Present: Melissa Ferman, Jessica Gould, Anna Hamilton, Sharoll Jackson, Caroline Mitchell, and Jeremy Sunderland – Committee Members
Orli Almog and Sonia Ojeda – Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives
Raquel Armendariz and Michelle Heid – Legislative Educators
Evan Ingber, Sara Iwahashi, Ruth Janka, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Marianne Davis and Angelina Martinez

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Jeremy Sunderland, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m. and introductions were made. Jeremy welcomed Orli Almog and Sonia Ojeda, the new VAC representatives to the committee.

II. Public Input

A. Jessica Gould reported that she attended the 38th annual Government Day event last weekend at the Panorama mall. It was well attended with more than 30 federal, state, county, and city agencies represented. Jessica had the opportunity to network with many people including Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian, Gil Garcetti, and a representative of the Los Angeles Mayor’s office. It was a great event and Jessica encouraged everyone to go next year.

B. Caroline Mitchell announced that she recently attended a town hall meeting that focused on issues around homeless people. Antonio Villaraigosa and Gil Garcetti were both there supporting bridge funding for the homeless.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/M. Ferman) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes of the July 18th Meeting

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/S. Jackson) To approve the minutes as presented.
IV. Committee Business

A. Approved Board Legislative Priorities for FY 2018-19

The board approved the following legislative priorities for this fiscal year:

1. Continue our community engagement by finding out what issues are important to them through a variety of ways.
2. Conduct legislative advocacy trainings that reach out to our community.
3. Hold an annual legislative event.
4. Hold candidates forums, as needed, in the center’s catchment area.

B. Select Committee Hearing, held August 7th

The Select Committee on Individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities recently held a hearing in Sacramento and the following information from that hearing was provided to the committee:

1. A hearing overview by the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA).
2. The hearing agenda.
3. The Legislative Analysts’ Office’s report called, “The Department of Developmental Services – Budget Trends and Recent Budget Actions.”

Michelle Heid attended the hearing and gave a firsthand account of the 2½ hour hearing, which can be found in the archive file of CalChannel. Michelle encouraged the committee members to take the time to watch the hearing.

Action: Michelle Heid will send a link to the hearing to Jennifer Kaiser who will forward it to the committee.

C. Legislative Educators’ Report

Michelle Heid introduced Raquel Armendariz, the newest member of the legislative education team. Raquel is bicultural and bilingual which makes her a great asset to the team! Michelle provided the committee with handout on their recent activities and coming events, which included: training and
advocacy workshops; local grass roots visits with legislators; upcoming events (including the candidates’ forums); and the legislative calendar.

1. **Candidates Forums/Co-Sponsorship:** Two candidates’ forums will be held:
   - Thursday, October 11th, at 6:30 p.m. (The Centre, Santa Clarita)
   - Thursday, October 25th, at 6:30 p.m. (Sam’s Café, North Hills)

   The Los Angeles Coalition of Service Providers and the Family Focus Resource Center have offered to help co-sponsor the forums.

2. **The Help Group’s Legislative Activities**

   Per a suggestion made by a committee member last month, staff are finding out more about The Help Group’s legislative activities and will report back at next month’s committee meeting.

3. **Informational Hearing on Bridge Funding:** August 29th

   Michelle Heid and Steve Miller will be attending this hearing, which will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

   **Action:** Michelle will send the conference call number for the hearing to Jennifer so she can forward it to the members of this committee in the event they would like to listen in.

4. **Developmental Services Task Force**

   Michelle Heid attends state’s Developmental Services Task Force meetings to provide a viewpoint from a behavioral service provider’s perspective and participates in one of their work groups.

D. **Publications Update**

1. **Draft of the Center’s New General Brochure:** We are waiting to get the revised proof from the printer.

2. **Commonly Coordinated Services Guide by Age Group:** The draft guides for 3 different age groups are being finalized. The guides will be full page size, made of durable card stock, has a larger font, and will
have photographs reflecting the age group. Sara circulated a draft of the Early Start and school age service guide for the committee’s review.

