

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes (Via Zoom)**  
May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

**Present:** George Alvarado, Pamela Aiona, Bill Abramson, Santos Rodrigues, Juan Hernandez – Committee Members

Alex Phuong, Desiree Boykin, Jennifer Koster, Karina Lira, Ellen Sweigert  
Nicholas Mendoza, Elisa Herzog, Nestor Nieves, Elisa Herzog, Marianita Mendezl, Ana Quiles, Minutes Services - Guests

Jose Rodriguez, Kimberly Visokey – Staff

**Absent:**

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**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

G. Alvarado called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm, and introductions were made by all committee members, staff, and guests.

**II. Consent Items**

A. Approval of Agenda

**M/S/C** (B. Abramson / J. Hernandez) To approve the Agenda. Motion **passed**.

B. Approval of Minutes from April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 Meeting

**M/S/C** (G. Alvarado /J. Hernandez) To approve the March 6, 2024 minutes.  
Motion **passed**.

**III. Committee Business**

A. Chair Board Meeting Report – Nicholas Mendoza on behalf of George A.  
At the last Board of Trustees meeting held on April 10th, there was a closed session along with public input and a presentation on the early start program by a member of the LACRC. They discussed a new template for data collection pending approval from the Department of Developmental

Services. Criteria and eligibility for the early start program were reviewed, emphasizing support for young children and their families through LACRC services. The meeting also addressed a new rate model and communication with California ARCA, aiming to secure funding from the pending \$1 billion allocation, potentially included in the 2024-2025 budget. Additionally, a deaf specialist from NLACRC was introduced, specializing in communication with the hearing impaired.

- B. Review of the 2024-25 Critical Calendar.  
The presenter of this review was not present.
- C. Training / Presentation Calendar – Jose R.  
Jose R. noted that there was no presenter available for the training and presentation calendar, specifically regarding adult protective services. Despite efforts to contact a potential presenter, no response was received within the anticipated timeframe. Therefore, the session discussing reporting abuse and types of abuse was postponed until further communication could be established. However, it was confirmed that a budget update presentation for June had been arranged with Michelle Hyde, a legislative educator, scheduled for June 5th. It was also mentioned that there would be no meeting in July, with plans for a CAC orientation in August. Further discussions on existing goals were planned for the August meeting, with ongoing communication expected.

#### **IV. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting**

- A. Minutes from the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, meeting

#### **V. Announcements/Information/Public Input**

- A. Community Learning Forums
  - Throughout the month, several events were scheduled. The Community Learning Forum was held monthly, offering informative sessions, with the next event focusing on Internet Safety on May 21st. Additionally, a Disaster Preparedness session was organized by City Council 7, Monica Rodriguez, for May 18th. NLA CRC arranged an expo at the Airtel hotel on May 17th, featuring workshops and resources. Finally, Take Action hosted a Mental Health Affair at Richie Balance Park on May 5th, open to the community at no cost.

- B. Self-Advocacy Academy Calendar
- C. Self-Advocacy Academy Internet Safety
- D. Disaster Preparedness Fair
- E. NLACRC Expo
- F. Take Action LA County
- G. Next meeting June 5, 2024
- H. Attendance sheet

**VI. Adjournment**

- G. Alvarado adjourned the meeting at 3:36 pm.

Submitted by:

*Kimberly Visokey*

Executive Administrative Assistant

*(\* The majority of these minutes are taken from the Minutes Service submission and reviewed/edited as presented herein by NLACRC staff.*

