

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2012

Present: Thomas Aguinaga (via video-conference), Richard Dier, Craig Girard, Dawn Hamilton, Duane Joslin, and Jeremy Sunderland – Committee Members
Linda Dier, Yolanda Hutson (via video-conference), and Connie Lapin – Guests
Diane Ambrose, Joan Daniels, Susana Gil, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Martha Lopez

I. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Duane Joslin, for Jeremy Sunderland, 6:04 p.m.

II. Public Input

Connie Lapin made the following announcements:

- A. The Autism Society of Los Angeles, in conjunction with the Family Resource Center, is holding a conference called, “The Future is Now: Creating a Meaningful Life for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders” at California State University, Northridge on January 11 & 12, 2013. Connie provided copies of the conference information to everyone present.
- B. Connie recently attended a conference put on by Bet Tzedek, a legal advocacy organization. They provided a lot of information about the transition of consumers to managed care (LA Care or Health Net).
- C. Connie asked how often the new supported living services questionnaire needs to be brought up to consumers. Joan stated that the questionnaire is being reviewed with consumers whenever their (IPP) is reviewed, so at least quarterly.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (C. Girard/R. Dier) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of October 17th Meeting

M/S/C (C. Girard/R. Dier) To approve the minutes as presented/modified.

IV. Committee Business

A. VAC Presentation on Behavioral Services (Michele)

This committee had asked that a presentation be arranged for the Board of Trustees on the provision of behavioral services. Michele confirmed that the Vendor Advisory Committee's (VAC's) children's services workgroup members will give that presentation at the February 13th board meeting. Copies of the updated board presentation schedule were provided to everyone present.

B. DDS Fair Hearing Report (July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011)

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) compiles fair hearing data from all 21 regional centers, and also records fair hearing decisions rendered by the Office of Administrative Hearings. They present this information in a report that is issued every 6 months. Copies of the most recent report were provided to the committee and reviewed. Statewide, 540 service appeals were filed and 327 eligibility appeals were filed during this period. The majority of service appeals pertained to respite requests (126 filed statewide).

C. Board Audit: Review the center's mission, vision, and values statement to determine if the center is providing adequate guidance in establishing consumer services policy.

Diane and Michele confirmed that the center is providing adequate guidance in establishing consumer services policy.

Action: The committee would like to review the center's mission, vision, and values statement at their next meeting to determine if it needs revisions of any kind.

D. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

Copies of the written CPP report for October 2012 were provided to the committee and Diane reviewed it with them. The center's goal for this fiscal year is to place 14 consumers out of Canyon Springs and the developmental centers and into the community. Diane stated that she believes the center will easily meet this goal and will probably exceed it. The center did not meet its targeted number

of placements last fiscal year because the homes were not ready, but those homes are nearly ready now. Two consumers were placed in August, 4 were placed in October, 4 are scheduled to be placed in December, and 4 more are scheduled to be placed in January.

Diane also gave a report on the recent parent group/staff meeting at Lanterman Developmental Center (LDC). These can be very anxious meetings because the parents are nervous and worried about their adult children leaving LDC and LDC staff are losing their jobs due to the closure. About 200 people were in attendance and a panel of people (consisting of Terri Delgadillo, DDS director, several regional center directors, Maria Bosch, and Diane) were there to answer everyone's questions. The parents were very angry with DDS about how the closure process was going.

E. 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.

1. Report on September 6th incident: The committee had inquired about this incident at last month's meeting, which concerned a therapist who arrived at a home, found left 3 small children there unattended, waited 15 minutes for a parent to arrive, and when a parent did not arrive, she left the home and the children unattended. Susana followed up on this incident and brought to light the following details:

- Apparently, an adult was not inside the home, but was nearby.
- It was not company policy to leave a home after 15 minutes if an adult was not present (as stated by the therapist).
- The therapist reported the incident the next day.
- A report was filed with the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS).
- The therapist is being re-trained regarding her responsibilities.
- An e-mail message was sent to all staff where the therapist works reminding everyone to never leave children unattended.
- As an adult was nearby, DCFS has closed this case.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

- A. Minutes of November 20th Meeting
- B. Updated Board Presentation Schedule

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, January 16th, at 6:00 p.m. (no December meeting)

VII. Adjournment

Duane adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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