

North Los Angeles County Regional Center
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes – Via Zoom

May 4, 2020

Present: Erica Beall, John Brauer, Marianne Davis, Sara Iwahashi, Ruth Janka, Ellen Jannol, Michele Marra, Angelina Martinez, Evelyn McOmie, Caroline Mitchell, Kim Rolfes, Jeremy Sunderland, Nick Vukotic, Jesse Weller, and Todd Withers - Committee Members
Jennifer Kaiser – Staff Member

Absent: Adam Breall

I. Call to Order & Introductions

Caroline Mitchell, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

M/S/C (A. Martinez/E. Beall) To approve the agenda as presented.

B. Approval of Minutes from the November 4th Meeting

C. Approval of Minutes from the February 3rd Meeting

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

IV. Committee Business

A. Performance Contract Update: NLACRC Annual Performance Report

Sara shared the report with the committee via Zoom and explained that each year, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) looks at how well the 21 regional centers in the state are doing with their performance objectives. Copies of NLACRC's performance contract year-end report for 2019 were provided and Sara reviewed the data with them. At NLACRC, we want to improve each year, do better than the state average, and meet or exceed DDS's standards. The report showed that the center did well with meeting goals and meeting DDS standards, but we did fall short in a few areas:

1. Regional Center Goals

- More children living with families: We were higher than the statewide average but decreased by .01% compared to our numbers from last year.
- Fewer adults living in large facilities (more than 6 people): We were higher than the statewide average and our number increased by 0.3% from last year. However, Sara reported that NLACRC has a few large facilities in our catchment area, which is impacting that number.

2. DDS Compliance Standards

- Audit vendors as required: We only partially met this standard, because we did not audit an Early Start provider.

Other performance areas included:

3. Consumer Employment

4. Reduction of Disparities and Improving Equity

Once DDS approves the report, we will post it on our website.

Action: Jennifer will forward copies of the report to the committee.

B. 3rd Quarter Report on CIE and PIP Activities

During the 3rd quarter:

1. Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE)

- a. 31 additional consumers were approved for the program bringing our total to 70
- b. No additional service providers approved for the program, but we currently have a total of 18 approved providers.
- c. 5 additional incentive payments were made for a total of 64.

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. 8 additional consumers approved for the program, bringing our total to 33.
- b. No additional service providers were approved for the program, but we currently have a total of 16.
- c. 28 additional incentive payments made, bringing our total to 152.

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. Evelyn reported that the \$10,400 amount is being discussed with DDS because the rate was established several years ago when the minimum wage was lower.

C. Update on Program Closures

Copies of the report were provided, which shows data from the current fiscal year and the last 2 previous fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Program Closures	Consumers Impacted
2019-20	11	52
2018-19	49	76
2017-18	34	176
Total:	94	304

Evelyn explained that there were 2 program closures since the last quarterly SPC meeting, 1 which impacted 29 consumers. However, IPP planning was held in advance with all 29 consumers and they were assigned to a different provider with no disruption in services.

D. 3rd Quarter Report on New Vendorizations

Copies of the report were provided. During the 3rd quarter, the center had a total of 13 new vendorizations.

Action: Evelyn will find out which valley(s) is being served by the 2 new occupational therapy providers and report back at the next SPC meeting.

Action: Evelyn will add a new cell to her report to show which valley(s) the new provider is serving.

E. Update on Health and Safety Waiver Exemption Submissions

For those service providers who are facing financial hardships due to inadequate rates, they can submit a health and safety waiver through the center to DDS requesting a higher rate. During the 3rd quarter, 85 health and safety waivers were submitted with the following results: 62 requests were approved, 20 were denied, and 3 were withdrawn.

V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

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

- A. Minutes of the May 4th Meeting
- B. 3rd Quarter Report on CIE and PIP Activities
- C. 3rd Quarter Report on New Vendorizations
- D. Update on Program Closures

VI. Announcements / Information / Public Input

- A. Caroline announced that she is applying for a leadership position at Safe Place for Youth (SPY) where she volunteers. Good luck Caroline!
- B. Next Meeting: Monday, August 3rd, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Caroline adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jennifer Kaiser

Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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