approval. The first one is for National Mentor Healthcare, LLC, DbA: California Mentor for \$717,300. They provide Family behavioral services and toilet training. The second contract is for National Support Services, Inc. for \$1,202,072.40. This contract is for CPP start up to develop and operate an adult residential facility for persons with special health care needs for up to five residents ages 18 and above who require 24 hour healthcare and intensive support in their home.

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH NATIONAL MENTOR HEALTHCARE FOR \$717,300 AND THE CONTRACT WITH NATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES, INC. FOR \$1,202,072.40

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra, CEO of Achievable reports Achievable is moving in a positive direction. They are now contracted with Global Care IPA. Almost all the providers have been credentialed through Prospect. The last provider to be credentialed will be up in a week. Dr. Benor has decided to stay with the Achievable clinic. Starting in October he will be full-time. He will be available Monday through Friday.

Last month Achievable had a donor cultivation event. The Lovelaces were very gracious to open up their home to have a nice dinner and start getting some more donors interested in Achievable. The event went very well. Additionally they have a campaign going on through social media. It is called LA 2050. It's a campaign where you need to get a lot of votes. She's asking everyone to go to the Achievable website. All the information has been posted and a link to get you to make an easy vote. This is another opportunity for Achievable to qualify for some funding.

In coordination with WRC Achievable is planning a fund-raiser event honoring Mike Danneker. A date has not been set but a planning meeting will take place next week. If anyone is interested you can contact Kerwind. He is helping out with the scheduling.

Rene asked if there was any progress with Santi Rogers' recommendations from his past visit regarding the clinic. Mike reported nothing significant has happened. We've gotten commitments from two other regional centers but nothing from DDS. Nancy Bargeman from DDS is planning to visit and speak with the executive staff and talk about options in vendoring.

When the head of DDS, Santi Rogers, came down to visit, he was very impressed with the clinic's model. He would love to see it at other Regional Centers but it has to be successful. It has to have a positive cash flow. He had concerns about that. But he did make a promise to look at some things if we would include two other Regional Centers and get some kind of pilot program going.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Larry Ryan reports that the group has gone to several concerts throughout the summer. They continue to do their volunteer work in the community, helping our senior citizens, and taking care of our city and churches. They have joined the Balona Wetlands to participate in their cleanup. They will be doing some replanting and helping with animal rescue efforts. They are preparing for the Special Olympics next year. They have been working at taking better care of their health by making better food choices.

They are very grateful to Westside for being able to attend the Supported Life Conference next month. They are showing the true spirit of advocacy by how they travel with integrity representing all of Westside. They continue to keep the group open for all by supporting their fellow members by being considerate of things like mobility, age, and medication needs. They look forward to bringing all the information that they learn and share with the group.

DISPARITY COMMITTEE

Nilo Choudhry reported that they have finalized the written lists for the information sheets, both in English and Spanish. The lists are of Regional Center client services and supports available for the different ages and stages of life: birth -3, adolescents 11-17, young adults 18-22 and adults 23 and up. These information sheets will be helpful for clients, families and service coordinators. Fernando indicated at the state ARCA level there would be a proposed Equity Committee. A natural transition at this time is for this committee to now be blended into the existing Client Services Committee.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The two-year California State legislative session (2013-2014) ended August 31st. Senate Bill 1445, the Tele-health bill was passed and will be added to the Lanterman Act. Our visibility with our state legislators continues to be important. October 20th is the deadline for voter registration for the upcoming November election. There is a series of stakeholder meetings for Medi-cal funding of ABA behavioral health treatment for individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Senate Bill 1178 has been proposed to expand affordable housing for individuals with disabilities. The need is great for this population. Statewide, approximately 74% of individuals with developmental disabilities are living in the homes of parents or guardians. 11% live in

Community care residential facilities. 10% have independent living services in place. 4.5% are in intermediate care facilities (ICF's). These are our nursing homes and developmental centers.

There's another bill that addresses the involvement of the police when helping individuals with developmental disabilities. Nilo Choudhry visited the new Culver City chief of police. He and his officers have gone through training for law enforcement personnel on how to interact with individuals with developmental disabilities. Autism Unites conducted the training. It was very positive and they really appreciated the learning experience.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

They began by discussing self-determination. They spoke about the benefits and how it would come into play. They discussed who would want to do it. The fact that it's going to be a pilot it's going to take a few years. We do not know a whole lot. They believe we've been given 67 slots. There will probably be some type of local advisory board to determine criteria for who is going to do this and who is not.

The committee discussed how it would look once disparity joins them and how they can enhance their relationships with families. They are looking at sending out client satisfaction surveys and services coordinator surveys. They will look and match data from both to see where they can make things work even better.

ARCA

ARCA met last month at Harbor regional center. They are looking at establishing an Equity Committee at the state level. They're looking to commission a third-party entity to help put together a full report on incidents and issues with disparity. This new Equity Committee will specifically be addressing issues regarding disparity and changes from self-determination and be proactive in addressing these issues before they flare up. They are hoping that they have full participation from the 21 regional centers.

ARCA was given a presentation from the CEO of the World Games that's coming up next year. There will be opportunities there and the group will see how they can structure something around that. It's going to be a huge event. They are hoping they can present something at their next meeting to see how they can engage with the World Games.

There has been a lot of activity. There will be an executive committee meeting here next Thursday. They will have the full meeting at Harbor regional center next month.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

They typically do not have meetings in August. There was a state meeting led by Antonio Anderson from ARC. He discussed the Lanterman Coalition and their goals for this year. There are seven points that they are rallying behind and took to all the legislators. There were some mixed results but so far there is hope on one thing. That is for the 10% increase in rates across the board. The concept is that the Lanterman Coalition is all together so that the legislators can't stall.

Adding to self-determination, Ben had a chance to meet with Nancy Bargeman and John Doyle for the implementation of SB468. They began floating ideas. They will be having another

meeting in October. Ben will make sure to keep the board informed in terms of how to provide the service and how it relates to the system in place.

On the next SPAC meeting they will have a presentation on effective use of social media and the pitfalls that lie within.

Today the governor signed AB1522. That's a bill that needs to be looked at because it literally came in today. It provides for paid time off for employees that work. It is believed that it provides 30 hours per month. Basically folks who have respite or any other program now fall back to paid time off (PTO). This will go into effect July 2015.

Premier and Empowertech are having a voter registration event. It will be on September 23rd between 9 AM and 4 PM. Empowertech has the capability to register people online. Next week, Ben will be in Washington D.C. for the national HCBS conference to learn all about 1915-I and 1915-K.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

The biggest event coming up is the Sib-Shops on October 10th and 11th. Don Meyer who created the Sib-Support Network in the 70s will be visiting. As a center the staff became certified trainers so they are able to have Sib-shops. It's been one of the more popular groups that they run here. They partnered with Family Focus Family Resource Center and East LA Family resource center to bring him back to conduct a 2-day training session. If you wish to be certified as a facilitator to go back to your community and run Sib-shops you must attend both days. If you only wish to come to hear him speak about the importance of siblings in families and how crucial it is to understand their issues you can come on the first day.

The resource center is having A two day training in September as part of a new grant that they are participating in. They are working with the Department of Rehabilitation and the Department of Education on transition youth. They are also having their get together for their Partners in Policymaking graduates to send in a report to the head office in Wisconsin to see how past graduates have done. Many have done extraordinarily well like Mr. (Fernando) Gomez, Esther Kelsey, Russel Tanner, and so many others.

The center is also gearing up for their annual toy drive. More information will come on that. And they are starting to take phone calls for Disneyland tickets.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The DDS auditors are going to be here for five weeks. It's a lot of work for everyone. We don't expect any surprises.

Recently we signed a 12-year lease and now we are running out of space. We're going to have to remedy that in some fashion.

