

1 **GREATER LOS ANGELES AGENCY ON DEAFNESS, INC.**
2 **Executive Agency Board of Directors**
3 **Wednesday, September 29, 2010**
4 **MINUTES**

5
6 **President Kurs called the meeting to order at 7:10p.m. A quorum was present.**

7
8 **I. ROLL CALL**

9
10 Board Members Present:

11 David Kurs-President, Stephen Schultz-Treasurer, Fred Lovitch, Robert Sidansky, Jonathan Weiss, Modela
12 Kurzet

13
14 Absent:

15 Etta Stecker-Vice President, Sheri Hithe-Hultgren-Secretary, Robert Sutton, John Arce

16
17 Visitors:

18 Terry Breckner from SCADB

19 Oscar R. Cristerna Jr.

20
21 Staff Present:

22 Dr. Patricia Hughes

23 Michael Michner

24
25 Interpreters:

26 Barbara Mathis, Laura Ripplinger, Tanya Garay, and Paola Morales

27
28 Recording Secretary:

29 Jainah Ranger

30
31 **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting of July 28, 2010**

32 Weiss moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Sidansky seconded. **MSC.**

33
34 **III. OFFICER'S REPORTS**

35 President's Report:

36 Kurs reported that GLAD's VCC (Visual Communication Center) had its grand opening today.
37 GLAD will meet with Special Service for Groups (SSG) which is a grantee from CCF (California
38 Community Foundation) on October 4th that SSG offers special guidance to non profits and will be
39 assisting GLAD with their Five Year Plan.

40
41 Vice President's Report:

42 No Report

43
44 Treasurer's Report:

45 The handout of Controller's Report as of today's date was given to the finance committee with the
46 following information -

- 47
48
 - Overall cash position today for DAHC, GLAD and LifeSigns is \$1,002,447.
 - Overall accounts receivable balance is \$1,090,598 which comprised of GLAD balance of \$671,040

1 and LifeSigns balance of \$419,558.

- 2 • Overall accounts payable is \$27,379.

3
4 Financial reports as of 8/31/10 was given to the finance committee presented by our controller with the
5 following information –

6
7 Consolidated profit and loss for year to date (two months ending 8/31/10) shows a loss of \$(16,862) as
8 compared to a loss of \$(3,788) a year ago.

- 9 .
- 10 • GLAD's year to date revenues as of 8/31/10 was \$550,197 which is \$17,936 less than prior year.
- 11 • LifeSigns's year to date revenues as of 8/31/10 was \$379,234 which is \$27,040 more than prior
12 year.
- 13 • GLAD's 8/31/10 aging accounts receivable balance was \$671,040 as compared to 6/30/10 balance
14 of \$890,959.
- 15 • LifeSigns's 8/31/10 aging accounts receivable balance was \$419,558 as compared to 6/30/10
16 balance of \$407,586.

17
18 Secretary's Report:

19 No Report

20
21 **IV. CEO'S REPORT**

22 September has been a challenging month due to the state's unsigned budget but we managed to continue
23 providing high quality services to our consumers.

24
25 **HUMAN RESOURCES**

26 There are 72 employees as of September 22.

27	GLAD	37
28	CODIE	12
29	BGLAD	1
30	OCDEAF	5
31	TRI	4
32	EDD	13

33 There are 4 job openings on hiring freeze due to unsigned State Budget.

34
35 **HEALTH EDUCATION/SERVICES**

36 CCG (Community Challenge Grant) Request for Applications has arrived! I have given it a high priority to
37 be ahead of the schedule. It is due in December.

38 CCG's teen newsletters have arrived from the print shop and will be distributed when schools resume.

39 Month of August was mostly spent on completing reports.

40 There will be four community events this fall under our HIV Prevention Program. We will have a booth at
41 some of events and host events which are DEAFestival, GLAD's domestic violence week, Deaf MATA,
42 and World Aids Day to meet the contract objective.

43
44 **HUMAN SERVICES**

45 **LA-GLAD**

46 We had two workshops at Pilgrim Towers and NVOC teaching self advocacy. We sent a staff member to a
47 nationwide Self Advocacy Training in Colorado last spring (funded by their grant). In return for the
48 training, we taught consumers on self advocacy.

49 **B-GLAD**

1 With only one staff there, he managed to give a presentation to Bakersfield Community College ASL
2 students about our services and to recruit volunteers to help out with events and cover the office when the
3 advocate is out on the field.

4 Our LA advocate provided in depth training to the new advocate on case notes and legal summaries.
5 More hearing consumers asked for information on ASL classes for better communication with their
6 deaf/hard of hearing children...we are working out with Pastor Jeff Jackson for a room at his church. (Jeff
7 was our B-GLAD Coordinator some years ago and is a great asset to B-GLAD).

