

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2014

Present: Dawn Hamilton, Sara Iwahashi, Michele Marra, Steve Miller, William Rayber, Meredith Rimmer, Kim Rolfes, Cynthia Sewell, and George Stevens – Committee Members

Jennifer Kaiser – Staff Member

Absent: Diane Ambrose, Charles Devlin, Jonathan Istrin, Jay Lytton, and Ingrid Rushing

I. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Meredith Rimmer, chair, at 6:36 p.m. Introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Item IV.C. was added to the agenda.

M/S/C (W. Rayber/S. Miller) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of November 4th Meeting

M/S/C (C. Sewell/W. Rayber) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. DDS Performance Contract Data for 2013

Copies of the final year-end data from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) were provided to the committee and Sara reviewed it with them. NLACRC is doing better than the statewide average in all of the policy areas. DDS will be sending each regional center a report with just their data that can be

posted on their websites. We should have that report for the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

B. Draft: Consumer Services Needed

At the last Strategic Planning Committee meeting, the committee decided against conducting a satisfaction survey, but instead asked staff to identify a clear picture of consumers who need services that are not available and what those services would look like if they could be developed. Once determined, this information could be shared with legislators and others. Sara reported that the center's case management directors have developed a needs assessment survey for our service coordinators to complete and Sara thought it would serve the purpose. Sara provided copies of the survey to the committee. The survey asks the following questions:

1. What type of unit are you in?
2. Which office are you located in?
3. What are the top 3 resource areas your consumers need more choices of?
4. If you work in the SCV office, what city do we most need programs in?
5. If you work in the AV office, what 2 cities do we most need programs in?
6. If you work in the SFV office, what 3 cities do we most need programs in?
7. What are the top 3 under-served characteristics by our current resources?
8. What are the most needed living options for those on your caseload?
9. What is the most needed day service your consumers require?
10. What is the most needed in-home resource your consumers demand?
11. If you are in the Early Start department, what is the most desirable service needed?

Steve asked if the survey could include space for service coordinators to write down what services may be needed that aren't currently available. Steve is also concerned about consumers who are cognitively high and are on the autism spectrum; the current programs are not a good fit for them. Perhaps service coordinators could be asked for their input on developing programming for young adults. Perhaps the center could start a parent education program. William suggested that consumers who have jobs could mentor consumers who want a job similar to theirs.

Action: William will bring up the idea of developing a mentoring program at the next Consumer Advisory Committee meeting.

C. Legislative Updates

1. Legislative Breakfast: Will be held Friday, April 11th, at Sam's Café. A planning meeting was held today. The theme for this breakfast will be: "direct care staff: our unsung heroes" and will focus on the inadequate wages they are paid.
2. ARCA's Annual Grass Roots Day: Will be held Wednesday, March 12th. This is a time when each regional center sends a delegation to the State Capitol to spend the day meeting with legislators. The topics of discussion will be the importance of restoring the Early Start program and inadequate service provider rates.
3. Targeted Legislative Visits: The board has decided to visit legislators prior to the annual Grass Roots Week visits that are held in the spring. Several legislators will be visited who serve on or chair committees that are important to the center. A team will visit each legislators comprised of a staff lead, board member, vendor, and consumer. The visits will be scheduled for Fridays in February and March and the discussion topics will be, once again, the importance of restoring the Early Start program and inadequate service provider rates.
4. SB 555: We are working with our attorney to develop a form for families to use to designate which language they would like to have in their IPP/IFSP documents and meetings. The form will be translated into many different languages.

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

- A. Minutes of February 3rd Meeting

VI. **Announcements / Information / Public Input**

- A. Steve asked what will happen if the City of Los Angeles approves a \$15 minimum wage. Mayor Garcetti stated that if the City Council brought him this recommendation that he would sign it. Kim stated that service providers could

ask DDS for an unanticipated rate increase. They could also challenge DDS that median rates and negotiated rates are both set by DDS.

B. Next Meeting: Monday, May 5, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Meredith adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

[spcmin.feb3.2014]

