

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services 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, Susana Gil, Liliana Windover, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: All present

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Duane Joslin called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Introductions were made.

II. Public Input

A. Article from the Capitol Insider regarding the Risk of Aversive Electric Shock to Modify Behaviors

Connie Lapin asked Jennifer to share copies of this article with the committee. The Neurological Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee to the FDA conducted a public hearing at which The Arc and 12 other disability advocacy organizations testified against use of aversive procedures, such as electric shock, on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In accordance with this article, the only facility that uses electric shock devices currently is the Judge Rotenberg Center in Massachusetts. The Department of Justice has an on-going investigation.

B. Medicare and Medi-Cal for People with Developmental Disabilities

Connie expressed her concerns regarding the Medi-Medi program for people receiving both Medicare and Medi-Cal. She was informed that Medi-Cal people have to go into managed care and people are being dis-enrolled out of Medicare and Medicare Part D.

Action: George indicated that he will look into this and provide a report at the next meeting.

- C. Duane Joslin indicated that he was hospitalized with pneumonia and he wanted to say thank you to Jennifer Kaiser for the phone calls.

III. Consent Items

- A. Approval of Agenda

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

- B. Approval of Minutes of February 19th Meeting

M/S/C (T. Wooley/J. Gould) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

- A. Possible Presentation to the Board of Trustees on Employment First Policy

George would like to see a complete presentation regarding the development of the center's Employment First Policy. He also indicated that Jenni Moran and Rebecca Lienhard are pretty involved developing a comprehensive Employment First policy for the center. Michelle Heid would like to coordinate this effort with the 3 Vendor Advisory Committee work groups, bring some ideas, and put together a presentation.

Action: It was recommended to provide a comprehensive presentation to the next Consumer Services Committee meeting on August 20th and then present it to the Board of Trustees on September 10th.

- B. DDS Fair Hearing Semi-Annual Report

Copies of the DDS Fair Hearing Semi-Annual Report for the time period of January 1, 2013, through June 30, 2013 were provided. George reviewed it with those present.

- C. 3rd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report

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 3rd quarter of this fiscal year, the center

approved 333 requests and denied only 25 (15 of the denials were for co-payments for behavioral health treatment).

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 3rd quarter, the center had only 1 request that was approved and 1 request that was denied.

D. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report

Copies of the report were provided to the committee for their review. The report showed diagnostic information about the center's consumers for each quarter since the beginning of FY 2011-12. Consumers with more than 1 disability are put into the category of their primary diagnosis. Of the 19,955 consumers that the center serves, the diagnosis breakdown is as follows:

1. Intellectual Disability: 8,328 (6.39% increase since July 1, 2011)
2. Autism: 6,951 (24.57% increase)
3. Cerebral Palsy: 527 (3.94% increase)
4. Epilepsy: 225 (2.74% increase)
5. Other developmental disability: 939 (6.70% increase)
6. Early Start: 2,985 (13.63% increase)

E. 3rd Quarter Appeals & Hearings Report

During the 3rd quarter of FY 2013-14:

1. Eligibility: 323 Notices of Action were sent and 11 were returned (appealed).
2. Service: 340 Notices of Action were sent and 16 were returned.
3. Hearings: 9 fair hearings were held:
2 eligibility hearings (2 denied)
7 service hearings (2 dismissed, 4 denied and 1 granted)

George indicated that in addition to the fair hearings filed for eligibility, the majority of service-related fair hearings pertain to co-payments and deductibles.

F. Review and Approval Committee's Critical Calendar for FY 2014-15

Copies of the committee's critical calendar for FY 2014-15 were provided. This calendar puts the items listed under each month on the committee meeting agendas so they can be addressed. The critical calendar was approved as presented.

G. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

Copies of the monthly report were provided and Diane reviewed it with those present. The center's goal for this fiscal year was to place 21 consumers out of large facilities and into the community. Diane reported that as of April 30, 2014, the center has placed 12 individuals out of Lanterman Developmental Center, 2 out of Porterville Developmental Center, and 10 out of Institutes of Mental Disease/Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers (IMD/MHRC) into community living settings, a total of 26 placements for the fiscal year to date.

H. Board Audit: Ensure that the Community Placement Plans are Being Met

As stated during the monthly Community Placement Plan report, Diane indicated that the community placement plans are being met.

I. Questions re: Monthly Quality Assurance and Special Incident Reports

There were no questions regarding either report.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the Consumer Services Committee's section of the June 11th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of May 21st Meeting
- B. 3rd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions report
- C. 3rd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report
- D. 3rd Quarter Appeals and Hearings Report

VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

- A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Duane asked the committee members to please complete evaluations after the meeting and submit them to him with any comments.

- B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 16th, at 6:00 p.m. (no June meeting)
- C. Jeremy Sunderland indicated that today was his last meeting and he wanted to say thank you for the opportunity and allowing him to be the chair of this committee.

VII. Adjournment

Duane adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Liliana Windover

Liliana Windover
Executive Administrative Assistant

