

CONSENT ITEMS

- 1. Consumer Services Committee, Minutes of October 9, 2017 meeting
(meeting handout)
- 2. Executive Committee, Minutes of October 4, 2017 meeting 3
- 3. Finance & Personnel Committee, Minutes of Oct 4, 2017 meeting 4
- 4. Executive Director’s Monthly Report (meeting handout) 9

**VALLEY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CENTER
MINUTES OF CONSUMER SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 9, 2017**

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PRESENT: Dena Pfeifer, Lori Smith her facilitator, Claire Lazaro, Rush Bailey, Margaret Heinz, Cindy Mix, Carmen Calder, Dena Hernandez, Daime Hoornaert, Lisa Culley, Mo Rashid, Charles Scott Edwards his facilitator, Mary Sheehan, Wilma Murray, Tony Anderson, Tom Martin, Emily Grunder, Chris Sugabo her facilitator, Olivia Honch facilitator trainee

ABSENT: Tom Bowe, Elizabeth Victor-Martinez, Kori Heuvel, Lynda Mendoza

=====

Claire Lazaro, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

1.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

- Dena Hernandez thanked VMRC for the Cultural Fair and thought VMRC did a great job of putting it together.
- Dena Hernandez shared the following:
 - Multicultural event on Saturday, October 7, 2017 had over 400 people attend and George Lewis from SCDD from North Valley Hills did a great job emceeing the event.
 - FRN and SCDD will be providing an IEP Workshop at First 5 in Jackson on October 11, 2017 – if interested call Dena for more information.
 - The flyer for the Young Adult Program from Stockton Unified Open House.
 - Save the date UCP & Xi Chi Sigma host PROM “Spark of the Night”, Saturday, October 28, 2017

2.0 REVIEW OF MINUTES

M/S/C (Pfeifer/Bailey) Approve the minutes of September 11, 2017 as written.

3.0 CLINICAL

We still have not heard of the mental health grants.

We have quite a few good ideas, regarding Dental resources. Tony has done a great job looking for resources. We are hoping that DDS will be adding funding for dental services. DDS has not given a definite answer.

4.0 RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Carmen Calder made it thru the vendor surveys. It took a lot of work to get it completed. Resource development & VMRC staff made calls to get vendors to participate. We are on point and we are now waiting to get the e-mail from DDS to change the rates.

5.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE

5.1 **Alerts:** Patricia Green was on vacation. Carmen has been working with staff to complete a lot of the alerts that they had pending. Staff is working to create a better tool to share information with this group. Quite a few alerts pending, however there were 89 open alerts, 66 closed. With the majority being technical assistance that we have provided. Some were unsubstantiated and a few corrective action plans. We have met with the vendors and they are working on compliance.

6.0 CASE MANAGEMENT

- Caseload ratio report and transfer report will be reviewed at each meeting. Discuss additions to report.

| Transfer in/out for 2017 | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| Files Received | | Files sent out | |
| January | 23 | January | 31 |
| February | 41 | February | 19 |
| March | 38 | March | 25 |
| April | 33 | April | 14 |
| May | 53 | May | 31 |
| June | 21 | June | 21 |
| July | 41 | July | 12 |
| August | 41 | August | 28 |
| September | 40 | September | 29 |
| October | 51 | October | 27 |
| November | | November | |
| December | | December | |
| TL for 2017 | 382 | TL for 2017 | 237 |

- We have hired 21 of the 25 expansion positions; however we are also back filling vacated position. HR has ramped up their process and interviewing. Last week we had 13 interviews with 3 offers made.
- Public Meetings held at VMRC on 9/19—10-11am pertaining to Respite Service Standard and 11-12noon to discuss the Annual Performance Contract. (Handouts/vote on Respite Service Standard.)
- Recent and upcoming events, trainings, and conferences—
 - 3 days of Cultural Competency training with Barbara Stroud during the week of 9/18/17 at VMRC for all VMRC staff and up to 150 vendors.
 - Remembrance Day, 9/18. Park View and Rural Cemeteries.
 - DDS Self-Determination trainings—9/6—E. Bay; 10/5—Alta; 10/18—CVRC.

