



*Sponsors of
North Bay Regional Center
and other programs
for persons with developmental disabilities
10 Executive Court
Napa, CA 94558
707-256-1224
Fax: 707-256-1230*

*Promoting Opportunities
Supporting Choices*

MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is a regular business meeting scheduled as follows:

DATE: November 4, 2015
TIME: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Solano County Office of Education
Blue Rock Springs Room
5100 Business Center Drive
Fairfield, CA 94534-1658

Map & Agenda Enclosed

Board Related Meetings: The next meeting of the Vendor Advisory Committee will be November 10, 2015, at North Bay Regional Center Jameson Canyon office conference room (4A&B) from 10:00 to noon.

REMINDER: Please contact Kathy Newman at (707) 256 1224 if you are unable to attend the Board meeting.

**North Bay Developmental Disabilities Services, Inc.
Board of Directors' Regular Business Meeting
Wednesday, November 4, 2015, 5:00 p.m.
Solano County Office of Education – Blue Rock Springs Room
5100 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534**

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER – President Harry Matthews
- II. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS – Margi Stern, Secretary (2 minutes for call to order, roll call, and introductions)
- III. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of Oct 7, 2015 be approved as submitted. (3 min) (Pgs. 1-6)
ACTION
- IV. TREASURER'S REPORT
Treasurer's Report for the period of Sep. 1-30, 2015 be approved as submitted. (3 min) (Pg. 8)
ACTION
- V. ANNOUNCEMENTS (10 minutes)
- VI. FEATURE PRESENTATION – To Be Announced
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Executive Committee - Board Officers – Harry Matthews, President; Walt Spicer, Vice President; Margi Stern, Secretary; Franklin Phillips, Treasurer (3 minutes) ACTION
 - B. Vendor Advisory Committee – Mike Huckins – (10 minutes) (Pgs. 16-20) INFO
 - C. Nominating Committee – Walt Spicer (Chair), Joanne Tsai (10 minutes) ACTION
- VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (30 minutes)
 - A. Bob Hamilton, Executive Director (10 minutes)
 - B. Michi Gates, Director Client Services' Report (10 minutes) (Pgs. 10-14)
 - C. Dave Johnson - Chief Financial Officer (10 minutes) (Pgs. 9)
- IX. LIAISON REPORTS
 - A. Association of Regional Center Agencies – Bob Hamilton (10 min) INFO
 - B. State Council on Developmental Disabilities - Bob Phillips (10 min) (Pgs. 21-26) INFO
- X. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - Sign-up sheet (2 minutes per person unless otherwise allowed by Board Chairperson). Public invited to comment on any matter. Public comment will also be invited on each Action item after the Board has discussed the item and prior to a motion.
- XI. GOOD OF THE ORDER - any other Board business may be brought up at this time. (5 minutes)
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

CLOSED SESSION – The governing board of a regional center may hold a closed meeting to discuss or consider one or more of the following: (1) real estate negotiations, (2) the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, or dismissal of a regional center employee, (3) employee salaries and benefits, (4) labor contract negotiations, (5) pending litigation – W&I Code 4663(a).

<p>NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT - The next Board of Directors meeting is a Regular Business Meeting scheduled Wednesday, December 2, 2015, North Bay Regional Center, Napa Office, at 5:00 p.m.</p>

**North Bay Developmental Disabilities Services, Inc.
Board of Directors' Regular Business Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2015, 5:00 p.m.
Sonoma Developmental Center
14000 Arnold Drive, Eldridge, CA 95431**

MINUTES

NBRC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Huckins, VAC Rep.
Margi Stern, Secretary
Rita Edmonds-Norris
Angel Giroux-Greber

Harry Matthews, President/ARCA Rep
Franklin Phillips, Treasurer
Joanne Tsai
Walt Spicer

NBRC BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Barbara Power (Excused)

Rhonda Foster (Excused)

STAFF PRESENT:

Michi Gates, Director, Client Services
Kathy Newman, Exec. Assistant
January Crane, MW Dept. Manager
Pamela Madden Krall, Training & Information Manager
Micheline Justman, SC
Tammy Larsen, QM/Fed Revenue
Lynda Wheeler, CMS

Bob Hamilton, Executive Director
Thomas Maseda, Director, Administration
Dave Johnson, Chief Financial Officer
Jeannette Prosser, QMRP
Todd Cooper, SC
Teresa Dominguez, SIR
Haley Parker, SIR
Deanna Heibel, Associate Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

JJ Fernandez, SDC Executive Assistant
Sue Donaldson, Parent SDC
Elizabeth Clary, UCPNB
Jackie Sonaldino, Sibling SDC
Cathy Conway, SDC
Denise Barber, Parent SDC
Kathleen Miller, Parent SDC
Carol Whitt, Parent SDC
Shirley Hightower, Sibling SDC

Aleana Carrean, Interim SDC ED
Bob Phillips, SCDD
Pat Walter, Parent SDC
Pearl Loustalot, Parent SDC
Michelle Loustalot, Sibling SDC
Brian Farrell, SDC
Father Tom Chesterman, Parent, SDC
Anna Shanz, DDS
Harry Elder, Special Ed. Teacher
Richard Barber, Parent SDC

CALL TO ORDER – Harry Matthews, President, called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Board and audience introduced themselves. Harry noted that the "Public Comment" portion of the agenda has a two minute limit per person. He encouraged those who signed up to appoint one person to present if feasible.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

M/S/C (Spicer/Huckins) Move that the minutes of September 2, 2015 regular business meeting be approved as submitted. UNANIMOUS

TREASURER'S REPORT

M/S/C (Huckins/Stern) Move that the Treasurer's Report for the period of August 1 - 31, 2015 be approved as submitted. UNANIMOUS

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Micheline Justman noted the Annual Pumpkin Carving Fest fundraiser, hosted by Suzette Soviero, with all proceeds going to Friends of North Bay Regional Center, is scheduled for October 17th, 2015 at Dillon Beach from Noon to the "Witching Hour". Lunch and dinner served.

- Pamela Madden Krall noted NBRC's upcoming all-staff gathering at Sonoma Vets Center on October 22, 2015 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. At 1:00 p.m. NBRC will host a Vendor Faire.
- Sonoma County Mayors Best Practices on Employment of People with Disabilities will be hosted on October 28th. This year the Petaluma Pie Company will be honored as an employer who hires people with disabilities. There are currently four people with developmental disabilities who work at the Petaluma Pie Company.
- Aleana Carrean noted that SDC is hosting the play "Life's a Beach". Aleana invited all to attend as closing night is October 7th. She also noted that SDC's annual Halloween parade is scheduled for October 28 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm.
- Kathleen Miller, noted that Hanna Boys Club is hosting the second follow-up meeting "Future of SDC" on October 17, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will include a summary of input that was provided at a prior meeting including potential services at SDC.

FEATURE PRESENTATION: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. North Bay Regional Center Performance Plan Approval – Pamela Madden Krall. Every year NBRC is required to submit a Performance Plan to DDS. NBRC analyzes the data from the previous year regarding people receiving services and working in the community. At the September Board meeting, NBRC received input as to how to improve services and employment in NBRC's catchment area. NBRC also has a link/survey on the webpage where input was received. NBRC has incorporated feedback, i.e., employment first, community resources, employment, etc. into the Plan.

M/S/C (Spicer/Phillips) Move approval of NBRC's Performance Plan 2015-16. UNANIMOUS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Executive Committee – Harry Matthews – No Report
B. Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) – Mike Huckins

The VAC met on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. Linda introduced four new VAC Members: Holly from Connections for Life, Andrea from REI, Ali from New Leaf, and Kelley from PACE Solano. VAC now has a full complement of members.

