

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Self Determination Local Volunteer Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2016

Present: Sandra Baker, Victoria Berry, Richard Dier, Allison Cameron Gray, Michelle Heid, Ellen Jannol, Debra Newman, Bebo Saab – Committee Members
Ruth Janka, Lizeth Chavez – NLACRC Staff
Julie Eby-McKenzie – State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Brandee Amore-Sosa, Kathryn Avila, Javier Ayala, Diane Bernstein, Robin Borakove, Glenda Boyajian, Miriam Corona, James Chavez, Andrea Devers, Syrenthia Farris, Marisol Garcia, Connie Lapin, Judy Mark – Guests

Absent: Royce Abrams – Committee Member

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Richard Dier at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present. Introductions from the Committee were made. Richard asked the guests to introduce themselves.

2. Public Input – Connie Lapin discussed issues related to the statewide advisory committee. Their next meeting will be Feb 10. Connie also said she feels it is important for each Regional Center to deal with Person Centered Planning. She feels the Person Centered Planning is different than the IPP process.

3. Presentation – because our presenter was running late, our Chair made some comments.

Richard said that he attended SDP Advisory Committees from Westside, Lanterman, Eastern LA and hopes to visit a couple of others. He shared some observations and differences he noted. All SDP Advisory Committees attempt to do a real training at each meeting. They also discuss budgets. Some have workgroups that do some work during the meeting. Lanterman is going to start handing out a flyer about SDP at each IPP meeting. Eastern LA had 2 translators at their meeting (Spanish & Mandarin). The Chairs of each LA County Regional Center will be meeting soon and he will share more info.

Richard will invite staff from Tierra del Sol to make a presentation to the Committee on Person Centered Planning, hopefully in February. Another topic he has heard Committee members request is training on the HCBS waiver.

Presentation: Update on CMS Waiver Application

Judy Mark, Chair of the Westside Regional Center Self Determination Advisory Committee and member of the Statewide Advisory Committee, gave a presentation on the status of the CMS waiver application. Although there are 180 items to address on the latest letter to DDS, she spoke to Ralph Waller at CMS who said he was highly optimistic that the waiver would be approved. Approximately 30 items need reworking and many of the others are bureaucratic or minor issues. Judy said she feels DDS is supportive of the Self Determination Program but it is not their highest priority. The next Statewide Advisory Committee meeting is Feb 10. She also discussed the ASLA conference called A New Day, A New Life on February 18-19. DDS is sponsoring a mixer for members of all the Regional Centers' Self Determination Advisory Committees on Feb 18.

The Committee had some comments. Bebo Saab stated that subminimum wage jobs such as sheltered workplaces will be eliminated under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Some families are resistant to their family member leaving a sheltered living or work environment because they are afraid they will not be cared for. Judy responded, saying that Regional Centers develop new programs now that are more individualized and community based, so that they will be eligible for funding under the Self Determination program as well as when the new HCBS rules go into effect in 2019. Michelle asked what role vendors will play in the SDP program. Judy said she feels most vendors will not be interested in being providers under SDP unless they are “out of the box” thinkers.

Judy recommended the website www.hcbsadvocacy.org and www.mysupport.com, which is a site to match providers with consumers.

4. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (B. Saab/S. Baker) To approve the Agenda.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|---------------|-----|
| Abrams | Absent | Gray | Yes |
| Baker | Yes | Heid | Yes |
| Berrey | Yes | Jannol | Yes |
| Carter | Yes | Newman | Yes |
| Del Cid | Yes | Saab | Yes |
| Dier | Yes | | |

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 12 Meeting:

M/S/C (E. Jannol/M. Heid) To approve the minutes as presented.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|---------------|-----|
| Abrams | Absent | Gray | Yes |
| Baker | Yes | Heid | Yes |
| Berrey | Yes | Jannol | Yes |
| Carter | Yes | Newman | Yes |
| Del Cid | Yes | Saab | Yes |
| Dier | Yes | | |

C. Approval of Future Meeting Schedule & Locations.

M/S/C (M. Heid/D. Newman) To meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|---------------|-----|
| Abrams | Absent | Gray | Yes |
| Baker | Yes | Heid | Yes |
| Berrey | Yes | Jannol | Yes |
| Carter | Yes | Newman | Yes |
| Del Cid | Yes | Saab | Yes |
| Dier | Yes | | |

The Committee agreed to continue to meet monthly. After discussing various scheduling options, we agreed that our meetings will take place on the 3rd Thursday of the month, except February’s meeting will be Feb 25 due to the ASLA conference on Feb 18. The locations will vary based on availability of conference rooms; February’s meeting will take place in Van Nuys.

Action Items: Victoria will check on availability of the conference rooms at all 3 offices.

5. NLACRC/DDS/Update

Ruth Janka said that new sign ups for Self Determination have slowed down. NLACRC has hired a Self Determination Specialist who will start Feb 1. She will do the outreach to support groups in conjunction with Family Focus Resource Center. She will also work on coordinating implementation. Julie shared that some Regional Centers are entering into Memoranda of Understanding with support groups to document the outreach efforts. Ruth said she is training all NLACRC units using the same training materials that were provided at the June community meetings.

Bebo asked how consumers should indicate their interest in SDP, especially those who do not have Internet access to send an email request. He is currently telling consumers to add it to their IPP.

Sandra asked about translation at meetings. She said she has gotten calls from parents asking for more information after the SDP meetings. She said she is unsure if parents will RSVP in advance for translation; Mercedes agreed that is not part of the culture to register in advance.

M/S/C (B. Saab/M. Del Cid) To provide a Spanish speaking translator for the Feb. 25 meeting.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------|---------------|---------|
| Abrams | Absent | Gray | Yes |
| Baker | Yes | Heid | Yes |
| Berrey | Yes | Jannol | Yes |
| Carter | Yes | Newman | Abstain |
| Del Cid | Yes | Saab | Yes |
| Dier | Yes | | |

6. Announcements

Victoria announced that she attended the Filipino parent support group and the Santa Clarita autism support group this month to informally share information about SDP.

7. Old Business

A. None

8. New Business

A. Feedback Form. We did not get to this item.

B. Future training topics. Richard plans to schedule Person Centered Planning for February.

9. Public Comment

Robin Borakove, Diane Bernstein and Connie Lapin made comments.

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair, Richard Dier at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by

Victoria Berrey
Secretary