North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
Government & Community Relations Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2018

Present: Sharoll Jackson and Jeremy Sunderland – Committee Members  
Orli Almog & Sonia Ojeda – Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives  
Arnulfo Jackson and Steve Miller - Guests  
Evan Ingber, Sara Iwahashi, Ruth Janka, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, and George Stevens – Staff Members

Absent: Marianne Davis, Melissa Ferman, Anna Hamilton, Angelina Martinez, and Caroline Mitchell

I. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting began at 7:14 p.m. but could not be officially called to order because a majority of members (quorum) were not present. Introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda  
B. Approval of Minutes from the October 17th Meeting

The agenda and minutes could not be approved as a quorum of members was not present.

IV. Committee Business

A. Legislative Educators’ Report

1. Monthly Activity Report: Steve Miller provided everyone present with a copy of the monthly community and legislative educator project report, which included information about:

   a. The candidates’ forums that were held October 11th and 25th.  
   b. Disparity-related activities.  
   c. Upcoming events:  
      • Festival Educacional: January 26th  
      • ARCA Grassroots Day: April 2nd & 3rd (Sacramento)
- 12th Annual developmental disabilities public policy conference: March 18th – 20th (Sacramento)

d. Legislative calendar.

2. **Grass Roots Visits for 2018:** All members of the Board, Vendor Advisory Committee, and Consumer Advisory Committee have been assigned to a grass roots team and in the coming year visits will be planned on a rotating schedule.

3. **Application for Legislative Academy**

   **Action:** Any Board, VAC, or CAC members interested in participating in ARCA’s Grassroots Day at the State Capitol or the developmental disabilities public policy conference should complete an application for the legislative academy and submit it to Jennifer Kaiser (who will forward them to Steve Miller and Michelle Heid).

B. **Legislative Approach to Impact of Minimum Wage Increases**

   California’s Legislative Analysts’ Office has reported that the state is in the best financial position ever recording – which is an important starting point for us. We need to focus on rate reform; the Burns & Associates’ rate study is due to be submitted to the Legislature in March 2019. We need for providers to be able to hire and retain competent and qualified staff. Service providers have had their rates frozen since 2008 and many of them are in distress or must fundraise to supplement their budgets to keep from being in financial distress.

   The Southern California Regional Center Directors (and their Vendor Advisory Committee chairs and/or directors of community services) held a meeting with the Los Angeles Coalition of Service Providers on September 13th at Harbor Regional Center. The purpose of the meeting was to prioritize issues and identify how to work together to address them. The number one issue was inadequate provider rates and the group decided to take the following actions prior to the development of the state budget for FY 2019-20, which will be drafted and released by the governor in January:

1. Organize support the Lanterman Coalition’s recommendation for an across-the-board rate increase of 8% as an initial “down payment” until rate reform is realized.
2. Organize all stakeholders to participate in grassroots meetings with our legislators carrying this message.

Kim Rolfes has been asked to create a simple 1-page graph to show how inadequate rates are affecting our system that can be shared with our legislators.

C. Publications Update

As reported at last month’s committee meeting, these publications are being re-drafted in a simpler language so the information is easier to understand.

1. Draft of the Center’s New General Brochure
2. Commonly Coordinated Services Guide by Age Group
3. Family Services Guide

D. Legislative Bill File

A legislative bill file was not prepared because the Legislature was in recess.

E. Board Audit: Are the methods identified in the center’s training and information plan in line with the mission, vision, and values statement?

Yes. Evan Ingber provided examples from the center’s training side and Sara Iwahashi provided examples from the center’s information side.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee’s section of the January 9th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of the November 20th Meeting
B. Legislative Educators’ Report
C. Approval of Revised Social Media Policy
D. Approval of Social Media Plan

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

This was not necessary as only 2 committee members were present.
B. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 16th (no December meeting)

VII. **Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 7:53 p.m.

Submitted by,

*Jennifer Kaiser*

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

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