

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes**

February 2, 2015

**Present:** Annie Cox, Yolanda Bosch, Jessica Gould, Sara Iwahashi, Roberta Newton, William Rayber, Kim Rolfes, Cynthia Sewell, and George Stevens – Committee Members  
Ken Lane – Vendor Advisory Committee Member  
Tanner Schlarch - Guest  
Jennifer Kaiser – Staff Member

**Absent:** Diane Ambrose, Charles Devlin, Craig Girard, Duane Joslin, Michele Marra, and Ingrid Rushing

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**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by William Rayber, chair, at 6:05 p.m. Introductions were made.

**II. Public Input –** There was no public input.

**III. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

Several items were added to the agenda.

**M/S/C** (C. Sewell/J. Gould) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of November 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

**M/S/C** (J. Gould/R. Newton) To approve the minutes as presented.

**IV. Committee Business**

A. DDS Approval of 2015 Performance Contract

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) approved the center's 2015 performance contract on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Sara reported that DDS has some new local performance contract measures and we are waiting to receive more details about them:

1. Annually by the Employment Development Department
  - Number and percentage of consumers (ages 16-64) with earned income.
  - Average annual wages for consumers (ages 16-64)
  - Annual earnings of consumers (ages 16-64) compared to people with all disabilities in California.
  
2. Every 3 years by the National Core Indicators Project
  - Percentage of adults who reported having a paid job in a community-based setting.
  - Percentage of adults who reported having integrated employment as a goal in their Individualized Program Plan (IPP).
  - Percentage of adults without a job in the community who reported wanting one.
  
3. Annually by the Regional Centers through consumers' Client development Evaluation Reports (CDERs)
  - Number and percentages of adults in day services that interact with people without disabilities.
  - Number and percentage of adults who engage in paid work.
  - Number and percentage of adults earning below minimum wage, minimum wage, above minimum wage, and salaried.

B. Entities that have Closed vs. Programs that have Closed

Kim provided this information to the committee and reviewed it with them. The report listed the number of closures in each fiscal year from FY 2008-09 to present and the reason for the closure. The center has had 57 program closures so far this fiscal year. Since FY 2008-09 there have been a total of 1,654 closures to date.

C. ARCA Resource Limitation Survey

The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) has asked each regional center to complete a survey showing the types of programs and/or services that have closed and the number of consumers impacted. The survey also probed each center's resource needs. NLACRC's most urgent resource need is homes for consumers with behavioral challenges. In addition, the rates we offer are so low that not many people are interested in providing services. We recently released a Request for Proposals for a day program no proposals were submitted. ARCA will be using the information from the surveys to develop a report to

present to the legislature to support efforts to increase the rates of our service providers. Copies of NLACRC's completed survey were provided to the committee for their information.

**Action:** Yolanda will share copies of ARCA's survey report once it is published.

D. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): DDS/DOR/CDE

An MOU has been established between the California Departments of Developmental Services (DDS), Rehabilitation (DOR), and Education (CDE) to phase out the sub-minimum wage and increase work opportunities for people with disabilities. There is a national movement to prepare people with disabilities to work in integrated settings earning a livable wage, sometimes referred to as "competitive integrated employment" (CIE). These 3 departments have agreed to develop a plan to make CIE a reality in California. We want to be very cautious with this as they move forward as we don't want anyone left behind.

George added that the Vendor Advisory Committee has drafted an Employment First policy for the center that is being presented at this month's board meeting for approval.

E. Self-Determination Update

We are in the process of putting together our volunteer advisory committee. This will be an 11-member committee that will oversee the center's implementation of the self-determination program. The State Council on Developmental Disabilities' local office (formerly Area Board 10), will select 5 members and we will select the other 5; the eleventh member will be our client rights' advocate. NLACRC's committee membership will include a representative from the Family Focus Resource Center, a board member, a service provider, and 2 others not yet identified at this time. We will also be posting our implementation process steps on our website and will update it on a regular basis so everyone knows where we are in the process. Ruth Janka, the center's new consumer services director, will be working with the advisory committee to oversee the center's implementation of this program. NLACRC has 174 spots for consumers to fill as part of the 3-year pilot program. It has come to our attention that DDS may take the responsibility for identifying who these 174 consumers will be. There was brief discussion about how several services had been suspended but would be reinstated once self-determination was implemented.

**Action:** George will get clarification on this and report back at the next quarterly meeting.

F. Purchase of Service (POS) Expenditure Data

As required, the center has posted its expenditure data on the website. Community meetings are also required so we can share the data with our community. We will be holding 2 community meetings sometime in March.

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the February 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of November 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting
- B. Entities and Programs that have Closed
- C. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): DDS/DOR/CDE

VI. **Announcements / Information / Public Input**

- A. A documentary was made by New Horizons and CA State University Northridge on the lives of 7 adults with developmental disabilities. The name of the documentary is "Perfectly Normal" and it will be shown at Plaza del Sol Concert Hall at CSUN on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. with a reception to follow at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, but parking is \$6. For tickets or more information, call (818) 677-2488.
- B. Next Meeting: Monday, May 4, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. **Adjournment**

William adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

