Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 2019
6:30 p.m.

NLACRC’s San Fernando Valley Office
9200 Oakdale Avenue, Suite 100
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Packet #1 – mailed
North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Board Packet # 1

Contents

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5. **Yellow:**
   Vendor Advisory Committee (page 38)

6. **Blue**
   Attendance, Acronyms & Meeting Evaluation (page 47)
Board Calendars
# NLACRC Board of Trustees Calendar
## Fiscal Year 2018-19
### March 2019

<table>
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<th>Sun</th>
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<td>3:00 pm: Nominating Committee Meeting (VAC Applicant Interviews)</td>
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<td>5:00 am - 1:00 pm Consumer Advisory Committee</td>
<td>6:00 pm: Nominating Committee Meeting (VAC Applicant Interviews)</td>
<td>9:30 am: Vendor Advisory Committee (full meeting)</td>
<td>6:30-8:00 pm POS Disparity Public Meeting (San Fernando Valley Office)</td>
<td>8:00 am-3:00 pm Legislative Academy (San Fernando Valley Office) SPANISH</td>
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<td>Daylight Savings Time Starts</td>
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<td>NLACRC's 45th Anniversary</td>
<td>6:30-8:00 pm POS Disparity Public Meeting (Antelope Valley Office)</td>
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<td>St. Patrick's Day</td>
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<td>6:00 pm: Consumer Services Committee</td>
<td>First day of Spring Purim begins at sundown</td>
<td>ARCA Meetings (Alta CA Regional Center, Sacramento) Purim ends at sundown</td>
<td>8:00am-1:00 pm: ARCA Board of Directors Meeting (Alta CA Regional Center, Sacramento)</td>
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<td>10:00 am: Antelope Valley Vendor Forum</td>
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<td>7:00 pm: Executive Committee</td>
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<td>April Fool's Day</td>
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<td>11:00am-1:00 pm: Consumer Advisory Committee</td>
<td>9:30 am: Vendor Advisory Committee (break-out groups)</td>
<td>Board of Trustees' Annual Legislative Event (Tentative)</td>
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<td>6:00 pm: Board Dinner</td>
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<td>6:30 pm: Board Meeting (San Fernando Valley Office)</td>
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<td>6:00 pm: Consumer Services Committee</td>
<td>10:00am-2:00pm: ARCA Executive Committee Mtg. (Sacramento)</td>
<td>ARCA Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting (Sacramento)</td>
<td>Passover begins at sundown (no work on April 26 &amp; 27)</td>
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<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>Earth Day</td>
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<td>Administrative Professionals Day</td>
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<td>Passover (no work)</td>
<td>Passover ends at sundown</td>
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Agenda & Minutes
~AGENDA~

1. Call to Order & Introductions
   Debra Newman
   President

2. Public Input & Comments (3 minutes)

3. Consent Items (Packet #1, page 4)
   A. Approval of Agenda
   B. Approval of February 13th Meeting Minutes

4. Committee Action Item - Handout
   A. Administrative Affairs (Dan Becerra)
      1. Presentation and Acceptance of Annual Audited
         Financial Statement

5. Director's Report
   George Stevens
   Executive Director

6. Association of Regional Center Agencies
   A. Next ARCA Board Meeting: Friday, March 22nd
   Debra Newman
   ARCA Delegate

7. Administrative Affairs Committee
   A. Minutes of the February 27th Meeting
   B. Financial Report
   C. DDS Caseload Ratio Approval Letter
   Dan Becerra
   Treasurer

8. Consumer Advisory Committee
   A. Minutes of the March 6th Meeting
   Caroline Mitchell
   Chair

9. Consumer Services Committee (Packet #1, page 18)
   A. Minutes of the February 20th Meeting
   B. Self-Determination Program Update
   Anna Hamilton
   Chair

10. Government & Community Relations (Packet #2, page 23)
    A. Minutes of the February 20th Meeting
    B. Legislative Educators' Report
    Jeremy Sunderland
    Chair
11. Executive Committee
   A. Minutes of the February 27th Meeting
   B. Completed Executive Director Evaluations Due
   C. Action Taken to Approve Contract with Elwyn
   D. Action Taken re: Executive Director Retirement Function
   E. Board Composition
      1. ARCA Statewide Board Composition Results
      2. DDS Board Composition Letter
      3. Action Taken to Approve NLACRC's Response to DDS's Board Composition Letter

12. Nominating Committee
   A. Minutes of the March 5th & 6th Meetings

13. Post-Retirement Medical Trust - No Report
   Debra Newman
   Chair

14. Strategic Planning Committee - No Report
   Caroline Mitchell
   Chair

15. Vendor Advisory Committee
   A. Minutes of the February 7th Meeting (Packet #1, page 38)
   B. Minutes of the March 7th Meeting

16. Old Business / New Business (Packet #1, page 47)
   A. Attendance Sheets
   B. Visitation Reports
   C. Acronyms Listing
   D. Complete Meeting Evaluations

17. Announcements / Information / Public Input
   A. Next Meeting: April 10th at 6:30 p.m. (Chatsworth)

18. Adjournment
Minutes of Regular Meeting
of
North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees of North Los Angeles County Regional Center, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, held their regular board meeting at North Los Angeles County Regional Center, 9200 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth, California, on February 13, 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trustees Present</th>
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<th>Staff Present</th>
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<tr>
<td>Manuel Alfaro</td>
<td>Daniel Becerra</td>
<td>Ruth Janka</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Badger</td>
<td>Anna Hamilton</td>
<td>Jennifer Kaiser</td>
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<td>Elena Burnett</td>
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<td>Marianne Davis</td>
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<td>Dr. Jesse Weller</td>
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<td>Melissa Ferman</td>
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<td>Pat Grayson-DeJong</td>
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<td>Sharoll Jackson</td>
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<td>Caroline Mitchell</td>
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<td>Debra Newman</td>
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<td>Louis Paparozzi</td>
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<td>Jeremy Sunderland</td>
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<td>Curtis Wang</td>
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1. Call to Order & Introductions

Debra Newman, president, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and introductions were made.

2. Public Input & Comments

   A. Debra Newman reported that the “Night to Shine” prom for people with disabilities was held in Lancaster on February 8th and it was a great success! Night to Shine proms are held nationwide but must be hosted by a church.

   B. Caroline Mitchell announced that she was just elected to serve as the president of the student council at the Student Skills Center!

   C. Julie Eby-McKenzie reported that the recent independent facilitator training (for the self-determination program) that was held by the Family Focus Resource Center was
a resounding success with over 140 people in attendance. Additional such trainings will be held at Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center in March and at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center in April. For more information, please go to the State Council’s website: scdd.ca.gov.

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Revised Agenda (Packet #2, page 81)

An executive session was added to the agenda before adjournment.

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

B. Approval of January 9th Meeting Minutes (Packet #1, page 7)

M/S/C (P. Grayson-DeJong/L. Paparozzi) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Committee Action Items (Packet #1, page 15)

A. Administrative Affairs Committee (Dan Becerra)

1. Approval of Contracts

a. Integrated Resources Institute

b. Therapeutic Time, Inc.

M/S/C (C. Mitchell/C. Wang) To approve the 2 contracts listed above, as presented.

B. Executive Committee (Debra Newman)

1. Approval of Board Retreat Topics

a. Center for Nonprofit Management “Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards”

b. Executive Director Transition Plan

The board also asked to add “any other pertinent issues” for discussion at the board retreat.

