

# Client Services Committee |

| Meeting date   time July 25, 2023   6 PM |   | Meeting location ZOOM  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| ATTENDEES                                | Guadalupe Nolasco (Parent)<br>Ramon Gonzalez (Board<br>Member)<br>Patricia Jordan (Board<br>Member, Committee Chair)<br>FiTien Chiou (Parent) | Lucy Paz (Interpreter)<br>Erika Landeros (Provider Relations (HRC)<br>Mercedes Lowery (Manager, HRC)<br>Judy Taimi (Director, HRC) |  |

## AGENDA TOPICS

Time allotted | 6 PM to 7 PM | Agenda topic Independent Living Services (ILS) and Supported Living Services (SLS)

- Independent Living Services (ILS) are provided for those who resides in the family home. This program is provided in the community and is site based on Saturdays. Individuals have the opportunity to work on increasing their daily living skills such as cooking, cleaning, shopping in their community, menu planning and meal preparation, money management, mobility training, personal health and hygiene, self-advocacy, and more. The Saturday class offers a variety of support and groups that are catered to the individual depending on their current skills. The assessment will provide the program an idea of where the individual's current skills are and what goals they will be working towards when participating in this program. The ILS programs are offered in the Long Beach and Torrance areas from 9 AM to 12 PM.
- Supported Living Services (SLS) are provided to our individuals who are residing in the community independently. The individual must have income to be able to live independently. There is an assessment that takes places for determining the level of support needed and identifying goals that the individual will be working towards with the support of the SLS program.
  - SLS will provide training to teach individuals the skills they need to live independently including:
    - Training and assistance with daily living skills (money management, shopping, cooking, nutrition, and housekeeping)
    - Personal assistance with self-care
    - Accessing generic resources
    - Advocacy, parent training, and linking with other community agencies

- Assistance with selecting and moving into a home
- Facilitating the development of unpaid natural supports in the community
- Individuals are always encouraged and supported to make their own informed choices
- SLS agencies work with individuals anywhere from once a week to several times a week but are available 24/7 for emergency supports
- Expectations for SLS Providers
  - Set up training and support schedules to suit the needs and preferences of the person being supported
  - Pursue SLS goals established during the IPP
  - Keep in contact with the HRC Service Coordinator
  - Be knowledgeable about generic services like IHSS, HUD, SSI, Mental Health, etc.
  - Follow regulations established by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Time allotted | 7 PM to 7:15 PM | Agenda topic In-Person Meeting for 2024

• The committee is in agreement to resuming in-person meetings starting January, 2024 and we will alternate between the Torrance and the Long Beach office.

Next Meeting: September 26, 2023 at 6 PM via ZOOM

## Harbor Regional Center (HRC) Community Relations Committee August 24, 2023

**Committee Members Present:** Ann Lee, Chair, Board Member; Dee Prescott, Co-Chair, Service Provider, Easter Seals Southern California; Laurie Zaleski, Parent, Board Member; Eber Bayona, Parent, Board Member; Thao Mailloux, HRC Director of Information and Development.

Members Absent: Ron Bergmann, Parent, Board Member; April Rehrig, Community Partner; April Stover, Service Provider, AbilityFirst.

#### HRC in the Community

HRC has continued participating in various outreach events to build on the connections made within our communities. Thao shared that in the past two months, HRC has made efforts in outreach by engaging with the individuals during their transition age, local law enforcement, LGBTQIA+ community, and participating in back-to-school events. Attending these events has been great opportunities to share resources and connect with the communities.

In July, HRC was invited to participate in events for youth in the transition age. HRC staff attended the UNI Transition Age Youth Workshop (Carson) and the DCFS Transition Age Youth Resource Fair (Lomita) to connect with individuals and their circles of support, and provide information about available programs. To improve engagement on social media, HRC has deployed "Reels" on Instagram and Facebook to showcase highlights from the events. Viewers get a glimpse of what occurs during these events and get a human perspective of Harbor and our staff. At the end of July, HRC participated in the Disability Pride Celebration (Long Beach). This was a fun event that celebrated the intersections of disabilities and LGTBQIA+.

