

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

May 3, 2016

**Present:** Pam Aiona, Mary Jo Fernando, Lesly Forbes, Daniel Garcia, Hillary Marides, William Rayber, and Adam Stokes – Committee Members  
Nina Daly, Katrina, Jake Freeman, Liz Lyons, Jill Martin, Fabian Merritt, Gerald Robles, and Ben Segel-Evans – Guests  
Sara Iwahashi, Jennifer Kaiser, and Jose Rodriguez – Staff Members

**Absent:** All present

---

**1. Call to Order & Introductions**

Mary Jo Fernando, CAC chair, called the meeting to order at 1:58 p.m. After introductions were made, everyone sang “Happy Birthday” to Lesly and William who both have birthdays this month!

**2. Public Input**

- A. Hillary recently spoke up at an LA Care meeting about how difficult it is for some people to get up on the bed in an examining room; LA Care has taken this into consideration. Good for you Hillary!
- B. Lesly reported that the annual Strawberry Festival will be held in Oxnard on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. You can take the Amtrak to Oxnard and there is a free shuttle at the Amtrak station that can take you to the festival. It’s a lot of walking but it’s also a lot of fun! General admission is \$12.

**3. Consent Items**

- A. Approval of Agenda  
**M/S/C** (W. Rayber/D. Garcia) To approve the agenda as presented.
- B. Approval of Minutes of April 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
**M/S/C** (W. Rayber/D. Garcia) To approve the minutes as presented.

**4. Presentation: Advocacy**

Jose provided everyone with a copy of a booklet called, "Taking Action: A step-by-step guide to becoming a self-advocate and making a difference" that was published by the United Spinal Association. Jose reviewed highlights from the booklet with the committee. Jose also provided a handout called "What is Self-Advocacy?" which essentially means taking charge of your life.

## 5. Committee Business

### A. The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Filming Project (Sara)

2016 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Lanterman Act. Sara reported that ARCA is working on a filming project on the Lanterman Act to show at the June 17<sup>th</sup> ARCA Board of Directors annual dinner and are asking regional centers to submit a short DVD clips (90 seconds) to them by May 24<sup>th</sup> to include in their project. Sara is looking for consumers wanting to be involved in this project by making brief statements about what The Lanterman Act means to them. The filming will take place at the regional center's main office on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

### B. Reports on Employment, Transportation, Legislation, and Housing (All)

1. Report on Access Services Meeting (Liz): The committee has been talking about driver training, their free ride program, and a new system that will answer phone calls from people with complaints or other issues. The next Access Services meeting will be held Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Liz will give a report on that meeting at next month's CAC meeting.
2. CAC Travel Guide: Liz asked whatever happened to the travel guide that the CAC was going to develop? Jose asked the CAC members if they were still interested in developing the guide and they all agreed that they would like to proceed with it.

**Action:** Jose will set up a meeting with the CAC to discuss putting together a consumer travel guide.

**Action:** Jennifer will forward William's travel photos to Jose so they can be included in the guide.

3. Housing Committee Meeting: NLACRC's next quarterly Housing Committee meeting will be held on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Liz will give a report on that meeting at next month's CAC meeting.
4. Low-Income Housing: Daniel reported that the City of LA has developers set aside 10 of every 200 units for people with low incomes; Daniel thinks this number should be much higher.
5. Meeting with Senator Fran Pavley: Mary Jo reported that she will be meeting with Senator Pavley on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, as part of NLACRC's Grass Roots Week activities. Mary Jo will give a report on her visit at next month's CAC meeting.

C. Report on LA Care Meeting (Hillary)

Hillary reported that a meeting was not held in April; the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Hillary will give a report on that meeting at next month's CAC meeting.

D. Information on the SNAP Voluntary Disaster Registry

To follow-up on last month's CAC meeting, Jennifer provided information on SNAP – the LA County Specific Needs Disaster Registry. The purpose of this registry is to help the planning and implementation of disaster response by first-responder agencies to people with disabilities. If you live in the LA area and have any conditions which might affect your ability to evacuate a building, travel to, or remain safe in an emergency evacuation center, or to securely shelter in place without assistance, then you may want to consider enrolling in the Registry. Also, if you sign up, they can also send you warnings on your phone.

E. Updated Event Calendar

A job fair will be held at North Valley Occupational Center in Mission Hills on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30 to 1:30 p.m. Admission is free. Jose and Hillary both plan on going and will give a report on the job fair at next month's CAC meeting. Jose reminded the CAC to please send him events that he can add to their event calendar.

Mary Jo reported that there will be lots of summer events held at Warner Park, including outdoor movies, 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, concerts, and more!

F. Review Agenda for May 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Trustees Meeting (Jennifer)

Copies of the board meeting agenda were provided and Jennifer reviewed the highlights, including the nominations of the new board, VAC, and CAC members for next fiscal year. Their elections will take place at the June board meeting and all new members will begin serving July 1<sup>st</sup>. Board meetings are open to the public and Jennifer invited anyone interested to come and listen in!

F. Annual Board Dinner: Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> (Mary Jo, Honoree)

The center's annual dinner is coming up next month! This is a time where members of the Board of Trustees, Vendor Advisory Committee, and Consumer Advisory Committee have dinner together and thank their outgoing members for their service. This year, Mary Jo will be the CAC's honoree! All CAC members are invited and can bring a guest. Invitations will be sent out at the end of May. Transportation will be provided.

**6. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting**

The following item was identified for the committee's section of the May 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting:

- A. Minutes from the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

**7. Announcements / Information / Public Input**

- A. CAC Attendance Sheet

The CAC attendance sheet is updated each month and included in the meeting packet. CAC members cannot miss more than 2 meetings in a row or 4 meetings in a 12-month period.

- B. Next CAC Meeting: Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m.

**8. Adjournment**

Mary Jo adjourned the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

[camin.may3.2016]

