

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2014

Present: Daniel Becerra, Jessica Gould, Duane Joslin, Debra Newman, Jeremy Sunderland, and Tavia Wooley – Committee Members
Eric Leh – Board President
Michelle Heid and Rebecca Lienhard– Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives
Jennifer Pecor - Guest
Diane Ambrose, Maria Bosch, Joan Daniels, Susana Gil, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: All present

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Duane Joslin called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. in Jeremy's absence, and introductions were made.

II. Public Input

Jessica announced that she just graduated and now has her AA degree in Early Childhood Development. Congratulations Jessica!!

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (D. Becerra/D. Newman) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of November 20th Meeting

M/S/C (D. Becerra/J. Gould) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. 2nd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report

The exceptions report lists requests from consumers and families for services that are outside of the center's service standards and whether those services were

approved or denied. During the 2nd quarter of this fiscal year, the center approved 274 requests and denied only 20 (14 of the denials were for co-payments for behavioral health treatment).

The exemptions report lists requests made for services that have been suspended or reduced as a result of the trailer bill language. The report showed that during the 2nd quarter, the center had only 8 requests and they were approved.

B. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report

Copies of the report were provided to the committee for their review. The report showed diagnostic information about the center's consumers for each quarter since the beginning of FY 2011-12. Consumers with more than 1 disability are put into the category of their primary diagnosis. Of the 19,679 consumers that the center serves, the diagnosis breakdown is as follows:

1. Intellectual Disability: 8,301 (6.04% increase since July 1, 2011)
2. Autism: 6,812 (**22.08% increase**)
3. Cerebral Palsy: 526 (3.75% increase)
4. Epilepsy: 222 (1.37% increase)
5. Other developmental disability: 918 (4.32% increase)
6. Early Start: 2,900 (10.39% decrease)

C. 2nd Quarter Appeals & Hearings Report

During the 2nd quarter of FY 2013-14:

1. Eligibility: 331 Notices of Action were sent and 9 were returned (appealed).
2. Service: 154 Notices of Action were sent and 11 were returned.
3. Hearings: 6 fair hearings were held:
 - 4 eligibility hearings (1 dismissed, 2 denied, and 1 granted)
 - 2 service hearings (1 denied and 1 decision pending)

D. DDS's Approval of Service Standards Changes

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) sent us a letter on December 20th approving the proposed changes to our service standards. Copies of the letter were provided to the committee. We do not disseminate the changed standards

until we receive DDS approval. The standards will now be posted on the center's website and are also in the process of being translated into Spanish. However, at this point additional changes are needed to the standards to reflect new laws pertaining to the storage of HIV records and the requirement to translate IPPs and IFSPs into a family's native language.

E. Discussion re: VAC's Draft Employment First Philosophy and Policy Statement

The Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) drafted an Employment First philosophy and policy statement for the board's consideration and adoption. The first draft of this statement was shared with the committee at their November meeting. Committee members were asked to take time to review the document and come to this meeting prepared for discussion. Rebecca stated that if the committee supports the draft document, it should next go to the Board of Trustees for their support. Once the document has board support, additional work will be done by the VAC to finalize the policy and take the steps necessary to successfully implement such an initiative. The committee members were in support of the document.

M/S/C (D. Becerra/T. Wooley) To ask for the Board's approval for the Consumer Services Committee to collaborate with the Vendor Advisory Committee to craft an Employment First policy for this regional center.

F. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

The center's goal for FY 2013-14 is to place 21 consumers out of Canyon Springs, the Institutes of Mental Disease/Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers (IMD/MHRCs), and the Lanterman, Porterville, and Fairview Developmental Centers and into community settings. As of December 31st, NLACRC placed 2 individuals out of Canyon Springs, 6 out of the IMD/MHRCs, and 9 out of the developmental centers, a total of 17 placements for the fiscal year to date. In addition, we are planning to place 2 more consumers out of the IMD/MHRCs this month and another consumer out of Lanterman Developmental Center next month. We were hoping to move all of our consumers out of Lanterman before the end of June, but the resources won't be quite ready by then. We will still have our consumers out of Lanterman prior to the December 31st deadline. Staff are currently working to finalize the center's CPP for FY 2014-15 which is due to DDS on February 21st.

Also, last month the center posted Requests for Proposals (RFP) on our website for 8 CPP projects:

1. 4 specialized residential facilities
2. 2 day programs
3. 1 supported living service
4. 1 crisis support service

An applicants' conference was held on January 13th and was very well attended.

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 regarding either report. There were no questions regarding either report.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the February 12th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of January 15th Meeting
- B. 2nd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report
- C. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report
- D. 2nd Quarter Appeals & Hearings Report
- E. DDS's Approval of Service Standards Changes
- * F. Approval to Develop an Employment First Policy

VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

- B. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, February 19th, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Duane adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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