Community Concerns/Clarifications:

- The Vendor Fair will be held Oct. 22nd at the Sonoma Vets from 1pm to 2pm. Vendors should get there around noon to set up. Vendors should delineate their services by County(ies) served, Adult or Children Services, and specific type of services.
- The Ari Neeman presentation is scheduled for 9/28 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. He will discuss the new CMS rules. From 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. he will demonstrate his "My Supports" software. Mr. Neeman is also providing a Self-Advocacy presentation on 9/29. VAC will determine how to assist in paying a part of his travel and other expenses.
- Maura introduced Seneca St. James and Hope Beale as new QA staff. She will meet with interested vendors after the VAC meeting regarding using TDS for work discovery. California's CMS plan still requires approval.

Group reports were given.

- The Napa Solano Vendor Group met and discussed R&D's organizational chart, uniform holidays, admission process timeframe, service coordinator changes, non-referral list, minimum wage changes, sick leave law, survey findings, and SIR review process.
- The Sonoma Vendor Group did not meet but will meet on 9/22 at NBI, 649 Martin Ave. Rohnert Park.
- SCDD North Bay: Bob Phillips reported on TransCen's progress on their customized employment grant with REI and PSI. An "Imagine Possibilities" workshop is planned on 9/30 at the Solano County Office of Education and in Sonoma County on 9/24.
- Trade Associations: Mike stated that respite organizations may have to create a new policy to avoid paying for travel time between two respite bookings as there is no funding slated for this.

Michelle Ramirez stated that CDSA is hoping to recruit more respite and transportation vendors. The Bonilla cocktail tax proposal was discussed. The Annual Meeting is 9/29 through 10/1. Linda reported out on the successful turnout of 1,500 people at the crest/capital rally on 9/3 but with little media resulting. Elizabeth thanked Linda for her huge part in putting this rally together.

- Board Report: Mike congratulated Jose Ayala for his participation in and winning two medals at the World Special Olympics. Mike handed out the NBRC Board retreat packet which included notes from Bob Baldo as well as economic footprint by County. He also handed out the Annual Performance Goal report from the Board meeting.
- Dr. Michi Gates: Michi noted that the National Core Indicators show that we need to improve on identifying employment goals in IPPs more frequently. She sent along Bob's congratulations to the new VAC members. She would like to work with the vendor community in improving the number of direct service professionals we have who speak Spanish or Tagalog. Due to the SDC closure plan, there will be a huge increase in the number of CPP and non-CPP Requests for Proposals going out this year. She updated VAC on what is happening with the Self-Determination efforts locally as well as the challenge of it being in compliance with the new CMS settings rules.
- Disaster Preparedness: Elizabeth stated that regional meetings need to occur.

New Business: There will be a vendor relations committee meeting following the VAC meeting.

Announcements: Please refer to the VAC minutes

Next VAC Meeting: The next VAC Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bob Hamilton, Executive Director, Report:

- Bob participated in a Conference call with ARCA's Housing Committee. The Committee is trying to provide permanent housing for people transitioning out of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) into the community. This endeavor is accomplished through NBRC's non-profit organizations. The Director of DDS, Santi Rogers, was on the call and encouraged the Committee to continue with this great work by knocking down barriers that keep NBRC from providing homes. All Regional Centers who have clients residing at SDC are in need of 90 homes to transition residents from SDC into the community. NBRC requires permanent financing from the State to make this a reality. We are working with Mark Stivers of the State Treasurers Office, who is in charge of the low income housing projects. He is willing to work with us on bond issues or assist with any other instrument needed to make this happen.
- Senate Bill 812 passed some years ago requiring each housing authority to include people with developmental disabilities in its Housing Plan. This is beginning to come to fruition. There have been people who have been asked by local authorities what the needs are. Recently low housing developers have approached North Bay Regional Center regarding building affordable housing. This is a ray of hope knowing there will be people "out there" in the general community helping with this issue. NBRC is currently working with Brilliant Corners and North Bay Housing Coalition who specializes in supported living housing. Discussion followed.

Michi Gates, Director, Client Services, Report:

- Michi noted the attendance of the NBRC Federal Revenue Department. Federal funding is very important to the Regional Center system. January Crane is the Department Manager of that program. The department also ensures that NBRC qualifies for Federal funding in order to continue services for people with developmental disabilities. Extensive monitoring is a must because the Federal Government requires written documentation. Michi thanked the team as they have allowed NBRC to perform above and beyond expectations by the Department.
- The Special Incident Reporting (SIRs) Team was also in attendance. Michi noted that this is an area that also requires extensive monitoring and training, both internally and externally. SIRs include any incidents of significance involving the health and safety of our clients. It requires NBRC, service coordinators, vendors, and community members to be alerted to what kind of risks present themselves

to our population and how to prevent them. Michi thanked the team for meeting requirements and ensuring the health and safety of our clients.

- As of Monday, January Crane will be NBRC's Liaison for the Self-Determination Advisory Committee. NBRC is collaborating with State Council on Developmental Disabilities as well as the Office of Clients Rights. The advisory committee is required to assist in facilitating the program of self-determination. We are currently in the initial stages of the advisory committee. Michi invited anyone interested in the Self-Determination program, to feel free to contact January for more information. There is an informational video on NBRC's and DDS's website.
- Ari Neeman, the founder and President of the Autism Self-Advocacy Network, recently spoke to NBRC and the vendor community regarding the CMS Study Rules. This information is vital for our services to continue, i.e., how to obtain federal funding by following the CMS rules, community integration, independence, the ability to continue making choices, etc. NBRC and the vendor community continue to collaborate with Ari on this project.
- NBRC continues to meet with Kathleen Miller and other parents/family members, or conservators of residents of SDC on a monthly basis regarding the closure. The meetings are very productive and provide an opportunity to talk and discuss possible resolutions. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2014 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. At Kathleen Miller's request NBRC will provide a presentation on Supported Living Services.
- Michi thanked those who have submitted feedback regarding comprehensive assessments – helping to make them as accurate as possible.
- NBRC has announced 34 Requests for Proposal for Community Placement Plan for SDC Closure. The RFPs have been posted on NBRC.net. NBRC will be interviewing prospective providers sometime in October 2015 – February 2016.
- Kathleen Miller requested that NBRC provide a Self-Determination presentation. Kathleen also requested that a PHA parent be included on the RFP panel.

Dave Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Report:

- All allocations from DDS indicate that NBRC is financially solvent with Purchase of Services funding. There is a shortfall in Operations.
- Annual audit will commence in two weeks.
- Union Bank now charges a fee to use a line of credit for \$25M (to cover two months of POS). They used to waive the fees for Regional Centers but no longer offer that option. The fee comes out of OPS. The bigger the line, the bigger the fee. For a \$25M line of credit is roughly \$50K per year. Eight nine percent of the money we receive from the Government goes to Purchase of Services and 11% goes to OPS. Sixty six percent of funding received comes from federal funding. Discussion followed.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) – Bob Hamilton (10 minutes):

- Upcoming ARCA meeting is scheduled on October 15-16 in San Diego and will be dedicated to the ARCA Strategic Plan.

B. State Council on Developmental Disabilities/North Bay Regional Office – Bob Phillips - (10 minutes):

- Assembly Bill 564 (Parental Fee Program for minor children) passed in the Assembly and signed into law. There are just over 4000 children currently in out of home placement. The parents of those children who have an income more than Federal poverty level are required to pay a sliding scale fee. The passing of this bill began with an individual advocacy call to Area Board VI office several years ago.
- Solano County Children's Nurturing Project and Solano Children's Network have organized a Day Care forum for November 5th and are inviting Regional Center staff, State Council staff, public officials, etc., to listen to the day care needs of parents and problem solve together.

