

# Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Thursday, May 15, 2014  
Far Northern Regional Center, Redding  
Anderson, CA 96007

1. Call to Order: 9:10 a.m. by Chairperson, Ronda Dever
2. Roll Call:
  - a. Present: Michelle Sedillos, Suzette Serrano, Stephen Bell, Kathryn E. McCreary, Margaret Shipp, Andreas Economopoulos, Roger Hatton, Colleen Ryberg, Jennifer Bowman, Melanie Combs, Chrissie Clapp, Ronda Dever, Margot Madson, Don Murphy, Troy Rathburn
  - b. Absent: Susan Hess
3. Public Input/Open: Introduction of guests: Judy Kruse, Sarah Reed, Diana Anderson, Mike Mintline (FNRC staff), Sarah May (Area Board 2) and Ricky Sedillos.
4. Approval of Agenda for May 15, 2014: Motion to approve and second by Margot Madson and Roger Hatton.
5. Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2014: Motion to approve and second by Stephen Bell and Margot Madson. No discussion, motion passed.
6. Transition to Executive (Closed) Session – W & I 4663, (3), (4), (5): Andreas Economopoulos and Stephen Bell.
  - a. Laura Larson's yearly evaluation was discussed.
7. State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Regional Office Report, Sarah May, Executive Director: The next AB2 board meeting will be held June 13, 2014 at Far Northern Regional Center, Redding.

## Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

Mark Polit is currently serving as the interim Executive Director of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The SCDD's reform legislation AB 1595 (Chesbro), is on the Assembly Appropriations Committee consent calendar today (5/14/14). This means that the bill will pass out of Appropriations Committee without debate. The bill will then go to the Assembly Floor.

The Cycle 37 grant proposals are due by Thursday, May 15, 2014. In regards to Region 2, our board selected three State Plan goals to offer potential grant funding for Federal year 2014-2015 related to the following areas of emphasis:

- a. Self-Advocacy
- b. Rights
- c. Employment

Following are the current advocacy areas for the Regional Office:

- d. RO2 continues to monitor the expansion of Medi-Cal Managed Care.
- e. RO2 participates in the Shasta County SELPA Program Advisory Committee (PAC)
- f. RO2 actively participates in the Shasta County Transition partnership. The next SCTP meeting will be held May 27, 2014 at the Shasta County Library in Redding
- g. RO2 participates in the Butte-Glenn Partners in Transition. The BG PiT is working with the Glenn County Office of Education in developing a community conversation addressing competitive integrated employment (ICE)
- h. RO2 is participating the development the Shasta County 0-5 Collaborative. The collaborative is comprised of multiple agencies that serve infants and children and is modeled after a successful 0-5 Collaborative in Solano County.
- i. RO2 participates in the Special Education Advisory Committee at Chico State University.

In collaboration with agency partners in the Diversity Advocacy Network (DAN) and Disability Rights California, community trainings

## Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

are being developed to train individuals on their rights, the appeal process and other issues related to Medi-Cal benefits.

The goal of the Medi-Cal Managed Care Rural Expansion Summit is to bring the Department of Health Care Service (DHCS) together with the three health plans and provide updates on the current status of the expansion...successes and challenges...along with a panel of recipients sharing their experience during the expansion.

### 8. Report from Executive Director, Laura Larson:

- a. Laura spoke of the Mortality Review Committee. This committee includes FNRC staff Debbie Carmona, Linda Carpenter, Laura Larson, Lisa Benaron, MD, and Linda Kilzer, RN. Laura assured the board that each and every consumer death is reviewed by this committee.
- b. The Governor's May Revise was released May 13<sup>th</sup>. The governor wants to pay off all outstanding debts, which means, there are no new proposals for the restoration of Early Start. There are no new dollars proposed for providers or operations. However, this could change with start of legislative hearings. Some funds were allocated for start-up for homes as the Developmental Centers begin to close. New models are wanted for those currently in the Developmental Centers with extreme behavior problems.

Volunteerism: The board will soon receive a paper regarding what is OK to volunteer for vs. what people should be paid for.

The Health and Wellness Initiative is progressing. The Attack of the Killer Foods conferences were very well received in Chico and Redding. People enjoyed the interactive nature of the conferences.

Laura, Diana Anderson, Ronda Dever and Ann Silcher (Mains'l) attended the Way Forward conference in Manhattan Beach.

- There are new expectations for service delivery at the federal level.

# Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

- The need for support personnel will become very difficult to fill as the baby boomers age and the federal government will pull back on entitlement services.
- California has numerous challenges for the future. Among them is the challenge of maintaining the regional center service system and the states' social safety net.

