



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Looking to the Future

Fiscal year 2020-2021 has been a year like no other. While we worked diligently to create and provide virtual services during the COVID-19 pandemic, we are overjoyed with the prospect of bringing individuals back to our programs in the near future.



Currently, we know that Governor Newsom has plans to open up the state on June 15th. What does this mean? According to press releases, the color tiered system will be eliminated and businesses will return to normal operations, free from restrictions. Organizations like Pace Solano, serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, require a higher level of compliance than other businesses in CA. For us, resuming site-based services will depend on guidelines set forth by several agencies including; California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing, Department of Developmental Services, CalOSHA, CA Department of Public Health, Solano County Department of Public Health, and the CDC.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Looking to the Future (cont.)

When we return, hopefully in the coming weeks, we will proceed slowly in an effort to ensure everyone's safety. We plan to offer both site-based and remote programming. Individuals will most likely attend in-person a couple of days a week and continue with Zoom classes the other three. It will be necessary for all of us to social distance, wash hands frequently and wear masks until further notice. Everyone will be screened prior to entering the buildings and all staff will participate in COVID-19 testing each month, as recommended by Community Care Licensing. As guidance changes, Pace Solano will adjust accordingly and communicate as necessary.

Pace Solano is not requiring that individuals or staff be vaccinated to return to program, but we strongly encourage it. We continue to send out information regarding the vaccine and available clinics in the area. We welcome conversation, feedback and questions. Most importantly, we hope the measures we are taking to ensure everyone's health and safety will make individuals feel comfortable returning to program when the time comes.

Annual Budget

Our annual budget for 2020-2021 is approximately \$8 million. This is down over \$500k from our 2019-2020 budget due to lost revenue when Bingo, our primary fundraising activity, was shut down in March of last year. Typically we receive 6% of our revenues from Bingo but this year the funding looks very different. Nearly 95% of our revenue is generated from North Bay Regional Center, with another 5% coming from client contracts. We anticipate re-opening Bingo in mid-June, as the profits from games are a critical supplement to our programs.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Demographics

At present, we serve nearly 350 individuals at six sites throughout Solano County. We support individuals with diverse service and support needs. Our overall enrollment is almost an even split between men and women, with 60% of individuals between the ages of 18 and 50, currently living at home with their families. Finally, we support a group of individuals as diverse as Solano County by ethnicity.

Did We Listen?

Throughout the year, Pace Solano remained focused on creating and improving our virtual programming, establishing safety plans, staff education and training, facility maintenance, and outreach to the Pace community. Results from our *Did We Listen?* survey indicate that most individuals miss coming to program and miss going out into the community with their friends. We also heard that several people would like information about housing options.

Strategic Planning

For fiscal year 2021-2022, Pace Solano will establish new goals for our Strategic Plan, looking to expand our education and training around Person Centered Planning and place more emphasis on finding community integrated jobs and volunteer opportunities for the individuals attending our programs.

Closing

I would like to thank the staff, management, families, caregivers, and the Board of Directors for their efforts and commitment to Pace Solano. As we continue to navigate changing state and local guidelines, we appreciate your support, partnership and understanding. We look forward to seeing you in person very soon!

PROGRAM REPORT

Pace Solano closed its doors in March 2020 because of health and safety concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, we made the difficult decision to permanently close Pace 1 in October 2020, as the lease was expiring and attendance had dropped significantly. Nearly all individuals transferred to Pace Georgia where they have been receiving remote services.

zoom CLASS schedule

In April 2020, Pace began offering Zoom classes, as well as weekly YouTube videos, which were created by Pace Solano staff for individuals and their families and caregivers.

Pace purchased approximately 90 Fire tablets for individuals that did not have the proper technology to access Zoom classes. The Zoom class schedule is updated and posted on the agency website regularly and includes accessible links to the Zoom classes, materials for easier participation, and technology support for those facing connection issues. Materials and supplies are delivered to individuals on a weekly basis, allowing them to participate in their learning and giving them opportunities for creativity.

Our Zoom class schedule has grown from offering 23 classes per week to 120, ranging in topic and skill level. Additionally, the Pace Solano staff work with each of their assigned individuals to build a Person Centered Zoom Class Schedule, highlighting their preferred classes and classes related to their chosen goals.

Small group Zoom meetings are also offered for each program site, allowing friends and classmates to see each other and socialize. Each program site also implemented a “Meet the Manager” Zoom weekly opportunity where individuals, families, and caregivers can access the managers via Zoom to ask questions.