- Self-Determination local advisory committee has a vacancy for one person. If anyone is interested contact January Crane or Bob Phillips. Self-determination focuses on individual needs of a client (based on the CDER and the IPP) from which client specific services are developed. Discussion followed.
- The State Council awarded a grant to TranSen (Worklink) to pilot some new ways of assisting people find employment. Consultation was provided on how to develop a new program model to ensure employment or volunteer opportunities. Bob requested an opportunity to present to the Board in the near future regarding this grant.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT: The following parents/family members of residents of Sonoma Developmental Center expressed concern and suggestions regarding the upcoming closure.

- Kathleen Miller, Parent and President, Parent Hospital Association: Kathleen suggested the following:
 - ✓ A health/dental care center remain on the grounds of SDC. Currently the Center has primary physicians uniquely qualified to care for people with developmental disabilities.
 - ✓ Currently there is a dental care clinic where clients receive yearly sedation/anesthesia dental care. This service would be much more economical than in a hospital setting.
 - ✓ Wheel chair adaptive services is needed to accommodate body changes as clients' age.
 - ✓ Kathleen would like to capture these services by developing a clinic at SDC. These services should be made available to people in the community.
 - ✓ DDS has suggested that a clinic won't be used/needed basing their opinion on Lanterman and Agnews closure. No data has been collected by DDS to substantiate their opinion.
 - ✓ Kathleen requested NBRC Board to collaborate with SDC regarding housing a permanent medical/dental clinic using the expertise currently available. Kathleen noted that this is SDC's moment and help from the Regional Center is needed.
- Brian Boxall, family member, noted the following:
 - ✓ Brian served as the President of the Agnews Family Association, during the entirety of the closure.
 - ✓ The outpatient clinic at Agnews was initially supposed to be operational as long as DDS was responsible for the property. That turned out not to be the case as DDS chose not to continue the outpatient services even though they remained responsible for the property.
 - ✓ A dentist who remained for the outpatient services reported he was seeing folks in the community who had not had a dental visit in over a decade.
 - ✓ Lanterman property was turned over to Cal Poly Pomona so the outpatient ended when the last Lanterman mover left.
 - ✓ Because there was continued State employment at SDC, many of the valued clinicians of Agnews moved to SDC and Lanterman clinicians moved to Fairview. This is a great opportunity and most probably the last chance to capture their expertise. Discussion followed.
- Brian Farrell, family member, noted the following:
 - ✓ Pleased to hear about the Mayor's Recognition of Employers who are hiring people with disabilities. Roughly 30 years ago Brian's father initiated that program through a service of which the Mayor was a member. It is great example of those who care deeply about people with developmental disabilities are able to work together and accomplish great things.
 - ✓ Brian thanked NBRC for coordinating monthly meetings and sharing expertise with SDC families and for holding the October Board meeting at SDC so many could attend.
 - ✓ County of Sonoma has retained one of the best feasibility consultants for the creation of a new federally qualified health clinic at SDC to do an assessment of census and the need for services.
 - ✓ Brian's sister has resided at SDC since 1958 and didn't allow her primary care physician to conduct a standard annual examine for 15 years. During the 16th year, the physician was able to gain her trust and give her an annual exam which is very important in guaranteeing her wellbeing. The physicians at SDC have dedicated their lives to serving people with developmental disabilities. Obtaining medical and dental services outside SDC is/can be very challenging.

- ✓ Brian requested that the Regional Center Board join PHA in submitting a letter to DDS to improve the quality of lives with developmental disabilities.
- ✓ Staff continuity is paramount. Making this work will not be easy but critical. Discussion followed.
- Father Tom Chesterman, parent, noted the following:
 - ✓ There are two Chaplains at SDC who are providing for the spiritual needs of residents. The Constitution of the Federal Government says that we should provide for the free exercise of religion for people with developmental disabilities.
 - ✓ Father Tom noted that his son is not a candidate to attend organized religious services at any Parish. He is non-verbal and has no ability to communicate. He takes someone by the hand and leads them to what he may want.
 - ✓ A Roman Catholic Chaplain has raised the possibility of developing a chaplain service at SDC. Father Tom's son can receive communion because the chaplain at SDC is sensitive to his needs. Father Tom noted that his son is entitled to this kind of provision.
 - ✓ Father Tom's son became very ill and because he was unable to communicate, it was difficult to provide the necessary medical treatment. The staff members were able to figure it out and make a referral to a physician. The concentration of the professional help at SDC are uniquely qualified to provide medical/dental assistance to people like Father Tom's son and needs to be retained.
- Jackie Sonaldino, family member, noted the following: Jackie's sister resides at SDC and requires extensive medical services. Jackie supports the concept of a medical/dental clinic being housed at SDC. Staffing continuity is a very big concern and is fearful that there is a large turnover of staff in care homes. Jackie inquired as to how much a direct care provider makes and what the average turnover employment is. Jackie requested a copy of a comprehensive report. Discussion followed.
- Denise Barber, family member, noted the following: Denise expressed concern regarding connecting with physicians in the community who are able to step in and care for people with developmental disabilities. She noted that physicians in the community she resides are very selective regarding prospective patients. Some physicians even interview prior to agreeing to take them. They are often times rejected. The expertise in treating people with developmental disabilities is of the utmost importance.
- Pat Walter, parent, noted the following: Pat's daughter, Andrea, was hospitalized for an entire month at the licensed acute care hospital on SDC grounds. During that month she was bounced back and forth from the SDC hospital and Sonoma Valley ER and ICU. The second time she went to the ER at Sonoma Valley Hospital, all beds were full along with all of Sonoma Valley Hospital beds. Other hospitals were being considered, i.e., Queen of the Valley, in Napa, Marin Hospital, etc. to transfer ER patients who required hospitalization since there were no beds locally. Community physicians who are the most familiar recognize that most physicians are not able to care for patients with developmental disabilities. Andrea required a ventilator (which is why she was sent to SVH ER). Physicians refused to transfer her to any of the other hospitals being considered. They would rather keep her at SDC without a ventilator than transfer her to a hospital where physicians were unfamiliar with her needs.
- Angel Giroux-Greber, parent (NBRC Board Member). Angel noted she has a six year old son who has severe autism. When she has inquired in the past as to who the pediatric specialist is under her son's health care coverage, she is constantly faced with "groans". With all the specialty staff at SDC, is there a possibility that it could be used as a training facility for private physicians/companies to receive the necessary training to provide needed services to people with developmental disabilities. Discussion followed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: None

ADJOURNMENT – M/S/C (Huckins/Spicer) Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:00s p.m. UNANIMOUS

NEXT MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT – The next regular business meeting of the Board is for scheduled for November 4, 2015 at Solano County Office of Education, at 5:00 p.m.

**North Bay Regional Center
Franklin Philips NBRC Treasurers' Report
For the Month of September 2015**

In September 2015 NBRC's board money market account increased by \$325 to end the month with a balance of \$51,136 the increase was due to donations.

The board checking account ended the month with a balance of \$2830, a decrease of \$300.

The net balance in both NBRC board accounts was \$53,965, an increase of \$320 since the January 1, 2015 balance of \$53, 645.

