

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2015

Draft

Present: Dorothy Daniels, Myriam Jovel, Debra Newman, Sean Stalbaum, Angela White, and Tavia Wooley – Committee Members
Jessica Gould – Board Member
Michelle Heid – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Richard Dier and Cheryl Hendrickson - Guests
Diane Ambrose, Maria Bosch, Joan Daniels, Susana Gil, Jennifer Kaiser, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Lou Paporozzi

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Tavia Wooley, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (S. Stalbaum/D. Daniels) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of January 21st Meeting

M/S/C (S. Stalbaum/D. Daniels) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Self-Determination Program Update

The center will be holding 3 community meetings, 1 in each valley, to provide information about the self-determination program and to answer any questions. The locations have not been finalized, but the dates will be Tuesday, April 28th, Tuesday, May 5th, and Tuesday, May 26th.

1. Process Steps: Copies of the center's process steps were provided and are also posted on the center's website. The steps will be updated as they are taken.

2. Local Volunteer Advisory Committee: Copies of the center's application for membership on the volunteer advisory committee were provided and are also posted on the center's website. The applications are due by the end of March. The local State Council office (formerly Area Board 10) has selected their 5 members and we have selected 2 so far, and with the client rights advocate, that makes 8 of 11 members, so we still need to find 3 more. We specifically need representation from the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys, as most of the other members are from the San Fernando Valley. We are also reaching out to our ethnic parent groups as we want to make sure we have diversity on our committee. A sub-group was established to review the applications, hold interviews, and make a recommendation back to this committee. Myriam, Lou, and Sean volunteered to serve on this sub-group. They will need to conduct their business so they are able to present their 3 recommended candidates at the April 15th Consumer Services Committee meeting.

Action: Jennifer will come up with some possible meeting dates for the sub-group that occur after March 30th (the application deadline) and prior to April 15th (the next Consumer Services Committee meeting) so they can interview candidates.

3. Should the advisory group begin meeting before all members are selected?

Richard Dier raised this question at the last Executive Committee meeting and it was referred to this committee for a response. Richard stated that he was selected by the State Council's local office to serve on the advisory group and he is anxious to get started; there is a lot of work to do. However, the committee members felt that all members should be selected prior to their first meeting and George agreed.

- B. Residential & Supported Living Out-of-Community/Out-of-State Travel Guidelines

Both of the drafted guidelines were provided to the committee. No changes were suggested since they were presented at the last Consumer Services Committee meeting.

Action: The committee will present the proposed guidelines to the Board of Trustees for their review and approval.

C. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

Maria reported that the center's goal for this fiscal year was to place 15 consumers out of the developmental centers (DCs); to date, we have successfully moved 14 of the 15 consumers. In addition, we moved our remaining consumers out of Lanterman DC prior to the December 31st closure date. Our goal for next fiscal year is to move 10 consumers out of the DCs, but will move more if we can. We have submitted our community placement plan (CPP) for next fiscal year to DDS and are awaiting approval. In the meantime, we have begun focusing on getting resources up and running for the consumers who will be placed into the community next fiscal year and also preparing their transition plans. Legislation is being proposed to close both Sonoma and Fairview DCs and parent groups for both centers are opposed. However, it costs roughly \$500,000 per year to house someone in a DC and costs less than half of that for consumers who need even the most critical care in the community. NLACRC has just 1 consumer in Sonoma DC and 24 consumers at Fairview.

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

There were no questions regarding these reports which were presented at last week's board meeting with George's director's report.

E. Board Audit: Has the board properly referred service standard issues to the committee?

The center regularly brings to this committee's attention any changes in law or statute that would have an effect on our service standards, such as Employment First, person-centered planning, trailer bill language, etc. George stated that a big issue has arisen which is the possible elimination of subminimum wage certificates. Currently, several regional center providers use these certificates to pay consumers based on their productivity (30% of regular pay for 30% of work). Without these certificates, these consumers would have no job at all.

F. Board Audit: Does any action impact the availability or quality of service?

George reported that the low rates paid to providers and the wages they are able to pay definitely have an impact on the availability and quality of services. A case in point: we recently released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an adult day program in the Antelope Valley and had no bidders because the rate was so low.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the April 8th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of March 18th Meeting
- B. Self-Determination Program Update
- C. Presentation of Residential & Supported Living Out-of-Community/Out-of-State Travel Guidelines

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 questions.

- B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 15th, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Tavia adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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