

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Government & Community Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2014

Present: Daniel Becerra, Jessica Gould, Duane Joslin, Debra Newman, Jeremy Sunderland, and Tavia Wooley – Committee Members
Ty Heid and Connie Lapin – Guests
Michelle Heid – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Diane Ambrose, Sara Iwahashi, Liliana Windover, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: All present

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Jeremy Sunderland, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

II. Public Input

Connie provided the following updates and announcements.

A. Senate Budget Subcommittee Hearing on 05/21/14

Connie provided an update regarding a Senate Budget Subcommittee hearing that was conducted today. The following topics were among the agenda items:

1. Early Start Funding and Eligibility
2. Co-pays and Deductibles
3. Rates for Providers

B. The Fair Wages and Training for Home Care Workers Act - April 2014

Connie provided information on this proposal to the committee. The Fair Wages and Training for Home Care Workers Act is an initiative measure being promoted by members of the union for mandatory training and a wage increase for homecare workers employed by the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. Connie indicated that we should oppose this proposal.

C. Article: “Strengthen Disability Services”

Connie provided copies of an article by Disability Scoop regarding US Senator Harkin looking to introduce legislation to expand access to community-based services for people with disabilities nationwide. In accordance with this article, the move comes less than a year after Harkin issued an investigative report on the status of community living services for those with disabilities.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (D. Joslin/T. Wooley) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of March 19th Meeting

M/S/C (D. Joslin/T. Wooley) The minutes were approved as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Legislative Update

Sara provided the committee with copies of the updated bill file. The committee is currently tracking 40 state and federal bills. Rather than review all 40 bills, Sara highlighted just the priority bills with the committee and provided a verbal report on the status of the following bills:

1. AB 1089 (Calderon): Foster Care

Establishes timelines and procedures for the transfer of responsibility and records, and the provision of early intervention and developmental services, to children in foster care who move from one regional center catchment area to another.

Action Taken: The center sent a letter opposing AB 1089 to Assemblyman Calderon and the Assembly Human Services Committee on 03/29/14. Some timelines have been amended in the bill but ARCA continues to oppose.

2. AB 1335 (Maienschein): Sex Offenses: Disabled Victims
Makes specified sex crimes committed against victims with mental disorders or physical or developmental disabilities qualifying crimes for the “One Strike Sex Law” and the vulnerable victim enhancement. Connie indicated that it is really important that we support this bill.
3. AB 1626 (Maienschein): Developmental Services: Habilitation
Increases the rates and fees paid to supported employment service providers for regional center consumers.

Action Taken: A letter supporting AB 1626 was sent in April 2014.

4. AB 1753 (Holden): Developmental Services: Regional Centers: Vendorization
This bill would, if a consumer, or his or her parents, legal guardian, conservator, or authorized representative, requests that a service specified in the consumer’s individual program plan be provided by a service vendor that has been vendored by another regional center, authorize the service vendor to provide services to the consumer under the same contractual terms as the vendoring regional center if certain requirements are satisfied, including that the service vendor is in good standing with the vendoring regional center and that the service provider provides services at no additional costs to the consumer or the consumer’s regional center.

Action Taken: The committee opposes AB 1753 (Holden), but will not send a letter because according to ARCA, the bill is dead. The Vendor Advisory Committee also opposed this bill.

5. AB 2041 (Jones): Developmental Services: Regional Centers: Behavioral Health Treatment
Would require that a regional center classify a vendor as a behavior management consultant or behavior management assistant if the vendor designs or implements behavioral health treatment, has a specified amount of experience in designing or implementing that treatment, and meets other licensure and education requirements.

NLACRC Viewpoint: Dr. Youngbauer recommends that we oppose this bill. This bill would allow insurance companies, under SB 946 rules, to pay for services other than applied behavior analysis (ABA).

Action: No recommendations to the Board will be made regarding any of the above bills.

B. The Vendor Advisory Committee's Input on:

1. AB 1753 (Holden):

Michele Heid stated that this bill was already discussed during the legislative update; the bill is dead.

2. SB 577 (Pavley):

A recommendation probably will be made to the Board to support this bill.

3. AJR 36 (Gonzales) and SB 1109 (Hueso):

Michele indicated that there is a lot of controversy with this bill; it will be discussed by the VAC at their next meeting.

C. Review and Approve Committee's Critical Calendar FY 2014-15

M/S/C (D. Becerra/D. Joslin) To approve the committee's critical calendar for FY 2014-15 as presented.

D. Board's Legislature Strategy for FY 2014-15

During FY 2014-15 George indicated that we may be fighting the restoration of Early Start and the 5% annual funding increase. For our legislative platform, we need to focus more on measurable consequences and restructuring how we approach the legislature, and they want to know costs. In the middle of June, we should receive more information from the Governor's office regarding these issues. Connie suggested that as part of any platform or strategy that the center add outreach, information, and implementation of the self-determination law.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the April 9th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of March 21st Meeting

- B. Legislative Update
- C. Proposed Legislative Strategy for FY 2014-15

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

- B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 16th
- C. Board Retreat on May 21, 2014:

There was an open discussion regarding the Board Retreat on May 21, 2014. Future recommendations were made during this discussion. The board retreat will be discussed further, by the full board, at the next board meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Submitted by,

Liliana Windover

Liliana Windover
Executive Administrative Assistant

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