

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

**December 14, 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  
Trish Gonzales  
Preeti Subramaniam

**STAFF:**

Jesse Weller, Executive Director  
Lucina Galarza, Director, Community Services  
Dara Mikesell, Chief Financial Officer  
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services  
Salvador Gonzalez, Director, Outreach & Compliance  
and Team  
Rosa Chavez, Assoc. Director Family & Transition  
Tim Travis, Associate Director, Community Services  
Hortencia Tafoya, Director of Clinical Services  
Yaned Busch, Specialized Services Manager & Team  
Yvonne Gratianne, Manager, Communications/P.R.  
Erika Gomez, Liaison BOD & RDDF

**ABSENT:**

**INTERPRETERS:**

Jonathan Y (Mandarin)  
Eduardo K (Spanish)  
Amelia M (ASL)  
Charlene S (Mandarin)

**GUESTS:**

Carl Argila  
Nikisia Simmons, DDS  
Tina Wright  
Louise Webber  
Albert Feliciano, SCDD  
Ali Dorri  
Elizabeth Cuevas  
Mayra Garcia  
Norma Gonzalez  
Susie Lee  
Angelica Orellana

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Gisele Ragusa, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

The agenda for today's meeting was reviewed.

The minutes for the October 26, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board.

**M/S/C (Stewart & Soldato) The Board approved the minutes.**

**Abstain: Subramaniam & Gonzales**

**B. PUBLIC INPUT:**

- Mr. Carl Argila thanked Executive Director, Jesse Weller, for meeting 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.
- Louise Webber spoke about miscommunication issues that families may be experiencing with Service Coordinators due to high turn arounds.

**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 \$42,038,784. The year-to-date expenditure is \$11,331,809 with projected remaining expenditures of \$30,706,975. This results to an unencumbered amount of **\$1,545,409** 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 Lanterman Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion program has a current allocation in the amount of \$1,380,279, it is expected that the full amount will be spent. The Fairview program's is included in this 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 \$1,628,181. If SG/PRC does not receive the full allocation for CPP and DC Closure Ongoing expenditures, the regular operations budget would have to absorb these costs, thereby reducing the budget balance to **\$ 771,724** 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 \$26,362,408 bringing the year-to-date expenditures for services to \$94,106,131. The remaining projected expenditures and late bills are in the amount of \$253,420,049 leaving an unencumbered amount of **\$29,894,833**.

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

**M/S/C (Cruickshank & Gonzales) The Board approved the Financial Report.  
Abstain: Stroebel**

### **Contracts for Review**

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

- Unlimited Potential SLS  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Soldato & Gonzales) The Board approved the contract.  
Abstain: Stroebel**
- SVS  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Stewart & Soldato) The Board approved the contract.  
Abstain: Stroebel**
- Tonopah Residence  
The Board reviewed the contracts based on their policy for contracts over \$250,000.  
**M/S/C (Cruickshank & Soldato) The Board approved the contract.  
Abstain: Stroebel**

### **D. COMMUNITY RELATIONS/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Joseph Huang, Chairperson, reported that the committee heard from the different members of the Community Outreach & Compliance Department and their efforts to the community. (See Community Outreach Report for more details). Also shared, was information about the following legislative items: AB 2216, AB 2242, AB 2511, ACR 160, ACR 165.

**E. ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR INDIVIDUALS SERVED AND THEIR**

Wendy Lai, Co-Chairperson, reported that the committee had a very comprehensive presentation by the Transition Team. They also received updates about Self Determination.

**F. VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VAC)**

Susan Stroebel, Chairperson, shared that service providers continue to face staffing issues. Rate increases are important to be able to compete. The VAC members have discussed the significance of introducing young people to the field. She also addressed the concerns some vendors have about the end of remote services. Lastly, she informed that there will be HCBS trainings in the new year.

**G. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Julie Chetney, Chairperson, said that the committee is actively working on the upcoming Strategic Planning event for Board and Committee members.

- Recommendation of New Board Member, FY 22-23 - The committee interviewed Ricardo Centeno. **M/S/C (Stewart & Gonzales) The Board approved the recommendation of Mr. Centeno to serve as a Board Director.**
- Recommendation of New Board Member, FY 22-23 - The committee interviewed Ms. Tina Wright. **M/S/C (Stewart & Soldato) The Board approved the recommendation of Mrs. Tina Wright to serve as a Board Director.**

**H. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Gisele Ragusa, Board President, shared the following information:

- ARCA Meeting will meet in the new year and will continue with their Strategic Planning
- She wished everyone a happy holiday season.
- Ms. Ragusa made a formal announcement that the members will have a closed session related to the building's lease.