The self-determination group has already met. They are putting together a lead group and discuss matters of self-determination. Four of the six in the group are from Westside. This group will be putting together the conference that is coming up in November.

The letter that was sent by the principal stakeholders of Providers to Santi about the need for a 10% increase was an incredible letter. It is one of the best letters Mike has ever read. It documented factual issues. It compared the increases of the consumer price index with the increases in rates for providers for the past 17 years. The consumer price index has increased by 270% while the increase in rates has only increased by 11%. This presents a real problem for providers because they can't hire quality people. Hopefully this is the right time to push for that increase and send in support letters.

OPEN AGENDA

Rene Rivas asked the audience if there are any comments. No one from the audience had any comments.

M/S/C ADJOURNMENT 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Paula Hilton
Board Secretary



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Nilo Choudhry
Courtney Colman
Ben Davidson (SPAC)
Cecilia Fabulich
Dru Garcia-Richardson
Fernando Gomez
Paula Hilton
Priscilla Hoe
Philip Jackson
Portia Griffith Lane
Rene Rivas
Jack Rose
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner

 ORIGINAL

ABSENT: Denise Fernald, Sandra Gonzalez, John Hunt, Gail Louis, Sophia Orozco, Liz Spencer, Russell Tanner, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Danneker, Bill Feeman, Danise Lehrer, Carmine Manicone, Kerwind Portillo

GUESTS: Joe Allen, Jr., Jessica Alvarez, Lisa Basiri, Kizzie Bradley, Linda Butler, Zakir Choudhry, Nick Coplin, Rayvone Douthard, Laurene Feldan, Ligia Garcia, Marcia James, Carmen Ibarra (CEO, Achievable), Marcia James, Esther Kelsey, Louis Levine, Adriana Madrigal, Soryl Markowitz, Barbara McCants, Jack Nieves, Erica Reimer, Sandy Rubinfeld, Todd Rubien, Steven Sakamoto, Robert Schwartz, Ricky Tani, Bonnie Thurman (DDS), Ayode Woods

Board chair Rene Rivas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

PRESENTATION

Erica Reimer from Westside Regional Center's Community Services and Quality Assurance Department presented on Mary Lou Weise-Stusser's behalf on the 2015 Performance Contract. Five categories were discussed on public policy measures that we comply with every year. In each of those areas we have exceeded the state standards.

The numbers show that 99.5% of our minors are living with families and 99.85% of our adults living in home settings. We have no minors living in licensed homes serving greater than 6 individuals. Currently 1.24% of our adults are in licensed homes serving greater than 6. This translates to 46 individuals. WRC continues to develop new homes to move these individuals.

This week we moved our last individual out of Lanterman DC. Since June we have moved 4 individuals and the population in the DC's is now down to 22. WRC continues to plan for more resources. So far 25 individuals have been moved since the Lanterman closure.

WRC continues to remain in compliance with every measure as the planned activities show. There is no data for two measures as the state is still working on compiling data from SANDIS. We do continue to comply with all of the requirements for the IPP and the IFSP. The performance contract is posted on our website and copies can be made available to the board.

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE PLAN FOR THE 2015 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The dates for next year's board meetings are included in everyone's packet. All meetings will still take place on a Wednesday. No motion is needed. This is just for the board's information.

The Westside Regional Center Holiday Party will be held on December 11th. It will be at the Proud Bird. It will begin around 11:30AM and end around 3:30PM. A "Save the Date" email was sent out early in October. This year the board members are invited to attend as this will be Mike's employee send off party. It will be limited to board members only due to the limited space. More information will be sent out as it becomes available.

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

FINANCE

At 25% into the fiscal year we are 21.4% into our OPS budget. It is projected that we will be within our OPS budget. POS is projected to be exceeded by 10 to 13 Million. But as every year that this happens DDS will allocate funding and we will be made up for that.

The Post Retirement Medical Trust fund has had a rate of return of 9.8% since its inception. For the fiscal year as of November 3rd the rate has been 7.56%. At this point we are at 40% equity.

ACHIEVABLE

There have been a number of positive developments. They've just received funding from the federal government to hire an individual that will help them in outreach and enrollment services and help during the open enrollment period, which ends in February. On an ongoing basis, this individual will also help people who need to re-enroll and show that they still qualify. They're working to make sure that people not only are able to sign up for health plans but that they are able to maintain whatever plan they select.

The clinic now has a contract with the county of Los Angeles that will help in paying for some of the services they provide to individuals that have no insurance at all.

The clinic just received approval for the rate of \$251 for Medi-Cal services, which initially was at \$50. This rate was achieved by meeting the state's expectations on provider productivity, as it is a terrific rate. It just takes so much more time to see the patients that we have. This will be very instrumental into getting the clinic to a point where it can be financially viable and have long-term sustainability. There's still a lot of work to do but it's a step in the right direction.

Later this month the clinic will be hiring a clinic manager/vocational nurse. The job has been offered and accepted. This individual will help in strengthening the infrastructure and continue to improve their system.

The clinic is contracted with three different I.P.A.'s. They are Global Care, Healthcare Partners, and Prospect. They in turn contract with just about every health plan, such as Blue Cross, Health Net, LA Care, etc. Ms. Ibarra has no figures but in general the patient load has been increasing.

The planning continues for Mike's Tribute party. There is a committee made up of staff as well as some board members from WRC and Achievable. They're making good progress and selected **January 24th** for the event. It will be held at the Beverly Hills country club.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Several members attended the Supported Life conference in Sacramento. The overall theme was "Proactive, Production, Moving Forward, Empowerment, and Total Inclusion in the Community." There were many dynamic speakers and lots of information exchanged, like starting your own Micro-Enterprise, being safe, and employment first policies. Marty Omoto updated the conference on political issues regarding self-determination, the IPP process, how to identify different forms of abuse, and navigating through life while having a developmental disability. The group will be forever grateful as for some it was the first time they were on an airplane, away from home, attending a seminar, and being in a hotel. They also enjoyed karaoke, dancing, and making new business contacts.

The group continues to take care of the community with their volunteering efforts. They have been working with the local senior centers, and churches just to name a few. The self-advocates are everywhere exploring the community, connecting with their natural supports, and increasing their quality of life. With the holidays rapidly approaching they're making sure that everyone has a place to go. A couple of self-advocates have already volunteered to host a holiday dinner.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

California Governor Jerry Brown has been re-elected for a historic fourth term. The Democratic 2/3-vote super-majority has been lost in the California State Senate. The California State Assembly super-majority is still up in the air. For the last four years, all of Senator Holly Mitchell's bills have been signed. State senator Ted Lieu is moving into Henry Waxman's seat in the federal House of Representatives. In our catchment area, Ben Allen has been elected to replace the senate seat vacated by Ted Lieu. New assemblywoman Autumn Burke will represent the 62nd district. We will plan to contact our new legislators in 2015. Bob Steiner is a valuable contact, as he knows Autumn Burke.

Legislators host local constituent events, such as Coffee with Holly, etc. Right now, the state legislature is in interim recess. Action will begin in the new year. On January 1, 2015 the passed statutes will take effect. On January 4th, the legislature reconvenes. On January 10, the Governor submits his budget bill.

We will continue to keep up with ARCA's recommendations for watch, support and opposition of state bills.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

The group spoke about the budget and finances. They're looking at ways to saving money. Statewide we're about 10% of the deficit and we're only 4% of the population so we're biting off more than we can chew. They're looking at getting more rigid in adhering to our service standards and abiding with them. They are looking at possible savings in daycare, and respite. As for the high cost clients with extreme medical and behavioral needs they will be untouchable, as they don't see areas in saving. They're looking at changing the criteria and possibly tightening things up.

The group talked about the combining of disparity with client services. After a few discussions and discussing with several other people, with client services having so much going on, they came to the conclusion that disparity did not have to continue at this point. As it was an ad hoc committee it achieved its mission. All data is going on the website and available to everyone.

