



ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL CENTER AGENCIES

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## **Minutes**

### **ARCA Board of Directors**

***August 19, 2011***

**Sheraton Grand Sacramento  
1230 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814**

### **Present**

Phil Bonnet, Nancy Lea, ACRC  
Robert Riddick, Randy Tellalian, CVRC  
Gloria Wong, ELARC  
Laura Larson, Ricky Sedillos, FNRC  
Jim Shorter, Chin Chao, GGRC  
Nancy Spiegel for Pat Del Monico, Mariano Sanz, HRC  
Michal Clark, KRC  
Diane Anand, Mark Higgins, LRC  
Bob Hamilton, Martha Cornejo, NBRC  
George Stevens, Jeremy Sunderland, NLACRC  
Clay Jones, RCRC  
Larry Landauer, Tresa Oliveri, RCOC  
Jim Burton, Anne Struthers, RCEB  
Mimi Kinderlehrer for Santi Rogers, SARC  
Carlos Flores, Beverly Andreos, SDRC  
Keith Penman, Sheryl Logan, SG/PRC  
Roy Doronila for Dexter Henderson  
Omar Noorzad, Shane Hanna, TCRC  
Dick Jacobs, Calvin Young, VMRC  
Mike Danneker, Fernando Gomez, WRC  
Peter Tiedemann, ACRC, Chair, Chief Administrators Group  
Judy Wallace-Patton, SDRC, Chair, Chief Counselors Group  
Michael Statti, NBRC, Chair, ARCA Consumer Advisory Committee

Bob Baldo, Rick Rollens, John Popadak, Anh Nguyen, Eileen Richey, Carolyn Stiles,  
Jean Ritchie, Daniel Savino, ARCA

### ***Guests:***

Terri Delgadillo, Rita Walker, Julia Mullen, DDS

Sara Walter, NBRC  
Ami Sullivan, Kinetic Flow  
Yolanda Bosch, NLACRC  
Tammy Torum, We Care A Lot Foundation  
Tiffani Andrade, Capitol Autism Services  
Olivia Raynor, Tarjan Center at UCLA

## **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by President Tresa Oliveri.

## **Introductions**

Self-introductions were made around the table and the room.

## **Approval of Agenda**

*M/S/C To accept the Revised Agenda as presented.*

## **Approval of Minutes**

*M/S/C To approve the Minutes of the ARCA Board of Directors of June 17, 2011 as presented.*

## **Public Comment**

None.

## **President's Report (ARCA and The Collaborative) - Tresa Oliveri**

President Oliveri's remarks referred to the tremendous fiscal challenges within the state and the importance of finding common ground and working together to preserve the system.

ARCA's Vice President for this new fiscal year has already submitted his resignation due to a change in his work commitments which require international travel. The Bylaws address the issue of mid-term vacancies. The Nominating & Bylaws Committee proposes to move Fernando Gomez (WRC) from the office of Parliamentarian to the office of Vice President, and nominates Sheryl Logan (SGPRC) for the position of Parliamentarian. This will be voted on at the next meeting of the ARCA Board of Directors.

The Collaborative, a 501(C)(3) is different from ARCA, which is a 501 (C)(6). The Collaborative Board met yesterday. A recommendation was made internally to change the Bylaws and change the membership so that a member of the ARCA Housing Committee can be asked to join the Board of The Collaborative. The Collaborative is still seeking an additional Board Member Delegate to participate with the Collaborative. The Collaborative is focused on employment and housing, so it is felt that having a member of the Housing Committee on the Board of The Collaborative would be helpful. Fernando

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Gomez will also join the Board of The Collaborative. Meetings are held on the Thursday morning before the ARCA Board of Directors' meeting.

**Approval of ARCA Committees 2011-2012 Fiscal Year**

Committee rosters for the new fiscal year are complete. Bob Hamilton has agreed to serve on the Housing Committee; Jim Shorter has agreed to co-chair the Strategic Planning Committee along with Omar Noorzad. Board Member Delegates are encouraged to participate on a committee of their choice.

