

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

January 20, 2016

**Present:** Jun Antonio, Marcia Leija, Caroline Mitchell, Bridget Moss, Debra Newman, Jeremy Sunderland, and Curtis Wang – Committee Members  
Mary Jo Fernando – Board Member  
Michelle Heid and Dolly Wauls – Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives  
Diane Ambrose, Maria Bosch, Joan Daniels, Susana Gil, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members  
Rebecca Lienhard and Gerald Robles - Guests

**Absent:** Jessica Gould

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**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

Debra Newman called the meeting to order, in Jessica Gould's absence, at 6:05 p.m. Introductions were made.

**II. Public Input** - There was no public input.

**III. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

**M/S/C** (J. Sunderland/C. Wang) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of October 21<sup>st</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup> Meetings

**M/S/C** (J. Sunderland/C. Mitchell) To approve the minutes as presented.

**IV. Committee Business**

A. Self-Determination Program Update

Debra Newman reported that she did not have an update since last week's board meeting. The next Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting will be held January 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m., and she will give a report on it at next month's board meeting.

B. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of this fiscal year, the center approved 317 requests and denied only 4; the 4 denials pertained to the center's inability to pay for behavioral health co-payments as the families' incomes were too high.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 3 exemptions were requested and approved; all 3 pertained to additional respite hours.

C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report

Copies of the report were provided to the committee for their review. Consumers who have more than one disability are put into the category of their primary diagnosis. The report showed diagnostic information about the center's consumers each quarter since FY 2013-14. Of the 22,013 consumers that the center serves, the diagnosis breakdown is as follows:

1. Intellectual Disability: 8,573 (3.4% increase since July 1<sup>st</sup> of FY 2013-14)
2. **Autism: 8,329 (25.61% increase)**
3. Cerebral Palsy: 526 (0% increase)
4. Epilepsy: 237 (7.24% increase)
5. Other developmental disability: 1,064 (14.66% increase)
6. Status 0, 1, 2: 3,284 (11.51% increase)

George pointed out that the number of consumers with autism has increased by 25% over the last 2 years.

D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Appeals & Hearings Report

Copies of the report were provided and reviewed. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY 2015-16:

1. Eligibility: 305 Notices of Action were sent and 6 were returned (appealed).
2. Service: 141 Notices of Action were sent and 14 were returned.
3. Hearings: 14 fair hearings were held:
  - 3 eligibility hearings (1 denied, 2 dismissed)
  - 11 service hearings (5 denied, 1 dismissed, 3 granted, 2 pending)

E. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

Copies of the monthly report were provided to the committee and Maria reviewed the report with them. The center's goal for this fiscal year is to place 10 consumers out of the developmental centers and into the community. As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the center has placed 7 of the 10 individuals.

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. Board Audit: Review Current Service Trends

George reported that, unfortunately, one of the new trends is that we have more programs and residential homes closing than opening. The Strategic Planning Committee is tracking the number of closures and reviews a report on them at each of their quarterly meetings.

**Action:** The program closure reports currently shared with the Strategic Planning Committee will also be shared with the Consumer Services Committee.

**V. Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the February 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of January 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting
- B. Self-Determination Program Update
- C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report
- D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report
- E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Appeals & Hearings Report

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

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

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

B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

## VII. Adjournment

Debra adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Submitted by:

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

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