Fernando recommended we consider keeping disparity together since ARCA is forming an Equity committee. This committee will be looking at disparity issues. There's a strong interest by other regional centers and by people close to the regional center system. Fernando feels we can benefit from the information they produce. There is no problem receiving this information from the state level as appropriate but not have an existing committee. The committee has finished documenting all activities and went far beyond what other regional centers have done.

Rene Rivas suggested that we get the information the disparity committee produced and share it with ARCA to help jump-start their committee. Perhaps we can find some mutual benefit.

**M/S/C TO SUSPEND THE DISPARITY COMMITTEE
 2 OPPOSE – THE REST WERE AYES**

ARCA

Fernando reports ARCA is forming an Equity committee. There are concerns about disparity at all levels. The first meeting will be on November 17th. They will be discussing the role that this committee will take. They have about 10 people participating and there is good representation from regional centers. Fernando will keep the board up-to-date and hopes to revisit disparity issues and get the disparity committee out of suspension.

At the last ARCA executive board meeting they held an event in Mike's honor. He was presented with a California State Senate Resolution signed by Sen. Holly Mitchell. Fernando read out loud what the resolution stated. It highlighted the many achievements throughout Mike's career.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary Lou gave a presentation about the Final Rule at their last meeting. It was an interesting presentation on how things are going to change moving forward for our consumers and vendors.

Ben was part of a presentation before DDS and a stakeholders group on self-determination in Sacramento. They spoke to Santi Rogers and Nancy Bargeman about FMS as an option going forward and how it relates to self-determination. They have a lot of work to do to get this thing going. The waiver has not yet cleared and another FMS meeting is coming up. The second part of the presentation covered the pitfalls in the usage of social media as it relates to companies and agencies, the ways it can help and hurt you. The silver lining to that is that they've been able to

use social media to find missing clients faster. They also discussed some methods in reducing and ultimately preventing how clients go missing.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

Carmine Manicone presented in Liz Spencer's behalf. Last month the resource center hosted a two-day Sib Shop certification training with Don Meyer who developed the Sibling support network. More than 50 people were certified who will then be going on developing Sib Shops throughout the state. There are 2 WRC staff that are going through their final steps of certification. They're going to start a siblings support group to help support our adult siblings. As we have aging adult clients and aging parents, some siblings are taking on the duties they were never prepared for. The cost of the training was offset through sponsorships from East LA Family Resource Center and the Family Focus Family Resource center.

The family resource center is in the process of updating their website and their data system. They have completed the Disney Community involvement program, their reduced price tickets program for individuals with developmental disabilities. They signed up more than 400 Westside clients. Liz wanted to give a special thanks to Jill Rubinelli, one of the staff in the Resource center, for doing the majority of work.

The flyers for the toy drive will be done by November 10. They are partnering with Independence Plus, one of our newer supported living providers, and 24-hour Homecare who does respite and day care. There will be a raffle for all WRC staff that donates \$25. Prizes include gift cards, certificates to local businesses, and a day off authorized by Mike. A wish list was set up on Amazon.com under the Westside Family Resource Center 2014 Holiday Toy Drive. People will be able go to Amazon.com, pick a toy and click on donate to the toy drive. It's all on Amazon prime so shipping is free. A date has not been set to distribute the toys but typically it happens during the last week the regional center is open before the holiday break.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the last couple of years the 21 regional center system has been over by multi millions of dollars. Every year DDS stepped up and got everybody paid and the deficits went away. They did this by going back to prior years looking for money left over from past budget years. With the approval of the administration they took this money and made the regional center system whole and paid off debts and overages. For the last couple years the system has been in the red and it's taken a 100 Million dollars in excess money.

We started the year in July 100 Million dollars in debt. And there are no savings to go to. You add on top of that the money that the system is spending more collectively, and you have a growing figure. Santi thinks this is the year that we are not going to make it. Gov. Brown is not expected to cover it. Wholeheartedly, Santi believes to the extent that regional center budgets are going to change. Instead of getting \$135 million for POS we may only get \$131 million. Westside is about 4% of the total when you start cutting things. Based on the financial report earlier we are continuing to go. But if this thing happens in January we're adding another 3 or 4 million dollars to that.

There's no way Westside is going to save 10 to 13 million dollars in six months. We don't know what is going to happen politically as a result of that. Client Services has already started talking about cutting, reducing, and saving, which is a long-term process. We understand that this does not take place overnight. We would have to review and monitor what clients are receiving, what

new client can receive, and looking at our policies, etc. This is the picture statewide and the trend is not going down.

The self-determination conference is coming up and it's sold out. There will be lots of speakers, questions and answers, and lots of input. It's a great concept but the bill is very complex. We've spoken about it in past board meetings, how this is going to be cost neutral, etc. Many questions will be answered. 2,500 individuals will be selected in the first three years of implementation beginning in 2015. It's going to be a 20-year project and it's not going to be that easy. People are not just going to get a check. People will have to report to the IRS and eventually figure out that this is another job.

The Final Rule is a decision the federal government made back in the 2008 Federal budget act. The feds want our people in the community to have their own place to live, a key to their front door, and have jobs. With 2 plus billions of dollars this is what they expect to see. We've been saying this at Westside for 40 years and we are so far ahead of the curve. Now the question is, yeah we're doing that already, are you going to send any money with this? How are we going to get people into the community when the rent is so high? In the meantime DDS is developing a waiver to comply with this mandate that is going around the country. It is due March 15th and the plan must be operational by 2019. If not, we will not be funded.

California is far ahead in a lot of areas compared to the rest of the states and will have their plan ready to submit to the Feds. We hope to continue doing what we've been doing but on a massive scale now that there is federal funding. The feds want this for America and that's monumental. Mike has spent his career trying to get this idea across. He's really pleased about this and would like to see how it turns out long-term.

15 states have already submitted their plans and have all been rejected. They're not getting it. It's a huge thing that's on the horizon and it's going to change the state of California.

Mike's last day is January 30th. He will be at the January 14 board meeting.

OPEN AGENDA

Rene Rivas asked the audience if there are any comments. No one from the audience had any comments.

M/S/C ADJOURNMENT 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Paula Hilton
Board Secretary



**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Nilo Choudhry
Courtney Colman
Ben Davidson (SPAC)
Cecilia Fabulich
Dru Garcia-Richardson
Fernando Gomez
Sandra Gonzalez
Paula Hilton
Priscilla Hoe
Philip Jackson
Portia Griffith Lane
Rene Rivas
Jack Rose
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner

 ORIGINAL

ABSENT: Gail Louis, Sophia Orozco

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Danneker, Bill Feeman, Denise Fernald, John Hunt, Danise Lehrer, Carmine Manicone, Kerwind Portillo, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou Weise-Stusser

GUESTS: Joseph Allen, Jr., Leticia Antonio, Lisa Basiri, Raquel Bisuela, Elena Bustamante, Enrique Ceja, Zakir Choudhry, Martha Clemson, Rayanne Cruse, Felipe Cruz, Diann Danneker, Luisa Delgadillo, Rayvone Douthard, Erik Duzell, Laurene Feldan, Roxie Fernandez, Pastor Lavelle Gates, Alejandra Gomez, Elizabeth Gomez, Francis Gomez, Eloisa Gonzalez, John Grimble, Betty Grimble, Nayma Guerrero, Candace Hein, Patricia Herrera (211 L.A. County), Carmen Ibarra (CEO, Achievable), Esther Kelsey, Hillary Kessler, Marcia James, Teri Lantz (UCP), Connie Lapin, Harvey Lapin, Kevin MacDonald, Adriana Madrigal, Barbara Marbach, Judy Mark, Soryl Markowitz, Barbara McCants, Sulma Mena, Nancy Minquiz, Martha Montealegre, Claudia Palomo, Carlos Perez, Evella Perez, Maria Ermelinda Perez, Araceli Ramirez, Sandy Rubenfeld, Todd Rubien, Jill Rubinelli, Marco Antonio Ruiz, Robert Schwartz, Teresa Sedano, Ellen Sloan, Maria Soto, Ricky Tani, Martha Thompson, Edelmira Ulloa, Ayode Woods, Ari Zeldin

Board chair Rene Rivas called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. He announced that this was Mike Danneker's last board meeting and introduced his replacement, Kevin MacDonald. He will begin at Westside on February 2nd.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

PRESENTATION

Judy Mark presented on Westside Regional Center's local advisory committee for the new Self-Determination program. The law passed in October 2013. It establishes the ability for clients and families to choose and have control over the services they receive. Part of the law requires that each regional center have its own local advisory committee. Judy is the committee chair and acknowledged those members present by asking them to stand up. Half of the committee was appointed by WRC while the local area Board appointed the other half. They plan on becoming experts on the program so that they are able to have answers for any questions parents and clients may have.