M/S/C (C. Wang/A. Castellanos) To approve the board retreat topics as amended.
5. **Additional Action Items** *(Packet #2, page 83)*

A. **Administrative Affairs Committee** (Dan Becerra)

1. Approval of Contract: Software Management Consultants
2. Approval of Contract: Valley Village (PL1753)

**M/S/C** (A. Martinez/P. Grayson-DeJong) To approve the 2 contracts listed above as presented.

6. **Director's Report** *(Packet #2, page 88)*

George Stevens addressed the following areas in his report: allocation methodology; state budget, legislation; and regional center operations. Copies of the director's report were included in the meeting packet along with the center's monthly quality assurance, consumer statistics, and special incident reports. Also attached to the report were:

A. A copy of a letter from Assembly Members Frazier and Holden to the Senate and Assembly Budget Committees by Assembly Members Frazier and Holden supporting an immediate 8% increase in provider rates to help stabilize the system until the formal rate reform is implemented.
B. A copy of Assembly Bill 261 (Mathis/Frazier) which would restore camp and social recreation services.
C. A legislative update, including a list of bills that took effect January 1st.

7. **Association of Regional Center Agencies**

A. **Report on January 18th Board of Directors Meeting**

Debra Newman reported that she will try and get a copy of the meeting minutes to include in future board meeting packets.

B. **Next ARCA Board Meeting:** Friday, March 22nd

8. **Administrative Affairs Committee** *(Packet #2, page 118)*

A. **Minutes of the January 30th Meeting**

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Dan Becerra with any questions.
B. **Financial Report**

NLACRC’s operations budget is $51,477,247, the purchase of service (POS) budget is $428,810,560, and the family resource center budget is $207,187 for a total budget, at this point, of $480,494,994. We are currently projecting a deficit in our POS budget of $29,442,296—the highest POS deficit of all 21 regional centers. However, we are an entitlement program so all this means is that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will have to allocate us additional funds in order to cover our shortfall.

C. **Draft Disbursement of Start-Up Funding Policy**

Copies of the draft policy were included in the meeting packet for the board’s review and input. The draft policy will be presented at next month’s board meeting for approval.

**Action:** Board members should provide any input they have on the draft policy to Jennifer Kaiser prior to the February 27th Executive Committee meeting.

D. **Discussion re: Board Travel and Insurance**

The center requires its staff to provide proof of their current auto insurance coverage along with a copy of their current driver’s license. However, our board members who drive to and from board meetings and events are not required to show proof of a driver’s license or auto insurance coverage to the center. In discussion with the center’s insurance broker (to determine if the center had any exposure when board members were traveling) Kim Rolfes was informed that there is no exposure for the center if a board member should be involved in an auto accident on the way to/or from a board meeting or event. However, should the board member be involved in an auto accident traveling from/to the center’s business location to a board activity or an activity related to the center’s business activities, the center would have exposure. The committee is bringing this to the attention of the full board for discussion.

**Action:** The board felt that because the risk is so low, that board members should not be required to provide proof of their current auto insurance coverage along with a copy of their current driver’s license.

9. **Consumer Advisory Committee** - No Report
10. Consumer Services Committee *(Packet #1, page 21)*

A. Minutes of the January 16th Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Anna Hamilton with any questions.

B. 2nd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report

The exceptions report lists requests from consumers and families for services that are outside of the center’s service standards and whether those services were approved or denied. During the past quarter, the center approved 251 requests and 6 were denied.

The exemptions report lists requests made for services that have been suspended or reduced as a result of the trailer bill language. The report showed that during the past quarter, 2 exemptions were approved and none were denied. Both exemptions were for educational services.

C. 2nd Quarter Appeals/Hearings Report

During the 1st quarter:

1. Eligibility: 496 Notices of Action were sent and 13 were returned (appealed).
2. Service: 402 Notices of Action were sent and 9 were returned.
3. Hearings: 3 fair hearings were held:
   - 1 eligibility hearings (denied)
   - 2 service hearings (1 dismissed and 1 pending)

D. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report

The report showed diagnostic information about the center’s consumers each quarter since July 1, 2016. Of the 26,140 consumers that the center serves, the diagnosis breakdown is as follows:

1. Intellectual Disability: 8,849
2. Autism: 11,046
3. Cerebral Palsy: 561
4. Epilepsy: 247
5. Other developmental disability: 1,207
6. Status 0, 1, 2: 4,230
Status 0 are clients in intake, Status 1 are clients in Early Start (at risk), and Status 2 clients are children over 3 that have been found eligible for regional center services. Although most of the consumer diagnoses are fairly stable, consumers with autism have increased nearly 23% since July 1, 2016.

E. Self-Determination Program Update

Out of the 184 NLACRC consumers selected by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to participate in the program, 8 have opted out, 3 of those 8 opted out because they were moving out of our area. Out of the 173 remaining participants, the geographical breakdown is as follows: 99 from the San Fernando Valley; 44 from the Santa Clarita Valley; and 30 from the Antelope Valley. We are currently recruiting for a self-determination program supervisor, resource developer, and service coordinators. We are still waiting to receive training materials from DDS. The next Self-Determination Advisory Committee meeting will be held Thursday, February 21st, at 7:00 p.m. at the center’s main office in Chatsworth.

11. Executive Committee (Packet #2, page 138)

A. Minutes of the January 30th Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Debra Newman with any questions.

B. Action Taken to Approve Contract

The Executive Committee took action, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to approve a contract for nonresidential negotiated rate agreements. Copies of the contract were included in the meeting packet.

C. Action Taken to Cancel Meeting

The Executive Committee took action, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to cancel the February 6th Consumer Advisory Committee meeting. The meeting was cancelled because the staff liaison went on an unexpected leave of absence and a speaker was not able to be secured for that meeting.

D. Executive Director Evaluation

Each board member is required to complete an evaluation of the executive director each year as part of their board responsibilities. A blank evaluation form was
provided to each board member along with an envelope addressed to the board president.

Action: Board members must complete the executive director's evaluation and submit it to Debra Newman, board president, prior to the March 13th board meeting.

E. 2nd Quarter Report on the Center's Strategic Plan

Copies of the 35-page report were included in the meeting packet. Debra Newman asked the board members to review the report on their own time, noting the many accomplishments that staff have made.

12. Government & Community Relations (Packet #1, page 39)

A. Minutes of the January 16th Meeting

Copies of the minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Jeremy Sunderland with any questions.

B. Legislative Educators’ Report

Copies of the report were included in the meeting packet.

C. Legislative Bill File

Copies of the bill file were included in the meeting packet; the committee is currently tracking 8 different bills.

13. Nominating Committee (Packet #2, page 190)

A. Minutes of the February 5th & 6th Meetings

Pat Grayson-DeJong reported that the committee interviewed board applicants at their last 2 meetings. The center received a letter from DDS stating that the board is out of composition compliance for the 8th year in a row – we need more Hispanic/Latino members. The Nominating Committee will be interviewing Vendor Advisory Committee applicants next month. The meeting minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Pat with any questions.
B. **Interest in Serving as the Board's 2nd Vice President**

As the other officers move up, the 2nd vice president position on the board will be vacant.

**Action:** Any board members interested in serving as the board's 2nd vice president next fiscal year should contact Jennifer Kaiser.

14. **Post-Retirement Medical Trust Committee** *(Packet #2, page 195)*

A. **Minutes of the January 30th Meeting**

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Debra Newman with any questions.