Over the summer Laura and staff will be working on how to design a transition to Self-Determination. 62 FNRC consumers will be able to be part of the Self-Determination pilot program which will last three years. The Board will be making the decisions regarding who will be on this.

## 9. Management Reports

- a. Finance Report – Michael Mintline, Associate Director, Administration:
  - i. Purchase of Service: There is a deficit in spending authority of \$4.7 - \$4.9 million. Expenses have risen faster than the number of consumers served due primarily to increase in Community Integrated Training and Out-of-Home expenses. the Community Integrated Training programs are replacing traditional day programs, catering to consumers with specialized needs or emphasizing work in a business. The Out of Home expenses are increasing as the average cost to place a consumer has increased because there is a higher proportion of people with complex behavioral needs. Also contributing to the deficit is a decline in the numbers of 0-3 consumers receiving Regional Center services. The number of consumers served has declined about 10% from March 2013 to March 2014. The Regional Center has developed an advertising and promotion plan designed to ensure the public is aware of available services.
  - ii. Operations Report: Janice Clarkson, Assistant to Administration Director: The Regional Center is currently

## Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

projecting \$20 thousand in remaining Operations spending authority. Expenses increase \$10 thousand due to less attrition than expected and increased dependent coverage elections. Operations expenses increase \$28 thousand due primarily to costs associated with the Redding office remodel and office moves. Information Technology, postage and supply expenses will see a decrease, along with travel expense estimates. There were no changes to spending authority from the previous report in March.

- iii. .Other: None.
  
- b. Case Management Directions: Judy Kruse, Associate Director, Case Management, North:
  - i. Report by Sarah Reed, Case Management Supervisor, Shasta and Siskiyou Counties. Sarah has been with FNRC for 28 years. Sarah's unit covers all of Siskiyou and Trinity counties with the exception of Spanish speaking families. She has Supported Living in Tehama and Shasta counties. Sarah works on accessibility issues, including vehicles. \*Note: a correction to the Personnel Report: Lillian Holguin was promoted to Senior Office Assistant in place of Vanea Bietz.
  
- c. Community Services Directions: Diana Anderson, Associate Director, Community Services:
  - i. Update: The Community Placement Plan met its goal as of the 13<sup>th</sup> of May. The last individual scheduled to come out of Developmental Center has done so. A home on five acres in Redding will be a 3500 home with six bedrooms – two will be crisis beds. A minimum wage increase for service providers will occur July 1<sup>st</sup> and the Purchase of Service department are in the course of processing this. This will affect the Purchase of Service budget next year. Diana passed out a contract worksheet regarding transportation contracts, and explained the set-up process. She also spoke about having a local driving school under contract to inspect all of the vehicles for

## **Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes**

deficiencies. We Care a Lot is under contract via Michael Harding who coordinates bus passes.

10. Association of Regional Centers Agencies Report, Andreas Economopoulos, Delegate: No ARCA meeting since March – next meeting will be held June 20<sup>th</sup> in Burbank. A retirement dinner will be held for Diane Anand, Lanterman Regional Center Executive Director. ARCA has been involved in working with the Lanterman coalition to remind people about the promise made to help. ARCA is working in the Self-Determination pilot implementation in 2015. ARCA worked to sponsor rallies in LA to restore Early Start. ARCA will be testifying at budget hearings that will begin in late May.
  
11. FNCC Board Committee Reports and Action Items:
  - a. Consumer Committee, Michelle Phillips, Chairperson:  
Committee members present were: Michelle Phillips, Margot Madson, Andreas Economopoulos, Troy Rathburn, Roger Hatton, Suzette Serrano.

The meeting was called order by Michelle Phillips. The Board Packet and 16 Action Items were discussed. The up-coming People First Conferences were discussed along with the side topic of why are the conferences and the local meetings losing members and attendance.

Laura asked permission of the members to be videoed at the June meeting by ARCA for their website regarding what it is to be a board member, and what the board members do with the information they receive.

The Governor's May Revise came out with no cuts, but no additions to Early Intervention, Operations, or our providers as hoped. Laura Larson asked the board members if they know of anyone who has language barrier within their residential setting.

Adjourned at 4:20.

## Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

- b. Service Provider Advisory Committee, Jennifer Bowman, Chairperson: The meeting was held May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Tehama Visitors Center.