**North Bay Regional Center
Finance Dashboard FY 2014/15**

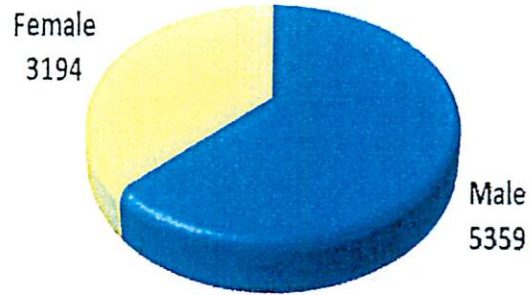
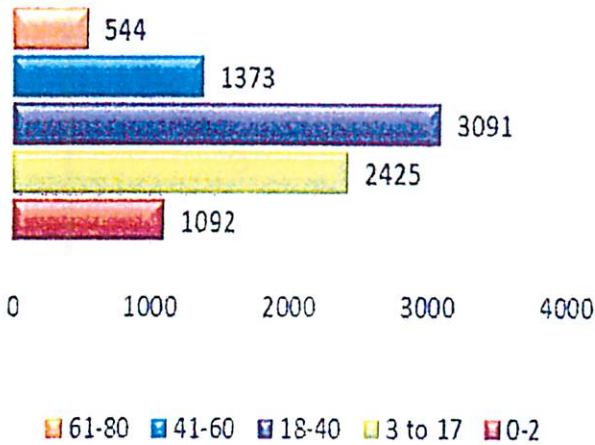
25% of the year elapsed

As of September 30, 2015

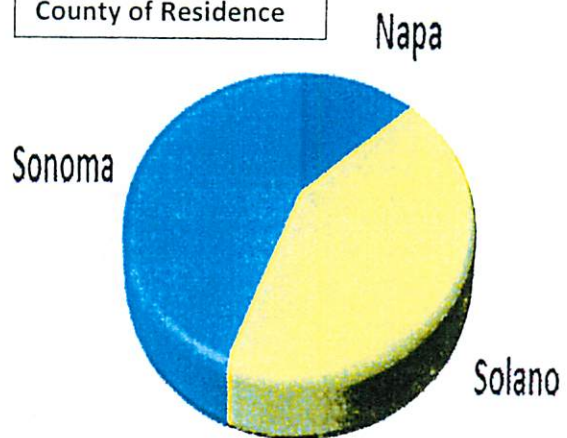
	<u>Allocation/B-1</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>% Total</u>		<u>Forecasted</u>		<u>Forecasted</u>
			<u>POS</u>	<u>Var/ Alloc</u>	<u>Spending</u>	<u>YTD Act + Fcst</u>	<u>Surplus (Deficit)</u>
Purchase of Services (POS)							<u>From Allocation</u>
Day Programs	\$ 9,125,000	\$ 9,038,709	24%	\$ 86,291	\$ 27,500,000	\$ 36,538,709	\$ (38,709)
Supported Living Services	9,125,000	9,038,494	24%	86,506	27,500,000	36,538,494	\$ (38,494)
Community Care Facilities	7,562,500	7,524,547	20%	37,953	22,725,000	30,249,547	\$ 453
Behavioral Services	4,875,000	4,823,622	13%	51,378	14,750,000	19,573,622	\$ (73,622)
Other	8,724,491	6,423,394	17%	2,301,097	26,525,000	32,948,394	1,949,569
Total POS services	\$ 39,411,991	\$ 36,848,766	100%	2,563,225	\$ 119,000,000	\$ 155,848,766	\$ 1,799,197
Receipts from ICFs for SPA services	(1,250,000)	(1,259,341)	-3%	9,341	(3,780,000)	(5,039,341)	39,341
Community Placement Plan (CPP)	275,214	71,377	0%	203,837	13,400,000	13,471,377	68,364
Total POS & CPP Services	\$ 38,437,205	\$ 36,920,143	100%	\$ 1,517,062	\$ 128,620,000	\$ 164,280,802	\$ 1,906,902
Operations Expense (OPS)							
Personnel	\$ 2,625,000	\$ 2,562,428	59%	62,572	\$ 8,000,000	\$ 10,562,428	\$ (62,428)
Benefits	968,750	939,444	21%	29,306	2,950,000	3,889,444	(14,444)
Facilities/Insurance	437,500	497,041	11%	(59,541)	1,250,000	1,747,041	2,959
Equipment / General office	137,500	176,808	4%	(39,308)	375,000	551,808	(1,808)
Communications	35,000	22,793	1%	12,207	125,000	147,793	(7,793)
Mileage	57,500	55,238	1%	2,262	175,000	230,238	(238)
Legal	50,000	29,649	1%	20,351	170,000	199,649	351
Consultants	60,000	104,516	2%	(44,516)	140,000	244,516	(4,516)
Other Expenses	1,797	(11,530)	0%	13,327	12,000	470	6,717
Total Operations Expense	\$ 4,373,047	\$ 4,376,387	100%	(3,340)	\$ 13,197,000	\$ 17,573,387	\$ (81,200)
Community Placement Plan (CPP)	275,214	271,789		3,425	627,546	899,335	-
Total OPS & CPP Expenses	\$ 4,648,261	\$ 4,648,176		85	\$ 13,824,546	\$ 18,472,722	\$ (81,200)
Total	\$ 43,085,466	\$ 41,568,319		\$ 1,517,147	\$ 142,444,546	\$ 182,753,524	\$ 1,825,702
DDS Contract Allocations 2015/16	Date Received	POS		Operations	CPP	Total	
Preliminary Allocation	6/9/2015	\$ 124,226,256		\$ 14,006,806		\$ 138,233,062	75%
1st Amendment B-1	8/19/2015	28,421,707		3,485,381	815,557	32,722,645	18%
1st Amendment B-1 CPP		13,539,741		-	285,300	13,825,041	7%
Total Allocation		\$ 166,187,704		\$ 17,492,187	\$ 1,100,857	\$ 184,780,748	100%



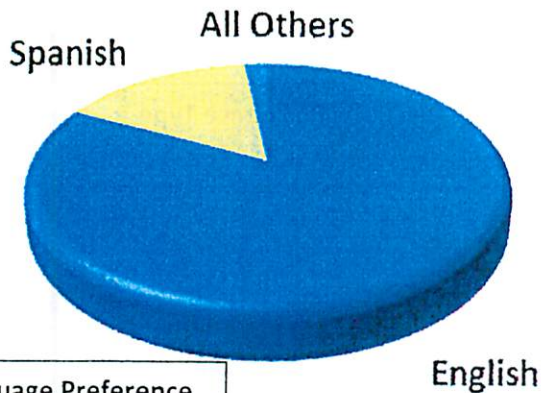
Age Range



County of Residence

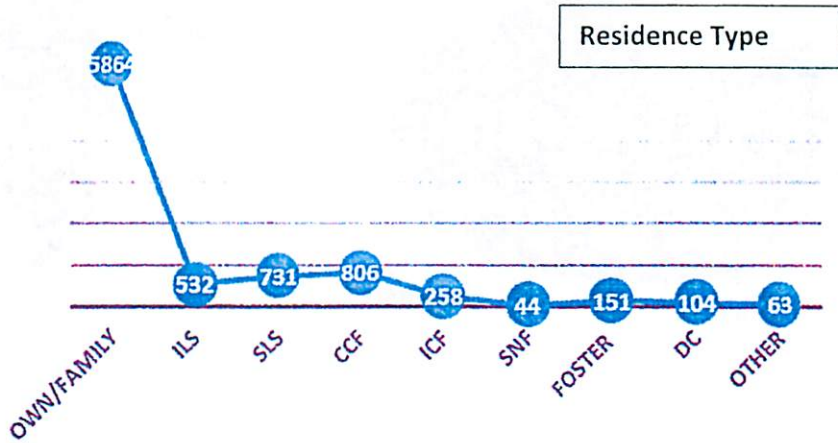
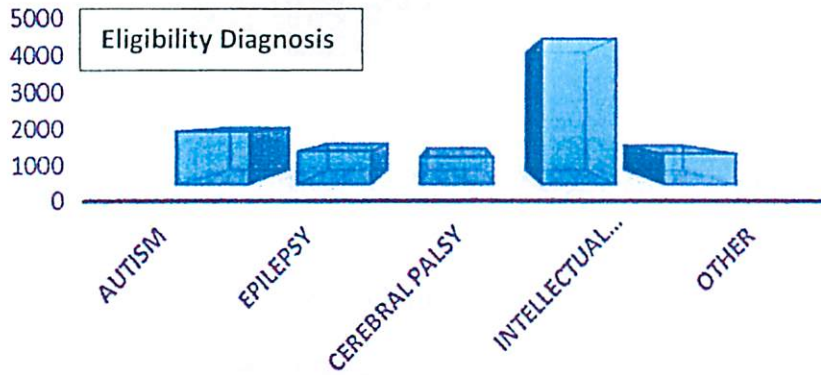