*M/S/C To approve the Committee rosters as presented.*

**ARCA Board of Directors Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2012**

Meeting dates for the 2012 calendar year were accepted as presented. It was noted the October Board meeting will likely be moved to the first week in December, due to the Executive Director transition.

**DDS Report**

**Budget**

**2008-09** ended with a balance of about \$66 million for the entire system.

**2009-10** has no deficiency. Based on data coming from regional centers and the data at DDS, it appears there are about \$75.3 million in outstanding advances. There will still be some expenditures coming in for about nine months. DDS will likely contact regional centers a bit earlier this year about collecting back advances.

**2010-11** appears to have no deficiency, at this point, based on SOARs and DDS expenditure tracking, although it is very thin throughout the system. It is anticipated there may be about \$25 million left over from a budget of almost \$5 billion. Appreciation was expressed for the way in which regional centers have worked on the SOARs. The tracking is getting much closer, and with such a limited budget it is imperative that DDS be able to keep track of expenditures.

**2011-12** - Unlike in many prior years the budget was signed on time. The total budget for the Department is \$4.6 billion, about \$2.6 billion General Fund. The promissory notes for the C-1 have recently gone out to regional centers. Contracts will follow immediately and some centers may have already received them. As mentioned at the last ARCA meeting, regional centers need to request the advance that is associated with the increase so they will have money for cash flow. DDS is very close to on time with the C-1. It was noted that CPP money is not included in the C-1 and will be allocated in the C-2. DDS has identified some issues with CPP that must be fixed before the money is put out.

**Operations** - When reductions happened over the past few years DDS has been able to take a lot of that out of what was always called “the 22<sup>nd</sup> regional center.” Historically there had always been money at the Department in Operations in order to help centers when something significant went wrong. With all of the budget reductions in the last two to three years, anytime it could, the Department took the reductions out of the 22<sup>nd</sup> regional center, as opposed to taking them out of what was allocated to regional centers. DDS recognizes that regional centers are severely stretched. The problem is, the buffer is gone and there is no longer a 22<sup>nd</sup> regional center. DDS has no funds with which to help regional centers. Thirteen regional centers have reported increases in rent, some up 15% over the prior year. DDS funded rent at last year’s amount and those that had increases will be contacted by DDS very soon to talk about it.

**The Trigger** - When the budget was signed the budget assumed an increase of about \$4 billion in revenues, and if those revenues do not materialize, two triggers could be implemented.

The first trigger will be if state revenue is down at least \$1 billion. This trigger includes a number of programs, including DDS for up to \$100 million. The beginning of December is when the revenue numbers come in and that is when a determination will be made to pull one or two triggers. If they do pull the first trigger they can pull it for one or more of the entities listed in the trigger. It is possible that when they pull the trigger DDS won’t be in it. If indeed, they have to pull the trigger and they do come to DDS, the way in which the language is written affects the whole system. The language for the trigger does not provide authority to DDS to initiate reductions in consumer services without additional legislation. That means DDS could not, as part of meeting the trigger, cap or reduce services. Those things all take statute and would require additional action by the Legislature. This would impact the amount of money that could be saved because there would not be much time left in the fiscal year. There could, however, be cuts to headquarters. Secondly, there could be cuts to developmental centers, and at this point the developmental center budget is very constrained because the population has not dropped at the anticipated rate. The third thing could be planned savings, or adjustments that don’t require statute. It will be critical that regional centers and DDS have a very good handle on expenditures. To the degree that spending is lower than what had been anticipated, that could be a way to achieve the savings versus actual cuts to the system and to programs.

DDS will be watching expenditures month over month. Regional centers are asked not to delay in submitting claims. DDS is still asking that the initial SOAR come in October. That will be critical to making sure DDS has an estimate of where the system stands.

In discussion it was pointed out that the budget could be re-opened, and in that situation everything in the budget could be looked at again.