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- Cultural Connection held on 9/30.
- National Leadership Training 10/15-10/20 in San Gabriel-Pomona—Robert Fernandez and Danielle Wells will be attending for VMRC.
- Supported Life Conference held 10/5 and 10/6. Judy Rhodes from San Andreas office attended.
- 11/2—Health Policy Advocacy training at Modesto VMRC office for the public.
- 10/10/17 – Disability and Diversity Day for Caltrans
- 10/18/17 – Modesto Boys & Girls Club
- 10/20/17 – Healthy Aging & Fall Prevention
- 11/18/17- Stockton Hmong New year 2017-2018
- 11/2/17 – Community Resource Fair
- Person-Centered Thinking and Training to occur starting in January, 2018.
- Recruitment for VMRC SC staff is in full force - 13 interviews in Stockton were held last week and 8 will be held in Modesto next week.

Daime asked about our phone directory on our website. Per Cindy it should be updated in the near future due to a project. So hopefully we should see improvement.

7.0 TRANSPORTATION

Wilma - there has been a slight increase in rates in the foothills

Modesto dial a ride

Continuing communication with RTD

UBER-There is no tracking vs. RTD riders. In place of dial a ride. Out a pocket fee – must use a credit card. 10/21 there is another meeting.

Mo Rashid brought flyers for a DRAIL Symposium that will be held October 25 & November 29. 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Tuesday November 13, 2017, 4:30 p.m., Stockton VMRC office, Cohen Board Room

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Recorder: Cindy Strawderman

Minutes of Consumer Services Meeting

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DRAFT



**Valley Mountain Regional Center
Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 4, 2017**

Present: Tom Bowe, President
Andrea Rueda, Secretary
Ivan Johnson, Treasurer
Tony Anderson, VMRC Executive Director
Jan Maloney, Executive Assistant

Absent: Claire Lazaro, Vice-President (via Conference Call)

Visitor: Shaefaye Kirkendoll, Facilitator

Board President, Tom Bowe, called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

1. Review & Approval of Agenda:

M/S/C (RUEDA/JOHNSON) to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

2. Review & Approval of September 6, 2017 Minutes:

M/S/C (JOHNSON/RUEDA) to approve the minutes as presented.

3. Issues for Discussion:

a. Executive Director's update:

Tony stated last weekend's Cultural Connections Fair at VMRC in Stockton was a huge success. The goal was to have 250 people attend, and at least 585 people attended. This fair was funded through a grant aimed at Early Start and Children, and reached out to the different communities. The Advocates sang and people danced, there were food trucks, clowns, bounce houses, and more. The attorneys and other vendors were busy throughout the day. Fifty people from the office volunteered their time. Tony will try to win some more grant money to host another fair.

There were a number of vendors who had not completed their required ABX2-1 reports. An alert was put out and vendors were given help to complete the reports, which would have

(3)

resulted in the additional funding being taken back by DDS if the reports were not submitted. There were only seven vendors who did not submit reports.

Tony met with the Dental Society in Modesto, and is aiming to get a sense of where they feel the problem lies. VMRC is the only regional center that has a proposal in to DDS, and the proposal has not yet been either accepted or rejected.

Tony toured all six Kavere crisis homes, and saw adults and children who are at the homes for stabilization before transferring to a step-down facility. Tony also visited the BEST program for children in Modesto.

The California Memorial Project held ceremonies in Stockton and Manteca on September 18. Tony was a keynote speaker at the Stockton remembrance ceremony, and over 100 people were in attendance.

A breakfast was held to welcome VMRC's new Human Resources Director, Bud Mullanix.

Tony is pleased with the progress of the vendor group CLASP. There are now 45 paying members, and a few months back there were only 8 paying members. The group is moving into the professional development program phase, and the bylaws and infrastructure is being built up.

Tony was the keynote speaker at the California Disability Services Association, the State's largest provider association, and delivered the message that if regional centers and the provider communities work together, great things can be achieved.

Tony will attend the Self-Determination Advisory meeting in Sacramento tomorrow. Claire will attend both days of this meeting, and report back at Monday's board meeting.

