

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2016

Present: Diane Ambrose, Yolanda Bosch, Mary Jo Fernando, Jenean Glover, Sara Iwahashi, Ellen Jannol, William Rayber, Kim Rolfes, Cynthia Sewell, George Stevens, and Todd Withers – Committee Members
Cindy Chiu and Gerald Robles - Guests
Jennifer Kaiser – Staff Member

Absent: Charles Devlin, Craig Girard, and Michele Marra

I. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by William Rayber, chair, at 6:03 p.m. Introductions were made.

II. Public Input

A. Cycle 39 Grant

Cindy Chiu is the new director of the Los Angeles regional office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) in Glendale. Cindy announced that the State Council has allocated up to \$20,000 per regional office to fund one project that addresses unmet needs in each of their catchment areas. The LA regional center has selected the following goals to be implemented by the program development grant:

1. Housing: People with developmental disabilities and their families reflecting the diversity of the state will have increased access to affordable, accessible, safe, and fully integrated housing that provides choice and flexibility regarding where and with whom they live.
2. Health and Safety: Californians with developmental disabilities and their families, reflecting the diversity of the state, will have increased information to access health, public safety, and related services that meet their needs and health care choices.

Applications are due to the Sacramento State Council office by 5:00 p.m. on May 31st, the winning proposals will be announced on July 25th, funding is to be available on October 1st, and the projects must be completed by September 30, 2017. For more information go to: www.scdd.ca.gov or call (818) 543-4631.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (E. Jannol/J. Glover) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2016 Meeting

M/S/C (J. Glover/M.J. Fernando) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Presentation: “Everyone Needs a Place to Live”

Copies of this 13-page presentation were provided to the committee in their meeting packets and Kim reviewed the information with them. The presentation is subtitled, “Housing Crisis: Where we are, What does it really cost, and What is the solution?” The center is facing a huge loss of housing options for our consumers, which in some cases is leaving them homeless. Although there are many contributing factors, the primary reason is that the cost to operate a residential facility is no longer financially feasible due to inadequate rates to cover costs. Since 2001, inflation has risen 34% while the rates for residential facilities have only increased by less than 4.5%. This presentation will be included in the meeting materials for the local Grass Roots Week visits and will be discussed with the legislators at those meetings.

B. Update on Performance Contracts

1. 2015 Performance Contract Summary Report: Each spring, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) provides each regional center with a summary of their performance contract data as compared with the statewide average. The report also includes that center’s demographic data and how the center did in meeting DDS compliance standards. Copies of NLACRC’s 2015 report were provided to the committee and reviewed. The report shows that NLACRC did well in all areas. The report will be posted on the center’s website.

2. DDS Approval of 2016 Contract: The Board of Trustees adopted the center’s 2016 performance contract and submitted it to DDS for their review and approval. DDS’s approval letter, dated February 2nd, was

provided to the committee for their information. The 2016 performance contact is posted on the center's website.

C. Update on NLACRC Programs that have Closed

Yolanda presented an updated summary on NLACRC's program closures to the committee. The majority of program closures were due to the non-submission of the required DS 1891 forms, but most of the remaining closures were due to financial/rate issues.

Fiscal Year	Program Closures	Consumers Impacted
2015-16 (so far)	90	139
2014-15	23	78
2013-14	14	112
2012-13	11	77
2011-12	20	1,096
2010-11	4	47
2009-10	6	133
2008-09	8	138
Total:	176	1,820

D. Update on the Self-Determination Program

George and Cindy both attended last week's Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting and gave the following report on what was discussed:

1. Presentation: A presentation was given by a potential fiscal management service provider. There will be 3 models of FMS to choose from, each with pros and cons. Participants will need to be well educated on the 3 models so they can make the choice that is right for them.
2. Participants: NLACRC will have 174 initial participants in the program and already have 81 consumers who are interested. George noted that DDS will be responsible for selecting the participants, not NLACRC.
3. Outreach: The center's new self-determination specialist is busy meeting with various advocacy groups to tell them about the program and create

interest. She is also asking them to pass the information on to others who may be interested.

Cindy added that the SCDD's regional office serves the 7 Los Angeles regional centers, with NLACRC being the largest. Her office is very interested in reaching out to the center's under-served areas.

4. Federal Waiver: DDS has nearly completed responding to the many questions that the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) had regarding the original waiver they submitted. Once DDS has finalized that, they will post it on their website for the required 30 day comment period before sending it to CMS for approval. Tennessee is the only state that has had its waiver approved so far.
5. Service Appeals: Cindy reported that data has shown the people who participate in the self-determination program rarely appeal their service decisions.

E. ARCA's Resource Limitation Survey Results (Yolanda)

Yolanda reported that the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) told her that they did not produce a summary of the survey results. Instead, they used the data to produce their report "On the Brink of Collapse." The report is meant to provide policy-makers, advocates, and citizens of California an understanding of the crisis engulfing our state's developmental disabilities system. ARCA conducted another survey last year to collect data for their follow-up report which should be released soon.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following item was identified for the committee's section of the May 11th board meeting:

- A. Minutes of the May 2nd Meeting

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. Next Meeting: Monday, August 1, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

George stated that it will be important for this committee to focus on the

implementation of the CMS Final Rule and the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) as together they will affect all areas of what we do. Discussion ensued about the changes that the CMS Final Rule will have. Cynthia offered New Horizons as a training site for the CMS Final Rule, but if the trainings include WIOA, then the Department of Rehabilitation must participate in it as well.

VII. Adjournment

William adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m. and wished all the moms a very happy Mother's Day!

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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