The second trigger does not include DDS.

**Downsizing** - DDS still has \$3.2 million in downsizing money available. It is important to note that as of July, 2012, regional centers cannot use facilities not meeting the criteria unless the facilities are eligible for federal funds or they are in a planned downsizing activity, in which case one more year would be granted until July, 2013. Based on the information DDS has, there are still nine facilities serving 90 consumers that do not meet the criteria. Seven have not asked for DDS to evaluate whether they can be certified for FFP, and two were disapproved.

**Regulations** - A number of regulations packages, the majority of which were emergency regulations, needed to be completed following signing of the budget. DDS is moving on the regulations at a fast pace. The para-professional regulation is at the Office of Administrative Law, and they have ten days, at which point it will be publicized. The Financial Management Service for those who are getting consumer directed services is also at the Office of Administrative Law. It is expected if there are no issues, it will take effect next week. The regulations having to do with federal requirements on Medicaid disclosure should be moving by the end of the month to the Office of Administrative law. There is money in the C-1 related to staff in this regard. The Conflict of Interest regulations are still at the Department and still have a couple of weeks to go. It is appreciated that in contract negotiations agreement was reached that was a bridge between the effective date of the statute and when the regulations will be out. The BSA findings at a couple of regional centers had to do with the mechanism by which records were kept, and new regulations that are non-emergency, related to keeping records electronically, should be at OAL next week. These regulations will meet one of the criteria to close out the BSA audit.

DDS has not yet put out the family fee instructions, but they should be out Monday or Tuesday of next week.

**Adult Day Healthcare** - At this point the Department of Health Care Services is planning that on December 1, Adult Day Healthcare Services will stop. That is, their use of them as a Medi-Cal planned service will stop. They are working with managed care plans to take over a lot of the coordination of services for people that are not DD. In the DDS budget there is about \$32 million to purchase services for people who were getting ADHC's that now need some other type of service. DDS will work with Health to finalize the issues that relate to DDS. A helpful letter relating ARCA's concerns has been received and will be discussed with Health next week. DDS will work closely with regional centers as soon as they have guidance regarding the transition.

**Family Resource Centers** - The Department has contracted with the Family Resource Center Network in California and Support for Families with Disabilities as the contractor for the prevention referral and resources services. ARCA was given a copy of the contract for dissemination to all regional centers. The contractors in turn will contract with the

local Family Resource Centers, of which there are 47 in the Early Start Program. The local Family Resource Centers need to establish a memorandum of understanding with their local regional center by September 1, 2011. One of the important parts of the MOU is how the regional center will refer infants and toddlers who are not eligible for Early Start or for Lanterman Act services, but who do meet the "at risk" definition that is in statute, to the Family Resource Centers. The Family Resource Centers will in turn be collecting available information that will be provided to the DDS contractors for the annual report, which is due in 2013. In talking with regional centers, consternation has been expressed because initially, the Family Resource Network in California had published a flier in which they appeared to be soliciting referrals directly to the FRC's. DDS had discussed this with their contractors. The DDS contract clearly states that the regional centers are the evaluation entity and that the referral should go from the regional center over to the Family Resource Centers. If the Family Resource Center, by happenstance, finds a family that comes directly to them, the expectation is that they would refer the family over to the regional center for proper intake and evaluation.

**E-Billing** - At the last ARCA meeting concern was expressed that there were problems with computer memory and slowness. DDS had a contractor look at it and it was confirmed that indeed there is a problem in some areas. DDS has money that will be provided to regional centers to purchase the necessary memory in order to make the e-billing work. That issue has been favorably resolved.

**Early Start Report** - There have been extensive discussions involving the IT Committee and others, and a letter was sent out yesterday from the DDS IT. The Department did not do due diligence in terms of reaching out and making sure everything was clear before moving forward with the IT mechanism being used to create the report. The Department is now in agreement with ARCA.