In August, HRC also participated in the National Night Out event in Redondo Beach, which is an event to promote community trust and transparency in local law enforcement. The National Night Out event is held annually in the regional cities in HRC's catchment area as a community-building campaign. Through this partnership, we are looking forward to sharing the important considerations and needs of our community when interfacing with different law enforcement entities. HRC staff were present at the Greenbelt Park Backpack Giveaway (Wilmington) and expected to participate at the Community Health and Resource Fair (Lawndale), South Bay Rotary Back to School Shopping Event at Kohl's (Torrance), and the Bellflower Middle/High School Back to School Community Fair (Bellflower) scheduled at the end of August. The Harbor Family Resource Center hosted its annual backpack giveaway in partnership with 24HRHome Care, Aveanna, and Cambrian on August 18 and 21. HRC was able to provide backpacks filled with school supplies to 155 individuals.

#### **New/Renewed Partnerships**

Since the last committee meeting, new partnerships were formed with different agencies located in the community. HRC hosted Blood Drives at both of our locations in partnership with the American Red Cross in July. With a connection provided by committee chair, Ann Lee, HRC established another partnership with the Department of Mental Health Promoters program, and are now providing mental health education and awareness trainings in Khmer for our Cambodian community. HRC is now providing these opportunities in Spanish, Khmer, and Korean for the remainder of the year. Our hope is to lessen the stigma surrounding mental health for individuals receiving services. HRC was also able to collaborate with TASK Los Angeles to offer a Special Education Workshop Series. Language interpretation will continue to be available for all those who have a need/preference. Following the last meeting, Thao was able to foster a connection with the City of Torrance Community Services Division and all of the six library sites throughout Torrance now offer brochures, booklets, and information (in multiple languages) about Harbor Regional Center. We are currently developing potential programs, like story time or "Ask A ..." series to help facilitate connections between caregivers and professionals at Harbor Regional Center. We are also able to share input on how to increase accessibility of library services to individuals and families served by Harbor, especially those who have unique needs.

#### Legislative Advocacy Continues

HRC hosted a meeting on July 27, 2023, with Assemblymember Josh Lowenthal (AD69) staff at the Harbor Regional Center - Long Beach satellite office. Legislative staff received a tour of the site, met with Harbor's employees, engaged in a rich discussion about Harbor and the regional center service delivery system. After the meeting, a visit was made to the AbilityFirst site in Long Beach. The legislative staff were thrilled to see how these programs benefit the lives of individuals we serve.

The connection made previously with the Office of the Los Angeles Mayor lead to our participation at a community event. Councilmember Tim McOsker of the 15th District presented Harbor Regional Center with a Certificate of Recognition at the Greenbelt Park Backpack Giveaway event in Wilmington. This was significant as it highlights the importance and impact of ensuring that resources and services are made to underserved communities.

#### Additional Partnership and Engagement Opportunities

Committee members were pleased to know that HRC's presence in the community continues to grow. An open discussion took place as committee members suggested how best to further community outreach to the community. Committee members would like to expand on the following areas:

- Establish potential partnerships with local community colleges
- Develop presence in other local newsletters (i.e. Special Olympics, Long Beach Housing, etc.)
- With the recent tropical storm, there was a discussion of collaboration with HRC's Emergency Services Manager to provide training for the individuals served and the surrounding community on how to best prepare in a state of emergency.
- Extend digital access to the individuals served by offering resources and information in more languages with the Easter Seals Technology lending library.

Committee members agreed to continue to research opportunities where HRC can connect with the community and how to effectively form partnerships with different agencies. Further discussion will take place at the next committee meeting.

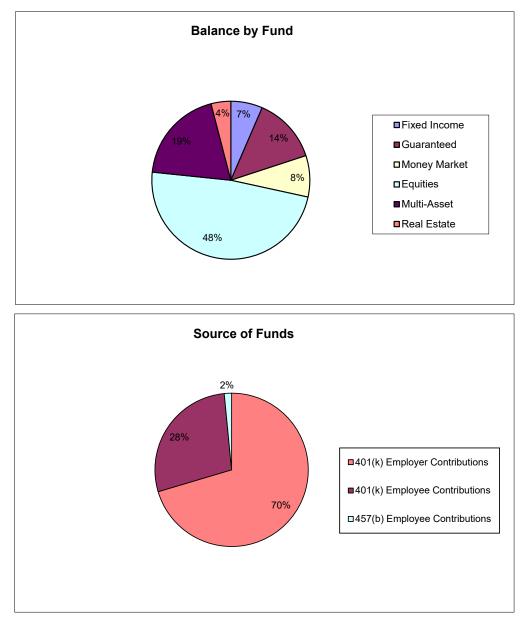
The next Community Relations Meeting is scheduled virtually **on October 26, 2023, at 1:00 p.m**. Following the October meeting, the committee will not meet for the remainder of the year and resume in January 2024.

