

Kern Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
August 28, 2018

General Business		
1. Executive Session		Ismael Romero
2. Call to Order and Introductions	Action	Ismael Romero
3. Approval/Additions to Agenda	Action	Ismael Romero
4. Meeting Minute Approval for May 22, 2018 and June 5, 2018	Action	Ismael Romero
5. Public Input	Info.	Et al
Unfinished Business		
Reports		
6. Client Representative	Info.	Roy Rocha
7. Board President Report A. Appointment of New Board Members B. Reappointment of Nickole Mensch C. Appointment of ARCA Delegate	Info./ Action	Ismael Romero
8. Financial Report Handout	Info.	Tom Wolfgram
9. Executive Director's Report	Info.	Michi Gates
10. Vendor Advisory Committee	Info.	Mitzi Villalon
11. Staff Report		
A. Caseload Ratio Plan of Correction Attachment 1	Action	Celia Pinal
B. Self Determination C. Community Placement Plan Update D. Performance Contract	Info.	Cherylle Mallinson
New Business		
Board Training		
Good and Welfare		

Meeting Location and Time:
Kern Regional Center – Bakersfield Office / Malibu Conference Room
3200 N. Sillect Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93308
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm



KERN REGIONAL CENTER

*Striving to Achieve Equality,
Independence and Empowerment*

August 17, 2018

Brian Winfield, Deputy Director
Department of Developmental Services
1600 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Winfield:

In a letter dated July 9, 2018, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) informed Kern Regional Center that, based on caseload ratios submitted to DDS on March 7, 2018, Kern Regional Center (KRC) did not meet required caseload ratios for clients enrolled in the Home and Community-Based Waiver program; for clients 3 years of age and younger, for clients who have moved from the developmental centers to the community since April 14, 1993, and who are not younger than the age of three years nor on the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver. This is ICRC's plan of correction as required in Section 4640.6(f) of the Welfare and Institutions Code (W & I).

Kern Regional Center (KRC) Caseload Ratio reflects data taken on March 6, 2018, it indicates KRC did not meet statewide caseload standard of 1 :64 (average). Data collected on March 6, 2018 reflects ICRC's Caseload Ratio is 1:89.

KRC has been faced with a multitude of challenges including non-compliance with Caseload Ratio. On December 12, 2017, KRC's Special Contract Language was amended to include additional provisions. Provision 2: Ensuring Regional Center Fiscal Solvency-

Contractor shall ensure that the regional center operates within its allocated operations budget. Contractor shall develop, with assistance from the retained management organization, a short-term and long-term plan for ongoing financial sustainability, which includes remaining within the annual Operations budget beginning in Fiscal Year 2017-18 and maintains caseload ratios consistent with statewide regional center performance. Contractor shall require the retained management organization to provide the State with updates on the development of the plan during weekly status calls and to provide a draft plan for the State's review on or before December 15, 2017. Contractor shall require the retained management organization to present a written report containing the initial plan to the Board at its January 2018 board meeting.

On February 26, 2018, the KRC Executive Team including Columbus Organization discussed Kern Regional Center's organizational structure and caseload ratios with Brian Winfield, Deputy Director via teleconference. Discussion involved caseload ratios pertaining to

Attachment 1

W & I Code 4640.6(c). In regards to Medicaid Waiver and non-Medicaid Waiver, KRC has a mixed configuration of Medicaid waiver and non-Medicaid Waiver caseloads and to restructure to Medicaid Waiver only caseloads, would pose a significant organizational and financial challenge on ICRC. Plan of implementation pertaining to this discussion would involve hiring 25 new service coordinators and 4 Program Managers (2 replacements and 2 growth).

KRC has held several public meetings on Caseload Ratio, Respite, Purchase of Service Utilization, and Self Determination, These meeting were held in January, February and March 2018. A reemerging theme and input from the public was on caseload ratio. The public meeting held in March 1, 2018 had the most public comment on this concern. The input was provided mostly by the parents. They expressed concern on the availability of their son' s/daughter's services coordinator due to high number of clients being serviced on the service coordinator's caseload. They also expressed a concern with the quality of case management services and provided a suggestion to reduce the number of clients to facilitate a quality service delivery system. More outreach meetings were held on March 2, 14, and 21, 2018 in the neighboring communities. These were sparsely attended and had minimal feedback.

Caseload ratios and the plan to hire at a minimum 25 additional service coordinators were discussed at the Board Meeting on March 27, 2018. KRC has implemented this plan and continues to update the Board and vendors on its progress.

Since the discussion on February 26, 2018, KRC has hired 25 new service coordinators and plans to hire additional service coordinators by September 30, 2018. It is the intent and commitment of KRC to monitor caseload ratios more attentively in order to efficiently distribute cases and maximize service delivery. KRC will continue to strive towards establishing caseload ratios in accordance with W & I Code 4640.6(c) using the operations allocation provided by the state.

Respectfully,



Celia Pinal, MSW
Kern Regional Center
Director of Client Services

cc: Michi Gates, Ph.D. Executive Director, Kern Regional Center
Ismael Romero, Interim Board President, Kern Regional Center
Amy Westling, Executive Director, Association of Regional Center Agencies

Attachment 1

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