### **ARCA Director's Report - Bob Baldo**

Everything of consequence will be covered by committee reports or the Department's report. This month has been quieter than usual because the Legislature has not been in session. Appreciation was expressed for the Department's ongoing effort to keep ARCA informed about significant issues affecting the regional center program.

### **Legislative Advisor's Report - Rick Rollens**

For the first time in five years the Legislature is taking their summer break from July 15 to August 15. They came back into session and will work from now until September 9, at which time they will go into recess until January. September 9 is the end of the first year of the two year legislative schedule. The policy committee deadlines have long passed for both Senate and Assembly and the bills have moved through the process and have been heard by the Assembly and Senate Appropriations Committee. Many bills end up on the suspense file because of costs associated with the bill. Next Thursday the Appropriations

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Committees will both meet to decide which bills will come off of the suspense file and be allowed to move forward to the Floor of the Senate and Assembly, and which bills will be held in Committee, which effectively kills them outright or automatically turns them into two year bills.

AB 862 (Silva) has been amended such that ARCA will move into a neutral position. ARCA had a request from the consultant of the Senate Appropriations Committee for a cost estimate on the bill, which was provided and the bill was sent to the suspense file. It will be determined next week if it will get off of the suspense file.

Budget issues are in a lull right now, waiting to see what California's economy will do and if the triggers will be pulled in December.

**SB 770 (Steinberg/Evans) - Autism Insurance Mandate.** Yesterday the ARCA Executive Committee took a support position. The timing is important since the bill will be heard next Thursday in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

*M/S/C That ARCA take a position in support of SB 770.*

The issue now is to persuade the Governor to sign the bill should it get to his desk. ARCA will be in touch with regional centers to promote a letter writing campaign urging the Governor to sign the bill.

**Presentation - Post Secondary Education and Employment Options -  
Olivia Raynor, Ph.D., Director, Tarjan Center, UCLA**

George Stevens introduced Dr. Olivia Raynor.

Dr. Raynor's presentation described mechanisms and things that people can do to support change and contribute to optimism about the future for persons with developmental disabilities. The presentation talked about opening the doors to college, which is the Tarjan Center's initiative in post secondary education; the need for change; post secondary education as a pathway to employment; the federal landscape; California's opportunities for post secondary education; and where to go from here.

**Treasurer's Report - Gloria Wong**

The financial statements ending the fiscal year on June 30, 2011 were reviewed. Despite unanticipated costs during the year the Association was able to stay within budget.

*M/S/C To go into Executive Session.*

## **Executive Session**

### **Contract Negotiating Committee** **Executive Director Transition**

*M/S/C To return to regular session.*

## **ARCA Board/Committee / Task Force Reports and Action Items**

### **Executive Committee - Tresa Oliveri**

An issue was raised during Executive Session that ARCA's Bylaws state that in replacing someone on the slate of officers there is a limited number of days in which that has to occur, and within which the full body has to vote. Because the October meeting is being moved into December, that puts the vote beyond the allowed time. Therefore, a vote was taken to extend the time line.

### **Board Members Group - Martha Cornejo**

The Board Member Delegates will hold a meeting during lunch at which time they will vote on a chair for the group. There was nothing to report at this time.

### **Community Education & Outreach Committee - Susan Lara**

No report. The Committee met in June and will meet again in the fall.

### **Consumer Advisory Committee - Michael Statti**

During the CAC meeting in August, the group brain-stormed about changing the name of the group. People have strong opinions about what they want to be called. There was agreement that "consumer" is out, with "client" being the number one suggestion. Other suggestions were "peers", "advocates", "individuals served by regional centers", "people of the regional centers." Members of the CAC will go back to their boards to discuss the issue and the CAC will bring their recommendations to ARCA at the next CAC meeting.

### **Contract Negotiating Committee - Jim Burton**

No report.

### **Directors Group - Carlos Flores**

The Directors Group met yesterday. An update was presented by Eileen Richey of ARCA regarding progress on the Adult Day Health Care Programs transition. Some of the people have significant medical problems, so care needs to be taken with the transition.

