

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes**

September 17, 2014

**Present:** Dorothy Daniels, Myriam Jovel, Debra Newman, Lou Paparozzi, Sean Stalbaum, Angela White, and Tavia Wooley – Committee Members  
Michelle Heid – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative  
Diane Ambrose, Maria Bosch, Susana Gil, Jennifer Kaiser, and George Stevens – Staff Members

**Absent:** Jay Lytton

---

**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

Tavia Wooley, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Introductions were made.

**II. Public Input**

A. Copies of MedicalXpress article called “Planning a Better Future for People with Autism” were provided by Connie Lapin and shared with the committee.

**III. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

Item IV.G. was added to the agenda.

**M/S/C** (D. Daniels/L. Paparozzi) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of August 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting

**M/S/C** (L. Paparozzi/D. Daniels) To approve the minutes as presented.

**IV. Committee Business**

A. Presentation of Changes to Early Start Service Standard

This service standard is being changed to include language pertaining to the reinstatement of the Early Start program. The language has been “cut and pasted” from the actual law. Diane reviewed the changes with the committee.

**Action:** The committee will present the proposed changes to the Early Start program to the Board of Trustees for their review and approval.

B. Any Further Input on Proposed Changes to Service Standards

1. IPP Development
2. Education & Vocational Services
3. Clinical Services
4. Legal Services

The changes to these service standards were presented at last month's committee meeting and at this month's board meeting. No additional changes were submitted by the board.

**Action:** The changes to these service standards will be presented to the board for their approval at the October 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

C. Self-Determination Program Updates

George reported that the Board of Trustees approved his staffing plan to hire a third director of consumer services who will oversee the self-determination program and also manage the branch offices. The job announcement will be going out on Monday. California State University, Northridge (CSUN) is interested in partnering with us in our outreach efforts for the self-determination program.

D. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

Copies of the monthly report were provided and reviewed. The center's goal for this fiscal year is to place 15 consumers out of developmental centers and other large facilities and into the community. As of July 31<sup>st</sup>, we have placed 1 consumer out of the Lanterman Developmental Center and into the community.

E. Board Audit: Ensure the service standards are consistent with the center's mission and philosophy

George confirmed that the center's service standards are consistent with the center's mission and philosophy.

F. 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.

G. Medi-Cal Coverage of Autism Services

The federal government has responded to the growing population of children with autism by having Medicare cover behavioral services for them. Although NLACRC has been providing behavioral services for many years, many other states do not. So this is their way to make sure all children with autism have the services they need. LA Care and Health Net will be providing the service in L.A. County, but they are nowhere near ready as yet. The center will continue to provide behavioral services to our consumers who need them and will work with LA Care and Health Net for a seamless transition for consumers and families. George provided the committee with the following handouts and recommended that they review them as these changes, when fully implemented, will substantially change how the regional center provides services.

George added that the feds are planning to expand Medicare to cover services in addition to behavioral services, such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech. Michele added that LA Care and Health Net will probably have a network of behavioral service providers and contract with Medi-Cal. In addition, we don't know what kind of a rate Medi-Cal will be offering to pay for behavioral services.

George again focused on the importance of creating a viable rate system for our service providers.

Regional centers used to be a "1 stop shop" for consumers and families, but now we are being systematically dismantled.

**Action:** Rates will be discussed further at the Government & Community Relations Committee meeting.

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the October 8<sup>th</sup> board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of September 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- B. Presentation of Changes to Early Start Service Standard
- \*C. Approval of Changes to Service Standards
  - 1. IPP Development
  - 2. Education & Vocational Services
  - 3. Clinical Services
  - 4. Legal Services

## VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

### A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

### B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

## VII. Adjournment

Tavia adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

\* Board Action Item

Submitted by:

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

[csmin.sep17.2014]