The committee will be meeting on the second Tuesday of every month. They held their second meeting last night. They are completely open and they're looking for input from everyone in the community. Each meeting will focus on a specific part of the law. Their next meeting will be on developing introductory materials and orientations. In April they will be discussing about conducting orientations and initial outreach.

DDS submitted their waiver application on December 31st to receive federal funding. It could take up to 6 months to get approved. The day that it is approved is the day that the regional centers can start enrolling consumers. Within the next three years WRC is allowed to enroll up to 67 Consumers. After that it will be open to all consumers. They expect an incredible amount of interest in the program. Judy welcomes the participation of the Board and looks forward to reporting to the Board as dates become clearer.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Rene Rivas announced that Kevin MacDonald will be the new Executive Director on February 2nd. Mike will mentor Kevin for the next 6 months under contract. The executive committee should have a draft of the contract in their email.

Four Board members have termed out and need to be replaced. There is the possibility of other Board members not willing to continue next year. The president plus four volunteer Board members need to be on the nominating committee. This committee is responsible for interviewing and selecting a slate of candidates. The responsibility for looking for candidates does not fall on this committee alone. Everyone on the Board, parents, and staff are encouraged to look for potential candidates. We will be losing four key people with approximately 25 to 30 years of experience. The following people volunteered to be on the committee: Rene Rivas(required), Priscilla Hoe, Cecilia Fabulich, Courtney Colman, Dru Garcia-Richardson, Paula Hilton, Fernando Gomez, Jack Rose, Judy Blumenthal, and Portia Griffith-Lane. The term for new Board members begin on July 1st. Rene Rivas said that the present Board will stay intact until the end of June.

Mike explained to the Board that we've been reporting to DDS about our Board composition for the past 6 or 7 years. In December, 2014, we received a request from DDS asking for more information about the Board's composition. Specifically, DDS requested information about our Board members' terms, how long they have been on the Board, when they first came on the Board, etc. Mike provided the requested information to DDS.

Mike explained that there are two things in the W&I code that we must follow in terms of the Board's composition. One is the composition of the Board as it pertains to clients. The other one is term limits. It is believed DDS wants this corrected sooner than June. We are in non-compliance by half a person in clients.

Rene announced that WRC is at a very critical time. Rene would like to write a letter to DDS explaining that the four people who have termed out will be leaving. We are looking as fast as we can to find replacements. We will be voting them in, in our June meeting. Unless DDS sends out a letter requesting to vacate immediately, Rene does not intend to leave before the end of June when new Board members are elected.

M/S/C TO WRITE A LETTER TO DDS EXPLAINING WRC'S SITUATION AND THE TRANSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S POSITION. THERE WAS 1 ABSTENTION – THE REST WERE AYES

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2014

FINANCE

Jack Rose presented the report to the Board. At 42% of the year completed we've used 35% of the operations budget and 44% of the purchases of services budget. Overall we have used 43% of the total budget. We are projecting that we will be within our budget allocation in operations and based on our A-1 allocations we will exceed our expenditures in purchase of services. With the new budget coming out we may be in the clear.

Mary Lou gave a brief overview of the 8 contracts that need Board approval. For the 2014-2015 CCP Plan Westside was approved for 8 housing projects. The total awarded amount is \$4,225,000.

ARF #1	Acquisition Agreement for ARF – \$200,000 Renovation Agreement for ARF – \$300,000
ARF #2	Acquisition Agreement for ARF – \$200,000 Renovation Agreement for ARF – \$250,000
ARF #3	Acquisition Agreement for ARF – \$200,000 Renovation Agreement for ARF – \$300,000
CGH	Acquisition Agreement for CGH – \$200,000 Renovation Agreement for CGH – \$250,000
FTH	Acquisition Agreement for FTH – \$250,000 Renovation Agreement for FTH – \$300,000
ARF-DE	Acquisition Agreement for ARF-DE – \$200,000 Renovation Agreement for ARF-DE – \$275,000
ARFPSHN	Acquisition Agreement for ARFPSHN – \$300,000 Renovation Agreement for ARFPSHN – \$350,000
ARFPSHN-B	Acquisition Agreement for ARFPSHN-B – \$300,000 Renovation Agreement for ARFPSHN-B – \$350,000

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE 2014-2015 CPP PLAN CONTRACTS

ACHIEVABLE

Carmen Ibarra announced Achievable was awarded \$150,000 from the Keck foundation.

They held a Covered California event on Tuesday, January 13th with 50 people attending. A few people were enrolled. They're planning to have another event so they can assist more people before the February 15th deadline.

Achievable can also continue to enroll people who qualify for Medi-Cal. Visits and patient counts are continuing to grow. They are in the final stages of finding another provider to increase access to healthcare even further. Staffing is stabilizing and the operation is starting to work smoothly.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Larry P. Ryan reports the group had a fantastic holiday. The group attended the tree lighting at Culver City, the Abbott Kinney Stroll Event, the 31st Annual Torrance Memorial Holiday Festival, and the Hollywood Christmas parade. They saw many beautiful floats with soap opera stars and vintage police and firefighter vehicles

They had a great time at Olvera Street in downtown Los Angeles.

They will begin planning their new vision for 2015. The group is thankful to the Board for their continued support.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The good news is our local state Senator Holly Mitchell will chair the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services. She remains a strong advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and just last year visited the Achievable Clinic and WRC. This year we will visit the legislative offices of two new state legislators: Senator Ben Allen and Assemblywoman Autumn Burke. A list of current legislators representing the Westside catchment area was distributed to the Board members.

Governor Jerry Brown in his speech emphasized fiscal restraint. We discussed the restoration of IHSS cut in service hours; Rebuilding the Lanterman Promise; chronic underfunding, rate freezes and cuts. We will have information on Grassroots Day next time. Meanwhile, there are several local events in January, including the Empowerment Congress at USC.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

Judy Blumenthal announced that 15 people attended today's meeting. The college to career program has become a reality. They're hoping that a significant group starts in September. They have a timeline to search and identify clients, to interview and enroll, and register for classes. They talked about ways of supporting these individuals. They will be doing outreach to high schools all around our catchment area. A brochure will be developed. Individuals will have to indicate interest in the program to the group. The interviews would be held through client services. It could involve a Board member but probably not. There are people on staff that have a rich experience in the college setting. They're hoping to have a group of 20 individuals in the program that will be monitored through the Department of Rehab.

ARCA

Fernando will be heading to the Board of directors meeting and will be joined by Mary Lou. Amy Westling from ARCA put out a 49-page report titled "At Brink of Collapse – The Consequences of Underfunding California's Developmental System." They will be discussing this in depth. A copy will be made available to anyone who requests one. In addition they will be talking about the Governor's budget.