#### Harbor Regional Center Retirement Plan Balances as of 6-30-2023

|              | 401(k)<br>Employer<br>Contributions | 401(k)<br>Employee<br>Contributions | 457(b)<br>Employee<br>Contributions | Total Balance      |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Fixed Income | \$2,907,403                         | \$1,125,950                         | \$114,383                           | \$4,147,736        |
| Guaranteed   | \$5,126,217                         | \$2,808,547                         | \$674,747                           | \$8,609,511        |
| Money Market | \$4,319,394                         | \$1,076,762                         | \$9,857                             | \$5,406,013        |
| Equities     | \$21,665,778                        | \$9,005,076                         | \$144,931                           | \$30,815,784       |
| Multi-Asset  | \$9,271,295                         | \$3,046,968                         | \$27,143                            | \$12,345,406       |
| Real Estate  | <u>\$1,697,016</u>                  | <u>\$876,136</u>                    | <u>\$10,249</u>                     | <u>\$2,583,401</u> |
| Total        | \$44,987,102                        | \$17,939,438                        | \$981,310                           | \$63,907,850       |

 $\boldsymbol{*}$  Plan Balances include active and terminated employees still in the Retirement Plan.

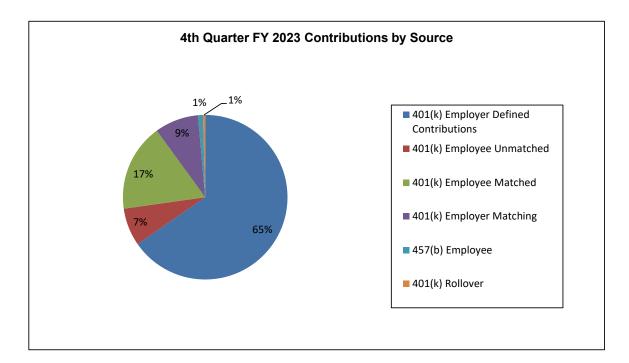
\*\* Employee Contributions include \$1,970,980 in Rollover funds.



## Harbor Regional Center Retirement Plan Balances as of 6-30-2023

|   | <u>401(k)</u>   | <u>457(b)</u>   |                          |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| Fund Balance 3/31/23  | \$59,796,369  | \$950,235   |                          |
| Activity 4/1/23 - 6/30/23<br>Distributions<br>Contributions<br>Net<br>Fund Balance 6/30/23<br>Gain/(Loss)   | (\$722,665)<br><u>\$1,511,659</u><br>\$60,585,364<br><b>\$62,926,540</b><br>\$2,341,176 | \$0<br><u>\$14,785</u><br>\$965,020<br><b>\$981,310</b><br>\$16,289 |                          |
| % Gain/(Loss) for the Period  | 3.92%   | 1.71%   |                          |
| <u>Participants</u><br>Active Employees in Retirement Plan<br>Terminated Employees in Retirement Plan<br>Active Employees Total Balance<br>Terminated Employees Total Balance | 413<br>256<br>\$40,197,731<br>\$22,728,809  | 4<br>5<br>\$313,686<br>\$667,624                                    | 62%<br>38%<br>63%<br>37% |
| <u>Loan Information</u><br>Employees with Loans<br>Active Employees with Loans<br>Terminated Employees with Loans<br>Total  | <u>6/30/23</u><br>27<br>5<br>32   |   |                          |
| Average Balance Amount  | \$2,027   |   |                          |
| Loan Value Total  | \$64,866  |   |                          |

|                                    | <u>401(k)</u>    | <u>457(b)</u>   |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
|                                    |                  |                 |
| <u>Contributions</u>               |                  |                 |
| Employer                           |                  |                 |
| Defined (10%)                      | \$997,420        | \$0             |
| Matching (50% of Employee Matched) | \$131,457        | \$0             |
| Employee                           |                  |                 |
| Matched (up to 6%)                 | \$262,913        | \$0             |
| Rollover                           | \$6,707          | \$0             |
| Unmatched                          | <u>\$113,163</u> | <u>\$14,785</u> |
| Total                              | \$1,511,659      | \$14,785        |
| Employees Contributing             | 280              |                 |
| Average deferral percentage        | 6.36%            |                 |



July 5, 2023

#### **Opening:**

The regular meeting of HRC Self Determination Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:13PM on Wednesday April 5, 2023 via Zoom. Quorum was established.