SB 74 requirements were discussed as they pertain to whistle-blower policies and transparency policies. AB 104 brings a number of significant changes. The information regarding implementation of AB 104 has begun to come from the Department. There are

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still a number of questions, however, so the Department has agreed to meet with ARCA to discuss the questions. Representation for those meeting will be the Directors who are on the ARCA Executive Committee, in addition to Chair of the Chief Counselors Group, Chair of the Administrators Group, and a representative from the Community Services Group. Prior to the meeting, questions will be funneled to ARCA. There are several parts of legislation that are in conflict with other parts, and those will be clarified as well. Anyone who notices one of these conflicts is asked to bring that to ARCA's attention.

ARCA used to have a Contract Administration Committee to deal with regulations as they came out. However, in the recent past, regulations coming from the Department had been infrequent and the committee was discontinued. Because a number of new regulations are coming from the Department at this time it has been decided that the Contract Negotiating Committee will take on the responsibility, supplemented by people with various types of expertise as the regulations come out.

In order to get at the issues created by the Community Placement Plan a CPP Task Force was created which reports to the Directors. Lately, a number of policy issues have come up that relate not just to CPP, but to developmental centers in general, and there is no body to address those issues. Robert Riddick has agreed to chair a new group that will ask for meetings with the Department in order to discuss both policy and other issues relative to developmental centers. The initial meeting has been set.

The Directors Group spent time discussing the new proposal from the Southern California Directors and Board Members on the way forward, which will be reported in greater detail under Information Sharing.

**Employment Committee - George Stevens**

The Committee thanked the ARCA Board for approving the conference that will be held next year in September. The Committee is in the process of developing an agenda and putting together a format for the conference.

**Finance Committee - Mike Clark**

At the last ARCA meeting Terri Delgadillo asked for a meeting with the Finance Committee to discuss the allocation methodology. The Finance Committee held three meetings with Department staff. The basic position of the Finance Committee was to get as much money out as possible, as quickly as possible. In order to get the C-1 allocation out a methodology had to be agreed upon. The allocation methodology is prepared by the Department, although it is usually done in consultation with the Finance Committee. Ultimately, however, it is the Department's prerogative to split up the money the way they choose. With time constraints in mind, the methodology that was approved was very similar to what has been used in the past, with two differences. One of the changes was that the allocation methodology took all residential costs and funded those at 100% for each regional center. For non-residential non-Early Start costs, known as the Lanterman

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Allocation, the regional center that had spent the lowest amount of money per capita had its Lanterman Allocation set at 100% of base. The highest per capita center received 90%, and the other 19 regional centers were scaled between 100% and 90%.

In trailer bill language this year special attention was paid to supported living services. Because supported living services were anticipated to produce about \$11 million worth of savings, the Department was interested in doing something to address those savings in the allocation. The thing that made the most sense was to take supported living and independent living services and move those from the residential portion of the allocation into the Lanterman portion of the allocation. It turned out there was more money set to be allocated than there was money available to be allocated, because the budget had shrunk. A correction was made across the board so everyone's allocation was reduced by 1%.

It is time to begin building a platform to look at allocation methodology for next year and the Finance Committee will begin working on that, with the intent to bring something back to the ARCA meeting in June of next year.

Anyone interested in serving on the Finance Committee is urged to contact either the ARCA office or Mike Clark.

**Housing Committee - Mike Danneker**

The Housing Committee, as well as one of the subcommittees, has met. There were no action items. The Minutes of those meetings will be posted on the ARCA web site. The Committee is attempting to set up a meeting with Terri Delgadillo to discuss a number of issues.

**Legislative Committee - Phil Bonnet**

Legislative issues have been reported earlier in the meeting. The Committee is becoming more balanced with staff and delegates, but there is room for one more board member to join the group. The next meeting will be a conference call on September 13.

**Nominating & Bylaws Committee - Keith Penman**

No report.

