

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda February 22, 2022

General Business		
1. Call to Order and Introductions	Action	Dr. Jasmeet Bains
2. Approval/Additions to Agenda	Action	Dr. Jasmeet Bains
3. Review and approve minutes of meeting held January 25, 2022 (Attachment 1)	Action	Dr. Jasmeet Bains
4. Public Input	Info.	
Reports		
5. Board President Report	Info.	Dr. Jasmeet Bains
6. Monthly Education Discussion	Action	Kevin Gosselin
7. Financial Report a. POS Report for December 2021 (Attachment 2) b. Operations Report for December 2021 (Attachment 3)	Info.	Tom Wolfgram
8. Executive Director's Report	Info.	Dr. Michi Gates
9. VAC Report	Info.	Shawn White

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81189838994?pwd=DJERINoQ2tIRnRiUmFScWhaWk5rUT09>

Webinar ID: 811 8983 8994, Passcode: 004706

Dial-In Number: 1-669-219-2599

Webinar ID: 811 8983 8994

Next Board Meeting:

March 22, 2022, 6:00 – 7:30 PM



**Kern Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting**

January 25, 2022

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

3200 N. Sillect Avenue ∞ Bakersfield, CA 93308 ∞ 661-327-8531

MINUTES

KRC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Oscar Axume, Board Member
Carlos Isidoro, Board Member
Ryan Jones, Board Member
Tracey Mensch, Board Member
Donald Tobias, Board Member
Mark Tolentino, Board Member
Martin Vasquez, Secretary
Ruth Watterson, Board Member
Shawn White, VAC Representative

KRC BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jasmeet Bains, MD, President
Kevin Gosselin, Vice President
Simon Verdugo, Board Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Michi Gates, PhD, Executive Director
Kristine Khuu, Assistant Director of Client Services
Enrique Roman, Director of Community Services
Celia Pinal, Director of Client Services
Tom Wolfgram, CFO

GUESTS PRESENT:

Sofia Benitez, 24-Hour Home Care
Cindy Cox, Advocate for Donald Tobias
Jill Green
Shannon Lueck, Training Coordinator
John Noriega, Advocate for Simon Verdugo
Edwin Pineda, DDS
Jeffrey Popkin
Mitzi Villalon

INTERPRETER: Nidya Madrigal Navia

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Jasmeet Bains, MD, was absent from this meeting and Oscar Axume chaired the meeting in her absence. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM. A quorum was present. Mr. Axume began by asking each person to introduce themselves, their Board roles or titles, and the number of years they have been on the Board or with Kern Regional Center.

APPROVAL/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Dr. Gates would like to make an addendum to the agenda. Under Item 5, she would like to add the “Nomination and Election of an ARCA Board Delegate.” Mr. Axume presented the agenda for approval, changing Item 5 to read *5.a. Nomination and Election of Treasurer Position* and *5.b. Nomination and Election of ARCA Delegate*.

M/S/C (White, Mensch)
Ayes = 9; Nays = 0; Abstained = 0
Motion Carried

REVIEW OF MINUTES

All members of the Board of Directors had received the minutes of the November meeting in advance for review. A motion was requested to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on November 30, 2021.

M/S/C (Watterson, Mensch)
Ayes = 9; Nays = 0; Abstained = 0
Motion Carried

PUBLIC INPUT

No public input was presented at this meeting.

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS***Nomination and Election of Treasurer Position***

Mr. Axume asked for nominations for the Treasurer position that was vacated when Kevin Gosselin was elected Vice-President; Dr. Gates had sent a description of the Board Treasurer's role for review to all Board Members after the November meeting. There were no volunteers or nominations. Dr. Gates suggested Mr. Axume be Treasurer, citing his financial background. With no other nominations being brought forward, Mr. Axume accepted and a motion was made to elect Mr. Axume as Treasurer of the KRC Board of Directors.

M/S/C (Vasquez, Mensch)
Ayes = 9; Nays = 0; Abstained = 0
Motion Carried

Nomination and Election of ARCA Board Delegate

NickoleRenee Mensch's term on the KRC Board of Directors expired in October 2021 leaving a vacancy for the position of ARCA Board Delegate. Dr. Gates gave a brief synopsis of the duties of the ARCA Board Delegate and the possible need for occasional travel. Board Member Tracey Mensch volunteered for the position saying she would look forward to the learning experience and meeting other delegates. A motion was made to elect Tracey Mensch as the ARCA Board Delegate for the KRC Board of Directors.