On Friday, Tony will be the keynote speaker at the Supported Life conference, and will deliver the message of how people with disabilities can advocate for themselves.

b. Notable Consumer Incidents/Complaints:

Last month Tony discussed a problem with a consumer in San Jose, and the problem continues this month. The case manager estimates spending around 80% of her time on this case, and her supervisor also spends a lot of time on this case. An attorney is now involved, as is the county council involved. Anthony Hill, VMRC's attorney, met with their attorney, and social workers are trying to figure out a way to serve that is in the best interest of this child.

c. Vendor Issues:

There were no vendor issues to report this month.

d. Union Update:

A meeting is scheduled, following complaints related to the installation of cameras throughout the Modesto office, which was a recommendation from the safety consultant hired by VMRC last year. Staff in Modesto feel their privacy will be restricted.

e. Nominating Committee:

There was a brief Nominating Committee meeting before the Executive Committee meeting, and Tom Toomey was appointed as the last Consumer Representative to the Board of Directors. Tom Bowe will contact Dena Hernandez to let her know.

f. Self-Determination Advisory Committee:

Tony will attend a training session scheduled for tomorrow in Sacramento. He is more involved with the State's stakeholder group and working on training modules. Board Vice President, Claire Lazaro, will attend both days of training and report back to the Board of Directors on Monday. Although the State refuses to give a hard date, they are estimating this will happen early next year.

g. Other Matters:

Tom Bowe had a question regarding board meeting dates. Tom also advised Ivan Johnson that there will be more visuals on the screen at the board meeting that will assist his Finance & Personnel Committee report. He also advised that the minutes from all committees will be placed under the Consent Calendar from now on, on the board meeting agenda.

Tony advised there will be two presentations from consumers on their goals and successes, at the October board meeting. Mary Sheehan will speak at the December board meeting on DME (Durable Medical Equipment), and the Parliamentarian is scheduled for January.

Tom will ask board members on Monday if there are any particular areas/items they would like to hear more about.

4. October Board Meeting Agenda:

Correspondence:

None

News Items:

None

5. Approval to Waive One Month Information Period:

Approval of the one-month information period was not sought this month.

6. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 1, at 6:00pm at VMRC in Stockton.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55pm



**Valley Mountain Regional Center
Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2017**

Present: Ivan Johnson, Treasurer
Tom Bowe, President
Andrea Rueda, Secretary
Margaret Heinz, At Large
Elizabeth Victor-Martinez, Parent Representative
Connie Uychutin, CLASP Representative
Tony Anderson, VMRC Executive Director
Claudia Reed, VMRC Chief Financial Officer
Bud Mullanix, VMRC Human Resources Director
Jan Maloney, VMRC Executive Assistant

Absent: Claire Lazaro, Vice-President
Noemi Santiago
B. Katherine Torres

Guest: Shaefaye Kirkendoll, Facilitator

Committee actions noted in bold.

Board Treasurer, Ivan Johnson, brought the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

1. Review of Agenda:

M/S/C (BOWE/UYCHUTIN) to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

2. Review of September 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes:

Ivan called for revisions to the minutes, and hearing none, **M/S/C (BOWE/UYCHUTIN).**

3. Public Comment:

There was no public comment this month.

4. Fiscal Department Update:

Acceptance of Contract Status Report through August 2017:

DDS Operating Contracts total \$181,042,000, a 50.5% increase over the contract amount one year ago. State claims due to VMRC total \$19,353,995, with \$38,243,864 having been advanced by the state, leaving a net amount of \$18,889,869 owed to the State by VMRC.

4

The Contract Status report shows POS expenditures for the month total \$15,727,554, an increase of 17.1% over last year's total of \$13,428,419 for the same month. The amount spent year-to-date is \$29,373,222, representing an increase of 12.4% over last year's year-to-date amount of 26,132,115. The total POS budget spent year-to-date including CPP is 16.2% with 16.7% of the budget year completed.

Operations expenditures inclusive of the Foster Grandparents/Senior Companion program and CPP expenditures for the month total \$2,795,394, compared to last year's total for the same time period, of 2,052,720, representing an increase of 36.2% over the prior year.

Key Fiscal Procedures are up to date.

M/S/C (BOWE/RUEDA) to accept the Contract Status Report for July 2017, as presented, with one abstention from Connie Uychutin.

Claudia advised the committee that she would like to redesign the CSR report, and passed around examples of the format that she would like to use going forward. The committee reviewed the document and Connie requested to see the year-to-date cash income under Revenue. Elizabeth requested a percentage age increase column be added to show the increase or decrease between this year and the last year accruals.

