



**Valley Mountain Regional Center  
Board Training Plan/Curriculum (2024)  
Submitted:**

**To: Mr. James Ford,**  
Department of Developmental Services  
**From:** Tony Anderson, Executive Director  
Valley Mountain Regional Center

**Re: Valley Mountain Regional Center 2024 Board Training Plan**

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**Overall Approach to Board Development**

The Valley Mountain Regional Center Board of Directors meets for Board Meetings 7 times per year (February, April, June, July, August, October, and December). All of these meetings are preceded by a 1-hour training to the Board on a topic of relevance. Trainers consist of regional center staff, management and senior leaders, community partners and stakeholders, contractors for special projects required by the regional center, or other designated experts in a field or topic relevant to board governance of the agency.

The Board will also meet on 1 Saturday in December 2024 for an annual Board Retreat. On this day board members receive updates from senior management and legal counsel on the business of the regional center, and their roles, responsibilities, and expectations as board members.

Finally, this will be a unique year for the board because the Executive Director has resigned his position and they have hired a new Executive Director, and she will begin in the middle of February. In an effort to do everything we can for a successful transition for this new director we have contracted with the University of the Pacific to conduct interviews of staff and board members and facilitate a couple of retreat sessions focused on the elements necessary for a successful transition period (see the attached ***Executive Director Transition, Board Transition Development, and Strategic Planning***).

***Curriculum***

**January 2024: *Executive Director Transition, Board Transition Development, and Strategic Planning***. This proposal is for Peter Johnson to work with VMRC to facilitate several training and planning sessions that will be part ED Transition and Development, and part Strategic Planning. These meetings will be designed to bring the new leader and management into alignment with the Board.

**Presenter(s): Peter Johnson, University of Pacific and other university colleagues as necessary.**

**February 2024 - Segment 1: Strategic Planning and Board Development**

The board will focus on revisiting the December 2023 board retreat and strategic planning. The board is working on setting strategic directions for Valley Mountain Regional Center and this training will focus on how to communicate this to the executive director, senior leadership, and the community. The board will have a training course on board recruitment best practices and the board composition requirements.

**Presenter(s):** The President, Doug Bonnet, Special Assistant to the Director, and the Executive Director.

**April 2024 - Segment 2: Employment of People with Developmental Disabilities**

Competitive Integrated Employment and Performance Incentive Program and how VMRC engages with the business community and the local chambers of commerce. How we work with schools and other community groups to get people employed after graduating from high school.

**Presenter(s):** Enos Edmundson, Employment Specialist

**June 28, 2024 - Segment 3: Due Process/Fairness and Board Governance**

Individual appeals and complaints, 4731, Whistleblower<sup>i</sup>, Fair Hearing Process, Vendor Appeals, regional center Transparency requirements.

**Presenter(s):** Jason Toepel, Compliance Manager.

**July 2024<sup>ii</sup> - Segment 4: Children and Families**

Childrens services and eligibility process and standardization. The session will focus Intake and Eligibility, Early Start and Early Childhood services and case management, the Individual Family Service Plan and the Individual Program Plan and the planning process, foster care and children's system of care.

**Presenter(s):** (1) Tara Sisemore-Heaster, Director of Children Case Management.

**August 2024 - Segment 5: Regional Center Performance Incentive Program and the new CERMS/UFSM**

This session will focus on Person-Centered Thinking, Diversity Equity and Inclusion efforts, Cultural Competence, and Child Find Efforts. The session will also include a description of the efforts on the new case management and fiscal electronic systems.

**Presenter(s):** Angie Sheer and Jason Toepel, Compliance Manager.

**October 2024 Segment 6: Service Development and Quality Assurance**

Vendorization, Getting information on unmet needs, the contract process with vendors, resource development, QA and oversight, Corrective Action plan, and collaboration with Licensing.

**Presenter(s):** Brian Bennett, Director of Community Services, may be accompanied by the division managers for Quality Assurance and Resource Development.

**December 2024 Segment 7: The Policy Changes in the Trailer Bill and the Legislative Updates from the Most Recent Session**

In this session we'll explain the budget and legislative process that impacts the lives of

people with disabilities, and we'll discuss the implications of the changes.

**Presenter(s):** Legislative Committee Chair and Committee Members

**December 2024 – Segment 8 Board Retreat: Board Governance**

Parliamentary procedures, contract analysis and requirements, governance principles, and Conflict of Interest.

**Presenter(s):** Board President

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<sup>i</sup> This training will discuss our Board Approved Whistleblower Policy to include, but not be limited to the board's role in implementing the policy.

<sup>ii</sup> From July forward the specific dates of board meetings will be determined by the board of directors in a vote during the June board meeting.