Language Preference



Service Coordinators: Inspiring Lives

In her short time as a Service Coordinator with NBRC, Ruth Harwood has had quite a few challenging cases and incidents. She immediately digs right into difficulties to achieve the best outcome for the individuals she serves, as effectively as possible; she never tires as an advocate for individuals' rights. Recently her skills were underscored when observing an act that raised concerns. She immediately brought the incident to the attention of all relevant parties at both NBRC and in the community. This triggered an investigation that resulted in the individual having not only her health and safety needs addressed, but an outcome that enhances her overall quality of life. She is in a better place thanks to Ruth taking quick action. Ruth continues inspiring lives every day!



MONTH	Accepted for Assessment		Closed or Inactivated During Assessment		Eligible Cases			Transferred- Other		Gross New Consumers		Graduate Out of RC System
	Under 3 Yrs	3 Yrs & Older	Under 3 Yrs	3 Yrs & Older	Under 3 Yrs	3 Yrs & Older	Under 3 Yrs	3 Yrs & Older	Under 3 Yrs	3 Yrs & Older		
01/15	105	29	- 23	24	+ 9	19	+ 1	0	= 92	24	30	
02/15	95	11	- 14	23	+ 7	13	+ 3	0	= 91	1	38	
03/15	104	19	- 26	14	+ 7	12	+ 1	0	= 47	17	36	
04/15	85	34	- 22	14	+ 7	11	+ 1	0	= 72	31	34	
05/15	84	32	- 14	9	+ 7	5	+ 0	0	= 77	28	30	
06/15	91	40	- 19	18	+ 6	14	+ 1	0	= 79	36	25	
07/12	90	39	- 30	24	+ 8	18	+ 0	0	= 68	33	59	
08/15	114	42	- 12	24	+ 6	17	+ 3	1	= 111	36	47	
09/15	105	45	- 12	23	+ 5	17	+ 0	0	= 98	39	31	
10/15	0	0	- 0	0	+ 0	0	+ 0	0	= 0	0		
11/15	0	0	- 0	0	+ 0	0	+ 0	0	= 0	0		
12/15	0	0	- 0	0	+ 0	0	+ 0	0	= 0	0		
2015 TOTAL	873	291	- 172	173	+ 62	126	+ 10	1	= 735	245	330	
2015 Avn		24		14		11		0		20		

NBRC Community Resource Development and Services

Interested individuals or agencies who would like to become vendored with NBRC to provide services in Napa, Solano or Sonoma Counties, please visit the NBRC website:

<http://nbrc.net/service-providers/vendorization/vendor-application/>

New Vendors

- Atlas-Supported Living Services
- People's Care Morning Sun-Specialized Residential Facility
- Higher Ground-Independent Living Services
- Occupational Therapist-Melanie Contreras-Early Start

Quality Assurance

- Training on Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) with Ari Ne'eman.
- Day Services Transformation Training on 11/27: Follow up to Ari Ne'eman, focus on changes that day services need to make to comply with CMS rules.
- Presentation to NBRC All Staff October 22nd on QA and new mode for accessing QA assistance.
- Attended Mayors' Breakfast in Sonoma County on October 1st on Community Integrated Employment.
- Department of Rehabilitation/Supported Employment roundtable October 1st.
- Behavior Interventions and Assessing for Progress Monday, October 26th NBRC staff and vendors. Presented by Mila DeWitt Ph.D., BCBA NBRC Behavior Analyst for Quality Assurance Unit.

Requests for Proposals

- NBRC's Community Placement Plan (CPP) 2015-2016 Requests for Proposals are available on the NBRC website. NBRC has 26 CPP projects that we are requesting proposals for.
- NBRC's Early Start Intake Request for Proposal is available on line as well.

Both RFPs are available at: <http://nbrc.net/service-providers/resource-needs-requests-for-proposals/>

New Provider Orientation

Are you interested in opening a group home that works with individuals served by NBRC? Are you are a current family home agency that must attend a regional center orientation? If so please attend:

When: November 18, 2015 from

Time: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. @

Location: 10 Executive Court, Napa CA (NBRC Napa Office).

Registration- Contact Erika Dominguez @ 707-256-1287.

12

CONSUMER ADVOCATE REPORT

October 23, 2015

The self-advocacy/support groups have been put on hold until we get more educational materials on self-advocacy. There was a mix-up with the ordering process, but the materials were ordered recently. Thus, the groups should start meeting again in November.

The Napa County IHSS Advisory Committee is looking for new members. If you know of anyone interested please contact me. The overtime payment for IHSS Providers may start on February 1st being retroactive to November 1st according to Governor Brown. We will see in February.

As reported, voter registration is up in both the Santa Rosa and Napa offices and I want to thank the Service Coordinators for helping. Now, let's find a way to help the people we serve get to the polls.

January Crane, Bob Phillips, Cindy Ruder, Annie Bauer, and I are working on the Self-Determination Project and we have selected seven people to be on the Advisory Committee. The Self-Determination Project is for clients who want to handle their own budget with Financial Guidance through NBRC. It is currently limited to 2,500 clients.

In my last report I forgot to mention that NBRC received input from 100 consumers from Day Programs regarding the closure of Sonoma Developmental Center back in the first week of September. Most feel it should be closed because the residents have a right to live in the community.

I continue to assist service coordinators with their cases and also continue as the DDS Conservator designee. We have some challenging cases that keeps me on my toes. No pun intended.

Thank you.

Submitted by:

Randy Kitch



FAIR HEARING & MEDIATION UPDATE
OCTOBER 1 - 31, 2015

Eligibility (14-31)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility for Regional Center services <u>Ruling:</u> Informal Meeting denied Claimant's appeal. OAH Fair Hearing decision granted eligibility.
Parent Vendor/ Respite (15-27)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of Parent Vendor Respite <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn
Transportation (15-30)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of transportation vendor <u>Ruling:</u> Resolved and withdrawn.
Eligibility (15-31)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of eligibility for Regional Center services <u>Ruling:</u> Informal Meeting decision denied. Fair Hearing withdrawn.
Day Care (15-32)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of Day Care services. <u>Ruling:</u> Informal Meeting decision denied. OAH Fair Hearing decision granted Day Care hours.
Respite (15-33)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of respite. <u>Ruling:</u> Fair Hearing decision pending.
ABA Co-Pay (15-34)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of ABA co-pay. <u>Ruling:</u> Withdrawn
Respite (15-35)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial of respite. <u>Ruling:</u> OAH Fair Hearing decision denied appeal.
Rent (15-36)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals denial rental supplement. <u>Ruling:</u> Informal Meeting decision denied appeal. OAH Fair Hearing withdrawn.
Day Program (15-37)	<u>Reason for Appeal:</u> Claimant appeals eviction from Day Program. <u>Ruling:</u> Fair Hearing pending.