## **Committee Member Present**

Rosalinda Garcia, Chair Deaka McClain, Vice-Chair SungHee Park, Parent/Independent Facilitator Maria Elena Walsh, HRC David Oster, Client Miriam Kang, Parent Tima 'an Ford, HRC Peer advocate

## HRC Staff Present

Patrick Ruppe - Executive Director Antoinette Perez - Director of Children's Services Jessica Sanchez- Client Service Manager Aurelio Lopez- Participant Choice Specialist Minerva Prado-Participant Choice Specialist Bernice Perdomo-Chavez-Participant Choice Specialist Bryan Sanchez- Client Service Manager Johnny Granados - Client Service Manager Tim'an Ford - Peer Advocate Thao Mailoux - Director of Information and Development Katy Granados- Client Service Manager

## SCDD Staff Present

Albert Feliciano

## **Visitors**

Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation Santiago Villalobos, Phoenix Facilitation Jamie Van Dusen, Department of Developmental Services Reiko Umeda, Independent Facilitator Kristianna Morallas, Disability Voices Unites Mariora F, Guest Katherine Manriquez, Parent Kristianna Moralls, Guest Saiqa Rahman, Parent Selvin Arevalo, GT Independence Lily Chen, Parent Martha Ramos, Guest Kathleen Lawson, Guest

## HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER Self Determination Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes July 5, 2023

Lucy Paz, Interpretor Yeshika Leyva, Parent Maria Filpovich Sonni Charness, Guidelight

## **Abbreviations**

HRC: Harbor Regional Center IF: Independent Facilitator PCP: Person-Centered Plan SCDD: State Council on Developmental Disabilities SDP: Self-Determination Program DVU: Disability Voices United FMS: Financial Management Service DDS: Department of Developmental Services RFP: Request for Proposal SDAC: Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee

## Welcome:

Introductions of committee members and guests via the chat.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

• Minutes for June 2023 were reviewed and approved.

## Harbor Regional Center Monthly Updates:

Bernice presented recent DDS directive: extending initial PCP and pre-enrollment transition supports. Both Options A and B were discussed and reviewed. Bernice also reviewed updates on information for SDP soft rollout and Open Enrollment.

- o Soft Roll Out Participants
  - Total Participants Selected: 129
    - Remained in SDP: 79
    - Withdrew: **38**
    - Moved out of State: 4
    - Inactivated/Not DD: 4
    - Transferred Out (to another RC): **3**
- Completed PCPs 115; 26 within the soft rollout and 90 from 7/2021 to 6/2023
- Certified Budgets 185; 34 within the soft rollout and 151 from 7/2021 to 6/2023
- Spending Plans 142; 28 within the soft rollout and 114 from 7/2021 to 6/2023
- o SDP Live 138; 29 within the soft rollout and 110 from 7/2021 to 6/2023

July 5, 2023

SDP by Ethnicity:

| Latino                | 37 |
|-----------------------|----|
| White/Caucasian       | 55 |
| African America/Black | 13 |
| Filipino              | 4  |
| Korean                | 1  |
| Guamanian             | 1  |
| Multi-Cultural        | 8  |
| Other                 | 6  |
| Other Asian           | 4  |
| Chinese               | 3  |
| Asian Indian          | 6  |
| Biracial              | 6  |
| Vietnamese            | 3  |
| Japanese              | 3  |

SDP by Language

| English  | 123 |
|----------|-----|
| Spanish  | 26  |
| Korean   | 1   |
| Japanese | 1   |

- Total Participants fully orientated 687 (109 are in the follow up stages, 228 are in the unknown stage, 219 have decided to withdraw)
- HRC Budget Range: \$3,000 \$430,000
- Shared Phoenix Facilitation LLC support for SDP

Phoenix Facilitation LLC Updates

- Reviewed progress made and services that Phoenix has been offering most recently.
- o Discussed Disparity in service delivery/accessibility to the community served by HRC.
- Progress in receiving referrals from more non-white communities. Overall, referrals are increasing.
- Phoenix Will be present during the Upcoming HRC Cafecito.
- Naomi discussed 099 vendorization, and offering quality vendorization.