B. **Statement on Current Trust Value**

As of December 31, 2018, the value of the trust assets was $22,752,227, a decrease of $2,048,881 since the last quarterly report. The rate of return for the quarter was -8.37 (net of fees) and for the last 12 months was -5.36 (net of fees). The quarter that ended December 31, 2018 saw a sharp correction in the stock market, driven by rising interest rate concerns, escalating risk of a trade war, geopolitical turmoil, and the government shutdown. The annualized rate of return since the trust's inception (November 1, 2004) was 5.41% (gross of fees).

15. **Strategic Planning Committee** *(Packet #2, page 200)*

A. **Minutes of the February 4th Meeting**

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Caroline Mitchell with any questions.

B. **2nd Quarter Report on CIE and PIP Activities**

The 2nd quarter report reflected the following information:

1. **Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)**
   a. 51 consumers approved for the program
   b. 10 service providers approved for the program
   c. 21 incentive payments made in FY 2017-18
d. 10 incentive payments made in FY 2018-19

CIE incentive funds are paid to service providers after 30 days, 6 months, and 12 months of continuous employment of a consumer.

2. Paid Internship Program (PIP)
   a. 25 consumers approved for the program
   b. 10 service providers approved for the program
   c. 2 incentive payments made in FY 2017-18
   d. 1 incentive payment made in FY 2018-19

PIP incentive payments reimburse service providers or employers up to $10,400 per year of wages and benefits for each consumer placed in an internship.

C. 2nd Quarter Report on Program Closures

Since 2016-17, the center has had 87 program closures which impacted 375 consumers.

D. 2nd Quarter Report on New Vendorizations

The center had a total of 15 new vendorizations during the 2nd quarter of this fiscal year.

16. Vendor Advisory Committee (Packet #1, page 59)
   A. Minutes of the January 3rd Meeting

   The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Sharoll Jackson with any questions.

   B. Minutes of the February 7th Meeting – Deferred

17. Old Business/New Business (Packet #2, page 71)
   A. Attendance Sheets

   Updated board and board committee attendance sheets are always included in the meeting packet; board members cannot miss 3 meetings in a row or 5 meetings in a 12-month period.
B. **Visitation Reports**

Sharoll Jackson, Elena Burnett, and Manuel Alfaro visited The Adult Skills Center and gave a report on their visit.

C. **Acronyms Listing**

An updated list of frequently used acronyms is included in the meeting packet each month.

D. **Complete Meeting Evaluations**

Debra asked the board to please complete their meeting evaluations after the meeting and submit them to her with any comments.

18. **Announcements/Information/Public Input**

A. Elena Burnett announced that she recently attended 2 NLACRC workshops one on Medicare and the other on medical trusts; she found out about them from the center’s “News You Can Use” bulletin.

B. **Next Board Meeting:** March 13th at 6:30 p.m. (Chatsworth)

19. **Executive Session**

A. **Personnel Issue**

*M/S/C* (J. Sunderland/E. Badger) To go into executive session at 7:54 p.m.

20. Adjournment

Debra adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant
for:

Lillian Martinez
Board Secretary

[badmin.feb13.2019]
Consumer Services Committee
North Los Angeles County Regional Center

Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2019

Draft

Present: Marianne Davis, Melissa Ferman, Sharoll Jackson, Caroline Mitchell, and Jeremy Sunderland – Committee Members
Sonia Ojeda – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative
Maria Bosch, Sheila Calove, Evan Ingber, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, Megan Mitchell, George Stevens, and Jesse Weller – Staff Members

Absent: Anna Hamilton and Angelina Martinez

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Caroline Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in Anna Hamilton’s absence. Introductions were made. George introduced Megan Mitchell, who was recently promoted as the center’s new transition, community placement plan, and risk management manager. Megan has worked at the center for many years as our forensic judicial specialist. She is well known in her field and has an amazing reputation at court with the attorneys and judges. We feel very fortunate to have her on our staff and as part of our management team.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (S. Jackson/J. Sunderland) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes from the January 16th Meeting

M/S/C (S. Jackson/J. Sunderland) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Consumer Statistics: Autism & Intellectual Disability

Late last year, this committee asked to see a breakdown of not only consumers by diagnosis, but consumers by diagnosis, broken down by age groups. Copies of the report were provided and reviewed. The report included consumers with a
primary diagnosis of autism or intellectual disability; 19,941 of the center’s 26,959 consumers have one of those two diagnoses.

**Action:** The committee would like the report to be modified to include the remaining 7,018 consumers and their primary diagnosis broken down by age group.

**B. Exceptions/Exemptions Report: Environmental Modifications**

Copies of the exceptions/exemptions report were provided. Jesse reported that sometimes families ask the center services for environmental modifications, such as remodeling a bathroom to make them accessible. Jesse reported that the current exceptions/exemptions report does not currently include these types of requests – would the committee like to see environmental modifications included in future quarterly reports?

**Action:** The committee would like to see environmental modifications included in future quarterly exceptions/exemptions reports.

**C. Self-Determination Program (SDP) Update**

Sheila reported that the preparations for the program’s implementation are underway! We have received all of the directives needed from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) except the one for the home and community-based services (HCBS) settings. DDS is holding train-the-trainer meetings for regional center staff throughout the state. Our staff will be attending the trainings on February 25th and March 8th. The center is also in the process of hiring specialists and a resource developer for the SDP, as well as making preparations to vendor financial management service providers. Also, the NLACRC/State Council Local Advisory Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis at 1 of the center’s 3 offices; their next meeting will be held here tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m.

**D. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report**

Maria reported that the center’s goal for this fiscal year is to place 7 consumers out of large facilities and into the community as follows:
One last remaining NLACRC consumer at Fairview Developmental Center

One consumer out of Southern Star acute crisis

One consumer out of Porterville Developmental Center (our last in the general treatment area)

Four consumers out of Canyon Springs

Maria also reported that all of the center’s community placement plan (CPP) projects prior to FY 2016-17 have been completed. The center's current CPP includes the development of a 4-bed deflection home and two 4-bed homes for consumers with severe behavioral and mental health needs.

E. Board Audit: Has the board properly referred service standard issues to this committee?

Jesse answered yes. Whenever there is a change in statute or regulations that would have a bearing on our service standards, staff propose language changes to the standards and present them to this committee first and then to the Board of Trustees for their review and approval.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee’s section of the March 13th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of the February 20th Meeting
B. Self-Determination Program Update

VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Caroline asked the committee members to please complete their evaluation forms after the meeting and submit them to her with any comments.
B. **Next Meeting:** *Tuesday, March 19*\(^{th}\)

**VII. Adjournment**

Caroline adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser  
Executive Assistant

[csmin.feb20.2019]
Government & Community Relations Committee
North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
Government & Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 20, 2019

Present:  Marianne Davis, Melissa Ferman, Sharoll Jackson, Caroline Mitchell, and Jeremy Sunderland – Committee Members  
Orli Almog and Sonia Ojeda – Vendor Advisory Committee Representatives  
Steve Miller – Legislative Educator  
Amulfo Jackson - Guest  
Sara Iwahashi, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, George Stevens, and Jesse Weller – Staff Members

Absent:  Anna Hamilton and Angelina Martinez

I.  Call to Order & Introductions

Jeremy Sunderland, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and introductions were made.

II.  Public Input – There was no public input

III.  Consent Items

A.  Approval of Agenda

Several items were added to the agenda.