M/S/C (Axume, White)
Ayes = 9; Nays = 0; Abstained = 0
Motion Carried

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT***Oscar Axume***

Board President Dr. Bains was not able to be at this meeting, so no formal report was given. Mr. Axume, however, welcomed everyone and was glad to see great attendance at the first meeting of 2022.

FINANCIAL REPORT***Tom Wolfgram, CFO*****Purchase of Services Report as of November 30, 2021**

Total spent on services to clients in November: \$15,557,403

There are approximately \$1 Million in unbilled POS services for November.

Operations Report as of November 30, 2021: \$1,737,692

There has been \$7.4 Million spent YTD. Expenses are right on track.

Operations expenses were up \$120,000 in October 2021 due to staff laptop purchases for approximately \$77,000 and payment to the electronic file storage company of approximately \$45,000.

The Operations Report and the Purchases of Services Report are filed as an attachment with these minutes as a matter of record.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Michi Gates

COVID-19 Updates

KRC's positive cases increased with 67 clients and 37 care providers testing positive this past week. The Omicron variant seems to be the cause considering there are not the hospitalizations and deaths associated with the previous variants. Many positive cases are occurring in vaccinated individuals who are being observed in the event more serious symptoms occur.

Staffing shortages are a serious issue with vendors who are struggling and filling shifts with administrative staff, plus using overtime hours. In an upcoming meeting with DDS and legislative staff, Dr. Gates will be discussing this challenge.

Kern Initiatives

KRC is taking steps to fully utilize the initiatives from the approved budget this year:

- **DDS Rate Implementation:** Enrique Roman and his team are working on the first increase scheduled for April. Worksheets from vendors are being received and processed.
- **1-to-40 Caseload Ratio:** Service Coordinator positions have been filled and they are presently building caseloads. This ratio is specifically to serve non-white/non-English-speaking clients who receive \$2,000 or less in POS services.
- **Deaf Services Coordinator:** This position has been filled.
- **Participant Choice Specialists:** Two positions have been filled and we are recruiting for 1 more position.
- **Provisional Eligibility for 3 to 4-Year-Olds:** KRC faces complications in this effort due to a lack of clinical psychologists. KRC's long-term Clinical Psychologist has retired and it has proven difficult to find a replacement. We have hired 2 part-time contract psychologists to do assessments and continue to recruit.
- **Tribal Outreach and Engagement:** KRC and 2 other regional centers are working with DDS on the Tribal Outreach and Engagement Initiative. We have received an allocation from DDS of grant money to improve service access and equity for our Indian tribes that will be passed through to the California Tribal Families Coalition. KRC is assigning a current program manager, Karina Proffer, to be our full-time Cultural Disparity Specialist and she will be a vital part of this effort. We are happy to have Karina in this role. She is passionate about service access and equity and will be overseeing all initiatives addressing cultural disparity. We have set an implementation goal of March 1.

Governor's Budget Proposals

Dr. Gates outlined proposals in the Governor's budget. This is the first step in the budget process. The Assembly and Senate Budget Committees will be meeting in February. A lot could change between now and the actual final budget, but this gives an idea of some of the items being discussed and examined:

- **Reducing the caseload ratio of children 0-5 years of age to 1:40.** These caseload ratios are presently 1:62 and 1:66. The goal is more frequent contacts, a more inclusive education setting, better partnership with schools and smoother transitions from Early Start to the school system.
- **The addition of an Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Specialist position to each regional center.** This position will be employed by the regional center and work closely with the school system.

- **Communications Assessments** for all individuals who are deaf and hard-of-hearing.
- **A sub-minimum wage phase out pilot program** for those who are exiting work activity programs/schooling to set them on a career path for competitive, integrated employment.
- **Retainment of the commitment to fund regional centers, starting July 1**, to meet caseload ratios required by statute in the Lanterman Act and funding for growth in Provisional Eligibility.

Kern Regional Center Updates

KRC continues to recruit and hire Service Coordinators to try to keep up with caseload ratios. The annual caseload ratio data report will be run early this year due to the anticipated funding to hire Service Coordinators to meet caseload ratios on July 1. This report is usually due March 1, but this year KRC will run the report on February 1 and submit to DDS by February 10.

Question from Mr. Axume: When is the final budget due and when will it be available?