**I. DISCUSSION FORUM – GATEWAY TO CHANGE (ABA SERVICES)**

Christine Lee presented on the following points:

- Behavior Therapy

- Applied Behavior Analysis
- CA Senate Bill 946
- Behavioral Health Treatment
- Qualified Autism Service Provider
- ABA Certification
- Parental Concerns
- Providers
- Ways to file a complaint
- State regulations
- Assembly Bill 1715
- Overcoming hurdles

**J. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

Jesse Weller, Executive Director, discussed the following (for the complete, detailed Director’s Report, please see attachment:

- *COVID – 19 State of Emergency Status* - On October 17, 2022, Governor Newsom, 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 last hearing on Thursday December 8, 2022.
- *988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Available 24/7 Nationwide* - The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK) is now: 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.
- *Project Connect: Disability Support Phone Line 1(888)-847-3209* - The Arc of California and the Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare offer telehealth support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, direct support professionals, and others who support individuals.
- *AB 1331 (Irwin) – Mental Health: Statewide Director of Crisis Services* - This bill would have required the director to appoint a full-time Statewide Director of Crisis Services to monitor, support, and coordinate with support providers, with the goal of having a comprehensive crisis care system.
- *AB 371 (Jones-Sawyer) – Shared Mobility Devices: Insurance Tracking* - This bill would require a shared mobility service provider to affix to each shared mobility device a tactile sign containing raised characters and accompanying

- Braille, as specified, to identify the device for the purpose of reporting illegal or negligent activity.
- *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.
  - *SB 870 (Portantino) – Age of Disability Onset* - This bill was vetoed by the Governor, which would have raised the age of disability onset from 18 to 22 years of age. The basis for vetoing the bill included the fact that there is a need for resource development in order to support expansion of regional center eligibility, a point raised by ARCA. Future work on this particular issue should include cost estimates associated with expanding the eligibility criteria as defined in this bill.
  - *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.
  - *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 December 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.
  - *Early Start – Child Find and Identification* - To meet the requirements of this measure, regional centers will submit a Child Find Plan for their catchment area by completing and submitting the Enclosure to the Department by April 1, 2023. In the Child Find Plan, the regional center will identify how it intends to address and target the underserved populations prioritized in the federal code for Early Intervention as defined in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 303.302(b), including: unhoused children and families, children in

foster care, and Native American children and families who reside on tribal lands.

- *Early Start – Timely Access to Early Start Services* - Performance Measure Data To meet the requirements of this measure, the data source that will be used is the Early Start Report (ESR), specifically the date of referral in field 9a and the IFSP date in field 11, which for the purposes of this measure represent the referral date and completion of the IFSP, respectively. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 ESR data will be used to establish a baseline.
- *Staffing Statistics* - As of November 30, 2022, SG/PRC has 419 authorized positions. This total number includes 401 full time employees and 18 vacancies. Projected Recruitment for January 2023 to fill vacancies: 1 IT Network Specialist, 1 IT System Operator, 1 Early Start Manager, 1 Nurse Consultant, 1 Mental Health Specialist, 1 Board Certified Behavior Analyst, 1 Part-Time Board-Certified Behavior Analyst, 2 Admissions Coordinators, and 1 Specialized Service Coordinator (1:25).
- *Individual Served Statistics* - As of November 30, 2022, SG/PRC served 15,606 individuals. During November of 2022, Early Start (Birth to Three Years of Age) Admissions received 191 new referrals, 168 were found eligible. Lanterman (3 Years of Age through Adulthood) Admissions received 36 new referrals, 54 were found eligible. Exiting Early Intervention at 3 years of age, 41 found eligible under Lanterman and 1 under Provisional Lanterman eligibility.
- *Self-Determination Program (SDP)* - As of November 30, 2022, SG/PRC has 96 participants that are fully in the SDP program with approved spending plans and SDP IPPs.
- *Foster Grandparent & Senior Companion Program* - Holiday event held for volunteers at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley today, 12/14/2022. SG/PRC extends gratitude and appreciation for all volunteers for their dedication and commitment.
- *Weekly Meetings & Holiday Schedule* - Holiday schedules have been announced and meetings will reconvene the week of January 9, 2023.
- Food Bank of Southern California – 532-435-3577

## **K. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was an Executive Session regarding the lease.

**Next meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 7:15 p.m.**

**BOARD MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 14, 2022, 2022 MEETING**

Submitted by:



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Gisele Ragusa, Board President

05-17-2023

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Date