The past few years ARCA has been spreading its wings to be more involved. They have been working with the Lanterman Coalition. They are heavily involved in early intervention. This year they want to work on a media campaign to bring about awareness. In addition ARCA has a non-for profit division called The Collaborative, which Fernando chairs. This division gives them the ability to acquire grants. They are going to use The Collaborative to engage a third-party entity to do an in depth study of our system as it pertains to disparity. They will report to the newly formed Equity Committee. They will be working with DDS and a couple of Stakeholders.

Fernando was appointed by the Governor to the Inter-agency Coordinating Council on early intervention (I.C.C.). He's also part of a task force called the State Systemic Improvement Plan (S.S.I.P.). This is working with DDS and the Office of Special Education programs. They are putting together what they call a simmer plan. It's all tied together, especially when it comes to early intervention.

Fernando will be heading back to Sacramento on Tuesday to attend a private reception by the Governor for the Latino appointees. That will give them an opportunity to have a face-to-face with the Governor. Rick Rollins and Eileen Ritchie have given him some talking points. If everything goes well Fernando would like to invite the Governor to visit our regional center for a tour.

SANTI ROGERS, DIRECTOR OF DDS

Santi Rogers, the Director of DDS, surprised the Board by phoning in to congratulate Mike on his retirement. He has the honor of knowing Mike for three decades. He and Mike share one thing in common, and that is the privilege of serving individuals and their families that have intellectual and developmental special needs. The contributions Mike has made have been remarkable, at times right on the leading edge as it relates to housing. Most people took decades later to follow his lead. The Board should be proud of Mike. It's an absolute privilege to have these few minutes to share with the Board the many great contributions Mike has made. Santi thanked Mike personally for his great service. WRC is a great regional center because of Mike.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Lanterman Coalition and the 10 Campaign is really close to reaching the needed signatures to get the 10% increase for all service providers across the Board. The members of SPAC would like the Board to support it. The 10 Coalition is a big organization and it is trying to get all of us on the same page in terms of what it is we want. They want to create a united front to say we want 10% in order to sustain the system.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

The changes in early start have brought back eligibility to 2009 standards. More children from birth to 3 will be able to access Early Start Services. We want this age group to be brought up to speed when they reach three years of age. Some of the challenges that the State is facing are in funding. From January to the end of June the Governor has allotted \$15 million statewide. This

figures to be about \$600,000 to \$700,000 for WRC to fund many more infants and toddlers coming into Early Start for services.

Every year our Spanish-speaking support groups get together and they put on a Posada. They bring an extraordinary amount of food to give back to staff who they consider have given to them throughout the year. This year they honored Mike.

This year we had our most successful toy drive yet. Jill Rubinelli was instrumental in its success. We received a donation from the casino run and a \$2,000 donation from one of our families. 93 families were nominated to come in and “shop” for toys. This year vendors brought their adult clients to help out and wrap. Ultimately we were able to serve over 150 Westside Families.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The biggest concern we have every year is the budget. Usually around 95% becomes a reality after it is put out in January. For the current year Mike has reported that we are over budget. We’ve tightened up some things but we have not gone away from our principles. In past years the impression has been that we would be covered. There has been no sense that we would be hit hard. This year DDS is holding \$125 million that they have not given out to the system. They’re asking for \$280 million in total to be put in this year’s budget to cover the statewide deficit. With the \$125 million that DDS has and the \$159 million that the Governor has Mike is confident that we will be covered this year deficit-wise.

Next year’s budget is a whole other issue. We are looking at a 3.5% increase in consumers, which translate to 278,000 clients. In the Governor’s budget, POS is projected to increase by 6.3%. Basically that’s to cover growth in caseloads. The Governor is not going to restore the money he took from us. In operations there’s a \$26 million increase from this year, which represents a 4.4% increase. Things look like they’re going into a positive direction. You can go to our website for more details.

We had a whistleblower complaint. It is alleged that one of our vendors is not doing things right. Mike has turned it over to Judy Enright so she can review.

After talking about day-to-day business Mike brought up some things that seem appropriate for this time. It’s been a rough couple of three months. There’s been a lot of pain, anger, and hurt feelings. It has been about 225 Board meetings over the 32 years he’s been here and doesn’t ever recall any kind of argument or confrontation. People may be wondering how did we get to this point. That’s not the real issue.

His concern is where do we go from here. This is important because Westside is known to be the best regional center throughout the state. He gets many calls from parents wanting to be a part of Westside. We get clients that don’t wish to move. We get parents that wish to stay even though they’re moving out of our catchment area. We get visits from people from other countries. We get people from Japan, China, and Iran to visit us. We have employees that literally drive past other regional centers’ front doors to get here. It’s really gratifying.

Mike is inviting everyone to put that stuff behind us. We have to proceed on a positive note. We have to remember why we’re here, to serve clients and families, bottom line. We’re not a business. We are a service agency.

It's been Mike's good fortune over the years to have some incredible people. He recalls people like Rose Schlichter, our first Board Chair, and Marshall Metlen who was a financial genius. We had Art Stein who was a take-charge guy. He was a very bright guy. Kent Graham who is on the Achievable Board, he's been around forever. People like Bob Steiner who's been on every Board we've got. John Chavez who's always been there for us. Then we have people who have been here a long time, Judy Blumenthal, since the beginning. Jack and Nilo, Rene, Cecilia and Drew, all key people. These are people who've had vision and dedication to Westside. They have been there for us. They have supported us as we've built this thing brick by brick for over 32 years. They have put incredible trust in us. That has been very important. When you give someone your trust it almost guarantees loyalty, commitment, quality results, and an almost sacred commitment to making things so that the trust is justified.

Mike thanked everyone for the opportunities over the years in making this a remarkable organization. It's an organization of bright, caring, and compassionate people. He's said it over the years. It's not his regional center. It's not your regional center. It's our regional center. People have a sense of ownership here and we have to continue that. There is no other place like Westside. We are the jewel of the regional center system.

OPEN AGENDA

Rene Rivas asked guests if there are any comments.

Fernando read a statement from the director of ARCA, Eileen Ritchey, wishing Mike a fond farewell. Elizabeth & Fernando Gomez expressed their gratitude by giving Mike a gift and cake.

Connie Lapin presented Mike with a homemade magic wand. She's never been to a Board like this. It permeates with everything that Mike has said.

Harvey Lapin shared his enthusiasm for Westside. He looks forward to the future with Kevin. He mentioned that this regional center has the best reputation by far in the state.

Portia Lane-Griffith was thankful for being on the Board. She is going to miss Mike a whole lot.

Judy Mark addressed the Board. She serves on the Board of Disability Rights California. They're an oversight agency for the regional centers. They talk about the lawsuits that are filed against the regional centers and the problems that families face. She's never had that experience here at Westside. She has a son that will be turning 18 in two weeks with severe autism and has faced significant challenges. She credits the staff here at Westside for saving his life. There's a reason why this regional center is considered the best in the state. She can't thank Mike enough for the leadership that he has provided. But she's struggling at "letting it go."

When you look at other regional centers around the state you hear families are not getting the services that they desperately need. This is because of lack of leadership. Judy is thankful that staff feel empowered, that staff can think outside the box to solve problems for a particular family or consumer. That wouldn't happen at another regional center.

Judy totally supports Mike's message of coming together and moving forward. To be honest, she feels a little scared. And she believes there are a lot of families that share that fear. She wanted to say to the Board that they have to bring people together at this time because there has been a lot of division. She's not sure that has happened yet. Mike won't be here every day to ensure that that continues to happen. If DDS has in fact produced a letter stating that we have to

change our Board, she encourages that that happens now and not to wait 6 months from now. She wants everyone to have a feeling of trust and unity as we move forward to the next phase of Westside. She is going to miss Mike immensely but looks forward to working with him outside the regional Center. She wants to make sure that Westside retains its culture and its sense of family. She can't thank Mike enough for all he's done here at Westside.