Guide light-Consideration of Alternative use of portion on funds

- 2022/2023 funds were brought up for discussion.
- Would the Committee be interested in allocating funds to Phoenix? Alternatively, does the committee want to allocate a portion of the funds to Guidelight? Guidelight's proposal is centered on training IF's (an area of need).
- Sonni Charness had the opportunity to explain the services offered by Guidelight, there team, and purpose. Explained there aim at targeting multicultural groups, and supporting their needs.

## • <u>Questions/Comments:</u>

- Question regarding what HRC is doing to inform families of SDP existence. In specific there lesser representation for Hispanic/Latino families.
- Question regarding the slow uptake with Korean families in SDP.
- Question regarding AAC Users and the need to have an IF that has knowledge on how to navigate families that are AAC users throughout the SDP process.
- Question regarding an estimate on how long it takes to complete a PCP report.
- Questions/Comments geared to Guidlelight:
  - Question was asked if scholarships would be available for committee members to take their training classes.
  - If a committee member receives this training, how would this benefit HRC? What would occur if someone were to receive the training and it does not benefit HRC?
  - If these scholarships are funded for, what criteria will be utilized for the scholarships?
  - Will these training be completed in cohort groups? In addition, will the curriculum be in Spanish and other languages besides English? Will training be open to individuals with disabilities?
- Fair Hearings:
  - No updates with fair hearing at this time

## **Statewide Updates:**

- Further Statewide information can be found on the website's Q&A
- FMS updates that are statewide
- In person meetings and whether this will change in the future
- Roles and responsibilities within the committee.

## Partner Updates:

## **Office of Clients and Rights Advocacy**

• No updates at this time

## SCDD- Albert Feliciano

- SDP training every Mondays at 10am: <u>https://scdd.ca.gov/sdp-orientation/</u>
- Statewide orientations offered in three languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese
- Understanding evaluation, scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup>
- SCDD- Offers SDP orientation during evenings and Saturdays.

## **Public Comments:**

<u>Next meeting</u>: August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 via Zoom 6PM – 8PM (Special Meeting)

Adjournment, Conclusion Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM. Minutes submitted by Minerva Prado

## **Opening:**

The HRC Self Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, via Zoom. Quorum was established.

## **Committee Member Present**

Rosalinda Garcia – Self-Determination Advisory Committee Chair Deaka McClain – Individual, Self-Determination Advisory Committee Co-Chair Kyungshil Choi – Parent Jamie Temple – OCRA Maria Elena Walsh – Harbor Family Resource Center Tim'an Ford – HRC Peer Advocate

## HRC Staff Present

## Patrick Ruppe – Executive Director HRC

Patrick Ruppe – Executive Director Antoinette Perez – Director of Children and Adolescent Services Bryan Sanchez – Client Service Manager Aurelio Lopez – Participant Choice Specialist Johnny Granados – Client Service Manager Bernice Chavez-Perdomo – Participant Choice Specialist Minerva Prado – Participant Choice Specialist Thao Mailloux – Director of Information and Development

## **Visitors**

Lucy Paz, Spanish Interpreter Naomi Hagel, Phoenix Facilitation Helen Reese, Phoenix Facilitation Santiago Villalobos, Phoenix Facilitation Jamie Van Dusen, Department of Developmental Services Reiko Umeda, Independent Facilitator Gilberto Padilla Gail Carrier Gantuya Davaa George **Giselle Munoz** Dora Gamez Ivon Muniz Diaz Yeshika Cruz Sheila Jordan Jones, Independent Facilitator Shantel Garcia Rossy Seriati

Peng Jiang Minerva Y Flores Mary Ann Holandez Cheney Maria Zavala Lourdes Gomez Lori Walker Adrian Jimenez Selvin Arevalo, GT Independence Debra Jorgensen, Guidelight Group

## **Abbreviations**

HRC: Harbor Regional Center IF: Independent Facilitator PCP: Person-Centered Plan SCDD: State Council on Developmental Disabilities SDP: Self-Determination Program DVU: Disability Voices United FMS: Financial Management Service DDS: Department of Developmental Services RFP: Request for Proposal SDAC: Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee OCRA: Office of Clients' Rights Advocacy

## Welcome:

Introductions of committee members and guests via the chat.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

July 5, 2023 minutes were posted for review. Minutes were approved.