M/S/C (S. Jackson/C. Mitchell) To approve the agenda as modified.

B.  Approval of Minutes from the January 16th Meeting

M/S/C (S. Jackson/M. Davis) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV.  Committee Business

A.  Update on ARCA Grass Roots Day Participants & Activities

Each year, the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) holds its Grassroots Day in Sacramento. This is a day when each regional center has the opportunity to send representatives to the State Capitol to visit with legislators. Participants fly up the day before and attend a dinner and briefing meeting that
evening before meeting with legislators all the next day. This year it will be held April 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} and NLACRC will be sending the following representatives:

1. Michelle Heid, Legislative Educator
2. Jesse Weller, Staff
3. Evelyn McOmie, Staff
4. Orli Almog, Service Provider
5. Sharoll Jackson, Service Provider
6. Rebecca Lienhard, Service Provider
7. Pat Grayson-DeJong, Board Member
8. Victoria Schklair, Consumer
9. Krystal Zanel, Consumer

Jesse reported that Michelle Heid has arranged for the group to meet here at the regional center on March 27\textsuperscript{th} to prepare everyone for the grassroots activities.

Action: Jesse Weller, Orli Almog, and Sharoll Jackson will give a report on the ARCA Grassroots Day activities at the April 17\textsuperscript{th} Government & Community Relations Committee meeting.

B. Update on the Arc/UCP Public Policy Conference Participants

The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) hold a 3-day public policy conference each year in Sacramento. This year, the conference will be held March 18\textsuperscript{th}, 19\textsuperscript{th}, and 20\textsuperscript{th} and our participants will be:

1. Michelle Heid, Legislative Educator
2. Raquel Armendariz, Legislative Educator
3. Michele Marra, Staff
4. Anna Hamilton, Board Member
5. Elena Burnett, Board Member
6. Melissa Ferman, Board Member

Michele Marra, Anna Hamilton, and Melissa Ferman will be unable to attend next month’s Government & Community Relations Committee meeting because they will be at the conference.

Action: Michele Marra, Anna Hamilton, and Melissa Ferman will give a report on what they learned at the conference at the April 17\textsuperscript{th} Government & Community Relations Committee meeting.
C. Legislative Educators’ Report

Copies of the monthly report on the legislative educators’ activities were provided and reviewed. Legislators know who we are and what are issues are. On February 5th, Assembly Members Jim Frazier and Chris Holden sent a letter to the senate and assembly budget chairs to support an immediate investment to protect services for Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities, with an 8% across-the-board increase in provider reimbursement rates with federal matching funds. On February 15th, 19 other assembly members sent a letter to the budget chairs supporting that request! Copies of both letters were provided to the committee.

Steve reported that it has been a very busy month for the legislative educators! Their activities included:

1. Planning a town hall meeting in collaboration with Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian sometime in April.
2. Identifying bills that would have an impact to the developmental disabilities system.
3. Organizing local grassroots visits with legislators.
4. Working with service providers to organize them legislatively.
5. Participated in the center’s 31st annual Festival Educaional – an annual training for our Spanish-speaking families. This was an amazing event with about 180 participants. The legislative educators put together a survey and offered raffle prizes to those who returned a completed survey; 88 surveys were completed. The information from the surveys will be used to understand how to better serve and help our families who speak only Spanish.
6. Organized 2 legislative academies, on in English on February 23rd, and another in Spanish on March 9th.

The legislative educators are considering producing webinars next fiscal year.

Action: Michele will add the development of webinars to the social media plan for next fiscal year.

D. Publications Update

1. Commonly Coordinated Services Guide by Age Group: The guide is done and is going to print!
2. **Family Services Guide:** We are still in the process of reducing the reading level of this guide.

3. **Draft of the Center’s New General Brochure:** The brochure will be updated as time allows. There is no rush in getting the brochure done because the center currently already has one.

E. **Legislative Bill File**

Copies of the updated bill file were provided. Sara reported that she and Michele attended ARCA’s Legislative Committee meeting last week. This Friday is the last day that legislators can submit bills, so we anticipate more bills coming in. Next month, the legislative bill file will be updated to include all bills that were submitted that would have an effect on the developmental disabilities system.

**Action:** Committee members will review the bill file and identify any bills that they think the committee should be tracking.

F. **Update on Purchase of Service (POS) Disparity Projects**

Four of the center’s service providers had their proposals to reduce POS disparity in services approved by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provider</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autism Society of Los Angeles</td>
<td>Cross-cultural independent facilitator trainings and ongoing support for the self-determination program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Community Collaborative</td>
<td>Inter-Agency Coordinating Council community outreach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Rights Law Center</td>
<td>Training, information, and advocacy project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PathPoint</td>
<td>Building cultural competency to support the underserved in central and southern California.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NLACRC also had 2 of its POS disparity proposals approved by DDS, the extension of the center’s Family Empowerment Team in Action (FETA) project
and the center’s new parent mentor project. A handout with more details about all of the approved proposals was provided to the committee.

G. Valley Industry & Commerce Association (VICA) Update

1. **VICA Government Relations Committee:** NLACRC staff and service providers presented information to this committee earlier today to request that they prioritize their legislative efforts to include the proposed 8% increase for provider rates and regional center operations to stabilize our service system. The presentation was successful and received a unanimous vote to proceed to the VICA Board for their consideration and approval.

2. Discussions were held regarding the future use of the Men’s Central Jail in Los Angeles and Mira Loma in Lancaster regarding re-design and use, such as mental health treatment of supportive housing.

H. Social Media Updates

1. **Monthly Facebook Analytics:** Copies of the monthly report were provided for both the center’s English and Spanish Facebook pages. The report showed the engagement level of reactions, comments, and shares.

2. **Social Media Survey Results:** Copies of the survey results were provided for both the center’s English and Spanish Facebook pages. The top 5 social media sites used by the English-speaking survey takers were, in order, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Pinterest. For the Spanish-speaking survey takers, the top 5 were Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter.

As a result of the surveys, the center will consider incorporating these media sites to further our outreach efforts to consumers and families.

I. State Budget

California Governor Gavin Newsom submitted his 2019-20 “California for All” budget proposal to the Legislature. Some of the education highlights include:

1. Funding for universal preschool for all income-eligible 4-year-old children in the state, phased in over a three-year period. This funding will allow
state preschool providers to offer full-day/full-year care to better accommodate working parents.

2. Expand the Paid Family Leave program with the goal of ensuring that all newborns and newly adopted babies can be cared for by a parent or a close family member for the first 6 months.

3. Funding for K-12 schools and community colleges in FY 2019-20 is $80.7 billion – a new all-time high with per-pupil expenditures now nearly $5,000 higher than just 7 years ago. The budget also funds critical work to build a data system to better track student outcomes and increase the alignment of our education system to the state’s workforce needs.

4. $1.4 billion ($942 million ongoing) for higher education to support increased enrollment, improved time to degree and a tuition freeze. This includes $240 million to the university of California system, $300 million to the California state university system, and $402 million to the community college systems.

J. Update on LA Unified/United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) Strike Deal

Sara provided the following update on the recent strike deal:

1. Salary raises: 6% increase with 3% in FY 2017-18, 3% in FY 2018-19.


4. Increase in counselors in secondary schools: 17 in FY 2019-20, 0 in FY 2020-21, and 60 in FY 2021-22.

5. Class size reduction in grades 4-12: -1 in FY 2019-20, -1 in FY 2020-21, and -2 in FY 2021-22.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee’s section of the March 13th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of the February 20th Meeting
B. Legislative Educators’ Report

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Jeremy asked the committee members to please complete their evaluations after the meeting and submit them to him with any questions.

B. Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 19th

The Jewish holiday Purim begins at sunset on Wednesday, March 20th, so the committee meeting will be held on Tuesday evening instead.

C. Steve announced that Lyn Shaw, a former Jynny Retzinger Community Service Award winner, who formerly worked at Tierra del Sol and for Assembly Member Bob Blumenfield, recently passed away. Bob Blumenfield will be honoring her at a memorial on March 1st

VII. Adjournment

Jeremy adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

[gcmin.feb20.2019]
Community and Legislative Educator Project
Presented by Steve Miller, Michelle Heid, and Raquel Armendariz

Update 2/2019

April Town Hall
Following the grass roots visit with Assemblyman Nazarian he shared a desire to host a Town Hall focusing on the crisis in community services and rate reform. April 11th was suggested as a potential date and we are looking for venues and waiting for Nazarian’s office to confirm the date. Sam’s Café at New Horizons has been reserved, but a larger venue would be preferred. We are working on preparation activities, but waiting for confirmation of the date and location to begin publicizing.

Legislature Calendar
The legislative season is underway and all bills have to be introduced by February 22nd and we will work with Sara to identify bills that relate to our community.
Budget Subcommittee hearings for our community have been announced:
Assembly Budget Sub #1 Health and Human Services March 6th 2:30 Room 444
Senate Budget Sub #3 Health and Human Services May 2nd 9:30 Room 4203

Local Grass Roots Visits
We have conducted local legislative visits to Senator Wilk, Assemblywoman Rivas, Senator Hertzberg, Assemblyman Lackey, and Assemblyman Nazarian. We are also preparing for visits in the Capitol in conjunction with 12th Annual DD Public Policy Conference March 18-20th and ARCA Grassroots Day April 2nd & 3rd. We will be requesting meetings for March 20th and ARCA will request the meetings for April 3rd. Participants have been confirmed for both trips and Michelle met with both RC clients to answer questions and ensure they are prepared for visiting the Capitol.

Collaboration with VAC and Provider Community
We attended the VAC meeting on February 7th to share information about the upcoming Sacramento Advocacy Trips and critical importance of vendors and families speaking up about rate reform over the next several months. Additionally, we are working with the provider community to share information about the upcoming Town Hall. Sharoll Jackson, Rebecca Lienhard, and Orli Almog will be representing the providers at the upcoming ARCA grassroots day. Sharoll and Rebecca also identified current clients to attend those visits as well.

As the date for the Town Hall is solidified, we will work with the provider community to share information with their clients and families and ensure a good turn out to hear about the importance of rate reform and what local legislators can do to assist our community.

Disparity Related Activities
The 31st annual Festival Educational was held on January 26th. We had a table and provided information for all those who attended. The Legucator team put together a survey and offered raffle prizes to those who returned a completed survey. We received 88 completed surveys and 3 prize bags were given away. The answers provided on the surveys will inform us how to better serve and help our Spanish-speaking (monolingual) families. Themes from the surveys included the best times and dates for additional training and topics for trainings.

Legislative Academy
2 Legislative Academies will be held on February 23rd in English and March 6th in Spanish from 8:00-3:00 and lunch will be provided. Participants are being recruited through FFRC and CSCs and information has been disseminated via Facebook and through email newsletters. We continue to recruit participants to fill the 20-25
seats in both trainings. We have secured Assemblymember Christy Smith to provide an introduction to citizen advocacy during the training on February 23rd and we have a request out to Assemblymember Luz Rivas’ office to attend the training on March 9th. Goal of training is to prepare family members and others to participate in NLA’s grass roots visits both locally and in Sacramento and engage in other advocacy activities in support of the disability community.

Upcoming Events
Legislative Academy — English February 23rd SCV and Spanish March 9th SFV
12th Annual DD Public Policy Conference March 18-20th
ARCA Grassroots Day April 2nd & 3rd — need to draft cover letter and interest application

NLACRC Website Legislative Information
We have sent suggestions for making changes to the current NLA website and will send additional information in the coming weeks based on committee assignments and new legislators.
California Legislature

February 5, 2019

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair
Senate Committee on Budget
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Committee on Budget
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Dr. Richard Pan, Chair
Senate Budget Subcommittee #3
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Dr. Joaquin Arambula, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1
State Capitol, Room 5155
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Immediate Investment is Needed to Protect Services for Californians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Dear Chairpersons,

Through the Lanterman Act, California provides services and supports to over 330,000 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The State has made a legal and moral commitment to fund the services and supports necessary to allow full, integrated lives for these individuals.

Unfortunately, inadequate rates for services to this population threaten to undermine the core promise of the Lanterman Act. Immediate action is required to stabilize the developmental disability system and ensure that the state is meeting its obligation to provide services to eligible individuals.

As you are aware, the developmental disability system is in the midst of a rate study, which is expected to identify opportunities to achieve greater standardization and address significant shortfalls in the rates. The rate study is due to the Legislature in March 2019, and we are concerned that this timing will not allow for the full consideration and implementation of the recommended reforms to the rates and the rate structure in the discussions for the FY 2019-20 budget.

As the FY 2019-20 Budget is being negotiated, we propose a “down payment” on the rate study’s recommendations to address the crisis in community services, sufficiently stabilize the system, and provide a solid foundation on which to implement broader reforms.
To stabilize the system, approximately $290 million General Fund is required, which represents an 8 percent across-the-board increase in provider reimbursement rates. This appropriation would also yield nearly $200 million in federal matching funds, providing an initial investment in the restoration of the system and illustrate our continued commitment that all Californians with I/DD will receive the services and supports necessary to live full, integrated lives.

Rate freezes and the overall inadequacy of the rate structure are causing program closures, waiting lists for services, staff turnover and shortages, and lack of choice and access for Californians with developmental disabilities. The current rates result in consumers going without necessary services as there is an inadequate pool of providers to deliver the needed services. The Budget bears evidence of this reality, as the system is unable to fully spend appropriated Purchase of Service dollars on needed services, because providers cannot offer services at the rates the regional centers are authorized to pay. This harms individuals with developmental disabilities and violates the promise of the Lanterman Act.

Over the past two decades, rates for services have only been increased twice, and lag far behind the increased cost of doing business. The Consumer Price Index for California has increased more than 8 percent since the Legislature and the Governor approved a wage and benefit pass through for direct service workers in 2016 (ABX2-1) in an effort to stabilize the system. Wage growth has increased even more dramatically at over 12 percent and is the number one cost driver for developmental services. The passage of SB 3 all but erased the expected long-term benefits of ABX2-1 as rates were not adjusted to allow providers to address compression for experienced employees. Under the current rates, service providers are unable to offer competitive wages to direct service staff, resulting in reduced hiring qualifications and risking the quality of services provided to individuals with I/DD. Without the requested relief, there is no doubt that we will continue to ask direct service professionals to perform complex, important work for no more than the minimum wage.