Answer from Dr. Gates: June 2022

Question from Mr. Tolentino: What is the status of the language revision of the KRC Social Recreation Policy discussed at the last Board of Directors meeting?

Answer from Ms. Pinal: The change in language to our existing Social Recreation Policy was submitted to DDS and we are still waiting to hear from them. We did get confirmation of receipt from the department.

Input from Dr. Gates: Discussion took place around the restoration of social recreation at the Legislative briefing. At that time, there was one regional center who still needed to submit their policy, so progress is still pending.

Input from Mr. Tolentino: Social Recreation was included in an IPP Meeting attended by Mr. Tolentino. He is looking forward to more updates and thanked KRC for promoting Social Recreation.

VENDOR ADVISOR COMMITTEE REPORT

Shawn White, VAC Representative

The VAC Committee met this morning, January 25, 2022, at 10:00 AM. Mr. White reported what was covered in today's meeting:

- Josh Sudarma, Chief – Statewide Quality Assurance and Risk Management at DDS, presented information on the survey that DDS is sending to all vendors concerning Direct Service Professionals (DSPs). The survey will cover types of organizations where DSPs are utilized, their duties and wages. Typical completion time is 2 hours or less. Mr. Sudarma provided all needed information along with a website link and his e-mail.
- Dr. Gates provided her Executive Director's Report. Vendors had some questions and discussion around the new Omicron variant. Mr. White provided them with information from the Kern Public Health Department regarding testing sites.
- Enrique Roman, Director of Community Services, provided his report. He relayed that Personal Protective Equipment is still available and that they are going over worksheets that have been received for the Rate Study. Minimum wage announcements are out.
- Celia Pinal, Director of Client Services, provided the Case Management Report.

Mr. White relayed that a vendor had raised a question on how the VAC Committee will move forward, specifically, if it will be conducted mainly to receive information only or will the committee be involved

in issues and policy discussion. This produced an overwhelming response from the committee members that they would like to pave the way to be a more proactive committee. Ways of engagement the VAC Committee discussed were:

1. Provide feedback on items affecting vendor policy as well as anything that directly impacts services and reports.
2. Be part of the review and recommendation process before a new method, change, or addition is fully developed.
3. Develop a process for gathering information to bring to the vendors and provide feedback after presentation to the VAC Committee.
4. Create subcommittees to address specific items that affect the community, working as a team with Enrique Roman, gleaned from his experience with this type of structure during his tenure at Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center.

It was decided that Mr. White would meet to discuss these issues with Dr. Gates and Mr. Roman to collaborate on strategies toward these goals.

STAFF REPORT

There was nothing to present from KRC Staff at this meeting.

LIVE QUESTION FROM ATTENDEE

Sofia Benitez from 24-Hour Care asked to whom a vendor can reach out to if they would like to provide social recreation. Kristine Khuu referred this question to Enrique Roman.

Mr. Roman responded that Community Services is the department at Kern Regional Center to contact. He and his staff will be more than happy to walk Ms. Benitez through the process and requirements. If there are any problems reaching anyone, Ms. Benitez can contact him directly.

ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, Mr. Axume adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Darlene Pankey