Review of Contracts over \$250,000:

Contracts over \$250,000 are approved by the Finance & Personnel Committee, and presented for approval to the Board of Directors at monthly board meetings. **M/S/C (BOWE/RUEDA) to accept the contracts over \$250,000, expiring in the month of October, as presented. One abstention, Connie Uychutin.**

| Vendor Name | Vendor Category | Current Contract | Proposed Contract | Dollar Increase | % Rate Increase | Reasons for Increase |
|--|--|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Accredited Respite Services | In-Home Respite Services | \$915,249 | \$1,020,000 | \$104,751 | 11.45% | Respite cap being lifted will see an increase |
| ARC Amador/Calaveras | Adult Development | \$726,591 | \$808,599 | \$82,008 | 11.29% | Expected increase from 47 to 55 consumers |
| Behavioral & Educational Strategies & Training ESAIP P | Client/Parent Support Behavior Intervention Training | \$1,858,235 | \$2,100,000 | \$241,765 | 13.01% | Increase in consumers served from 62 to 73 |
| Behavioral & Educational Strategies & Training Infant | Infant Development Program | \$501,595 | \$624,000 | \$122,405 | 24.40% | Increase in consumers served from 8 to 17 |
| Behavioral & Educational Strategies Training IT Soc/Eng | Early Start Specialized Therapeutic Services | \$462,600 | \$608,412 | \$145,812 | 31.52% | New program in 2015 rate increase in 7/2016 and continued growth in number of consumers |
| Central Valley Autism Project ESAIP Program | Client/Parent Support Behavior Intervention Training | \$1,730,185 | \$2,400,000 | \$669,815 | 38.71% | Rate increase in 7/2016 increase in number of consumers served from 77 to 92 |
| Central Valley Autism Project Infant Development Program | Infant Development Program | \$335,806 | \$396,000 | \$60,194 | 17.93% | Increase in number of consumers served from 6 to 12 |
| Horrigan Cole Enterprises Cole | Community Integration Training | \$1,760,117 | \$1,824,000 | \$63,883 | 3.63% | increase in number of consumers from |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|--------|---|
| Vocational Services | Program | | | | | 86 to 91 |
| Human Services Projects, Inc. Encore Wrap-Around Services | Individual or Family Training | \$504,804 | \$586,000 | \$81,196 | 16.08% | Rate increase in 7/16 and increase in number of consumers from 24 to 33 |
| Pacific Homecare Services | In-Home Respite Services Agency | \$5,642,074 | \$6,033,703 | \$391,629 | 6.94% | Respite cap being lifted will see an increase |
| Premier Healthcare Services | In-Home Respite Services Agency | \$1,353,277 | \$1,608,000 | \$254,723 | 18.82% | Respite cap being lifted will see an increase |

| Contracts with no change from previous year: | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| Vendor Name | Vendor Category | Current Contract |
| California Mentor Family Home Agency | Family Home Agency | \$ 1,945,999 |
| Community Compass Jackson Site | Behavior Management Program | \$ 1,307,199 |
| Hana Hou Alliance, LLC | Specialized Residential Facility (Habilitation) | \$ 555,777 |
| Jar Mill's Place | Specialized Residential Facility (Habilitation) | \$ 470,063 |
| Jar Mill Annex | Specialized Residential Facility (Habilitation) | \$ 470,063 |
| Storer Transportation Stockton | Transportation Companies | \$ 6,082,448 |
| Storer Transportation Modesto | Transportation Companies | \$ 2,589,405 |
| Vocational Coaching & Development Institute | Behavior Management Program | \$ 291,491 |

| OPS Contracts | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Vendor Name | Contract Amount | Contracted Service |
| Nothing to report | | |

The Committee chose to hear more about the Central Valley Autism Project at Monday's board meeting.

Acceptance of D-1 Contract Amendment:

M/S/C (RUEDA/VICTOR-MARTINEZ) to accept the D-1 Contract Amendment. This amendment provides an additional \$210,573,909, which breaks down to 180,042,251 for POS, and \$29,531,658 for Operations.

Acceptance of Restricted Donation:

A donation of \$38.85 via eScrip was received and put toward the Dr. James Popplewell fund, that covers emergency expenses for which state funding is not available.

M/S/C (BOWE/RUEDA) to accept this Restricted Donation.

Cash Flow Projection Report:

If the new format for the CSR (Contract Status Report) is adopted, the Cash Flow Projection Report will not be presented until April, when funding is at its most critical point through June, the end of the fiscal year. The report presented tonight projects cash flow through the end of October.