This budget request for an 8 percent across-the-board rate increase would provide more comprehensive relief as a down payment to stabilize the system as we embark on what we expect will be a multiyear effort to fully effectuate the rate study’s recommendations. The State must recognize its role in providing adequate rates to ensure services are maintained for the more than 330,000 individuals in the system as we consider more significant reforms.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

JIM FRAZIER,
State Assembly, District 11

[Signature]

CHRIS R. HOLDEN,
State Assembly, District 41
February 15, 2019

The Honorable Joquin Arambula, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1
State Capitol, Room 5155
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Richard Pan, Chair
Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 3
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Phil Ting, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Holly Mitchell, Chair
Senate Committee on Budget
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Budget Chairs,

We write to express our full support for the Budget request put forward by the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA), the Lanterman Coalition, and other stakeholder groups representing intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) as encompassed by the request made by Assembly Members Frazier and Holden (attached for reference.)

As highlighted in the letter, while the forthcoming rate study due out in March may detail a specific strategy to counteract the chronic underfunding of these programs and where best to spend money, widespread systemic change will take time—likely longer than this Budget cycle—to implement the rate study recommendations.

The population in the I/DD community is increasing at the same time as the number of providers is sharply decreasing, and continues to fall due to a rapid escalation of costs and a multi-year shortfall in reimbursements. Hundreds of licensed facilities have closed and there is a shortage of service coordinators and all types of key staff. When individuals can make the same amount (or more) doing much less intensive work, it is difficult to continue to employ quality individuals to care for this special population.

While $290 million for this 8% across-the-board increase in provider reimbursement rates is a substantial commitment in terms of budget funds, we continue to argue that all the savings from the closures of the Developmental Centers (DCs), and any additional revenue generated from the sale or reuse of those facilities or lands should be put back towards this population. DCs cost upwards of $350 million per year to operate, and the LAO scores as much as $100 million per
year of savings from their closure—and more could be available through the sale or reuse of the properties. Even if none of that money were available immediately, the Legislature could commit general revenues temporarily and borrow against potential future savings.

Consumers, families, and providers have waited too long already—rate study or no rate study, it is time for action. We stand with our colleagues Assembly Members Frazier and Holden. 8% is only a down payment against the desperate need in this community, but it will stem the tide of closures and hopefully allow quality providers to continue providing services until the rate study is ready to be implemented.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. Should you have any questions, please contact Justin Boman in my office, or Cyndi Ilillery, Budget Director Assembly Republican Caucus Office of Policy and Budget.

Sincerely,

DEVON J. MATHIS
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, 26TH DISTRICT

MARIE WALDRON
Assembly Republican Leader, District 75

BRIAN DAHLE
Assembly District 1

JAMES GALLAGHER
Assembly District 3

FRANK BIGELOW
Assembly District 5

KEVIN KILEY
Assembly District 6

HEATH FLORA
Assembly District 12

JIM PATTERSON
Assembly District 23

JAY OBERNOLTE
Assembly District 33

VINCE FONG
Assembly District 34

JORDAN CUNNINGHAM
Assembly District 35
TOM LACKEY
Assembly District 36

CHAD MAKES
Assembly District 42

PHILLIP CHEN
Assembly District 55

MELISSA MELENDEZ
Assembly District 67

STEVEN CHOI
Assembly District 68

RANDY WOEPPEL
Assembly District 71

TYLER DIEP
Assembly District 72

WILLIAM BROUGH
Assembly District 73

cc: Nicole Vazquez, Assembly Budget Committee
Cyndi Hillery, Assembly Republican Caucus
Assembly Member Jim Frazier
Assembly Member Chris Holden
Vendor Advisory Committee
North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Vendor Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
February 7, 2019  

*Draft*

**Present:**  
Orli Almog, Deborah Cutter, Mariela Feldman, Cynthia Fernandez, Sharoll Jackson, Staci Jordan, Dana Kalek, Kristin Laurino, Don Lucas, Jenni Moran, Sonia Ojeda, and Nick Vukotic - Committee Members  


**Absent:**  
Suad Bisogno and Bob Erio

**I. Call to Order & Introductions**

Sharoll Jackson, VAC chair, called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. and introductions were made.

**II. Public Input**

Terence Carson, from Strategic Technology Solutions, announced that his company provides viable solutions to get service providers into HIPAA compliance and ongoing support to keep them up to date with any changes. His company is holding trainings on a monthly basis; the next one will be held Thursday, February 21st. They also provide train-the-trainer and online trainings. For more information on how to get your company in compliance with HIPAA regulations, Terence can be reached at tcarson@hipaasap.com and his website is getstarted.hipaasap.com.

**III. Consent Items**
A. Approval of Agenda

Item VIII.A. was added to the agenda. Also, Venus Rodriguez will be giving the report under Item VII. for Evelyn McOmie.

M/S/C (J. Moran/M. Feldman) To approve the agenda as amended.

B. Approval of Minutes from the January 3rd VAC Meeting

M/S/C (J. Moran/M. Feldman) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Executive Director’s Report (Ruth Janka for George Stevens)

A. Governor’s Proposed Budget: The governor released the state’s preliminary budget for fiscal year 2019-20. The total budget for developmental services is $7.8 billion. The community services portion of the budget is $7.4 billion; this is a 7.3% increase over the current fiscal year. The budget includes $8.1 million for the reorganization of the Department of Developmental Services’ (DDS’s) headquarters in part for the purpose of increased oversight of both regional centers and providers as well as to enhance program compliance. DDS plans to add 54 new positions to include 7 monitoring teams. These teams will provide local technical support and assistance to regional centers and their boards, as well as monitor compliance with statute, regulation, and contract. The budget also includes funding for:

1. Community crisis homes for children
2. State minimum wage increases
3. Implementation of the uniform holiday schedule
4. 1:25 caseload ratio for consumers with complex needs
5. Enhanced monitoring of specialized homes
6. Compliance with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ (CMS’) final rule
7. Upgrade for DDS information/technology system

For current year, DDS projects a reversion of approximately $74.4 million due, in large part, to overestimating minimum wage increases. The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) is asking that these dollars be re-appropriated in FY 2019-20 to be used for purpose intended which is to increase wages.

B. Purchase of Service (POS) Disparity Proposals: Four of the center’s service providers had their proposals to reduce POS disparity in services approved by DDS:
### C. Self-Determination Program (SDP) Update

Preparations for the program’s implementation are underway. We have received all of the directives needed from DDS except the one for the home and community-based services (HCBS) settings. DDS is holding train-the-trainer meetings for regional center staff throughout the state. Our staff will be attending the trainings on February 25th and March 8th. The center is also in the process of hiring specialists and a resource developer for the SDP, as well as making preparations to vendor financial management service providers. We are still accepting names of consumers interested in participating in the program but in order to be eligible, they need to attend one of the center’s SDP informational meetings which are held on a monthly basis. Also, the NLACRC/State Council Local Advisory Committee continues to meet on a monthly basis at 1 of the center’s 3 offices; their next meeting will be held Thursday, February 21st, at 7:00 p.m. here at our Chatsworth office. These meeting are open to the public and the agendas and minutes for them are posted on the center’s website.

### D. Legislative Advocacy

(reported by Steve Miller, one of the center’s legislative educators): Copies of a legislative update were provided. Highlights included:

1. Legislators know who we are and what are issues are. Two days ago, Assembly Members Jim Frazier and Chris Holden sent a letter to the
senate and assembly budget chairs to support an immediate investment to protect services for Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities, with an 8% across-the-board increase in provider reimbursement rates with federal matching funds.

2. Grassroots meetings with our local legislators are being held and have been successful in large part due to the participation of the provider community. We are making them well aware of our need for rate reform as we move toward the release of the Burns & Associations rate study being released in March.