Maria Soto addressed the Board. She thanked Mike for his commitment and hard work. She agrees that we all have that fear and understands that change happens. She feels that six months of Mike's mentoring Kevin will not be enough. She explained that all the people that showed up earlier today were here to show support. Many had to leave because most had to go to work. They showed up not only because they wanted to say goodbye to Mike. They wanted to make sure the Board sees that they are here and that they are present. For her this is the first time that she's here. She's making the commitment of making herself more involved. She told the Board what pride she has when she speaks to other parents from other regional centers about Westside. It's very sad to hear their stories but she feels very proud of being part of this regional center.

Teri Lantz, a client's rights advocate who has worked for United Cerebral Palsy for 41 years addressed the Board. She knows many individuals here. This is the first time she's been at Westside and feels very sad. She met Mike many years ago. There aren't too many people around that could have led Westside the way he did. Mike has a legacy that can be seen in all of our clients. They are so much richer because of Mike's leadership. He has shown it again tonight asking everyone to come together. She's counting on everyone who works at Westside to remember what he said. We are all in this because of the consumers and their families.

It's Mike's leadership that made this regional center what it is. She remembers what this regional Center was before Mike. She remembers the Kennedy regional Center. She remembers just chaos. So when Mike came on board, not only was he inspirational, he was honest and showed trust. The weight we all feel for our clients during bad budget years is devastating. We have that commitment. And part of it is because of Mike. He has helped all of the staff here to really look at the bigger picture and what's really important to that individual and their families, and to stand by that commitment. There were years when our budgets were being cut to ribbons, and Mike said let's make the hit a little less.

Ms. Lantz was there during those days. She was there when they did a big rally, and Mike was with them. How many regional center directors do you know that would invite all of us in to talk about how to go about changing things? We have probably lost something that we won't even realize until tomorrow. But she's counting on the fact that we won't lose it because Mike is a man of commitment. And he will be watching out.

Rene thanked Teri Lantz for her statements. He pointed out there is a reason why Kevin MacDonald was chosen. He's been a service provider for 22 years just as Mike was a service provider when he came here. That was one of the factors that made their decision. He's asking all of us to keep an open mind, to give him a chance. He's glad Kevin showed up today because now he understands a little bit more about the Westside Way.

Priscilla Hoe asked everyone to do everything we can do provide the very best opportunity for Kevin to succeed. That means the support from the Board, the community, the Direct reports, and all the staff from Westside.

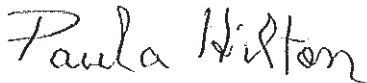
Patricia Herrera spoke. She's worked in the field for 20 years. She did not work directly for Mike. She had a long career at Lanterman. And she wanted to say that she had admired Mike all that time. Mike is a visionary. And anytime that something was occurring he was ahead of the curve. She remembers the Integration Consortium, which was the Inclusion Consortium. He always had staff or himself in these innovative approaches. Right now self-determination is the innovative approach going forward. The only place that we can get information and support is here at Westside. To have a foundation around housing, and Achievable, no other regional center or director has done this. She really appreciates what Mike has done for her directly and indirectly. Mike was a mentor to her. He was a leader. And she has followed him. She knows that Mike has a passion for the homeless. She works at 211 LA County and hopes that she will connect and work together with Mike. She thanked Mike for everything he's done.

Rene announced that the Board would begin holding monthly meetings. He thinks it's appropriate now with this transition phase. Kerwind will send a notice around.

The meeting ended with cake being served to celebrate the transition of Mike retiring and Kevin coming on board.

M/S/C ADJOURNMENT 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Paula Hilton
Board Secretary

 ORIGINAL

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY MARCH 4, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Courtney Colman
Ben Davidson (SPAC)
Fernando Gomez
Sandra Gonzalez
Paula Hilton
Priscilla Hoe
Philip Jackson
Portia Griffith Lane
Jack Rose
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner

 ORIGINAL

ABSENT: Gail Louis, Bill Feeman, Carmine Manicone

STAFF PRESENT: Denise Fernald, Danise Lehrer, Kerwind Portillo, Liz Spencer,
Mary Lou Weise-Stusser

GUESTS: Joan Anderson, Chris Arroyo, Lisa Basiri, Tianna Brown, Nilo Choudhry, Zakir Choudhry, Nick Coplin, Mike Danneker, Luisa Delgadillo, Rayvone Douthard, Allen Erenbaum, Cecilia Fabulich, Danny Franco, Lori Howe, Marcia James, Esther Kelsey, Leshin Jackson, Adriana Madrigal, Judy Mark, Soryl Markowitz, Barbara McCants, David Mezquita, Mireya Mezquita, Katie Meyer, Jack Nieves, Rene Rivas, Janet Roberts, Sandy Rubinfeld, Todd Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Denise Thornquest, Salvador Velazquez, Ari Zeldin

Board Vice Chair Priscilla Hoe called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. She will be acting board chair due to Rene Rivas' resignation because of term limits.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Priscilla Hoe introduced WRC's new Executive Director Kevin MacDonald.

The Board accepted the resignations of 4 members, Rene Rivas, Dru Garcia-Richardson, Nilo Choudhry, and Cecilia Fabulich due to term limits. They are actively looking to fill 6 vacancies for fiscal year 2015-2016.

Priscilla announced that Standing committees are open for guests to participate and encouraged the audience present to participate.

Paul Hilton will present for the Nominating Committee.

The Annual meeting will be in June, details to come.

Fernando Gomez asked the board about the procedure for filling the Vice Chair vacancy. As Vice-Chair Priscilla takes over the Chair duties vacated by Rene Rivas as Acting Chair. Fernando moved for a vote to accept Priscilla Hoe as the Chair for the remainder of fiscal year 2014-2015.

M/S/C (Gomez) TO ACCEPT PRISCILLA HOE AS THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

The Chair for the Nominating Committee is elected by the Committee. Paula Hilton announced that the Nominating Committee will be meeting today following the Board Meeting. The first order of business is to elect the Chair Person.

Someone was designated to submit the Political Action and Outreach Committee report for tonight. Priscilla Hoe will appoint someone soon to Chair this committee.

M/S/C TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2015

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Paula Hilton asked any of the Board Candidates present to stand up. Anyone interested in becoming a nominee can ask Kerwind Portillo for an application. The application process will remain open until April 1st, 2015. After that the Committee will be interviewing the applicants. Candidates will be voted in at the June meeting. Nomination applications are included in every board member's packet.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee met today at 5PM. They met with the auditor who presented the draft financial report for June 30th, 2014. Once it is finalized it will be posted on our website.

Danny Franco produced our financial statement. As of January 31st we are at 58% through the year ending June 30th. We are at 53.6% in OPS expenditures. Our POS is above but we expect an amendment to increase our POS budget.

WRC is in the process of searching for a new CFO.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Larry P. Ryan presented his report to the board. The group visited the Pompeii Exhibit at the California Science Center Museum. The group attended the 23rd Empowerment Congress Summit, the City of Inglewood's 32nd Annual Martin Luther King Celebration, the Risk Factors of Strokes and Heart Attacks Seminar presented by Kaiser Permanente, Earthquake Preparedness classes, and bowling in preparation for the World Games.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Sandra Gonzales submitted the Committee's report. There is a concerted effort by the Lanterman Coalition to push for a 10% increase for (POS) Purchase of Service and (OPS) Regional Center Operations. There is a dire need to restore funds to the system. Today there was a big rally in Sacramento for this 10% increase.

In March the Budget Hearings are beginning, and in May the Governor will release his May revised budget.

Grassroots Day is April 15th this year. The Committee meets at 5:00 pm on the 4th Floor, and is seeking a new Committee Chair.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

Judy Blumenthal reports there was no meeting today. She met with Soryl Markowitz, Lisa Basiri, and Mary Lou Weise-Stusser. They discussed what's happening on appeals. They reviewed policies on childcare, service standards on Social Skills, and Behavioral Services.