PROGRAM REPORT



Dominique and Moelani working together on curriculum.



Verlinda and DeShawn enjoying lunch in the park.

Over the past few months, Pace Solano began providing in-person services primarily to individuals that were not benefiting from the vast array of Zoom classes, or those that required additional support. Also, individuals not interested in Zoom classes have the opportunity to talk to their staff via video chat, FaceTime or Duo.



Cheryl and Johanna spending some time together in her home.



Linda and Janny taking a walk.

PROGRAM REPORT

In March 2021, several individuals returned to work at their previous jobsites, following all safety protocols developed by Pace Solano (i.e., wearing a mask, social distancing, wiping down and sanitizing their work equipment, wearing of gloves, etc.).



Michael, Don, and Gilbert working at the Vacaville Recycling Center.



After being out of program for over a year, the most asked question from those we support is, “When can we come back to program?”. Pace Solano will continue to work closely with State and local authorities, NBRC, and Community Care Licensing to determine next steps regarding returning to site-based services.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone soon!

EXCITING NEWS: INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Pace Solano and Journey Coffee Company teamed up in May 2021 with the goal of assisting the coffee company with their workforce needs; as well as, providing internship opportunities for individuals served.

The Paid Internship Program, funded through North Bay Regional Center, will begin with two interns working between Journey Coffee Company's downtown Vacaville and Fairfield sites. Eventually, the program will expand to support additional interns at all of their Solano County sites, with the ultimate goal of the Pace Solano interns being hired directly by Journey Coffee Company at the end of the program.



This project is part of a broader Pace Solano initiative designed to aid and support individuals in obtaining direct hire employment in the community. Through the project with Journey Coffee Company, Pace Solano intends to develop a model for creating other internship opportunities in other environments.

Journey Coffee Company is excited to welcome the interns in June and Pace Solano couldn't be more thrilled to work with them.

LICENSING & SAFETY: PREPARING FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES

2021 has been a very busy year for our Licensing and Safety Department! Over the past 12 months, we continuously reviewed CDC and State and County pandemic guidelines, incorporating them into required written plans for NBRC, CCL, and OSHA. Staff has been trained on each plan and is prepared to support individuals safely as we return to in-person services.

For the convenience of our staff, Linda Craig, Licensing and Safety Director, worked closely with Solano County Public Health to schedule an on-site vaccine clinic in April, where many staff participated. Information regarding additional vaccination opportunities for staff and caregivers was posted on our website, and distributed via email blast and driver delivery.

Currently, not all Pace Solano staff has elected to get the vaccine. As a result, we established a COVID-19 testing site at the Main Office where we test 100% of staff providing “in-person” services to individuals. We are hopeful this gives staff, individuals served, and their caregivers comfort regarding the spread of the virus and our commitment to health and safety.

Staff has been working on site for months, teaching Zoom classes and preparing curriculum and activities for delivery to individuals served. With that in mind, Pace Solano collaborated with Solano County Organizations Active in Disasters (SCOAD), NBRC, and OES to obtain required PPE supplies. Also, our janitorial supplier helped us determine what CDC approved disinfectant products we should purchase to “prevent the spread” of the virus.

We continue working closely with Solano County and California State Health Departments, the CDC, OSHA, NBRC and Community Care Licensing to adapt our protocols to ever changing guidelines. Our ultimate goal is to maintain the well-being and safety of everyone as we look towards resuming site-based services.

TRANSPORTATION: READY TO ROLL!

While the Pace Solano staff and individuals supported have been adapting to a “new normal” as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pace Solano transportation department has also made adjustments.

Pace Solano’s fleet of 30 vehicles has remained in service for a large majority of the past year, however, it now operates much differently. This includes a variety of new protocols and procedures, all of which have been put in place to ensure the health and safety of the Pace Solano Community.

Vehicle sanitation processes have been enhanced, social distancing procedures have been implemented, and daily routes now consist of deliveries to individuals who have chosen to receive alternative programming services during this time. Deliveries include activity and curriculum packets, materials that aid in the participation of various Zoom classes, PPE supplies

(i.e., masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.), and food items on an as needed basis.

Despite the many changes this past year, some things have remained the same, such as our CHP and R&D audits and continued routine van maintenance.

CDC guidance regarding transportation will likely change in the coming weeks, however, Pace Solano is dedicated to ensuring all protocols and procedures are met and that our vehicles are “ready to roll” as soon as circumstances allow!



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