KERN REGIONAL CENTER
 PURCHASE OF SERVICE
 FY 2021-2022
 AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

PURCHASE OF SERVICES	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021	October 2021	November 2021	December 2021	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	2021-2022 Total
OUT-OF-HOME													
Community Care Facility	4,234,219	4,305,340	4,288,179	4,340,012	4,190,069	4,226,335							25,584,154
ICF/SNF Facility	73,861	76,834	76,317	58,560	66,926	45,829							398,327
TOTAL OUT OF HOME	4,308,080	4,382,174	4,364,496	4,398,572	4,256,995	4,272,164	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,982,481
DAY PROGRAMS													
Day Care	52,284	53,742	49,099	52,087	50,551	49,719							307,482
Day Training	2,487,670	2,550,556	2,536,706	2,456,406	2,397,901	2,329,958							14,759,197
Supported Employment	395,336	434,188	355,224	383,766	343,493	192,340							2,104,347
Work Activity Program	5,990	6,152	6,364	5,375	5,187	4,866							33,934
SUBTOTAL DAY PROGRAMS	2,941,280	3,044,638	2,947,393	2,897,634	2,797,132	2,576,883	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,204,960
OTHER SERVICES													
Non Medical Services Prof	357,862	394,760	386,339	397,473	363,675	275,579							2,175,688
Non Medical Services Prog	1,366,124	1,376,384	1,327,102	1,321,657	1,208,013	1,160,968							7,760,248
Home Care Services Prog	11,631	18,447	18,351	14,242	14,577	2,297							79,545
Transportation	446,137	448,460	455,098	462,521	461,077	460,436							2,733,729
Transportation Contracts	602,911	597,481	564,626	572,931	554,878	559,165							3,451,992
Prevention Services	567,265	580,715	576,984	581,163	566,966	552,065							3,425,158
Other Authorized Services	3,777,617	3,726,010	3,735,397	3,741,611	3,592,499	3,351,533							21,924,667
P & I Expense	9,493	9,304	8,819	9,650	9,855	9,579							56,700
Hospital Care													-
Medical Equipment	6,351	6,538	44,115	1,299	3,663	9,805							71,771
Medical Services Prof	172,676	188,843	172,758	191,232	190,042	145,943							1,061,494
Medical Services Prog	44,662	50,479	45,123	44,530	42,370	45,871							273,035
Respite Care - In Home	1,814,688	1,793,065	1,776,350	1,810,046	1,768,086	1,070,591							10,032,826
Respite Care - Out of Home	31,379	19,901	16,653	7,238	5,555	7,054							87,780
													-
													-
TOTAL OTHER SERVICES	9,208,796	9,210,387	9,127,715	9,155,593	8,781,256	7,650,886	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,134,633
TOTAL PURCHASE OF SERVICES	16,458,156	16,637,199	16,439,604	16,451,799	15,835,383	14,499,933	-	-	-	-	-	-	96,322,074
COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PLAN													
Community Care Facility	218,621	218,621	218,783	215,971	215,359	216,460							1,303,815
ICF/SNF Facility													-
Day Training													-
Non-Medical Services			425	1,434									1,859
Non-Medical Services-Programs													-
Transportation		86											-
Other Authorized Services	1,425	1,813	1,901	1,489	2,151	1,152							9,931
Other Services													-
Medical Care - Prof													-
Community Care Facility	9,052	9,052	9,052	9,052	9,052	9,052							54,312
TOTAL COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PLAN	229,098	229,572	230,161	227,946	226,562	226,664	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,369,917
TOTAL PURCHASE OF SERVICE	16,687,254	16,866,771	16,669,765	16,679,745	16,061,945	14,726,597	-	-	-	-	-	-	97,691,991



KERN REGIONAL CENTER
 OPERATIONS
 FY 2021/2022
 AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

	PROPOSED EXPENDITURES	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	07/31/21	08/31/21	09/30/21	10/31/21	11/30/21	12/31/21	01/31/22	02/28/22	03/31/22	04/30/22	05/31/22	06/30/22	TOTAL	(OVER/UNDER)
OPERATIONS																
Salaries & Benefits	18,193,197	9,096,599	1,408,718	1,321,905	1,856,452	1,487,745	1,351,822	1,889,350							9,315,992	(219,393)
Operating Expenses	4,410,000	2,205,000	322,819	314,808	360,853	495,622	377,784	575,089							2,446,975	(241,975)
SUBTOTAL OPS	22,603,197	11,301,599	1,731,537	1,636,713	2,217,305	1,983,367	1,729,607	2,464,438	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,762,967	(461,368)
COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PLAN																
Salaries & Benefits		-														-
Operating Expenses		-														-
SUBTOTAL CPP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM																
Salaries & Benefits	69,809	34,905	3,371	3,427	4,713	3,407	3,464	3,427							21,809	13,095
Operating Expenses	127,864	63,932	4,032	7,393	10,371	2,916	140	13,565							38,417	25,515
SUBTOTAL FGP	197,673	98,837	7,404	10,820	15,085	6,323	3,604	16,992	-	-	-	-	-	-	60,226	38,610
SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM																
Salaries & Benefits	85,320	42,660	4,120	4,188	5,761	4,164	4,234	4,188							26,655	16,005
Operating Expenses	155,596	77,798	4,087	4,200	3,738	1,823	248	6,238							20,334	57,464
SUBTOTAL SCP	240,916	120,458	8,207	8,388	9,498	5,987	4,482	10,426	-	-	-	-	-	-	46,989	73,469
TOTAL OPERATIONS	23,041,786	11,520,893	1,747,148	1,655,921	2,241,888	1,995,677	1,737,692	2,491,857	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,870,182	(349,289)