The West L.A. College Program, College to Career, is moving forward. It will be a 5 semester program. There is an orientation this Saturday. 50 individuals are interested. The initial group will be limited to 20 individuals for this year.

ARCA

Fernando attended the rally, earlier today in Sacramento, in support of the Lanterman Coalition to push for the 10% increase in POS and OPS.

ARCA's report, "On Brink of Collapse" has been included in the board's packet.

Fernando will be meeting with Executives from the Special Olympics of Southern California and Executives from the World Games this Monday.

Friday, Fernando will be presenting on a panel with the California Speech Language Hearing Conference. He will be presenting "IDEA Four Years Later."

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kevin MacDonald met with the Committee at their regularly scheduled meeting. The Committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Senator Beal is working on a bill and looking for co-sponsors to change the vendor audits.

In April the Committee will have a presentation on Internet Security and Encryption.

ACHIEVABLE

The Achievable Foundation will have their Board meeting next week. Since the last meeting they have hired a Chief Medical Officer(CMO). The organization is tracking well budget wise.

Carmen Ibarra and Ben Davidson attended a training on leadership for being on boards that was arranged by the Gogian Foundation. Achievable is also planning a mini-retreat that the Gogian Foundation will sponsor.

Vendorization for the clinic is still on the table. Nancy Bargemann at DDS has been contacted.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

There have been many trainings and outreaches. Two members of staff are currently in San Diego attending the Prevention Conference.

The California Promise Grant training will take place on March 9th through the 15th. This is a partnership between the Department of Rehabilitation, DDS, and the State Department of Education.

The Annual Family Voices Health Summit will be on March 15th through the 17th. Two of our staff and two our families will be attending. Presentations at the epilepsy summit will be in Spanish and English.

On March 18th they will be presenting at the Spanish speaking Down Syndrome Support Group in Los Angeles.

They are partnering with Clinical Services to provide parent to parent support to families with adolescents who have a dual diagnosis (mental health and developmental disabilities).

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kevin MacDonald acknowledged Mike Danneker's attendance at the Board.

Kevin showed a presentation about himself, career highlights and experiences, and The Arc.

This week he attended an orientation at DDS and participated in the Developmental Services Task Force in Sacramento. He met the Southern California Regional Center Executive Directors at Inland Regional Center. Monday he will be attending an orientation at ARCA.

Kevin will be remaining on the Developmental Services Task Force. They discussed the push for the 10% increase and fixing the State rate system.

The transition between Executive Directors is going smoothly. Kevin has met with each Board Member individually and many WRC staff.

The Brink of Collapse is in every Board Members packet along with the Disparity Meeting announcement that will take place on March 23rd.

A lawsuit was filed against the State because of the mandatory holiday closures, the part day and also the 4.25% rate cut. DDS is deciding how to respond.

We are doing acknowledgement training with our staff. We are planning to bring a guest speaker.

OPEN AGENDA

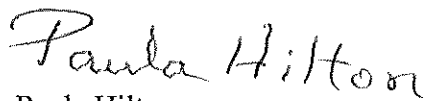
Priscilla Hoe asked guests if there are any comments.

Judy Mark reported on the progress of the Self Determination Advisory Committee meetings. Their next meeting is March 10th.

Mayra and David Mezquita, parents of 3 WRC consumers, spoke about the passing of one their children.

M/S/C ADJOURNMENT 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Paula Hilton
Board Secretary



ORIGINAL

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
COASTAL DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES FOUNDATION
WEDNESDAY MAY 6, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Blumenthal
Ben Davidson (SPAC)
Fernando Gomez
Paula Hilton
Priscilla Hoe
Philip Jackson
Portia Griffith Lane
Jack Rose
Larry P. Ryan
Bob Steiner
Russell Tanner

 ORIGINAL

ABSENT: Courtney Colman, Sandra Gonzalez, Danise Lehrer, Gail Louis

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Feeman, Denise Fernald, Danny Franco, Kevin MacDonald,
Carmine Manicone, Kerwind Portillo, Liz Spencer, Mary Lou
Weise-Stusser

GUESTS: Chris Arroyo, Lisa Basiri, Alicia Bazzano, Nilo Choudhry, Zakir
Choudhry, Nick Coplin, Mike Danneker, Mike Danneker, Marcela
DiMauro, Elizabeth Espinoza, Cecilia Fabulich, Zoe Giesberg,
Elizabeth Gomez, Betty Grimble, Carmen Ibarra, Marcia James,
Esther Kelsey, Connie Lapin, Harvey Lapin, Adriana Madrigal,
Judy Mark, Soryl Markowitz, Barbara McCants, Katie Meyer,
David Mezquita, Mayra Mezquita, Jack Nieves, Irene Padilla, Rene
Rivas, Todd Rubien, Robert Schwartz, Aga Spatzier, Denise
Thornquest, Kecia Weller, Ayode Woods

Board Chair Priscilla Hoe called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Guests were welcomed and invited to introduce themselves.

M/S/C – (Blumenthal/Rose) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2015

PRESENTATION

A short film called “The Interviewer” from Sprout Films was shown.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Priscilla Hoe spoke of change at WRC. She recommends that we amend the Bylaws to expand the number of members from 18 to 21. It is important that we make sure that everyone that should have a voice is well represented on the board.

The Board is changing a long standing policy of client Board Members rotating every 2 years. Starting with the next fiscal year our client Board Members, once elected, will follow the same protocol as other Board Members.

The Board decided to hold a regular Board meeting scheduled for June 3rd when the board elects its new members and its officers. This will give the public the opportunity to attend, observe and participate. The Board will hold its Annual Dinner Party on June 10th.

The Board is going to look very different next year. There will be 6 or 7 new members.

Chairperson Priscilla changed the order of the agenda. She brought the OPEN AGENDA up, to follow her report and give time for public input prior to actions being taken.

OPEN AGENDA

Chairperson Priscilla Hoe opened the floor for public comment.

Connie Lapin spoke of her experiences in serving on other Boards and understands that change is difficult. She would like each Board member to have a copy of the Lanterman Act. She thanked the Board for making these changes.

Judy Mark expressed concern whether this was the only opportunity for public comment or would there be opportunities to comment as the Board debates different topics as they come up. As she is active in Sacramento to improve our system as a whole she wants to make sure that WRC is fulfilling its mission. She wishes that everyone on the Board be respectful to the community and one another and embrace diversity.

Rene Rivas spoke and expressed concern with the changes of the Bylaws and the expansion of the board without thinking through and considering or understanding the impact it may have. He asked the board to reconsider.

Harvey Lapin spoke about inclusiveness and C.M.S., Community Medicaid Services. With C.M.S. they are going to dictate changes. Every one of those changes involves transparency. Every one of those changes gives authority to the customer, the person with disability. This regional center has to lead the way.

Elizabeth Espinoza spoke about her 31 year old brother with special needs. She spoke of the importance of diversity.

Elizabeth Gomez spoke of Elizabeth Espinoza. She described her as an amazing leader in the Hispanic Community. Parents will be more involved because the community is hearing that things are being done differently. She expressed concern that the public will not have a chance to comment on the discussions that will take place today and at future meetings.

M/S/C– (Rose/Hilton)

**PROPOSED BYLAWS AMMENDMENT: ARTICLE 4
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SECTION 4.01 COMPOSITION.
“NUMBER OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION
SHALL BE EIGHTEEN (18).” TO BE AMMENDED TO
READ: “NUMBER OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CORPORATION SHALL BE TWENTY ONE (21).”**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson Paula Hilton presented the committee's report. The Nominating Committee completed its interviews and held a meeting on April 22nd to discuss what they were looking for in their prospective Board candidates. Many criteria were considered in making their decision. A slate of candidates and a slate of Executive Board Officers were presented to the Board. These slates will be voted on by the entire Board at the newly scheduled June 3rd meeting. On June 10th the Board will have its celebratory Annual Dinner Party. The Nominating committee always welcomes new applications to be considered as future Board members. They are looking for more participation in the Board's committees.

