

Memo to : Region V Services Governing Board, Advisory Committee,
all stakeholders

From : Dave Merrill, Executive Director

Date : February 29, 2016

Re : **MARCH Director's Report**

Employment First

March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. We will focus on the number of people who have jobs in the community to encourage other employers to utilize this great resource. If you know of a job possibility, please contact the RVS program in your community.

The mission of Region V Services is to provide desired education and supports that promote relationships within community and lessen reliance upon agency services.

We regretfully announce that Bob Kinghorn, Area Director in Auburn, will be retiring March 31st. Bob has provided extraordinary leadership for over 40 years and the Auburn program has provided incredible outcomes for people who experience developmental disabilities. In a program with about 65 people receiving supports, 6 own their own cars, 9 own their own homes, and 28 people have jobs in the community. Bob will tell you that it is due to incredible staff but if you get the chance to thank him for his leadership please do so.

Bob will continue to serve on the Region V Foundation Board, where he has served as President for the last few years. Melody McLaughlin, long time Community Support Coordinator, will serve as interim Area Director beginning April 1st (no foolin'), and we will open the position internally for Bob's replacement.

Financial Update

As of December 31st, our revenues were \$23,577,454 and our expenses were \$23,464,987, with revenue exceeding expenses by \$112,467. We continue to work to make adjustments in Area Programs where we have lost individuals due to death or transfer. That seems to be the reason that our revenues are significantly lower than they were a year ago, though it is hard to know the impact of the electronic billing system.

Central Office/Training Center Update

We held an informal groundbreaking on February 18th and site preparation (the dirt work) has begun. The construction contract with Hamptons has been signed, the subcontracts awarded and we are on schedule to complete the project on time and under budget. While we may encounter something unexpected, we have been blessed to be working with great people and it is exciting to think that our training facility will be available in December. (We were not able to use Lancaster County Extension Offices for orientation for the next two months and we are using St. Matthews church and have to limit participation to 35 individuals.)

Website Update

We anticipate that the new website will go “live” by the end of March. We are currently uploading about 170 forms and working on providing access to Directors and Coordinators of the new site. We have had difficulty adding users with restricted access to our current website and we have no one to assist us with that process.



Ground breaking for the new Central Office Training Facility

Changes at the Division of Developmental Disabilities

We welcome Courtney Miller as the new Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). She has provided more opportunities for genuine input through workgroups and is willing to tackle systems issues with a collaborative work effort. It appears that every aspect of the service system is open to intentional improvement with input from all stakeholders.

Upcoming Events

April 17 – Fine Arts Festival and Spring Dance -2:00 to 6:00 pm-Shriner’s Hall

April 28 and 29th- 9:30 am Symposium-Hi Mark Golf Club]

June 4th- 11:00 am – Picnic at Pioneer’s Park

October 22 – 5:00 pm - Dinner Dance at Lancaster Event Center

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