VMRC is transitioning to F&M Bank, headquartered in Lodi, as the cost of banking will be less than the fees currently levied by Union Bank. All aspects of VMRC's banking will be transitioned, including the Line of Credit. F&M Bank will charge a flat rate fee of \$6,000 per annum.

5. Human Resources Department Update:

Human Resources report:

VMRC's new Human Resources Director, Bud Mullanix, reviewed the October HR Report. Calendar year-to-date, VMRC has hired 44 employees and termed 23. The prior year-to-date figures show 28 employees were hired and 19 were termed. Bud stated we will continue to surpass the 28 people hired year-to-date last year.

VMRC currently has 325 employees, which breaks down to 212 in the Stockton Office, 94 in Modesto, and 19 in the San Andreas office.

There are a total of 14 vacancies consisting of a Clinical Psychologist, a Clinical Manager of Nursing, an Application Support Technician, and a Coordinator of Autism. There are also 10 Service Coordinator vacancies, six of which are replacement and four are expansion positions.

Terminations Report:

There was no Terminations Report provided this month.


6. Executive Session:

There was no Executive Session this month.

7. Next Meeting:

The Finance and Personnel Committee will meet again on **Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 5:30pm** in the Stockton Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23pm.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT
TONY ANDERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
VALLEY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CENTER
NOVEMBER 13, 2017

- Director's Activities Highlights
- Department Directives
- State & Federal Budget Update



DIRECTORS ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTS

- Transition
- Organizational Activities
- Board Development
- Activities with Community Partners



VALLEY
MOUNTAIN
REGIONAL
CENTER

TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

Attended the Open House for the San Joaquin County Wellness Center and met with board members. The Wellness Center has actually been in operation for several years but is now going to self-sufficient and peer run.

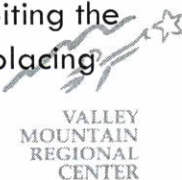
I was an invited speaker at the National Leadership Institute training in Pomona. The training covered innovations in developmental services, management training, and leadership development. We sent two staff from VMRC to this weeklong training (6 regional centers were represented).



TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

Worked with CLASP Leadership group to finalize changes to the bylaws and to begin to map out the professional development topics for community providers (see attached).

CLASP endorsed the leadership proposal and brought to our attention unforeseen changes in regulations that are impacting local providers (child support requiring parents to pay for agency healthcare and prohibiting the use of Medi-Cal instead and a new law requiring restrictions on replacing staff).



TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

Continue to meet with family members periodically who have issues and challenges they are struggling to address. It is a challenge for me not to interfere with the work the case managers are doing while at the same time be responsive to families.

I attended the annual early start conference with this year's as Social Emotional Development. The conference stress the importance of attachment in brain development

TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

Mentoring Meeting with Carlos Flores of San Diego regional Center

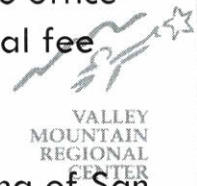
Speaker at a national conference in San Diego address cultural diversity and intersectionality of issues for people with developmental disabilities

Participated in a variety of meetings at the Association of Regional Center Agencies (New Directors Group, Executive Directors Group, ARCA Finance Committee, and the Board of Directors) in San Diego. DDS always attends this meeting for a report and open forum but this time they were unable due to the extraordinary response required in care for those in harm's way at Sonoma Developmental Center during the fires.

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

I have regularly scheduled organizational meetings weekly with the senior leadership at VMRC, and twice a week with my direct reports Jan (Exec Asst) and Anthony(Legal Affairs), and at least monthly with Claudia (CEO) and Cindy (Dir of Consumer Services) and ongoing with Mary (Clinical Director).

I had a great opportunity to enjoy “Soup Day” in the Modesto office where many of us brought a soup from home and for a minimal fee and got to try several different soups. Great event.



Together with our clinical director we attended the first meeting of San

ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

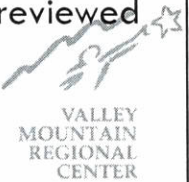
Together with our clinical director we attended the first meeting of San Joaquin TEETH, a dental initiative headed by First5 San Joaquin. Earlier this month the two of us submitted a more detailed plan to DDS for addressing the problem of lack of access to dental services in our five counties.