The Committee Chairperson asked the Board if anyone would volunteer to run for the Office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, or Treasurer. Fernando Gomez spoke on behalf of Sandra Gonzalez that she expressed her desire to be considered for the office of Vice-President. Portia Griffith Lane volunteered to be considered for the Office of Secretary.

Fernando Gomez shared with the full Board some strong concerns for the way the Nominating Committee managed and handled the application process. As part of the Nominating Committee besides him and Portia Griffith Lane there was no other ethnic representation. He expressed concerns with the slate of Officers as there are four Caucasians. Having a consumer as an Officer is forward thinking. He recommends this Board go through sensitivity training and procedural training.

FINANCE

Jack Rose submitted the Finance Committee report. The Finance Committee met today at 5PM. The report is through March 31, 2015 which represents 75% of the year. We have spent 67.8% of our OPS allocation and 78.4% of our POS allocation. We expected the projected OPS expenditures to be within our budget. For POS we will probably exceed our budget allocation.

During today's meeting the Committee reviewed the tax return Form 990. The committee has accepted and will be distributed to the Board once it is filed at our next Board Meeting.

We have to renew our City National Bank line of credit. Last year we used THREE MILLION DOLLARS (\$3,000,000) of our line of credit.

M/S/C – (Rose/Blumenthal) TO UPGRADE OUR LINE OF CREDIT WITH CITY NATIONAL BANK FROM FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$15,000,000) TO EIGHTEEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$18,000,000)

The Finance Committee has authorized the change of signatures to writing and signing checks. The check signing authority has been given to the Executive Director Kevin MacDonald, Chief Financial Officer Danny Franco, President of the Board Priscilla Hoe, and Treasurer Courtney Colman.

For the post-retirement health fund we will obtain a letter of resignation from John Hunt as he was an authorized signer on the account. Danny Franco and the Treasurer of the Board Courtney Colman will be the new co-signers.

ACHIEVABLE

The Achievable Foundation has had their Federal audit. Of the 19 program requirements the FQHC did not meet 5, which is an average audit deficiency for established FQHC's. This is quite exceptional for an FQHC that has only been open for a year. Ms. Ibarra explained that under those 19 program requirements there are about 20 sub-items. If you don't meet any of those sub-items you basically fail on that requirement.

The Clinic has added staffing. One is their Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Cantazerite. The 2nd position hired is the Outreach and Enrollment Specialist.

CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

Larry P. Ryan presented his report to the board. The group continues to volunteer at the local senior centers, Meals on Wheels, and Churches. The group visited the Abilities Expo. They went to a WWE Wrestling Event, the Getty Museum, Haggis Resort and Casino, bowling, a Salt Water Marsh tour, and WRC's Transition Fair. A few members will be participating in the upcoming Special Olympics. They went to a legislation lunch which has been facilitated by the Special Needs Network since 2005. They had the opportunity to speak and listen to Senator Holly Mitchell, Assembly Member Mark Ridley Thomas, and District Attorney Jackie Lacey. Larry P. Ryan announced that the Westside Jam Self Advocacy Fair will be on June 5th. The theme for this year's Jam is "Everyone is Important." If anyone would like to participate or volunteer, or donate, you may call Jill Hewes at the regional center.

POLITICAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Nilo Choudhry presented in Sandra Gonzalez' behalf. The committee meets at 5PM on the 4th floor, same day the Board meets. The committee's purpose is to build and continue positive relationships with our local state legislators to keep them informed of issues relating to persons with developmental disabilities and to ensure the support of continuing funding. The May Revise of the Governor's budget will be released soon.

Our top priority has been a push to actively support Lanterman Coalition's call for a 10% increase for provider rates and Regional Center operations, as well as asking legislators to sign Senator Beall's letter. The 10% asked for is only 1/3 of what they have taken over the years. There is a "1 Million Letter" campaign to urge support from the Governor. Ben Davidson has been very involved in these efforts.

ARCA is monitoring many bills. One of them is AB563 introduced by Assembly Member Patty Lopez to support efforts for our aging population. This proposed legislation would require the Department of Developmental Services and the California Department of Aging to develop guidelines and protocols establishing best practices for providing services and supports to aging consumers with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

CLIENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

Judy Blumenthal reports the committee discussed proposed changes on paying for conferences that families attend. Just to clarify, the Service Standards will be changed to indicate that we will pay for one conference per parent per fiscal year and up to \$250.

Overnight respite was discussed. There are no more daily rates. Hourly rates now apply. We have to abide by the guidelines and rules now required regarding minimum wage. We need to pay for any hours the caregiver is in the home. Still most appeals are under eligibility and the fact that they need to have substantial disability or handicap in 3 areas.

ARCA

Fernando Gomez brought attention to a letter from DDS sent to Kern Regional Center (KRC) regarding their audit findings. Kern went through an extensive audit where serious issues were found. These findings may not be exclusive to KRC. This could possibly impact us as a regional center system as they may scrutinize and audit each regional center more closely.

ARCA is getting ready to begin the Equity Study. This study will be commissioned in conjunction with Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. Four other regional centers have shown interest in the committee. The next meeting will take place on May 14th at 10AM here at WRC.

SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ben Davidson reports that SPAC has had 2 meetings since our last Board Meeting. They discussed internet security and avoiding data breaches. Kevin MacDonald updated the group on the Holiday Schedule issue. This month the group will have Daniel Savino from ARCA come in and speak about lobbying. The Service Providers Chairs from all the regional centers have a conference call coming up. The Lanterman Coalition has collected 65+ signatures for the 10%. Compared to last year, there has been little resistance this year.

WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE/EMPOWERMENT CENTER (WFREC)

Liz Spencer reports the WFREC has been very busy closing out the year with grants. They are participating in many outreaches and trainings. They are looking forward to a really politically active year.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kevin MacDonald reports that we are looking to improve our microphone system for the Board. The transition is going well. Mike Danneker has been very supportive and helpful. The staff here at Westside is very talented. Danny Franco has been promoted to Chief Financial Officer. Chris Littlefield was invited to train the staff on Acknowledgement.

There have been 2 work groups focusing on regional center OPS and the other on rates for service providers for the Developmental Services Task Force. It appears that it is coming to a conclusion with the Secretary calling a full Task Force meeting in May. Kevin will have more to report at the June Board meeting.

We are waiting for the May revise to be released to report on the status of the Governor's budget. The 10% will come into play in the rush to sign the Budget by June 15th.

The Holiday Schedule lawsuit has been put on hold. The California Attorney General is now involved. There will be meeting on May 14th or 15th. Further information will be distributed to the service providers as it becomes available.

Kevin visited with DDS to discuss issues with H.O.M.E.

Kevin shared pictures of the trips he has taken the past few months. He visited the Jeffrey Foundation, Tools for Transformation Conference in L.A., Resource and Transition Fairs at WRC, and many different agencies and vendors throughout the community. He and Mary Lou attended the National Policy Conference in Washington D.C. He shared stats on staff from the survey results from the AcknowledgementWorks Training with Chris Littlefield. There are plans to visit as many WRC vendors as he can for the next 6 months.

OPEN AGENDA

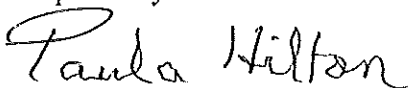
Judy Mark announced that the Self Determination Advisory Committee continues to meet monthly. There is another meeting coming up next week. They provided DDS with several consumers who speak other languages for their film on Self Determination.

The Disparity Committee will be proposed at July 1st Board Meeting. The past committee was co-chaired by Nilo Choudhry and Rene Rivas.

Elizabeth Espinoza requested that she be reconsidered for nomination to the Board.

M/S/C – (Rose/Blumenthal) M/S/C ADJOURNMENT 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Paula Hilton
Board Secretary



ORIGINAL