

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
November 1, 2012

**Present:** Lawrence Burton, Rick Clemens, Bob Erio, Sienna Greener-Wooten, Michelle Heid, Jonathan Istrin, Roy Jensen, Pam Jordan, Rebecca Lienhard, Jenni Moran, Scott Shepard, Wayne Tashjian, Salisa Wagner, Gay Wane, and Asilia “Dolly” Wauls - Committee Members

Joan Daniels, Jennifer Kaiser, Anna Polin, Kim Rolfes, George Stevens, Joan Watson-Patko, and Dr. John Youngbauer - Staff Members

Liz Bunkell, Mindy Hughes, Vanessa Serrano, Don Lucas, Sharice Henson, Shenil Walker, Una Augustus, Randi Levinson-Kuzmin, Neil Jarquin, Eric Friend, Andrew Day, Lisa Lee, Joe Tighe, Ben Behzadi, Celina Lopez, Maribel Galvan, Janet Schilling, Sima Semmel, Kathleen Sturkey, Chris Bratzel, Linda Cobuzzi, Debra Dinielli, Charles Devlin, and Arcelia Berleson  
- Guests

**Absent:** Ken Lane

---

**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Jenni Moran, chair, at 9:32 a.m. Everyone present was introduced.

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

**III. Consent Items**

**A. Approval of Agenda**

M/S/C (R. Lienhard/L. Burton) To approve the agenda as presented.

**B. Approval of Minutes from October 4<sup>th</sup> VAC Meeting**

M/S/C (R. Lienhard/L. Burton) To approve the minutes as presented.

**IV. Director’s Report**

George Stevens, NLACRC executive director, gave the following report:

**A. Proposition 30**

The Board of Trustees took a position to support Proposition 30, Governor Brown's tax initiative. They took this position for several reasons, but primarily because if it doesn't pass, the developmental disabilities system will be hit with a \$50 million budget reduction.

**B. NLACRC's Purchase of Service (POS) Budget**

The center is projecting POS deficits for the past 3 fiscal years, which we believe the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will eventually fund us for. We won't have our financial projections of POS expenditures for this fiscal year until we complete our Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR) this month. But we anticipate that we will be projecting a large POS deficit because DDS allocated us less money this fiscal year than last fiscal year – and we've grown.

**C. Intermediate Care Facility/State Plan Amendment (ICF/SPA)**

The payment process for the ICF/SPA is: we bill DDS, DDS bills the feds, the feds send the payment to DDS, DDS pays the ICF, and then the ICF pays us. The ICFs are required to pay us within 30 days of receiving payment from DDS, however if they are late it causes a cash flow issue for us. Our ICF/SPA billing is currently around \$650,000 per month, which is about \$8 million per year. We sent a letter to our ICF providers informing them that if they fail to reimburse us within the 30 day requirement, we will have to instruct DDS to offset the outstanding amount from their Medi-Cal payments. Although we project we have sufficient cash resources through January 2013, the ICF payment process, combined with possible delays in federal reimbursements to DDS, may cause NLACRC to borrow from our bank in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> of early 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of this fiscal year.

**D. Worker's Compensation Insurance**

It has come to our attention that there may be some residential service providers who are not carrying worker's compensation insurance for their staff as required by state law. We will be sending a letter to our residential service providers requesting documentation that they have secured worker's compensation insurance.

**Action:** The VAC would like to put together a resource list of each of the worker's compensation carriers that they use which can be used as a resource for other providers.

**E. "Creative" Services**

Due to the rate freezes and payment reductions, we have heard that we have some providers who are providing "creative" services. All services provided by regional center providers must be approved by us and be consistent with Title 17 regulations. If providers have problems, they should contact the center's community services department for assistance.

Roy Jensen added that he recently participated in the center's meeting with infant development service providers to work out some issues. It was a really good meeting and the providers who participated really appreciated how helpful the center's staff were.

**V. Brief Committee Business**

**A. VAC Action Log from FY 2011-12**

All of the actions taken by the Board of Trustees and its committees are recorded. Logs of these actions are provided to each committee for their review and information at the beginning of each fiscal year. The log shows the committee's work product from the previous fiscal year. It also provides committee members with the opportunity to make sure all of the actions they wanted taken were accomplished.

**B. Presentation to the Board by a Behavioral Services Vendor**

Four VAC members have been scheduled to give presentations to the Board of Trustees this fiscal year. However, the board's Consumer Services Committee has asked for an additional presentation by a behavioral services vendor.

**Action:** Michele Heid offered to give a presentation on behavioral services to the Board of Trustees and will work with Jennifer Kaiser to determine the date.

**VI. Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting**

**A. Minutes of November 1<sup>st</sup> VAC Meeting**

## **VII. Announcements/Public Input**

- A. Next Meeting: Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 9:30 a.m. (no December meeting)

Happy holidays everyone!!!

## **VIII. Committee Work** (Committee breaks into their priority issue teams)

The VAC broke into their priority issue groups for individual discussions (except for the Mental Health Issues group which meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m.).

- A. Early Start/Prevention Services
- B. Children's Services
- C. Adult Services
- D. Mental Health Issues

## **IX. Adjournment**

Jenni adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

[vacmin.nov1.2012]