BOARD DEVELOPMENT

The Board of Directors Bylaws committee met and began the work of reviewing the bylaws and considering proposed recommendations to the board. Katherine Torres agreed to serve as chair. Staff includes the legal affairs advisor and the executive director. Directors include Tom Bowe, Noemi Sanchez, and Lynda Gonzales, and Tracie Leong.

The Legislative Committee chaired by Candice Bright met and reviewed it charge setting dates for report deadlines and presentations.



BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Met with Candice Bright, the chair of the new Legislative Committee to begin organizing the schedule and activities of the committee.

Met with board member Robert Balderama during his recovery and provided an update from the recent board meeting he was unable to attend, and sent the board's best wishes.



BOARD DEVELOPMENT

We posted all documents to board meetings to increase transparency for the public

Posted board notices 45, 30, and 10 days advance of the upcoming meetings the most advance notice to date but didn't send hard copy board packets to the board of directors.



ACTIVITIES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Met with Joey Travolta, Will Sanford, and Liz Zastrow about partnering with the school district and local community providers to develop a film making employment service in our region. Our team at VMRC put together a plan of action with these partners and should be in place fully in 2018.

Met with DDS regarding the progress from the Disparities grant projects. VMRC was chosen to speak at the DDS town Hall forum on Disparities in Fresno. Carlos Hernandez will be representing VMRC and presenting on our progress.



ACTIVITIES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS (PAGE 2)

I participated in the 50th Anniversary Celebration & Dedication of the Mary Stuart Rogers Foundation Classroom at the Howard Training Center in Modesto.

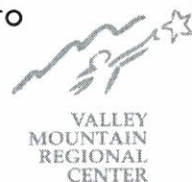
I attended the annual meeting of the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services along with 4 other regional center directors and our state DDS Director Nancy Bargmann. The meeting included officials from the federal departments who impact our regional center services discussing HCBS updates, National Core Indicators, and more.

