

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2020

Present: Marianne Davis, Sharoll Jackson, Caroline Mitchell, Jeremy Sunderland (by phone), and Curtis Wang - Committee Members
Maria Bosch, Sheila Calove, Jennifer Kaiser, Michele Marra, Cristina Preuss, Kim Rolfes, and Jesse Weller – Staff Members
Orli Almog – Vendor Advisory Committee Representative

Absent: All present

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Caroline Mitchell, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

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

B. Approval of Minutes from the November 13th Meeting

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

IV. Committee Business

A. 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 2nd quarter of this fiscal year, the center approved 276 requests, approved an alternate service for 1, and denied 1.

The exemptions report lists requests made for services that have been suspended or reduced as a result of the trailer bill language for respite. The report showed that during the 2nd quarter, the center approved 2 requests, approved an alternative service for 2, and denied 0.

Action: Jesse will modify the report to include a legend explaining what all of the acronyms mean.

B. 2nd Quarter Appeals/Hearings Report

Copies of the report were included in the meeting packet. During the 2nd quarter:

1. Eligibility: 573 Notices of Action (NOAs) were sent and 15 were returned (appealed); 6 additional hearings were requested from NOAs sent in previous quarters.
2. Service: 287 Notices of Action were sent and 5 were returned; 5 additional hearings were requested from NOAs sent in previous quarters.
3. Hearings: 3 fair hearings were held:
 - 2 eligibility hearings (1 denied and 1 dismissed)
 - 1 service hearing (dismissed)

C. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report

Copies of the report were provided to the committee for their review, which showed diagnostic information about the center's consumers each quarter since FY 2017-18. Of the 27,176 consumers that the center serves, the diagnosis breakdown is as follows:

1. Intellectual Disability: 8,914
2. Autism: 11,910 (**an increase of 20.93% since July 1, 2017**)
3. Cerebral Palsy: 563
4. Epilepsy: 251
5. Other developmental disability: 1,256
6. Status 0, 1, 2: 4,279

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.

D. Monthly Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) and Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report

We are still trying to place our final consumer living at Fairview Developmental Center as the community placements attempted did not work out. The plan is to move this consumer into Canyon Springs or Desert Star until we finalized the

development of our enhanced behavioral support home (EBSH) in about 2 years. We are also in the process of finding community placements for 5 consumers at Porterville Developmental Center and 2 consumers at Canyon Springs.

E. Self-Determination Program (SDP) Update (Sheila)

On November 22nd, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) conducted a second selection of applicants to replace those who had withdrawn from the program. Unfortunately, due to an error, we did not submit all of the names on the interest list to DDS; we are in the process of rectifying that situation. NLACRC received 46 new applicants (8 AV; 9 SCV; 29 SFV). Orientations for interested applicants continue to be held monthly at 1 of the center's 3 offices. New staff trainings are being held. We have also surveyed our staff to help identify any barriers they have faced during the process. We now have 2 SDP specialists, one in the San Fernando and the other in the Antelope Valley. The Self-Determination Advisory Committee continues to meet monthly at 1 of the center's 3 offices; generally on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. The next one will be held February 20th at the AV office. The SDP should be open to all consumers sometime in 2021.

Action: Sheila will share the staff survey results at next month's committee meeting.

F. Person-Centered Planning Information (Jesse)

Person-centered planning is the heart of the work we do. We will be updating our staff trainings on person-centered planning using subject matter experts to make our trainings more effective. Tri-Counties Regional Center gave us a SDP workbook that includes a section on person-centered planning that we plan to use.

Action: Jesse will share copies of Tri-Counties SDP workbook at next month's committee meeting.

Marianne suggested using visuals when preparing person-centered planning materials for consumers.

V. **Chief of Program Services Report** (Jesse Weller)

A. Assessment Tools

Trailer bill language required all regional center to post any and all tools they use for assessment purposed on their websites. NLACRC has posted all of its assessment tools and is in compliance.

B. Service Videos

Our Family Empowerment Team in Action (FETA) is a program that uses MSW students from CSUN to provide outreach to families who are not using regional center services. They are currently helping us film videos on a variety of subjects, including the importance of IPP meetings and how to prepare for them, and school age, transition, and adult services. The videos will be available in both English and Spanish. Jesse expressed his appreciation to the following board members for agreeing to be filmed for the videos: Adam Breall; Marianne Davis (and daughter WuDi); Elena Burnett (and son Ricky Jr.); and Lillian Martinez.

C. Cafecitos

Starting next month, Cafecito Entre Nos meetings with Spanish-speaking families will rotate and the monthly meetings will be held at San Fernando Valley and Antelope Valley. These meetings are very well attended with guests coming from other regional centers' catchment areas. The attendees have also expressed an interest in having trainings, so a new event was formed called Aprendiendo Entre Nos (learning amongst us). In addition, NLACRC will be launching Grupo de Hombres (men's group).

VI. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee's section of the February 12th board meeting agenda:

- A. Minutes of the January 22nd Meeting
- B. 2nd Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report
- C. 2nd Quarter Appeals/Hearings Report
- D. 2nd Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report

VII. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

- A. Marianne Davis brought Chinese cookies and information about Year of the Rat for everyone to celebrate the Chinese New Year!
- B. Caroline announced that she applied for some paying jobs at the place where she

volunteers and created her own cover letter and resume without help from anyone!

C. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 19th, at 6:00 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

Caroline adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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