The following items were presented by Laura Larson, Executive Director, Far Northern Regional Center:

- IHSS: there was nothing to address it in the Governor's May Revise. Providers discussed the challenges that they would face with the restriction of hours and training requirements.
- Minimum Wage Increase Update: Diana passed out a worksheet for providers to fill out for the wage increase. Providers will be working individually with community services to implement the changes. Increases will occur based on service codes and rates of pay for each employee.
- SIR reporting for restraints: Judy Kruse and Melissa Gruhler came and gave clarity on expectations for using the new report after a restraint has occurred. The tool is not used when gentle redirections are given. Melissa is call and interviewing several agencies to get feedback on the tool and then a revised letter will go out.
- May Revise of the Governor's Budget: Laura presented the May revise. There are no new proposals and no restoration for early start.

Betty Carlton, Area Board 2 was unable to attend. Therefore Laura reported the issues that the Area Board 2 is dealing with regarding Federal funding.

Health and Wellness Initiative:

- Update Report: Diana reported that the Killer Food Conference was a great success. There is another training scheduled for October targeting movement. The website is up, however there is still more construction that



## Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center Minutes

needs to occur. IPP objectives on Health and Wellness have been added to clients IPPs. The RFP is coming out soon for agencies to receive mini-grants for health and wellness projects.

### Provider Announcements:

- Jane Rogers, a nutritionist in Butte County, recently passed away. She worked a great deal with children with autism and will be greatly missed.
- The Health Fair held in conjunction with the People First Conference will be Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 11 – 2 at the Gaia Hotel in Anderson.

The next meeting will be June 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. at the Tehama Visitors Center.

Finance Committee – Margaret Shipp, Chairperson: Margaret Shipp, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 8:30. Diana Anderson presented the 16 Action Items which consist of residential and transportation contracts over \$250,000.00.

The action items were discussed and passed unanimously with the motions and seconds as follows:

- #1 – PS-1758: Ronda/Roger
- #2 – PS-1759: Margot/Andre
- #3 – PS-1756: Andre/Margot
- #4 – PS-1755: Margot/Ronda
- #5 – PS-1757: Margot/Andre
- #6 – PS-1760: Andre/Ronda
- #7 – PS-1761: Margot/Andre
- #8 – PS-1762: Ronda/Andre
- #9 – PS-1763: Margot/Ronda
- #10 – PS-1764: Andre/Margot
- #11 – PS-1766: Ronda/Andre
- #12 – PS-1767: Ronda/Margot



**Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental  
Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center  
Minutes**

- #13 – PS-1765: Ronda/Margot
- #14 – PS-1768: Margot/Andre
- #15 – PST-1544: Ronda/Margot
- #16 – PST-1736: Andre/Ronda

Adjourned at 9:20 Ronda/Margot motion

Motion to approve Action Items #1 – #16 was made and seconded by the Finance Committee and Roger Hatton. Motion passed, no discussion.

12. Announcements, Reports, Questions and Answers, Summary Comments, All Board Members:

Margaret: Attended the Attack of the Killer Foods conference in Chico. Learned knife sharpening, how to cut a pineapple and the dangers of sugary drinks and hydrogenated oil. She attended the self-advocacy conference which focused on food items relating to diabetes.

Roger: Attended a class on stress and he would like to establish a committee to spotlight on stress. He will be attending the People First Conference in San Francisco.

Suzette: People First of Chico are working on the Vote project. Corning People First is selling Papa Murphy's pizza for a fundraiser. Red Bluff People First is selling Papa Murphy cards. Shasta People First is working on spaying and neutering your pets. Suzette gave Pathfinder presentation at BCCC meeting.

Troy: Transportation in Butte County: As of May 25<sup>th</sup> the bus fares will be increased for other people than consumers. Next year the bus schedule may be changing. New buses are coming and B-line is extending to Sacramento via Yuba City. Mains'I had an open house showcasing what they do.

Don: CAC meeting is becoming very active. He plans to visit the two projects in Alturas.

**Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental  
Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center  
Minutes**

Andreas: Siskiyou (Yreka) county is growing. Grocery Outlet and Tractor Supply and Starbucks have come to town. Social Service Advisory Committee: no more circular routes because the new buses are too large. New funding ideas are needed for bus maintenance. So, bus fares will be raised by 25 cents. They are getting a bus center in Yreka that will include shelter and will extend services via Greyhound.

Ronda: Attended transition fair in Butte county with her family and a friend and attended the Way Forward conference in Manhattan Beach. The current and up-coming generations have higher expectations regarding work.

13. Next meeting: The next meeting will be June 26 and 27, in Redding
14. Motion to adjourn by Suzette Serrano and Stephen Bell . No discussion, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted



Cynthia R. Presidio  
Executive Assistant/Board Secretary