

**SAN GABRIEL/POMONA DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**(A California Corporation)**

**October 26, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE**

The following members of the Board of Directors were present at said meeting:

**PRESENT:**

Gisele Ragusa  
  
Natalie Webber  
Susan Stroebel  
Mary Soldato  
Bruce Cruickshank  
Joseph Huang  
Julie Chetney  
Wendy Lai  
Karen Zarsadiaz - Ige  
Jaye Dixit  
Bill Stewart

**ABSENT:**

Trish Gonzales  
Preeti Subramaniam

**STAFF:**

Jesse Weller, Executive Director  
Lucina Galarza, Director, Community Services  
Dara Mikesell, Chief Financial Officer Apprentice  
Salvador Gonzalez, Director, Outreach & Compliance  
and Team  
Rosa Chavez, Assoc. Director Family & Transition  
Yaned Busch, Specialized Services Manager & Team  
Guadalupe Magallanes, Assoc. Director, Early  
Childhood Development Services  
Yvonne Gratianne, Manager, Communications/P.R.

**GUESTS:**

Carl Argila  
Nikisia Simmons, DDS  
Sofia Benitez  
Albert Feliciano, SCDD  
A. Skrow  
Lori Walker  
Shelly Lugo, Interpreter  
Eduardo Kogan, Interpreter  
Wanin Su, Interpreter

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Gisele Ragusa, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

The agenda for today's meeting was reviewed.

The minutes for the September 28, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board.

**M/S/C (Chetney & Cruickshank) The Board approved the minutes.**

**Abstain: Stewart**

**B. PUBLIC INPUT:**

- Mr. Carl Argila welcomed the new Executive Director, Jesse Weller and expressed he would like to meet with him. He also addressed the Board and requested that his son's conservatorship be terminated.
- Albert Feliciano, SCDD, shared information regarding the series of trainings. He provided the flyers.

**C. EXECUTIVE/FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Dara Mikesell, Chief Financial Officer, reported on the following:

**Financial Report**

In Regional Center operations, the allocation based on the D-1 Amendment is projected to meet expenditure projections. Projections include operating continuation cost and expenditures from the prior fiscal year. The operations D-1 allocation for fiscal year 2022-23 is currently at \$43,584,193 with projected expenditures of \$41,854,781. The year-to-date expenditures is \$5,841,358 with projected remaining expenditures of \$36,013,423. This results to an unencumbered amount of **\$1,729,413** in regular operations.

The Family Resource Center allocation is projected to meet expenditure projections, resulting in a zero-balance remaining in allocation. The current allocation is \$154,564 with projected expenditures of \$154,564.

The total Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion program has a current allocation in the amount of \$1,380,279, we expect to spend the full amount.

The Community Placement Plan (CPP) and DC ongoing Workload operations was **only allocated at 50%** in the D-1 amendment. Staff expect to receive full funding at the same level as last year in the amount of \$1,641,425. In the event, that staff do not receive the full allocation for CPP and DC Closure Ongoing expenditures, the regular operations budget would have to absorb these costs, thereby reducing our budget balance to **\$ 942,481** for the year.

The Purchase of Service allocation is based on the D-1 amendment in the amount of \$377,421,013. The current month's expenditure amounted to \$24,15,314 bringing the year-to-date expenditures for services to \$42,356,952. The remaining projected expenditures and late bills are in the amount of \$305,507,591 leaving an unencumbered amount of **\$29,556,470**.

CPP POS is in a separate line item, we are allocated \$100,000 for placement only.

### **Contracts for Review**

Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services, presented the following contracts:

- *RCSC California, Inc. – Alford Home*  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Soldato & Zarsadiaz - Ige) The Board approved the contract.**  
**Abstain: Stroebel**
- *Creative Positive Environments - Beginnings*  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Cruickshank & Stewart) The Board approved the contract.**  
**Abstain: Stroebel**
- *Arriba*  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Stewart & Lai) The Board approved the contract.**  
**Abstain: Stroebel**
- *New Day Behavioral*  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Soldato & Chetney) The Board approved the contract.**  
**Abstain: Stroebel**

### **D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Jesse Weller, Executive Director, reviewed the following points:

- *COVID-19 State of Emergency Status* - On October 17, 2022, Governor Newsome announced that the COVID-19 State of Emergency will end on February 28, 2023.

- *Little Hoover Commission Hearings on Developmental Services* - The Little Hoover Commission held its first hearing on Thursday October 13, 2022. The focus of the hearing was on assessing service access and equity, discussing underlying causes of disparities, and for proposals on how the systems can be improved overall for consistency for individuals and their families.
- *91<sup>st</sup> Annual Capitol Tree Lighting – Request for Ornaments* - The Department is requesting support for ornaments from the community to help decorate the California State Capitol Tree. As in previous years, a child with an intellectual or developmental disability will participate in a tree lighting ceremony with the Governor.
- *Early Start Family Story Videos* - The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has created personal family stories that include firsthand experiences in Early Start to help assist with increasing awareness of early intervention and sharing successes of the valued work of service providers and direct care staff.
- *988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Available 24/7 Nationwide* - The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK) is now: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. 988 has been designated as the new three-digit number.
- *AB 2216 (Irwin) – ABLE Accounts* - This bill was signed into law and will ensure that if an Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) account beneficiary dies, the account can be legally transferred to an individual who qualifies for an ABLE Account ensuring the funds will continue to be put towards the needs of a person with a disability.
- *AB 1663 (Maienschien) – Alternative to Conservatorships* - This bill was signed into law requiring the courts to consider alternatives to conservatorship, such as supported decision-making. This means individuals with developmental disabilities may choose others to support them in making decisions and having those decisions honored.
- *AB 682 (Bloom) – Affordable Housing* - This bill was signed into law and will increase the availability of affordable housing by providing developers with a

density bonus for constructing 10% of the total units for rental or sale to lower income households.