## Harbor Regional Center Update:

- Implementation Funds
  - Committee Chair summarized the use of implementation funds going back to year one (2019-2020), when \$59,107 were awarded to Skills4Care, and no Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted.
  - Year two (2020-2021) funds for \$80,784 were awarded to Phoenix Facilitation, after RFP was posted.
  - Year three (2021-2022), no RFP was posted, allocation of \$80,784 awarded to Phoenix. Have until June 2024 to spend all funds.
  - Year four (2022-2023) funds allocated is \$99,916.78. Committee has been discussing these funds since end of 2022. Have until June 2025 to spend all funds.

- Summary of current advisory options were provided:
  - Continue to work with Phoenix and expand their current focus to include independent facilitator (IF) training for candidates who serve monolingual communities.
  - Use a portion to fund for full or partial scholarships to Guidelight Group's *Essential Independent Facilitator Training Program* to train IFs from underserved and underrepresented communities.
  - Inquire with the previous two final candidates from the original RFP (2020-2021) about the capacity to provide IF training in other languages.
  - Revise and repost RPF for purpose of IF training in other languages.
- Clarification on today's vote coming only from committee members was provided to all participants.
- The committee moved to vote on opening up the RPF process to all agencies that show interest.
- All committee members present voted in favor, while one abstained.
- Harbor accepted committee's advisement to post RFP for 30 days, effective August 4, 2023 through September 5, 2023.
- Process for RFP was reviewed and participants were asked to contact Vendorization and Resource Development Team or PCS Team for technical assistance with the application process.
- After submission deadline, a meeting will be coordinated with members of committee to rate applications and make recommendations on who should be awarded the funds.
- Results will be shared at the October 4, 2023 SDAC meeting.
- HRC and LVAC worked closely with community to ensure everyone gets an equal and fair opportunity to the implementation funds that will better serve the community.
- Participants were asked to contact Antoinette or PCS Team with SDP concerns.

## **Public Comments:**

- Participant from the Mongolian community shared that many do not speak English and need assistance in their native language.
- Participant asked why language is omitted referencing Phoenix and was informed that language is reported on at each meeting.
- Participant shared their struggles with the miscommunication and feeling overwhelmed with all of the SDP information.
- Participant shared their concerns regarding SDP.

Next meeting: September 6, 2023 via Zoom 6PM – 8PM

## Adjournment, Conclusion Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM. Minutes submitted by Aurelio Lopez.

## Harbor Regional Center Service Provider Advisory Committee (SPAC) August 1, 2023 10:00 a.m. HRC Torrance Office A1/A2

## **Committee Participants**

| Member Name         | Organization            |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Angie Rodriguez     | SVS                     |
| Angie Gallon        | SVS                     |
| Leticia Woods       | Ambitions CA            |
| Dee Prescott        | Easter Seals            |
| Lindsey Stone       | ICAN CA                 |
| Scott Elliott       | ICAN CA                 |
| Sharon Oh           | Share Speech & Language |
| Alex Saldana        | Oxford Services         |
| Anton Motus         | ARC Long Beach          |
| Vince Ivory         | ARC South bay           |
| Olivia Gonzalez     | Aveanna Healthcare      |
| Maggie Wolff        | Pathpoint               |
| Emily Cecil         | Pathpoint               |
| Linda Whitford      | Green Rose Homecare     |
| Kimberlee Elliott   | Momentum                |
| Katie Kang          | Momentum                |
| Verretta Boatner    | Sevita Health           |
| Donna Gimm          | REM/ CA. Mentor         |
| Tiffany de la Torre | 24 HR Home Care         |
| Lisa Seibel         | Person Centered Options |
| Adrian Santoyo      | Maxim Healthcare        |
| Nichole Donayre     | Learning Tree Therapy   |
| Melissa Ly          | Learning Tree Therapy   |
| Lorraine Weaver     | CBEM                    |
| Elizabeth Ho        | CBEM                    |
| Cesar Lopez         | Brilliant Corners       |
| Graciela Flores     | Brilliant Corners       |
| Allan Bravo         | HR Alliance FMS         |
| Dolores Cespedes    | Mountain Top EBSH       |
| Amanda Bradshaw     | Mountain Top EBSH       |

