

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2017

Present: Adelina Castellanos, Jessica Gould, Michelle Heid, Erika Hernandez, Meagan Miller, Caroline Mitchell, Debra Newman, Curtis Wang, and Tamar Witmer – Committee Members
Sharoll Jackson – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Steve Miller, Margie Ryan, and Michael Stevens - Guests
Diane Ambrose, Maria Bosch, Joan Daniels, Susana Gil, Ruth Janka, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Shant Kotchounian

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Jessica Gould, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (C. Wang/C. Mitchell) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of the October 19th Meeting

M/S/C (D. Newman/M. Miller) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. 2nd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report (Joan/Susana)

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 280 requests and denied only 9.

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, no exemptions were requested.

B. 2nd Quarter Appeals/Hearings Report (Ruth)

Copies of the report were provided and reviewed. During the 2nd quarter:

1. Eligibility: 267 Notices of Action were sent and 3 were returned (appealed).
2. Service: 185 Notices of Action were sent and 12 were returned.
3. Hearings: 11 fair hearings were held:
 - 5 eligibility hearings (3 denied, 2 dismissed)
 - 6 service hearings (4 denied, 2 dismissed)

We assist applicants who do not qualify to receive services by sharing information with them about access to generic resources. Spikes in the number of notices sent are usually the result of a change in statute, such as behavioral services transition to managed care plans.

C. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report (George)

Copies of the report were provided to the committee for their review. The report showed diagnostic information about the center's consumers each quarter since July 1, 2014. Of the 23,453 consumers that the center serves, the diagnosis breakdown is as follows:

1. Intellectual Disability: 8,731 (4.3% increase since July 1, 2014)
2. Autism: 9,205 (**24.5% increase, but 6.5% less than last quarter**)
3. Cerebral Palsy: 544 (2.6% increase)
4. Epilepsy: 241 (8.0% increase)
5. Other developmental disability: 1,126 (14.5% increase)
6. Status 0, 1, 2: 3,606 (17.7% increase)

Status 0 are clients in intake, Status 1 are clients in Early Start (at risk), and Status 2 clients are children over 3 that have been found eligible for regional center services. There are an especially high number of consumers with autism in the Santa Clarita Valley because there are a lot of children living there – as opposed to the Antelope Valley which mainly serves adult consumers.

D. Self-Determination Program Update (Debra/Ruth)

We are still waiting for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to re-submit the federal waiver application to the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS). DDS must first post the waiver application for 30 days before

submitting it to CMS; then CMS has 90 days to review and approve the waiver. So if DDS were to post the waiver application today, self-determination services would not become available for 4 months (the end of May). In the meantime, our Self-Determination Volunteer Advisory Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis (although they were dark in December). The next meeting will be held tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. in the first floor conference room of the Chatsworth office. The meetings are open to the public. Tomorrow night's meeting will feature a presentation on the person-centered planning process. Agendas and minutes from the meetings are posted on the center's website. Also, Evelyn Chamorro, our self-determination specialist, continues to provide community outreach and fliers about the self-determination program are sent to consumers and families with all of their Individual Program Plans in English and in Spanish.

E. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

The center currently has 9 consumers at Fairview Developmental Center (FDC), 2 at Porterville DC (in the general treatment area), 4 at Canyon Springs, and non at Sonoma DC. The center's goal for this fiscal year is to place 10 consumers out of FDC and into community living settings. As of December 31st, the center has placed 6 consumers out of Fairview and 1 consumer out of Porterville and into the community. We also have 1 projected placement in February and another in March. We have received proposals for our new developments and will be scoring them tomorrow; we will then interview the top candidates. One of our current projects is partnering with Tri-Counties Regional Center in the development of two 5-bed medical homes.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the February 8th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of the January 18th Meeting
- B. 1st Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report
- C. 1st Quarter Appeals/Hearings Report
- D. 1st Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report
- E. Self-Determination Program Update

VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 15th, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Jessica adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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