8 It is challenging in Bakersfield as well as other cities including Los Angeles to find lawyers who will pay
9 for interpreters to meet with deaf/hh consumers. It is very frustrating, educating lawyers that they are
10 responsible for communication access. They often refer our consumers to other lawyers or never return
11 calls. We are working with B-GLAD advocate to develop a database that includes attorneys that are “deaf-
12 friendly”.

13 HARD OF HEARING PROGRAM

14 We had our Hearing Loss Expo last week for the first time. The turnout was alright. I believe we can
15 expect a larger turnout next year as the word spreads to the hard of hearing community and through our
16 networks with hard of hearing organizations and support groups.

17 DAHC

18 Starting in September, a new senior activity schedule will be implemented. The goal is to have some
19 activities/workshops on a monthly basis. Our Hawaii Luau was a good success with 55 attending. Next
20 year, it will be a major event for the 10th Annual Luau.

21 EDD

22 We made 8 job placements in spite of economy. One exciting success story is that we placed a female job
23 seeker who is 71 years old with multiple disabilities. She never dreamt that she would get a job as she had
24 not worked since 1986. She was offered a job at Knot’s Berry Farm as a character for Halloween’s
25 Haunted Event. It really boosted her self esteem.

26 Los Angeles County has one of 3 highest unemployment rates in U.S. It is 13.4% here; thus, it is
27 challenging for our EDD staff to place jobs. It is also challenging to keep our job seekers motivated to look
28 for jobs after being turned down so many times.

29

30 PUBLIC RELATIONS

31 Annual Campaign: Marlee Matlin was kind enough to lend her name in the letter to be sent out via e mails,
32 tweet, mail, facebook, and board’s assistance in sending to their friends and family members. We are
33 asking staff to do the same thing.

34 Alas, finally...we will have our Visual Communications Center Grand Opening today, Wednesday from
35 4pm to 6 pm. Sorenson is sponsoring hors d’oeuvres and beverages. The schedule is:

36 4pm to 5 pm Reception served inside the dining room– catering sponsored by Sorenson

37 5 pm – Program (3 minutes each)

38 David Kurs, our esteemed President will make remarks

39 Dr. Patricia Hughes

40 Ray Reisler, S. Mark Taper Foundation that gave GLAD 25k to make VCC a reality (TBD)

41 Representative from Council District 14

42 Ron Burdett, Sorenson VP of Consumer Relations

43 Jennifer Ann Cook (JAC), Purple Communications

44 5:20 pm Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

45 5:25pm – 6 pm

46 Demonstrations (Glenn Maskell, Sorenson and JAC, Purple)

47 General use video calls

48 Our goal was to have at least 100 in attendance. We have encouraged staff and board to spread the word to
49 consumers, friends, family, business associates, and community leaders. We extended the invitation to
50 email list and local Eagle Rock community members.

1 Eyes of Deafness – photography by deaf and hard of hearing adults
2 Participated in the first ART WALK scene with opening reception on Sept 2nd
3 Decent attendance by Art Center’s board of directors and local community supporters
4 Copy Cat printing out of Los Feliz sponsored the printing of 100 books at no cost towards our fundraising
5 efforts.
6 The exhibit will continue till September 29th.
7 It is at fiNdings Art Center, 470 W. 6th San Pedro
8 DEAFestival was held on September 25th. GLAD had a booth.
9 It was at Woodley Park in Van Nuys
10 ABC7 donated blue visors and bags to the first 200 in attendance.
11 Deaf Awareness Celebration at City Hall (today)
12 GLAD nominated our own Maria Smith and Councilmember Huizar honored her from Council District 14.
13 We chose her because of her dedication and loyalty to GLAD for many years. She volunteers at most of
14 our events, decorates our building to make it cheerful according to holidays, and treats GLAD building as
15 her own home. She also makes plans for our residents going out to restaurants, outings, and Las Vegas. We
16 are proud of her.
17 APLA-AIDSWALK on October 17th. We are encouraging people to sign up for TEAM GLAD. Health
18 Department will keep 100% of funds raised. Put on your walking shoes and join us for the great fitness
19 opportunity.
20 MEDIA: I had an interview with the Nonprofit network’s internet show “I have something to say”. It will
21 be aired next week as the production crew is working on captions.
22

23 LIFESIGNS

24 Filled Requests	908
25 Cancellations	91
26 No Interp Available (NIA)	16
27 Emergency	125
28 NIA – Emergency	5

29
30 State Budget
31 I put a freeze on spending (that can wait) and hiring (funded by state contracts). I am hoping that we won’t
32 need to use our Line of Credit with our bank – City National Bank. So far, it looks like that the Governor
33 and the big 5 leaders are confident that they will reach to an agreement. If so, we will know if there will be
34 any impact on our line items and other state contracts.
35