## **HRC Staff Participating**

| Staff Name            | Title                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Patrick Ruppe         | Executive Director              |
| Heather Diaz          | Community Services Director     |
| Mercedes Lowery       | Community Services Manager      |
| Steve Goclowski       | Clinical Services Manager       |
| Elizabeth Garcia-Moya | Manager of Resource Development |
| Daniel Hoyos          | Manager of Contracts            |

| Brian Carrillo    | HCBS Specialist                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tovah Lennon      | DHH Resource Specialist               |
| Judy Wada         | Chief Financial Officer               |
| Tes Castillo      | Accounting Supervisor                 |
| Ashley Ayala      | Fiscal Monitor                        |
| LaWanna Blair     | Director of Early Childhood           |
| Judy Taimi        | Director of Adult Services            |
| Karine Paulan     | Manager of Rights & Quality Assurance |
| Maria Elena Walsh | Manager of Family Resource Center     |
|                   |                                       |

## Call to Order

Angie Rodriguez called meeting at 10:05 a.m.

## **Sub-Committee Updates**

Angie Rodriguez and SPAC Chair Members. The subgroups continue to host individual sub-committee meetings to discuss current issues and concerns.

- Sharon Oh Early Start Chair –provided an update on items discussed at their last meeting held 05/04/2023 the next meeting is scheduled for 08/10/2023. At the next meeting, LaWanna will be providing the group with updates that affect EI services. Continue to encourage the EI providers to sign up to complete the DDS reimbursement training under the American Rescue Plan Act Funds.
- Diane Sanka- Day Programs Chair provided an update on topics they discussed at the last meeting held on 07/27/23
  - Reminded day service providers to attend SPAC
  - Upcoming conferences with California Association for Adult Day Services & California Disabilities Services Association
  - List of free community resources was shared with the group
  - Discussion about remotes services which most of day service provider that attended expressed that are continuing to offer remote services.
  - Transportation continues to be a barrier for individuals to return on-site day program services.
  - Discussion about possible partnership between Access and HRC.
- Lindsey Stone- Supported Employment Chair-provided an update on topics discussed at the last meeting held on 07/20/2023
  - SEP providers & HRC held their quarterly meeting in July.
  - HRC Employment Specialist, Brenda Bane provided an update.
  - South Bay Workforce Board presented on their One Stop program.
  - SEP providers would like a training about benefits, as this area is where clients and families have many questions in regards to employment and the impact it has on Social Security benefits.
  - Discussion about the Employment Quality Incentives available specifically Customized Employment through Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators (ACRE).
    Additional information available at <u>Quality Incentive Program - Employment Capacity</u>
  - Next meeting scheduled for September 7, 2023.

- Mercedes Lowery Presented on behalf of Robert T. SLS / ILS Chair provided update on meeting held with SLS providers in June.
  - New Leaf Supportive Services agency, money management participated in the meeting to present overview of their services.
  - Judy Wada explained why New Leaf is taking over the rep payee role. She provided an update on transition from HRC to New Leaf.
  - Next SLS provider meeting to be scheduled in August. Date to be determined.
- Leticia Woods presented on behalf of Darlene Williams, Residential Chair- The last residential meeting held on 07/26/2023.
  - Discussion on MW audit visits.
  - Transportation is starting to improve and more clients are being transported to day program.
  - Hydration & Heat reminder to make sure that clients have enough water and the home is maintained cool during hot days.
  - Reminder for residential providers to participate in the Workforce Survey.
  - HCBS trainings for residential providers.
  - Next residential meeting scheduled for August 16 2023.
- Paul Quiroz-Support Services, Chair was not in attendance, no updates available to provide.
- Baldo Paseta- Transportation Chair- was not in attendance.
  - Heather reported that HRC met with transportation providers on July 13<sup>th</sup> and HRC is working on the Health & Safety process with three of the transportation providers.