**Strategic Planning Committee - Omar Noorzad**

There has been a change in leadership of the Committee. Omar Noorzad and Jim Shorter will co-chair the Committee. Anyone interested in joining the Committee should e-mail either Jim or Omar.

**NCI Task Force - Larry Landauer**

A good meeting was held yesterday with thirteen people present. The consumer survey is on the second round. The task force is anxious to get the data, but it was explained that DDS has been busy with trailer bill language implementation. They have promised to

have the data available in the early fall. The data is meant to indicate consumer satisfaction and can be used to point to areas where work needs to take place. When the data is released there will need to be footnotes to explain certain areas, after all of the budgetary cuts. Each regional center will get its own individual report, as well as a statewide report on the indicators. DDS considers the year one indicators as a baseline and this year will do a year three survey. Some of the questions have been eliminated. From that it will be possible to see where the system has gone from year one to year three.

## **ARCA Directors Group Committee / Task Force/ Discipline Group Reports and Action Items**

### **Federal Revenues Committee - Bob Hamilton**

The Committee met July 20, in a conference call. The Minutes of the meeting have been posted on the ARCA website. The committee discussed the waivers, and other ways of getting federal funding. The incentive for going above the cap has been removed as part of the \$174 million reduction. The cap is 95,000. However, regional centers are encouraged to keep putting people on the waiver, as it helps everyone.

### **Forensic Committee**

The Forensic Committee and the Mental Health Collaborative are a joint effort.

### **Mental Health Collaborative - Carlos Flores**

The Forensic Committee and the Mental Health Collaborative are holding joint meetings this year because the emphasis is on clients who have mental illness, developmental disabilities, and are in trouble with the law. There are significant problems with some laws around involuntary commitment for reasons of danger to self or others, and laws around incompetency to stand trial when one is accused of a crime. The effort this year is to try to find solutions to those conflicts and problems. Next week there will be a subcommittee meeting of the joint group. On December 1, a brain-storming session will be held of people throughout the state who are experts in this field. Down the road an attempt will be made to find someone to author legislation in order to make some of the fixes around the Welfare and Institutions Code 6500 and the judicial rules and laws around incompetency to stand trial. There were monies available again this year from the Mental Health Services Act from the Department of Mental Health. Nine grants went to six regional centers this year. Specific information can be obtained from the Department.

### **Information Systems Committee - George Stevens**

There has been an intense conversation with the Department around the Early Start Report. The issue with the Department has been clarified and Bob Baldo was thanked for his work in this regard. Within the discussion of the Early Start Report is a policy

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discussion in terms of how information is managed, who owns the information, and what the Department wants from regional centers. Eventually there will need to be a policy decision from ARCA as to how this will be handled through regional center software solutions.

There are tweaks that need to be made to five regional center computers in order to implement e-billing. This will be discussed next week at the AIS Committee meeting.

The Committee has tried to look at the elements of trailer bill where they might find an electronic solution. However, an electronic solution will come with a cost, and at some point it will be necessary to figure out how to support SANDIS in bearing that cost. That discussion will also take place with the Department.

**Prevention Committee - Carlos Flores**

The Prevention Committee met last week in Sacramento. The focus was right now is on the transfer of the Prevention Program from regional centers to Family Resource Centers. Issues have come up which have been worked out with the Department. There was discussion about the Early Start Report. The office of Special Education Programs has informed the Department that in its review of the Early Start Program, anything less than 100% compliance will require a finding of non compliance. Regional centers are warned to expect that. Within 12 months of that finding DDS will be required to go back to that regional center and ensure that it was corrected. On many of the measures it is impossible to have 100% compliance. DDS has pushed back with the feds and asked them to cite the statute or regulation that gives them this authority, and what they point to is a section in the federal statute that says "and any other information as required by the Secretary."

