North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Self Determination Local Volunteer Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2015

Present: Royce Abrams, Sandra Baker, Victoria Berry, Richard Dier, Allison Cameron Gray, Michelle Heid, Ellen Jannol, Debra Newman, Bebo Saab – Committee Members
Ruth Janka, Lizeth Chavez – Staff Members
Julie Eby-McKenzie, Susan Chiu - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Matthew Berrey, Liz Harrell, Julie Sprute - Guests

Absent: Nicole Carter, Mercedes Del Cid – Committee Members

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Richard Dier at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present. Introductions from the Committee were made. Richard asked the guests to introduce themselves as well.

2. Public Input – There was no public input

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda - Richard suggested we discuss meeting duration and future meeting schedule here, instead of under New Business.

M/S/C (M. Heid/E. Jannol) To approve the Agenda as revised.

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B. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 8 Committee Meeting:

M/S/C (B. Saab/M. Del Cid) To approve the minutes as presented.

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C. Approval of Future Meeting Schedule & Locations. The Committee agreed not to meet in December.

M/S/C (B. Saab/E. Jannol) To meet on the 2nd Thursday of January and February.

The Committee discussed the motion to meet on January 14 and February 11. Michelle and Debra asked if the schedule could be changed due to Board meeting on January 13.

M/S/C (B. Saab/E. Jannol) To meet on the January 28, 7-9pm in Van Nuys.

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4. NLACRC/DDS/Update

Ruth said there has been no official update from DDS on the status of the waiver application but there should be one by December 31. There is talk that CMS will return the waiver to DDS for further revision. Spring or summer 2016 is when it’s expected. DDS has a workgroup to develop materials to train Regional Centers and allow them to conduct orientations.

Ruth did a presentation to 76 attendees at Festival Educacional, a conference for Spanish speaking parents, via interpretation. Materials were provided in Spanish. NLACRC is in process of hiring a Self Determination Specialist who will do the outreach to support groups in conjunction with Family Focus Resource Center. He/she will also work on coordinating implementation.

Royce asked about service coordinators. Ruth explained that if randomly selected, SDP participants will mostly be in the San Fernando Valley (2/3 of 174 slots). At this point, we are not sure if DDS will select all 174 participants in Year 1 or in stages. Not sure if there will be CSCs who only work on SDP, or if a CSC will have some ‘traditional’ consumers and some SDP participants. It depends on the roll out.

Bebo asked about processes that will be put in place to make sure people who attend orientations will actually have their name submitted. He tells consumers to tell their CSC and also document it in their IPP. Ruth said NLACRC will use all methods to notify families and consumers via email and mail, as well as collaborating with partners. Debra asked if NLACRC is keeping a database of potential consumer participants; Ruth answered
yes. Allison asked about the process of training CSCs; Ruth said they are being trained in unit meetings. Ellen asked if NLACRC will revise IPPs if there are unmet needs. Ruth said an IPP should be held within 30 days on request, and if it is not, or if there are unmet needs, the consumer should file for fair hearing.

Michelle shared that she attended the Statewide SDP Advisory Committee meeting in Sacramento and they previewed the CSC training materials.

Richard said that he received a letter from the SCDD indicating there will be a meeting of Chairs from each Regional Center’s SPD Advisory Committee to work on common issues and best practices. He intends to go to meetings of other SDP Advisory Committees to see how they work. The State has committed that they will be ready to implement SDP by March 31 even if the waiver has not been approved.

5. **Presentation: Self-Determination Program at ELARC**

Liz Harrell of Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center gave a presentation about how they have implemented the Self-Determination Program.

6. **Announcements**

ASLA is having a conference called A New Day, A New Life on February 18-19.

7. **Old Business**

A. **Special Needs Resource Fair**

   Richard invited Michelle Heid to give a brief report on the results of the outreach at the Special Needs Resource Fair. Michelle, Debra and Mercedes volunteered to hand out information and talk to attendees. Most people were not familiar with the Self-Determination Program. For future events, she recommends having a laptop or DVD player to show the SDP videos that are on DDS’ website. She also recommends having a sign or banner at the table.

8. **New Business**

A. **Duration of meetings**

   We discussed this under Consent Items.

B. **Future Training Topics**

   Our next meeting will be January 28. Topics mentioned were Financial Management Services and Person Centered Planning. Richard, Debra and Victoria will meet in December to plan some agenda topics for 2016.
9. **Public Comment**

Julie Sprute asked if any Committee members participated in the Statewide meeting last week. Michelle explained that she was there, although it turned out to be a workgroup meeting, not a public meeting.

10. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair, Richard Dier at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by

Victoria Berrey
Secretary