## Patrick Ruppe, HRC Executive Director

- Development of the Strategic Plan
  - Patrick, Board Members, Service Providers worked on updating HRC's mission, vision, & values which are now posted on HRC website
  - Strategic Plan has four focus areas:
    - Improve Satisfaction
    - Enhanced Service Coordination
    - Increase Resource Development
    - Strength Community Engagement
  - Trailer Bill-Passed
    - Discussion about the changes to provisional eligibility
    - FMS for social rec services. Regional Center are waiting for further guidance from DDS.
    - Extension for IPPs continue remotely/virtually until 06/2024.
    - FCPP & AFPF suspended until 06/30/2024.
    - Coordinated Family Support (CFS)-new service to help reduce disparity.

## **Budget and Rates**

Judy Wada shared a presentation overview on the budget and regional center growth.

- Statewide caseload grew by 10%
- HRC's caseload grew by 6%
- 1 out of 89 Californian's are served by a regional center
- Regional Center Statewide Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 is \$13.6 billion.

#### Heather Diaz, Department of Community Service Director

- o Introduced Manager of Contracts, Daniel Hoyos as he recently joined HRC.
- Introduced Social Rec Grants
  - o UNI
  - Ability First
  - Self-Determined Futures
  - ACEing Autism
  - Our Village
  - Boys & Girls Club of Long Beach
  - Welcome and Introductions to the RFP Awardees
  - Enriched Life-Family Home Agency (FHA)
  - Mountain Top-EBSH provider
  - Easter Seals-Day Program
  - HR Alliance-Financial Management Services (FMS)
  - Inspira-Behavior Respite Services
  - Brilliant Corners-Housing Development Organization (HDO) for the acquisition of a family home for the development of an ARFPSHN

## HCBS Update

Brian Carrillo provided update on the next steps for HCBS:

- Service Provider ongoing trainings
- ALO-Remediation Clinics
- IntellectAbility-Person-Centered Thinking
- Brian will be working with residential service providers to update their program design

## Deaf and Hard of Hearing

DHH Resource Specialist Tovah Lennon provided the following updates:

- Breakdown of the number of individuals that have been identified through the CDER with a degree of hearing loss.
- o Input on the visits to the day program & residential home
- The purchase of equipment for HRC to be Deaf friendly.
- Identifying resources needed.

## Resource Center, Maria Elena Walsh

- The Resource Center is now open and operating as usual.
- Presented materials that are available at the Resource Center that can be checked out by service providers.
- o Saturday Speaker Series: HCBS training for individuals and families scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup>.

## **Reimbursement for Early Start Provider Training**

Steve Goclowski presented on the current Reimbursement for Early Start Service Provider Training administered through CA DDS under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds. HRC received

several service providers reimbursement requests, however HRC still has about \$60,000 available funds left. Program concludes on 09/30/2023 or when the funds are exhausted.

Staff time reimbursement for attending training:

- Actual cost of staff time spent up to maximum of \$50/hour, whichever is lower
- Reimbursement for cost of training (though many are free)
- Training must be at least one hour in duration
- Approved trainings can be found at:
  - <u>https://earlystartneighborhood.org/professional-development/list-of-trainings/</u>
- Providers wanting to provide trainings not on the list may submit a training request to:
  - https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8fc56f102e744e6d9df048270e3d9e22

Providers are encouraged to apply by contacting <u>Steve.Goclowski@harborrc.org</u>.

• HRC Website link to info:

## https://www.harborrc.org/pod/2023-early-start-training-reimbursement-program

## Manager of Rights & Quality Assurance, Karine Paulan

- Special Incident Reporting (SIRs)
  - Service providers were reminded to ensure that SIRs are reported in a timely manner and that they utilize the correct SIR form available on HRC's website.
  - HRC service providers have recently improved on reporting timelines, however continuous improvement is needed.
  - Service providers asked HRC about having a training on SIR trends.

#### Announcements

- ICAN will have pop-up shop August 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. at their Torrance location & August 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. at their Long Beach location. They will also be hosting an Open House for their Long Beach location on September 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Maxim Health has established a Customer Relations position, which is to assist individuals/families with the enrollment process. They also shared about the ECHO program which is for military families and they would be eligible for 16 hours of respite services.

## Next Meeting scheduled for 10/3/2023 at HRC Torrance Office

## Meeting Adjourn 11:55 a.m.