36 ANNEX
37 It is moving rather slow. The architectural firm is behind on its projects and I am pushing them to expedite
38 the process to keep our timeline intact. We need to send out RFA (Request for Applications) to
39 construction companies to strip lead paint and asbestos before we can demolish the building. The goal to
40 start demolition is in December and it will probably last one month to complete the demolition. We will
41 see if there is any material from the annex building that can be used for a memorial.
42

43 AB2072
44 I am on the Summit planning committee. There are four of us trying to develop an agenda for the summit
45 to be held on November 11 at Deaf Community Center (owned by our sister agency DCARA) in the bay
46 area. It will be for the core committee to reflect on our efforts and how we can move forward and talk
47 about our future legislative activities. So far, it will be just one day meeting. I talked with Rene, Assembly
48 member Mendoza and the Governor has till September 30th to sign the bill. If he doesn’t sign it, it will die.
49 We are keeping a close eye on it.
50

1 MMM bench
2 I have been in contact with Jamie, one of MMM's daughters, as the family is interested in putting a bench
3 near the main building in memory of MMM. I suggested to them to wait till after the demolition is
4 completed because it has risks of being damaged by the demolition. The family is working on choosing a
5 bench and already has an inscription that was used on the program book when we celebrated her life.

6
7 **5 Year Plan**

8 California Community Foundation (CCF) gave us funds for the core project and we will use it for the Case
9 Manager position. They also have a grantee to work with us on our 5 year plan. David and I met with them
10 few weeks ago. They will meet with the management team on October 4th for two hours working on the 5
11 year plan. They will present it at the board meeting in October.

12
13 **BREAKING NEWS**

14 I just learned that David Kurs was honored from his District for his work as President of GLAD Board of
15 Directors, his activities at Deaf West Theatre, and as a writer today at the City Hall's Deaf Awareness
16 Celebration. Congrats to David.

17
18 **V. SUBSIDIARY REPORTS**

19 LIFESIGNS Chair Report:

20 No Report

21
22 DAHC Chair Report:

23 No Report

24
25 CODIE Report:

26 Kurzet stated the Advisory met on September 10th. CODIE will have a booth at the Mata Expo November
27 5th and 6th. The Black Sand movie night was successful, 285 people attended. Deafhood workshop will be
28 at CSDR (California School for the Deaf, Riverside) January 7th and 8th along with a town hall meeting on
29 the January 8th. Deaf Nation will be at CSDR for the first time on May 6th and 7th. At CODIE we are
30 looking for volunteers right now as some of the staff will be out. The CODIE website has been down for
31 the past two weeks but Culligan is working to resolve that issue. The next Advisory Board Meeting will be
32 October 9, 2010 at 4pm.

33
34 TRI COUNTY Report:

35 Sidansky reported that the advisory board decided that they would do the Strawberry Festival again. One
36 of the board members will be appointed as Chair of the Strawberry Festival Committee. Tri Staff will be
37 going to Sidansky's house for dinner to show their appreciation for volunteering at the Strawberry Festival.
38 The advisory board has a new Board Member named Edith Wysinger. One Tri board member is involved
39 with Mothers of Young Deaf Children. Sidansky encourages board members to be involved in the
40 community. September 24th, Julianna Fjeld, received a Hall of Fame award from the School of Fremont.

41
42 OC-DEAF Report:

43 No Report

44
45 **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

46 Finance Committee Report:

47 Schultz would like to see the board do more fundraising. Kurzet mentioned using the GLAD facility once
48 a month to host a party a birthday party to raise money. Discussion ensued. The board will continue this
49 discussion via email.

50

1 Governance Committee:

2 No Report

3

4 Nominations Committee:

5 Schultz mentions that he got an email from Sheri regarding a potential board member. The nominating
6 committee will be reviewing the incoming applications for new board members.

7

8 Personnel Committee:

9 We have to send the procedures for sexual abuse insurance to the lawyer before we can move forward.
10 The board would like to review the handbook and wait for the sexual abuse procedure when it is ready.

11

12 Fundraising Committee:

13 No Report

14

15 **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

16 None

17

18 **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

19 None

20

21 **IX. PUBLIC INPUT**

22 Cristerna presented his painting to the board with the intent to donate it to GLAD. It will be hung in the
23 hallway next to the front desk across from the VCC. The board thanked Cristerna for his generous
24 donation.

25 Breckner congratulated GLAD on the VCC grand opening but also expressed concern about deaf blind not
26 having equal access. Breckner has asked the FCC to pay for tactile interpreters. Breckner stated that he
27 has been working with Richard Ray. Hughes informed Breckner that we have talked about it and there is a
28 national organization for the deaf and blind involved in this issue.

29

30 **X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

31 Kurzet announced the DSF has their gala coming up in January 2011 and passed out information.

32

33 **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

34 Meeting adjourned 9:07 pm. The next board meeting will be held at 7pm on November 17, 2010.

35

36

37 _____
Hithe-Hultgren

38 Board Secretary

39

40

41