3. Budget hearings are scheduled for March 6th and May 2nd.

4. We are planning a town hall meeting in collaboration with Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian to be held sometime in April. We need to get as many people to this town hall as possible: families, consumers, staff, friends, colleagues, etc. Our goal is to have 1,000 people there!

5. Service provider representatives will be participating in the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) annual grassroots visits with legislators at the State Capitol along with NLACRC staff, board members, and consumers. The service providers participating are Sharoll Jackson, Orli Almog, and Rebecca Lienhard.

6. The center's 31st annual Festival Educacional – an annual training for our Spanish-speaking families. This was an amazing event with about 180 participants. The legislative educators put together a survey and offered raffle prizes to those who returned a completed survey; 88 surveys were completed. The information from the surveys will be used to understand how to better serve and help our families who speak only Spanish.

7. Organized 2 legislative academies, one in English on February 23rd and another in Spanish on March 9th.

8. Senator Toni Atkins will be the honored guest at San Diego Regional Center’s 50th anniversary celebration.

E. Behavioral Health Treatment: Dr. Arpi Arabian reported that we are about ¾ of the way done transitioning consumers with behavioral health needs to a managed care plan. Please contact Dr. Arabian with any questions at AArabian@nlacrc.org.
F. **Other Updates:**

1. **Burns & Associates’ Rate Study:** Expected on March 1st.

2. **Bridge Funding:** Pending federal approval for matching federal funding.

3. **HCBS Proposals:** Fifteen proposals have been submitted to DDS and are pending approval.

V. **Deputy Director’s Report (Ruth Janka)**

A. **New Manager of Transition, Community Placement Plan, and Risk Management:** Megan Mitchell, was recently promoted to this new position. Megan has worked at the center for many years as our forensic judicial specialist. She is well known in her field and has an amazing reputation at court with the attorneys and judges. We feel very fortunate to have her on our staff and as part of our management team.

B. **Community Coffees:** Ruth has been holding community coffees to provide interested community members with an opportunity to meet with her, ask her any questions, or inform her of any issues. These coffee events have been held at various locations in all 3 valleys each month. Unfortunately, attendance has been dropping off. Ruth offered service providers the opportunity to host a community coffee with their consumers and families in attendance; she could show up and have a dialogue with them. We also want to talk with them about our system and how they can take a role in helping to preserve it.

**Action:** Any service providers interested in hosting a community coffee event should contact Ruth’s assistant Sandra Rizo at srizo@nlacrc.org.

C. **Floater Positions:** The center is filling new “floater” positions; the staff in these positions will cover uncovered caseloads.

D. **Transformation to Competitive Employment Act:** On January 31st, Representative Bobby Scott, Senator Bob Casey, and Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers introduced the Transformation to Competitive Employment Act. This Act would provide states, service providers, subminimum wage certificate holders, and other agencies with the resources to help workers with disabilities transition into competitive, integrated employment. The Act is legislation designed to “strengthen and enhance the disability employment service delivery systems throughout states” while subminimum wages, which are currently allowed under Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, are phased out over a 6-year period. Currently, under Section 14(c), employers that obtain a certificate are permitted to hire individuals with disabilities at less than
information will be collecting through an online web portal that can be used on any device with internet access or via telephone (landline or mobile). In the future, a mobile phone application will also be considered. One of the providers present asked Kim if there will be funding for purchasing the mobile devices or reimbursing staff for the use of mobile device to provide this information electronically?

**Action:** Kim will contact DDS to get an answer to this question and report back at next month’s VAC meeting.

C. **Mileage Reimbursement Rate Increase:** The IRS increased their mileage reimbursement rate from 54.5 cents/mile to 58 cents/mile effective January 1, 2019. Our accounting department is in the process of updating our claim forms to reflect the new rate.

D. **NLACRC Financial Report:** The center’s operations budget for FY 2018-19 is just under $51.8 million and the purchase of service (POS) budget is just over $429 million, which brings our total budget to nearly $481 million (nearly half a billion dollars!) at this point. We are projecting a POS deficit of about $33.4 million – the highest POS deficit in the state.

E. **FY 2016-17:** DDS closed FY 2016-17 yesterday so no more late bills from that fiscal Year may be processed for payment.

VII. **Community Services Report** (Venus Rodriguez for Evelyn McOmie)

A. **Requests for Proposals (RFPs):** The center is going to be developing a 4-bed deflection home and 2 4-bed homes for consumers with severe behavioral and mental health needs. RFPs for our community resource development plans and community placement plans will be going out shortly and will be posted on our website and sent out via an email blast.

B. **New Employment Specialist:** Venus introduced Lauren Morton who has been hired as the center’s new employment specialist. She can be reached at LMorton@nlacrc.org.

C. **Gas Company Workshop:** The center is bringing a Southern CA Gas Company workshop that will offer information on eligibility, how to apply, and qualifications for the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program. Supported and independent living providers are encouraged to attend. The workshop will be held from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Friday, February 8th, at the center’s Chatsworth office. For more information, please contact Sonja Chapman at SChapman@nlacrc.org.
D. **CMS Final Rule:** The center will be providing training and technical assistance to help our providers come into compliance with the CMS final rule. Information about the trainings will be posted on our website and sent out via an email blast.

E. **Continued Education Classes:** Our continued education classes calendar will be coming out shortly.

F. **Quarterly Vendor Newsletter:** The center’s quarterly vendor newsletters go out in February, May, August, and November.

G. **Residential Service Orientation (RSO):** The next RSO will be held Monday, February 25th; the registration deadline is Wednesday, February 20th. For more information or to register, please go to our website.

**VIII. Committee Business**

A. **Paid Internship Program/Competitive Integrated Employment:** Copies of the FY 2018-19 2nd quarter report were provided and reflected the following information:

1. **Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)**
   a. 51 consumers approved for the program
   b. 10 service providers approved for the program
   c. 21 incentive payments made in FY 2017-18
   d. 10 incentive payments made in FY 2018-19

   CIE incentive funds are paid to service providers after 30 days, 6 months, and 12 months of continuous employment of a consumer.

2. **Paid Internship Program (PIP)**
   a. 25 consumers approved for the program
   b. 10 service providers approved for the program
   c. 2 incentive payments made in FY 2017-18
   d. 1 incentive payment made in FY 2018-19

   PIP incentive payments reimburse service providers or employers up to $10,400 per year of wages and benefits for each consumer placed in an internship.