14

October 27,2015

TO: NBRC Board

FROM: PHA of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC)

RE: Establishing a permanent health/dental clinic of SDC site

Last month members of PHA were able to testify at your general October board meeting which is held annually at SDC. We very much appreciate the opportunity to speak with you and have you hear our concerns over the continuation of the quality health and dental services that our loved ones currently receive at SDC.

Currently PHA is working with others in the Sonoma Coalition and Sonoma County to explore placing a permanent health resource center at SDC that can capture the expert medical staff and services now only available to the SDC residents. This would most likely be a federally funded clinic and the services would be available to all regional center clients who could benefit from these services.

Naturally we are most concerned about the medically fragile and behaviorally challenging SDC residents as they are moved out of SDC, but we also look forward to extending those services who may be in need. The goal of extending the critical expert medical, dental, and behavioral health services beyond those who reside at SDC has been a long time focus of SDC and we are now closer than ever to making that goal a reality.

We would benefit in our efforts if you could add your important voice in support of these efforts. We respectfully request a letter of support from the Board for a health clinic for individuals with developmental disabilities on the SDC site.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Miller-PHA President

**Vendor Advisory Committee Report to the NBDDS Board of Directors
October 13, 2015 Submitted by Mike Huckins**

The VAC met on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. Please refer to the minutes for the complete report.

Community Concerns/Clarifications: None.

Group reports were given.

- The **Napa Solano Vendor Group** did not meet.
- The **Sonoma Vendor Group** discussed CMS rule settings, vendorization, braided services, Tailored Day Services vendorization. The next meeting is on 10/27. NBHC: Mary Eble emailed a handout relating to the Governor vetoing AB 35 which would have provided an additional billion in affordable development fund for the next five years.
- **SCDD North Bay:** No report.
- **Public Relations and Outreach:** Vendor Fair is at the Sonoma Vets Hall on October 22nd from 1 to 2pm with set up starting as early as 11:30am.
- **Trade Associations:** Mike stated the Respite Association met and discussed the overtime/travel time changes starting today. Linda stated that CSLN and ANCOR met after the Rally for Justice. The next rally will be at the convention center. Linda was on a panel on Capitol Hill to discuss how California is impacted by federal changes. Liz discussed the CDSA annual meeting and encouraged all to consider joining an advocacy organization. Maura stated that a follow up meeting discussion on CMS compliance for day programs will occur at NBRC on 11/17 from 10:30 to 12:30.
- **Board Report:** Mike congratulated January Crane as the new RC Liaison for the Self Determination Committee. He also summarized some of the public comments provided by family members of Sonoma Developmental Center.
- **NBRC/ARCA:** No report.
- **Dr. Michi Gates:** The Org. Chart is updated twice a month on the NBRC website. She encouraged vendors to review and consider applying for the 34 RFPs on the website. Everyone is invited to the RFP technical meeting. She went over the general Quality Assurance Department structure. Seneca will be assisting in completing the SLS schedule and budget templates for vendor feedback. Braided funding pilots with REI and PSI will be an avenue of meeting new CMS requirements. Maura stated that her department will resume setting capacities for day programs. Clarification on the 45 day qualification of vendor notification was discussed. RFPs will need to follow the new CMS requirements.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** Regional meetings should continue.
- **CASACC Vendor Chair Conference Call:** No report.

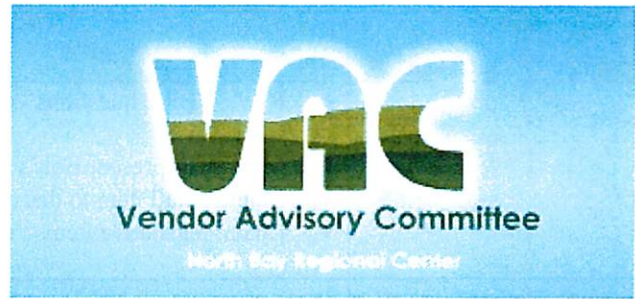
Policy and Procedure Changes: January provided specific updates related to Special Incident Reports and having DDS consider vendors being in compliance with the notification timeline requirements. Phone or emailed SIR notifications can be provided to Teresa Dominguez 256-1259 or Haley Parker 256-1206 or emailing SIR@nbrc.net. Linda asked Michi to invite the Resource Development Department staff to the next VAC meeting.

New Business: There will be a vendor relations committee meeting following the meeting.

Announcements: Please refer to the VAC minutes

Next VAC Meeting: The next VAC Meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10, 2015.

VAC Meeting Minutes



Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 North Bay Regional Center, Napa
 Tuesday, October 13, 2015

1. Attendance	
a. Call to order	VAC Meeting held October 13, 2015 was called to order at 10:05 AM (PST). Chaired by Linda Plourde
b. Roll call. Quorum met? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Approval of Meeting Minutes: September meeting minutes: MSC Kelley Hanson / Mike Huckins Agenda Approval: Approved with Announcements added <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No With changes listed below. RFP NBRC questions Kelley and Clarify NBRC Vendorization process steps Elizabeth Clary Michi will present Bob's information Maura small item to discuss Linda, legislative items	<u>VAC Membership</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Saanen Kerson (Vine Village) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darelyn Pazdel (PRIDE Industries) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Clary (UCP of the North Bay) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Farnsworth (CPA) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Huckins (The ARC Solano) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lauren Meikeljohn (Becoming Independent) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Lustig (Aldea Supported Living Services) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Linda Plourde (Bayberry, Inc.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Holly Page (Connections for Life) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelley Hanson (PACE Solano) <input type="checkbox"/> Ali Tabatabai (New Leaf) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Mendoza (REI/CHDC) <u>NBRC Staff</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michi Gates <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hope Beale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> January Crane <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maura McDonough <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seneca St. James <u>General Members</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adria Carson (On My Own) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angie Miller (Bay Respite Care) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Kelly (Attendant Care) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Alvillar (Blackwell Homes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Sutton (North Bay Industries) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ellen _____ (Career Fields) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John McCue () <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kandi Cotter (Liberty) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Louis Chiofalo (Solano Diversified Services) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Max Konan (ABF) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Loucks (Wheelcare Express) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Ramirez (On My Own) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick Schloessman (R&D Transportation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renee Fannin (Lynn & Darla SLS) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Trotter (R & D Transportation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Higgins (Oaks of Hebron) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terri Rowland (Milestones) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zina Lee ()

