

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Programs and Services Committee

April 10, 2013

MINUTES

PRESENT

Ann Seisa, Chair
Mary Bakchachyan
Diane Cullinane
Julie Gaona
Rigo Gaona
Karla Garcia-Diaz
Marjorie Heller
Josephine Ko
Howard McBroom

STAFF

Melinda Sullivan

NOT PRESENT

Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso
Michiko Wilkins
Bernadette Lee

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Seisa at 10:07 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 13, 2013 were reviewed and a change needs to be made on page two, under POS Service Disparity. The last sentence should read as follows: *The Committee discussed the report at length, focusing on the number of children that were referred “late” and thus did not benefit from the Early Start program: this resulted in a further discussion on outreach efforts to undeserved communities.*

The minutes were approved by consensus pending the change mentioned above.

SLS SERVICE STANDARD

Ms. Sullivan reported that the SLS standard was approved by DDS. The Committee asked for clarification regarding some of the language in the DDS letter and Ms. Sullivan clarified.

CASELOAD RATIO SURVEY

Ms. Sullivan presented the caseload ratio survey Lanterman submitted to DDS, along with a comparison of all regional centers compiled by ARCA. She explained that all regional centers are required to maintain certain caseload ratios and report on it annually. The caseload ratios are determined using a standard formula.

The Committee noted that the majority of centers are not meeting the ratio criteria. They also asked regarding the average caseload ratio and staff morale. Ms. Sullivan explained the various ratios per service coordination team. She stated that the School Age Unit has had significant growth, as has the Early Start program. To date, the regional center has grown by 286 new clients. Caseload ratios are hampered by the budget. Ms Sullivan stated that despite these challenges, the Center does its best to redistribute caseloads, budget conservatively to avoid strategies such as furlough days.

LEGISLATIVE VISITS

Ms. Sullivan reminded the Committee that the Center has participated in Grassroots Day in the past. This year, the Board chose to do local visits. In the past week, teams of staff, board members, service providers and clients have visited some of our local legislators' offices. The focus of the visits was on Early Start and the need to restore the original eligibility criteria from pre-2009.

Mr. McBroom, Dr. Cullinane, and Ms. Heller attended these legislative visits last week. Dr. Cullinane met with staff from Assemblyman Chris Holden's office at her office in Pasadena Child Care Center Associates (PCDA). The person was very interested in children's issues and early intervention and was very supportive.

Mr. McBroom visited with staff from Assemblyman Mike Gatto's office and they were very receptive. They also promoted people writing letters to their assemblymen.

Ms. Heller visited with staff from Assemblyman John Perez and Senator Curren Price. The staff was very receptive, but they were not too informed about services to people with developmental disabilities.

OTHER

Ms. Ann Seisa announced that Vaghol's will be launching a website next month and once it does, she will share the link with the Committee. She also announced that Vaghol's is doing a happiness and wellness contest for employees and participation has been great.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 A.M.

/gs