   In order for a consumer to pursue either of these programs, they must have CIE or PIP identified on their individualized program plan as a goal.
IX. Agenda Items for the Next Board Meeting

The following items were identified for the VAC's section of the February 13th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of the January 3rd VAC Meeting
B. Minutes of the February 7th VAC Meeting

X. Announcements/Public Input

A. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7th (full meeting)

XI. Committee Work (The committee breaks into their workgroups)

A. Early Start Services (Dana Kalek)
B. School Age Services (Mariela Feldman)
C. Adult Services (Jenni Moran)
D. Implementation of Legislative Changes (Sharoll Jackson)

XII. Adjournment

Sharoll adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m. and the VAC workgroups convened.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant
Attendance Sheets, Acronyms Listing, & Meeting Evaluation
## Board Meeting Attendance

**FY 2018-19**

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**X = No board meeting held**  **P = Present**  **Ab = Absent**

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[attend.board1819]
## Committee Meeting Attendance

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* X = No meeting held  
* P = Present  
* Ab = Absent  
* T = Transportation issue  
* = Not a regularly scheduled meeting

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North Los Angeles County Regional Center

**ALPHABET SOUP**

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CSLA - Community Supported Living Arrangement
CVRC - Central Valley Regional Center

DAC - Day Activity Center
DCFS - Department of Children and Family Services (County)
DD - Developmental Disabilities
DD Council - State Council on Developmental Disabilities
DDS - Department of Developmental Services (State)
DHCS - Department of Health Care Services
DHS - Department of Health Services (State)
DOE - Department of Education (State and Federal)
DOF - Department of Finance
DOH - Department of Health
DOR/DR - Department of Rehabilitation
DPSS - Department of Public Social Services (County)
DRC - Disability Rights California (formerly Protection & Advocacy, Inc.)
DSM - Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
DSP - Direct Support Professional
DSS - Department of Social Services (State)
DOR - Department of Rehabilitation (State)
DRC - Disability Rights California (formerly Protection & Advocacy)
DTT - Discrete Trial Training

EBSH - Enhanced Behavioral Support Home
ECF - Exceptional Children's Foundation
EDD - Employment Development Department (State)
EDMS - Electronic Document Management System
ELARC - Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center
EPSDT - Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment

FACT - Foundation for Advocacy, Conservatorship, and Trust of CA
FCPP - Family Cost Participation Program
FDC - Fairview Developmental Center
FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Assistance
FETA - Family Empowerment Team in Action
FHA - Family Home Agency
FMS - Financial Management Service
FNRC - Far Northern Regional Center
FSA - Flexible Spending Account
GGRC - Golden Gate Regional Center
HCBS - Home and Community Based Services (Waiver)
HCFA - Health Care Financing Administration (now called CMMS)
HIPAA - Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HOPE - Home Ownership for Personal Empowerment
HRC - Harbor Regional Center
HUD - Housing and Urban Development (Federal)
ICB Model - Individualized Choice Budget Model
ICC - Inter-agency Coordinating Council
ICF - Intermediate Care Facility
ICF/DD - Intermediate Care Facility/Developmentally Disabled
ICF/DD-H - Intermediate Care Facility/Developmentally Disabled-Habilitative
ICF/DD-N - Intermediate Care Facility/Developmentally Disabled-Nursing
ICF/SPA - Intermediate Care Facility/State Plan Amendment
IDEA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
IDEIA - Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act
IDP - Individual Development Plan
IDT - Inter-disciplinary Team
IEP - Individual Educational Plan
IFSP - Individual Family Service Plan
IHP - Individual Habilitation Plan
IHSS - In-Home Supportive Services
ILC - Independent Living Center
ILS - Independent Living Services
IMD - Institutes of Mental Disease
IPP - Individual Program Plan
IRC - Inland Regional Center
ISP - Individual Service Plan
KRC - Kern Regional Center
LACHD - Los Angeles County Health Department
LACDMH - Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
LACTC - Los Angeles County Transportation Commission
LADOT - Los Angeles Department of Transportation (City)
LAUSD - Los Angeles Unified School District
LCSW - Licensed Clinical Social Worker
LDC - Lanterman Developmental Center
LEA - Local Education Agency  
LICA - Local Interagency Coordination Area  
LRC - Lanterman Regional Center  
MCH - Maternal and Child Health  
MFCC - Marriage, Family and Child Counselor  
MHRC - Mental Health Rehabilitation Center  
MMIS - Medicaid Management Information System  
MSW - Masters in Social Work  
NADD - National Association for the Dually Diagnosed  
NASDDDS - National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services  
NBRC - North Bay Regional Center  
NLACRC - North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
OAH - Office of Administrative Hearings  
OCRA - Office of Client Rights Advocacy  
OPS - Operations funds (for Regional Centers)  
OSEP - Office of Special Education Programs  
OSERS - Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services  
OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
OT - Occupational Therapy  
PAI - Protection and Advocacy, Inc. (now called Disability Rights CA)  
PDD - Pervasive Developmental Disorder  
PDC - Porterville Developmental Center  
PDF - Program Development Fund  
PEP - Purchase of Service Expenditure Projection (formerly SOAR)  
PEPRA - Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act  
PERS - Public Employees’ Retirement System  
PET - Psychiatric Emergency Team  
PIP - Paid Internship Program  
PL 94-142 - Public Law 94-142 (Right to Education Bill)  
PMRT - Psychiatric Mobile Response Team  
POLST - Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment  
POS - Purchase of Services funds (for Regional Centers)  
PRMT - Post-Retirement Medical Trust  
PRRS - Prevention Resources and Referral Services  
PRUCOL - Permanently Residing in the U.S. Under Color of the Law
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT</td>
<td>Physical Therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QMRP</td>
<td>Qualified Mental Retardation Professional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RC</td>
<td>Regional Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCEB</td>
<td>Regional Center of the East Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCFE</td>
<td>Residential Care Facility for the Elderly</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCOC</td>
<td>Regional Center of Orange County</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCRC</td>
<td>Redwood Coast Regional Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>RDP</td>
<td>Resource Development Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFP</td>
<td>Request for Proposals</td>
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<tr>
<td>RRDP</td>
<td>Regional Resource Development Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSST</td>
<td>Residential Service Specialist Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARC</td>
<td>San Andreas Regional Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB</td>
<td>Senate Bill (State)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCDD</td>
<td>State Council on Developmental Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCIHLP</td>
<td>Southern CA Integrated Health and Living Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCLARC</td>
<td>South Central Los Angeles Regional Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDRC</td>
<td>San Diego Regional Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDC</td>
<td>Sonoma Developmental Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDS</td>
<td>Self-Directed Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEIU</td>
<td>Service Employees' International Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>SELPA</td>
<td>Special Education Local Plan Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>SG/PRC</td>
<td>San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLS</td>
<td>Supported Living Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMA</td>
<td>Schedule of Maximum Allowances (Medi-Cal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNF</td>
<td>Skilled Nursing Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOAR</td>
<td>Sufficiency of Allocation Report (see PEP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCCO</td>
<td>Society of Community Care Home Operators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPA</td>
<td>State Plan Amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRF</td>
<td>Specialized Residential Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSA</td>
<td>Social Security Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSDI</td>
<td>Social Security Disability Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI</td>
<td>Supplemental Security Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSP</td>
<td>State Supplementary Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>TASH</td>
<td>The Association for the Severely Handicapped</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCRRC</td>
<td>Tri-Counties Regional Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAP</td>
<td>University Affiliated Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCI</td>
<td>Unique Client Identifier</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCP</td>
<td>United Cerebral Palsy</td>
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<tr>
<td>UFS</td>
<td>Uniform Fiscal System</td>
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<tr>
<td>VAC</td>
<td>Vendor Advisory Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>VICA</td>
<td>Valley Industry &amp; Commerce Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>VMRC</td>
<td>Valley Mountain Regional Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>WAP</td>
<td>Work Activity Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>WIOA</td>
<td>Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act</td>
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### Meeting Evaluation

**Name:** __________________________________________

**Comments:** __________________________________________

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Did the meeting follow the agenda?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Did the meeting begin as scheduled?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Did the meeting end as scheduled?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Did you receive written or verbal information about the issues on the agenda?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Did the information received enable you to make informed decisions?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Did the issues concern:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a. Consumers?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. Board operations?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. Committee business?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>d. Center operations?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>e. None of the above? (please specify below)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Did you feel prepared to participate in the meeting?</td>
<td>Yes ___</td>
<td>No ___</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>What would you like more information about?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>