2. Agenda changes/Additions		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP, NBRC questions - Clarify NBRC vendorization process steps • Michi will present Bob's report • Maura small item to discuss • Linda, legislative items 	
3. Feature Presentation	Summary	Action/Follow-Up
	Nothing this month.	
4. Community Concerns	Summary	Action/Follow-Up
	Nothing this month.	
5. Group Reports		Action/Follow-Up
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Napa Solano provider group – Saanen reported – Did not meet this month. • Sonoma Provider group – Elizabeth Sutton – CMS, tailored day programs and vendorization. no meeting in November. next meeting October 27th. • State Council on Developmental Disabilities: Bob Philips not in attendance – No report this month. • North Bay Housing Coalition - Mary Eble not present, Linda Plourde reported – Linda shared information regarding AB 35 and provided a handout titled “Capitol Reporter” dated October 10, 2015. • Public Relations Committee – Kelley Hanson – 20 vendors have responded / reserved a table for the vendor fair scheduled for October 22, 2015. • Trade Associations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CSLN –Linda Plourde reported – The group has been very busy. Met after the rally, sent messages to Legislators so they know we are not going away. December 11, CSLN will attend another rally at the Convention Center. Information to follow with details. Also discussed the labor law change. Over 40 hours in a week is now the limit. Feds put out mandates and compliance is very difficult, as part of ANCOR (American Network of Community Options and Resources); author of the ADA is willing to come back to speak again. ○ Linda Plourde was invited to speak in Washington DC at The Medical Aid Access Forum. The equal access has to do with Feds putting laws into effect and requiring the states to enact the laws. The plea was to ask the Feds to follow up with the states. ○ Respite Association: Mike Huckins reported – Concerned with overtime exemption as well as travel time with the Department of Labor changes. This goes into effect October 13, 2015 (today). ○ CDSA – Elizabeth Sutton reported – HCBS, 14C, good annual meeting, speakers regarding other states and their efforts or plans that haven't passed yet. Everyone up in the air, no plans as of yet. • Board Report – Mike Huckins reported – Meeting at SDC, attendance was very good. Most individuals were family members from the developmental center. They are worried 	18

about community services and whether or not the community members are well trained and prepared to care for their loved ones. They feel that there are resources at the developmental center that should remain intact, for example the medical and dental clinics (sedation dentistry.) There was a Pastor in attendance who believed there needed to be Chaplin services. There was an inquiry as to whether funding for specialized homes only goes to the regional center in the area or all of the regional centers? All regional centers can use any vendorized services. How do they decide what areas (county) the funds go to for these specialized homes? Related to self-determination, how does one figure out what a resident's budget is when they live in the community? They need this to plan the change. January Crane is the new liaison from NBRC for the Self-Determination Committee. Harry Mathews, Board President, had positive comments, for example, his son who transitioned into the community from the development center successfully.

- Elizabeth Clary commended Dr. Gates and Bob Hamilton for their explanation to the family members of how the community supports work and the safety nets that NBRC has in place as the development center prepares to close.

- **NBRC Report** – Bob Hamilton not able to attend – Dr. Michi Gates reported.
- **Dr. Michi Gates** –
 - ✓ Reminded attendees that the organizational chart for NBRC is on the NBRC website and is updated every two weeks.
 - ✓ Thirty four RFPS have been posted on the NBRC website. These are all CPP RFPS for the Developmental Center closure.
 - ✓ Michi thanked VAC for the collaboration with the Ari Ne'eman presentation.
 - ✓ The QA structure within NBRC is as follows: Maura, supervisor, Seneca St. James, Hope Beale, and Paul Bray. All three know everything to do with QA and work together as a team. Seneca identified point person for SLS. Paul Bray works with Community Care Licensed Facilities. Maura reported that the group QA email is qualityassurance@nbrc.net.
 - ✓ The SLS negotiated rates schedule/ budget template are being developed. These will be rolled out and reviewed with VAC committee members and the SLS vendors as well.
 - ✓ Braided funding pilots are being worked on, an avenue to meet the CMS setting rules. PSI and REI are the pilots. Elizabeth asked, is there a mechanism to share what the organizations have completed during the process? Dr. Gates says yes.
 - ✓ RFP technical meetings will be set.
 - ✓ Maura resuming project of setting day program vendor capacities.
 - ✓ ***Elizabeth Clary NBRC website has new steps to follow when pursuing a new vendorization. Vendor needs to establish qualification within 45 days. How does the program design fit into this? Dr. Gates, offered to set something up with Tara and her group for clarification of the process. Tara will be on next month's VAC agenda.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** Nothing to present this month. Great California shakeout, October 15 at 10:15.
- **CASACC:** No update this month.

19

		Dr. Gates will set up Tara for our next VAC meeting to discuss the vendorization steps.
6. Report	Summary	Action/Follow-Up
Policies Procedures Practices or Trends.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January Crane – SIR changes. NBRC considered the VAC’s feedback and trained on what happens with the SIR once received by NBRC. DDS requires a report regarding NBRC compliance as well as vendor compliance. A new process has been developed to help with compliance dates, effective immediately. For all Special Incident Reports, please email the written report to sir@nbrc.net. The SIR group will then contact the Service Coordinator with the incident details. 	
7. New Business		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maura McDonough - November 17th, Day services transformation training/meeting. This is a follow along to Ari Ne’eman’s presentation. Napa NBRC 10:30 to 12:30. RSVP to Erikar@nbrc.net Kelley Hanson - NBRC RFPs - are all programs and homes needing to be compliant with new RFP requirements? Dr. Gates, yes. Jon McCue inquired as to whether regional centers are holding homes accountable for capacity and community resources during the DC closure? Dr. Gates, working with parents regarding where they want their family members to reside. 	
8. Report	Summary	Action/Follow-Up
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stan Higgins - If you updated to Windows 10, you cannot access the vendor portal. Mike Huckins – ARC Solano is hosting Art Downtown Vallejo, 707A Marin Street, (Temple Art Lofts) and on November 7, 8, 13, 14th at Artiszen Community Gallery, 337 Georgia Street, Vallejo. Karen Farnsworth – November 1st Calprogramsautistic.org Art will be sold. Elizabeth Sutton – North Bay Industries’ Annual BBQ in honor of National Employment of People with Disabilities month. The event will be held on October 16th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Elizabeth Clary –Annual Best Practices Breakfast, October 28th at the Flamingo Hotel, hosted by the Sonoma Mayor’s Committee. See their website for details to attend. Linda Plourde - thank you everyone for donations to the Lake County fire victims. Lighthouse, Lynn and Darla, Mike Huckins who donated a vacation home in Clear Lake as well as many, many others. Clients of Bayberry were left homeless and Linda thanks everyone from the bottom of her heart. 	
9. Adjournment		
	Meeting adjourned at 11:30AM	

20

Minutes submitted by:
Darelyn Pazdel



Regional Self Advocacy Newsletter

October 2015

Last month, we were fortunate to have two outstanding trainings by presenters who are known throughout the country for their work helping people to have better lives.

Ari Ne’eman talked about how services are changing, and **Sara Murphy** talked about a new service to help people get jobs that are a good fit for them and help them get more connected in their communities. **Enrique Rodriguez** presented with Sara to show how this new service can help people reach goals for work and in other areas of their lives.

Ari Ne’eman- “Everything is Changing: What’s Happening and How Does it Affect Me?”



Ari Ne’eman is cofounder of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN), a nationwide self advocacy organization that works to improve policies that impact people who have disabilities. Ari was also appointed by President Obama to serve on the Council on Disability, which advises the president, Congress, and federal agencies on issues that affect the 54 million Americans who have disabilities.



Ari presented at the Regional Self Advocacy meeting in Santa Rosa on Sept 29. He talked about new rules from the federal government that will help people have more choices and more control over their lives.

The new rules say services that you receive at home (not your family home but at group homes) and at programs must do these things to help you have more control over your life:

1. **Help you be a part of your community**
How do you know if you are part of your community?

At home: Can you go to stores, restaurants, religious services, or out with family or friends when you want to? Do you know about activities in your community? Can you go to these activities if you want?

(continued on page 2)

Ari Ne'eman continued

At your program: Do you have your own schedule based on what you want to do? Are your daily activities similar to what adults who do not have disabilities do?

2. Give you choices and respect your choices

At home: Were you given a choice of where to live? Were you given a choice of a roommate? Do you want to have a different roommate or not have a roommate at all?

At your program: Can you work or volunteer in your community?

3. Treat you with respect

At home: Can you close or lock your bedroom and bathroom door? Is your diet and medication information kept private?

At your program: Do staff keep your personal information private? Do you have a safe place to keep your personal belongings?