3. **Family Services Guide:** We are in the process of finalizing the family services guide.

E. **Valley Industry & Commerce Association (VICA) Events**

The center is a member of VICA, an advocacy organization for businesses in the San Fernando Valley. VICA maintains a regular presence at all levels of government to effectively represent valley businesses. Sara reported that 2 of the center’s staff participated in other VICA events that were recently held:

1. On July 17th, Jamie DeWitt attended a newsmaker connection with Christine Miller, senior project manager of Homeless Strategies in Los Angeles.
2. On July 19th, Engrid Smith attended a leadership forum with Austin Beutner, LAUSD superintendent.

Fliers were provided for 2 upcoming VICA events:

3. **Wednesday, September 26th, 5:30-7:30 p.m.** - An opportunity to meet Los Angeles Police Department Chief Michel Moore.

   **Action:** The committee selected Michele Marra to represent the center at this event; Michele will take a case management support person with her. They will network with people there about the importance of public safety for our consumers.

4. **Friday, October 26th, 7:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.** – A business forecast conference called, “Making the Impossible Possible”

   **Action:** Jeremy and Jessica both expressed interest in attending this event.

   **Action:** Sara will find out more information about the costs associated with the conference and report back to the committee.

F. **Valley Industrial Association**

VIA is an organization similar to VICA but representing the Santa Clarita Valley. Information on VIA was provided to the committee for their information.
M/S/C (C. Mitchell/J. Gould) To recommend to the Board of Trustees to approve the center becoming a member of the Valley Industrial Association.

Staff are researching business associations representing the Antelope Valley.

G. Legislative Update

1. Legislative Bill File: Copies of the committee’s updated bill file were provided for their information. The committee is currently tracking 31 different bills.

2. ARCA Legislative Committee Meeting: Michele Marra and Sara Iwahashi are members of the ARCA Legislative Committee which met earlier today. Legislative concepts were discussed including:

   • Regional center line of credit funds. When regional centers have to borrow money, the interest comes out of their operations budgets and are not reimbursed by DDS. In addition, some banks charge just to set up a credit line, whether the regional center borrows or not.

   • Omnibus roll-back. Recession changes and ill-conceived cuts have not been restored and should be.

It was also announced that State Senator Anthony Portantino, who represents the 25th Senate District, was appointed Monday as chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He replaces Senator Ricardo Lara, from the 33rd Senate District. Senator Portantino’s district is primarily in Lanterman Regional Center’s catchment area, but a small part of the district is in NLACRC’s catchment area.

H. IPP Public Service Announcement (George & Ruth)

George and Ruth will proceed in producing a short 3-minute film about what an IPP is. They will include this project in a larger one to update several of the center’s outdated films.

I. FY 2017-18 Committee Action Log

All of the formal and informal actions that were taken by this committee last fiscal year were entered into a log; copies of the log were provided to the committee. The action log helps the new committee to see what types of actions were taken by the former committee.
J. **Board Audit Question:** Does the center have a training and information plan that meets the requirements of statute, contracts, and board policy?

Michele Marra reported that the Lanterman Act drives the center’s training and information plan. The center also recently developed a 5-year strategic plan to support it. Sara and Evan presented the center’s public information plan for FY 2018-19.

V. **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

The following items were identified for the committee’s section of the September 12\textsuperscript{th} board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of the August 22\textsuperscript{nd} Meeting
B. Legislative Educators’ Report
C. Legislative Bill File
D. Annual Board Legislative Training: Wed., September 19\textsuperscript{th}, at 6:00 p.m.
E. Approval to Join the Valley Industrial Association

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

A. **Complete Meeting Evaluations**

Jeremy asked the committee members to please complete their evaluation forms after the meeting and submit them to him with any comments.

B. **Annual Legislative Training:** Wednesday, September 19\textsuperscript{th}

The legislative training will be held in lieu of the Consumer Services & Government/Community Relations Committee meetings.

C. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 17\textsuperscript{th}

VII. **Adjournment**

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant  
[germin.aug22.2018]