- *SB 870 (Portantino) – Age of Disability Onset* - This bill was vetoed, which would have raised the age of disability onset from 18 to 22 years of age.
- *SB 882 (Eggman) – Law Enforcement Interactions* - This bill was signed into law and will create an advisory council for law enforcement regarding effective ways to interact with individuals with developmental disabilities.
- *Directives on SG/PRC Website* - New links have been established on the SG/PRC website for both Individuals Served/Families and Service Provider sections that contains recent Directives/Communications from the Department.
- *Department Guidance on Extension of Waivers, Modifications, and Directives due to COVID-19* - This Directive extends the provisions of former extensions, waivers, and modifications into October and November 2022.
- *June 2022 Trailer Bill Language Affecting Regional Centers (Summary of the Recently Enacted Developmental Services Budget Trailer Senate Bill 188)*  
The Department has released a summary of the recently enacted Developmental Services Budget Trailer Bill, Senate Bill 188, which directly impacts regional centers, state operated services, and the disabilities services system.
- *Quality Incentive Program*

*Incentive Payments for Workforce Data Survey Submission*

SG/PRC will be issuing one-time payments of \$8,000.00 to each service provider that met the requirements and completed the Direct Support Professional (DSP) Workforce Data Survey which had to be validated by the Department of Developmental Services. SG/PRC has approximately 70 providers who were validated.

*Incentive Payments for Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs (ARFPSHN)*

Per the Department, the desired outcomes of this quality measure are for individuals who live in an ARFPSHN to receive timely primary care, dental care, and other

ongoing preventative screenings at intervals.

*Incentive Payments for Employment Access and Capacity*

The intended outcome of this measure is to increase participation in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) for all adults who want CIE.

- *Service Access and Equity Grants* - The Department is accepting applications from Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and regional centers for grant funds available in FY2022/23 to assist with reducing disparities and attaining improved outcomes for diverse communities.
- *Staffing Statistics* - As of September 30, 2022, SG/PRC has 409 authorized positions. This total number includes 383 full time employees and 26 vacancies.
- *Individual Served Statistics* - SG/PRC served 15,591 individuals. During September 2022, Early Start (Birth to Three Years of Age) Admissions received 209 new referrals, 175 were found eligible. Lanterman (3 Years of Age through Adulthood) Admissions received 47 new referrals, 32 were found eligible. Exiting Early Intervention at 3 years of age we 32 found eligible under Lanterman and 6 Provisional Lanterman eligibility.
- *Self-Determination Program (SDP)* - SG/PRC has 88 participants that are fully in the SDP program with approved spending plans and SDP IPPs. The SG/PRC SDP team hosted a Meet and Greet session on Thursday October 11, 2022. The SDP Local Volunteer Advisory Committee met on October 11, 2022. For FY 2022/23, SG/PRC received \$93,152.28 to assist in the implementation of SDP. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend meetings to learn about SDP.
- *COVID-19 Testing Clinic Updates* - SG/PRC received notification from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) that our access to the testing platform will no longer be available as of Friday October 28, 2022, which means, SG/PRC will not be able to provide COVID-19 PCR testing and generate the online testing results.
- *Foster Grandparent & Senior Companion Program* - For April 1, 2022, through June 30, 2022, 37 volunteer hours were served and 8,056 hours were provided in the Foster Grandparent Program. For the Senior Companion Program, 32 volunteer

hours were served and 7,929 hours were provided.

- 6-Week Workshop Training - Presentations by SG/PRC, in collaboration with Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health are offered on Wednesdays and Thursdays starting in October 2022. Topics include Positive Parenting: Understanding Learning Disabilities, Autism and ADHD, Understanding Behavioral Struggles in Children, Grief/Resilience, Emotional Wellbeing and Stress, Child Abuse Prevention and Resilience, and Family Violence Prevention. Offered in English with American Sign Language, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean.

#### **E. CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Dara Mikesell, CFO, presented the contract amendment, which includes additional funding and polity items.

**M/S/C (Stewart & Huang) The Board approved the Contract Amendment.**

**Abstain: Stroebel**

#### **F. PERFORMANCE CONTRACT**

Last month, Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Community Outreach and Compliance, reported on the CY 2023 Performance Contract.

- Performance Contract Process
- Requirements
- Public Policy Measures
- Disparity/Equity Measures
- Compliance Measures

**M/S/C (Cruickshank & Chetney) The Board approved the Performance Contract.**

#### **G. SELF DETERMINATION PROGRAM (SDP) – FULL IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**

Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services, and members of her staff presented on the following:

- Preparations for 2021 SDP
- Traditional model and SDP
- Transfer to SDP Caseload
- SDP Centralization
- Statistics

- Challenges
- Projects Completed and Pending
- Feedback from the Community

#### **H. WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY TRAINING**

Gisele Ragusa, Board President, presented on the following:

- Purpose and Intent
- Good Faith Effort
- Complaint Protections
- Definition of Complaints
- Filing Complaints
- Where to File Complaint(s)
- No Retaliation
- Investigation Process(es)
- Confidentiality

#### **I. OTHER BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Board Retreat – The event will be tabled until the Spring and will likely be more than one day.
- There will not be a Board meeting in November.

#### **J. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**Next meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 7:15 p.m.**

**BOARD MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 26, 2022, 2022 MEETING**

Submitted by:

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Gisele Ragusa, Board President

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Date