4. Give you the freedom to make your own daily choices

At home: Do you have to stick to a set schedule for waking, bathing, eating, exercising, activities? Can you have a meal at the time and place of your choosing?



At your program: Do you have your own schedule for activities based on what you want to do? Are you with other people who you want to be with?

5. Let you choose your services and support staff

At home: Do you know how to ask for a new support staff or a new agency? Do you know how to ask for a new service? Are you listened to when you ask for new services or new staff?

At your program: Did you choose your program? Were you given choices of other programs and the chance to visit other programs if you wanted to? Can you do activities in the community as much as you want to?

Ari said these changes are to help you, "Get free from rules."

ASAN's "Toolkit on Improving Home & Community-Based Services" is a helpful resource:

<http://autisticadvocacy.org/policy-advocacy/policy-advocacy-toolkits/hcbs/>

Thank you to Becoming Independent for letting us use their room for the meeting!

Sara Murphy & Enrique Rodriguez— “Imagine the Possibilities”

Sara Murphy works at WorkLink/TransCen and is a national expert on employment. Enrique Rodriguez receives support from WorkLink. He is an administrative assistant at Diadexus and is a self advocacy leader.

At Sara’s and Enrique’s presentation, “Imagine the Possibilities,” they talked about a new service in the North Bay, where people get help to find good jobs and to get more connected with their communities. This new service is called ‘braided services’ or ‘wrap-around services’.

Braided services are custom designed for each person. No one’s schedule looks the same. Each person’s schedule is based on their skills and interests.

Braided services help people to:

- > find jobs that are right for them,
- > strengthen their work skills,
- > connect more to their community, &
- > address non-work needs.



Sara’s agency, WorkLink, has been providing braided services for almost 20 years in San Francisco. She has been working with two agencies in the North Bay, Redwood Empire Industries (REI) and Products, Service & Industry (PSI) to get braided services started in the North Bay and helping job seekers go to work.

DISCOVERY

Sara says people should, “get the right job, not just any job.” How do you know what the right job is for you? In a process called “discovery,” you get the chance to try different types of work and different work environments. Sara also uses a document called a “Positive Personal Profile” or “PPP” to help people think about ideas and options for work.

Enrique Rodriguez presented with Sara. Enrique talked about the job he had that wasn’t the right job for him, and how WorkLink helped him to figure out the kinds of jobs that would be right for him. Read Enrique’s story on page 4.

“It’s not a question of whether you can work, it’s a question of where you can work.”
~Sara Murphy



Enrique: “Work has Changed My Life”

Enrique Rodriguez talked about the job he used to have at Safeway. It was hard for Enrique to do the customer service that was required in that job. Enrique said, “I don’t like when customers tell me negative things.” Enrique ended up losing his job at Safeway and he felt really bad about it.

Enrique went to Sara Murphy’s agency, WorkLink, where he started the discovery process. Enrique and WorkLink did a Positive Personal Profile (PPP) to figure out how to support Enrique to succeed. Enrique’s PPP is on the next page. Enrique’s dreams were to get a job in a professional place, move into his own apartment, get a girlfriend, and travel to Hawaii. Enrique likes places that are quiet and professional, not loud and busy. He likes working on computers, he’s familiar with office equipment, and he likes working on machines.

Enrique worked hard to build his skills and figure out what kind of job was right for him. He did internships at Kaiser where he worked in Human Resources (HR), family medicine, and environmental services (EVS). EVS was cleaning; he didn’t like that. Enrique’s favorite job at Kaiser was HR, where he did office work. By trying different jobs, Enrique and WorkLink found out that he loved working in an office with computers, fax machines, copiers, and doing filing. After his internship, Enrique continued to work on his computer and office skills while he and the WorkLink Job Developer looked for a good job. He took computer classes at City College and volunteered for Save the Redwoods, doing clerical jobs.

Enrique now works at Diadexus, a biotech company, as an office assistant where he scans, files, restocks supplies and office machines, and helps in the lab.

Enrique said, “I bought a computer with my first paycheck. I can now Facebook my friends any check my e-mails. I have lots of new friends and I’m learning lots of new things. I have money to do fun things, like go to dinner and movies with my girlfriend. I help my mother with bills. I am saving to get my own apartment and take a vacation.”

Safeway didn’t work out for Enrique because it wasn’t a good match for him. He was not a bad employee and it wasn’t a bad job; it was not the right job for him. When Enrique got help to figure out what he likes, what he’s good at, and what he doesn’t like, he was able to get a job he loves where he can succeed.

Thank you Enrique for sharing your story!

Positive Personal Profile

Name: Enrique

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dreams and Goals</i></p> <p>Get a job in a professional place and move into my own apartment. Meet a girlfriend. Travel to Hawaii.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Interests</i></p> <p>Mexican culture. Video games (Wii). Working on learning to speak Spanish</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Talents, Skills, and Knowledge</i></p> <p>Likes working on computers – types 63 wpm. Strong clerical skills (filing, photocopying), familiar with lots of office equipment (computers, fax, copiers), likes working with machines and tools, learns quickly, good memory.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Learning Styles</i></p> <p>Verbal directions should be clear and concise. Modeling new tasks is preferred. Can follow written directions if he is familiar with tasks. May need reminders if expected to do things differently.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Values</i></p> <p>Being respected and liked by others. Being smart. Having friends. Family is important. Being Latino (Mexican)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Positive Personality Traits</i></p> <p>Punctual! Honest, candid, smart, detail-oriented, a man of great resolve, strong self-advocate. Good sense of humor, likes a good joke.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Environmental Preferences</i></p> <p>Clean, well-organized. Casual, hip places (but not loud) – nothing too professional or boring. Quiet but friendly. Like hospital and medical/science environment.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Dislikes</i></p> <p>Bullies and mean people. Chaotic loud places. Being told what to do. Being patronized, condescending, people asking too many questions or interrupting me.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Work Experiences</i></p> <p>Project Search/Kaiser Internships; 1) Environmental services, 2) Material management, 3) Human Resources, 4) Sterile Processing</p> <p>School job: Safeway, bagging groceries, collecting carts (did not like customer service, too much pressure)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Support Systems</i></p> <p>Family (mom, grandma, and sister – all very supportive)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Specific Challenges</i></p> <p>Needs a structured position with consistent but complex tasks. Needs reminders to stay focused. Help with social cues. Initiative is a concern.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Solutions and Accommodations</i></p> <p>Structured tasks, consistent routine. Concrete, concise instructions. Direct feedback.</p>

Career Ideas and Possibilities to Explore: Biotech, Hospital administration, Dental offices, Insurance firms, High tech?

SELF ADVOCACY LEADERS

Chen Curtiss presented at the Supported Life Conference in Sacramento on “Leading Your Own IPP Meeting.” Chen talked about how he led his meeting using his own powerpoint and how leading his meeting helped him get support to work on the goals he wants. After his presentation many people came up to Chen and thanked him for the helpful information he provided.



Chen recently met one of the goals that he talked about at his IPP meeting....he got a job!

Congratulations Chen on your great presentation and on your new job!



Savaing, the North Bay's representative to People First of California, was elected to be the Secretary of PFCA. Savaing is a dedicated and hard-working advocate. He always looks for ways to be involved and help others.

Thank you Savaing for being a great representative for the North Bay at PFCA!

Mark Your Calendars! The next Regional Self Advocacy Meeting will be on Thursday, December 17, 2015 from 10:30 am -12:30 pm in Fairfield. Details on this meeting will be sent out soon.





We want to hear from you! If you have comments or questions about this newsletter, or if you would like to send an article or pictures for a future newsletter, please contact Cindy Ruder at 707-953-8403 or cindy.ruder@scdd.ca.gov