**Community Placement Plan Task Force - Robert Riddick**

The Task Force met July 13, with representatives from the Department and ARCA. They are waiting for approval letters for the current year plans. The task force also discussed the reporting requirements and responsibilities for sending information back and forth between the regional center and the Department. An issue that got a lot of discussion is the cap at Porterville for folks awaiting adjudication, either for competency or to stand trial. A number of issues came up that were related to policy versus implementation of CPP plans, so as an outcome of the discussion with the Department there will be a task force to meet with representatives from the developmental center side and regional center side along with the Department.

The next meeting of the CPP Task Force is scheduled for September 21, 2011.

**Dental Services Task Force - Phil Bonnet**

There was communication with the Task Force about a month ago when there was excitement about the positive movement toward establishment of a statewide relationship with Delta Dental Services. However, it is not known when that will happen. The Deputy

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Director at DDS has been in contact with the Department of Health Services and is still trying to work out some of the details. The bottom line is that adult consumers who once had Denta-Cal should in some measurable time frame, be able to access Delta Dental Services. It will be complicated, probably similar to the ICF SPA, but the Department will likely do a fair amount of the work in advance. There is no date for implementation, but the Department assures that it is going to happen. In the meantime, each regional center has been using POS money to provide services in a variety of different ways.

**Emergency Preparedness Task Force - Carlos Flores**

There has been little activity from the Task Force for a while. Yesterday, at the Directors meeting it was recommended this task force be disbanded. If necessary, it can be re-constituted.

**Chief Administrators Group - Peter Tiedemann**

No report. The meeting will be held next week.

**Chief Counselors Group - Judy Wallace-Patton**

The Chief Counselors met on June 9 and 10, where Judy Wallace-Patton was elected chair. There were a lot of things going on at that time in terms of the budget and there was a great deal of discussion around some of those issues. They talked extensively about the changes in the Prevention Program and expressed concern and had dialogue with the Department related to the changes to that program, as well as the Early Start Report. They heard a presentation on the 1115 waiver, and the movement of consumers into managed care programs. There was discussion about the changes in federal programs. David Riester provided extensive information on efforts in the mental health area that are going on across the state. Another meeting is scheduled for September 8 and 9 at Westside Regional center.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

During lunch the Board Member Delegates Group met and talked about having a retreat. They also held the election for chair and Martha Cornejo was reelected to chair the group.

**Information Sharing**

A group of Southern California Directors meets quarterly. At their last meeting, in July, they discussed the system and the direction in which it is going. SB 74 and AB 104 represent many changes to the Lanterman Act. There are people within provider groups who feel there may be a better way to do things. For a couple of years regional centers have been implementing drastic changes to the law and things such as camp, social

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services, behavior services, etc., have been affected. In the eyes of many consumers and parents regional centers have taken on a negative role in implementing these changes. There are a lot of questions about the sustain-ability of the system in coming years, as cuts continue. It is time to talk about the direction of the system in the future.

The Directors of ten regional centers participated in this meeting, along with board members from those regional centers. The result of the discussion was a strong feeling that regional centers need to self-evaluate, discuss what the priorities and principles are, and get at the heart of regional centers and the system. The next step after that will be very careful community involvement. Care needs to be taken to find people who are not being motivated by self-interest, but share the understanding of the worth of the system, with an eye toward deciding what the system should look like in the future, in order to continue to offer quality services in a way that can be sustained into the future.

It was felt that everyone should be encouraged to participate in this process, which does not necessarily need to be an ARCA process. The overall intent of the process is for regional centers to attempt to set the tone of where the system is headed in the future, versus allowing certain stakeholder groups to set the tone who are operating from a great deal of self-interest, rather than putting the best interest of the system in the forefront.

In terms of next steps, a smaller group has been formed comprised of Diane Anand, George Stevens, Pat Del Monico, and Omar Noorzad that will meet as soon as schedules allow, to talk about how to structure the effort and what some of the next steps will be.

The group acknowledges the dangers involved with this process and that a great deal of care needs to be taken in moving this process forward. Anyone interested in participating with this group should contact George Stevens.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Larsen  
for  
Tresa Oliveri, President