

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2012

Present: Thomas Aguinaga (via video-conference), Craig Girard, Katie Mead, Meredith Rimmer, and Jeremy Sunderland - Committee Members
Yolanda Bosch – Board President
Connie Lapin and Jason Nagle (via video-conference) – Guests
Salisa Wagner – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Diane Ambrose, Joan Daniels, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: All present

I. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Jeremy Sunderland, chair, at 6:09 p.m.

II. Public Input

- A. Connie reported that a package containing state payroll data arrived at its destination damaged and incomplete; 700,000 in-home workers and consumers were impacted.
- B. George testified at Senator Steinberg’s hearing on the perceived inequity of regional center services and he did a great job. George stated that he is worried that legislation may be created that would result in more work for our services coordinators resulting in less attention for our clients. The assumption that our service coordinators would authorize fewer services for families of color or who are of low income is degrading. Our staff are not racist.
- C. Connie expressed her concern regarding the proposed “Coordinated Care Initiative” which would expand the current pilot project of moving eligible clients to a managed care system to 10 additional counties with a plan for statewide implementation by January 2015. Consumers and families need to know that they can opt out of the program if they want to. Connie suggested that information about this initiative be posted on the center’s website and that this committee monitor the initiative.
- D. At a recent hearing that she attended, Connie heard that NLACRC did not authorize “floor time” for clients. George stated that trailer bill language prohibits regional centers from using unproven therapies. Floor time is funded as appropriate.
- E. George announced that the 17 regional centers that are part of “The Way Forward” movement will be sending out their survey next week. There will be a

3-week turnaround time. The information gathered will be reviewed and discussed by the way forward group at their next meeting on June 11th.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Two items were added to the agenda and item IV.D. was moved to the Government & Community Relations Committee meeting agenda. The agenda was approved as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of April 18th Meeting

M/S/C (C. Girard/K. Mead) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Proposed Changes to the Service Standards to Reflect HCBS Waiver Renewal

Joan reported that the waiver renewal will impact 2 of the center's service standards: Individual Program Plan (IPP) Development; and Family Supports and Living Arrangements. However, only minor changes are needed. Joan reviewed the proposed changes with the committee.

Action: The committee approved the proposed changes to the service standards as presented and recommended they be presented to the board for their review and approval.

B. Review and Approve Committee's Critical Calendar for FY 2012-13

Copies of the proposed critical calendar for next fiscal year were provided and reviewed. Other than the dates, no changes have been made.

Action: The committee approved the FY 2012-13 critical calendar as presented.

C. Coordinated Care Initiative: California's Dual Eligible Individuals

Information on the proposed initiative was provided to the committee for their information. (See Section II.C. above.)

D. Update on the Wellspring Closure

Diane reported that 780 clients were authorized to receive multiple services from Wellspring. All families have been contacted and approximately 90% of them have been reauthorized with alternative vendors. Of the 10% remaining, reasons include:

1. The family has not called us back.
2. The family has not selected an alternative provider.
3. The family is no longer interested in the service.
4. A new vendor is in the process of hiring staff.

We will continue to follow up with families who have not responded.

Action: The committee asked that copies of Diane's written report on the Wellspring closure be included in the next board meeting packets.

E. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

Copies of the written CPP report for April 2012 were provided to the committee and Diane reviewed it with them. The center's goal for this fiscal year is to place 10 clients out of Lanterman Developmental Center (which is closing) and to find or develop placements for them in the community. So far, 5 clients have been placed and 7 more are targeted to be placed by June 1st (if the homes get licensed). George reported that next year, the center will discontinue its involvement of acquiring housing for community placements. The process is labor intensive and we don't have the staff or the time to do this. In addition, DDS does not respond to us in a timely manner and delays needed funding. The delays in licensing the homes are also DDS's responsibility.

F. Board Audit: Is the center's CPP being met?

As stated above, we have placed 5 of 12 targeted clients. DDS has caused the delay in placing the last 7.

G. Questions re: Monthly Quality Assurance and Special Incident Reports

These reports are provided at each board meeting as part of George's director's report. They are an agenda item at this meeting in case anyone had any questions about them. There were no questions regarding either report.

H. Behavioral Services Letter

Regional centers will be prohibited from providing behavioral services after July 1st without a denial letter from a family's health care provider. The center will be sending a letter to our families about this. Copies of the letter were provided to the committee for their review. We will have further information about this, including "frequently asked question" posted on the center's website.

I. May Revise

Information regarding the May Revise was provided to the committee for their information. This information will be discussed at the Government & Community Relations Committee meeting.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

- A. Minutes of May 16th Meeting
- B. Presentation of Proposed Changes to the Service Standards
 - 1. Individual Program Plan (IPP) Development
 - 2. Family Supports and Living Arrangements
- C. Update on the Wellspring Closure

VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

- A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 18th at 6:00 p.m. (no June meeting)
- B. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Jeremy asked the committee members to please complete evaluation forms after the meeting and submit them to him with any comments.

VII. Adjournment

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