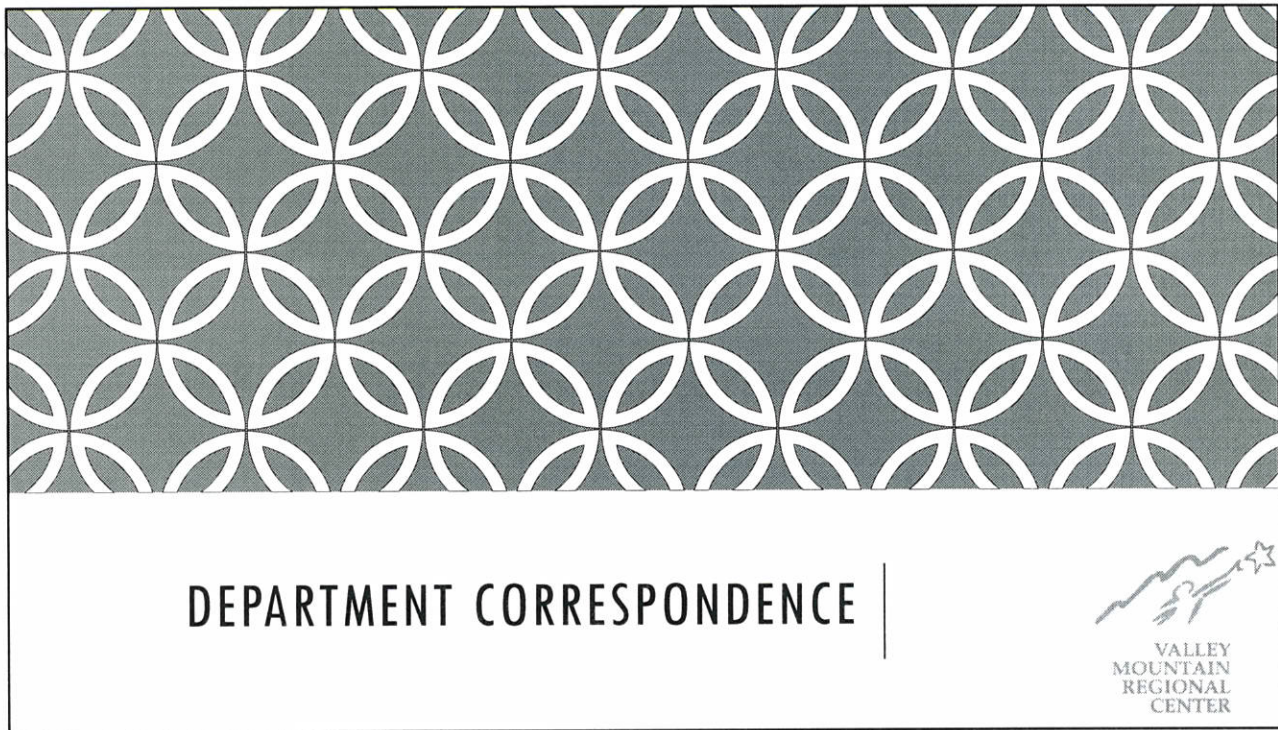


ACTIVITIES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS (PAGE 3)

Attended the Self-Determination workgroup and received updates from DDS on the SDP status. Several trainings have been developed now in preparation for the roll out and though no start date was announced there are no new delays. Many expect approval by the first half of next year.

Met with a group interested in helping VMRC with our efforts to reduce disparities in the delivery of services.





HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES REGULATIONS – PROVIDER FUNDING FOR COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

1. Service providers are invited to apply for funds through regional centers
2. All submitted concepts will be forwarded to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
3. Regional centers should make recommendations for funding based on local priorities (approval will be made by DDS)
4. Projects that require multiple years to complete, additional funding, or result in meeting some, but not all, of the HCBS rules, will be considered.



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

1600 NINTH STREET, Room 320, MS 3-9
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TTY (916) 654-2054 (For the Hearing Impaired)
(916) 654-1958



November 1, 2017

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

**SUBJECT: HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES REGULATIONS –
PROVIDER FUNDING FOR COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES**

Background

In January 2014, the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued final regulations, or rules, for Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS)¹. The rules require that HCBS programs funded through Medicaid (called Medi-Cal in California) provide individuals with disabilities full access to the benefits of community living and offer services and supports in settings that are integrated in the community. This could include opportunities to seek employment in competitive and integrated settings, control personal resources, and engage in the community to the same degree as individuals who do not receive regional center services. The HCBS rules focus on the nature and quality of individuals' experiences and not just the settings where the services are delivered.

In recognition that some service providers need to take steps towards modifying their services to come into compliance with the HCBS rules by March 2022, the 2017 Budget Act (AB 97, Chapter 14, Statutes of 2017) contains \$15 million to fund necessary changes. As described below, service providers are invited to apply for funds through regional centers and all submitted concepts will be forwarded to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) as they are received. Regional centers should make recommendations for funding based on local priorities, although final approval will be made by DDS. Projects that require multiple years to complete, additional funding, or result in meeting some, but not all, of the HCBS rules, will be considered.

The HCBS rules represent a significant, system-wide change to the way services are delivered. Given the broad scope of the rules, providers are encouraged to submit concepts that offer a unique and innovative path to compliance. Funding may be used for more creative service delivery options.

¹ <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/hcbs/index.html>

² <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/lrc/Pages/HCBSStatewideTransitionPlan.aspx>

Examples of previously funded concepts:

- Outreach and information regarding the HCBS rules for consumers and members of their support teams.
- Supporting consumers on a more individualized basis to promote community integration and employment.
- Prioritizing the preferences of consumers and utilizing consumer feedback in the development of the concept.

Eligible providers

Providers of services in settings identified in the California Statewide Transition Plan² (Enclosure A) that are not in compliance with the HCBS rules may be eligible for funding.

Application process

The funding application process includes the following:

Step 1 – By January 5, 2018, service providers need to submit the following to the designated contact person for each regional center (Enclosure B) to be considered for initial approval:

- A completed provider compliance evaluation of the vendored setting, service or support that identifies and describes which HCBS setting requirements are not being met (Enclosure C); and,
- A completed concept form (Enclosure C) that includes:
 - Vendor name, primary regional center, vendor number, service type/code, and number of consumers being served by the vendor;
 - Whether the concept addresses unmet service needs or service disparities;
 - A description of how the vendor involved the individuals it provides services to in the proposal development process;
 - A brief narrative/description of the project, identifying which HCBS setting requirements are not being met, describe how the funding would aid in compliance, and justify the requested funding;
 - A brief description of any barriers to compliance with the HCBS rules and/or project implementation;
 - An estimated budget for the project identifying all major costs;