

**INLAND REGIONAL CENTER
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

June 20, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Snelling, Bob McGuire, Ruth Goodsell, Donita Remington, Sharon Barton-Maggio, William Ames

GUEST PRESENT: Catherine Bennage, People's Care; Rich Yodites, BOT; Karen Jones, PVW; Vicki Smith, AB 12; Aurora Arzate, Benson House; Nakia Eyraud, VEW; Sharon Young, Young Interventions; Sarbjit Mann, Isher Care Home; Stephen Aulman, A.O.K.; Andrea Wells, Exceed; Melody Amaral, Wylie Center; Jim Steam, ARC – Riverside; Jeanine Harrell, Benson House; John Dexter, AB 12; Tina Eyraud, VEW; Sharon Guillarey, Genesis; Patricia Stock, ABLE; Mike Foster, SCMS; Ben Davidson, Premier Healthcare; Mark Hendren, CIN; Yvette Caldwell, SVS; Mark Antenucci, Independent Options; James Chavez, Kenneth Adult Residential; Therese and Maurice Kragness, IBP; Tammi Simpson, Cole Vocational Services; Sachin Mathur, Tonner/St. Mary's Home; Elisha Hall, Maxim Healthcare, Blanca Barraza, Inland Respite; Katy Santillan, Inland Respite, Colleen Hernandez, Sunny Days, Ruth Kantorowics, Samaritan Counseling

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Fitzgibbons, Gina Gregory, Sylvia Wackerman, Patricia Harrold, Regina Kuruppu, Leilani Nguyen, Ceil Dickens, Meredith Gage, Christina Peralta Gonzalez, Don Meza, Felipe Garcia, Tiki Thompson, Jon Kleiner, Jennifer Cumming, LeighAnn Pierce, Sandra Guzman

INTRODUCTIONS: Donita Remington called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and introductions were made.

MINUTES: Motion made to approve minutes of April 18, 2011 meeting M/S/C Goodsell/McGuire

REGIONAL CENTER UPDATE: Donita stated we have added Carol to the Agenda so that she can give an update at this meeting.

Carol gave an update regarding the regional center's audit and probation status. You can read the terms of the probation in the letter from DDS that is posted on our website. The regional center received a follow up letter from the department requesting additional information. One item that was brought to our attention that was not included in the probation letter had to do with median rates. We are only allowed to go up to the regional center rate or the state-wide median rate, whichever is lower. We will be meeting with some providers to re-negotiate their rate. DDS also informed us that the way we were handling the housing grants was not appropriate. We had to pull this back from CHF and have to figure out a way to do it in house. This information and the rest of the information are due to the Department by July 8. It is our plan to have it to them by

the 5th of July. We will post our response on our website once it is reviewed by our Board.

DDS completed their audit in the fall and we are just now getting written documents from them. Since it is still a draft the information is considered private and confidential. We will have the opportunity to respond. The department will have 30 days to review and decide if they will stand to their original findings. They will then release the audit. There is really nothing new, some items are the same items that were mentioned in our audit. Hopefully, by August there will be something posted.

All regional centers received their 11-12 contracts. Our allocation is pretty much the same. We are anticipating being down 1 million in Operation. Our POS budget will be the same as this year. This year will be the first for this regional center to be in the red. Later on today we have a call with the department regarding our B3 allocation. We have money to pay you through the end of the year and we have a line of credit to pay you through next fiscal year. We have had a lot going on this year, the audit, probation and now the regional center in the red. Changes in population, increase in autism services, plus the funding of specialized facilities have a lot to do with us being in the red but we do have money in our line of credit to pay our bills. Union Bank has 12 of 21 regional centers and the office in Texas had decided that the regional center's contracts were not a good credit risk. They spoke with the department and they awarded us a credit line of 36 million. Once we have the cash from the department we will pay it back but we will continue to keep the line of credit just in case we need it. Some regional centers are looking at other banking options but this regional center decided we will keep our good working relationship with Union Bank. Question: How long can the regional center operate with the budget not being signed? Answer: With the line of credit and having access to the Medi-Cal money we should be ok. We anticipate a POS budget of 228 million; the regional center paid \$63,000 in interest.

DAY PROGRAMS: Ruth Goodsell reported that the day program vendors met last week and the meeting was well attended, it was actually a packed house. It was so nice to see so much interest. Some of the topics discussed at the meeting were the Trailer Bill Language for day programs, billing, vendors being penalized for transportation issues. Transporters are dropping off late and picking up early or dropping off early and picking up late. We do not get paid for either and it is not the program's fault. We have not received any information or direction from the department. We would like to see this modified so that we could bill even though they were not there the full day due to transportation issues. As the regional center for this catchment area are you looking into these transportation issues? Is there going to be some exceptions? We need Inland to guide us and figure what we can do. Is Inland willing to approve shorter days? Program hours are from 9:00 – 3:00 and if consumers are dropped off at 8:00 and picked up at 4:30 we don't get paid for those extra hours. Some transportation providers are inconsistent with their drop off and pick up times.

Sharon Barton agreed with Ruth regarding the great day program meeting that was so well attended and thanked the liaison for facilitating it. The topic of e-billing was discussed, what is the application like and becoming part of e-billing. As a vendor Sharon mentioned that she was one of the last ones to enroll in e-billing and it turned out really great. Sylvia Wackerman had

made arrangements to have Marylou from POS attend the meeting and we had lots of questions for her. There was something circulated around stating that everyone had to be enrolled in e billing by July 1 but that was not the case. We were elated that the budget had been passed but later that morning we heard the Governor had vetoed it. We also had a well attended CDER Training. We received the new guidelines and abbreviations. We really appreciated that training.

SPECIALIST: Donita Remington reported that the 102 vendors meet on June 3; next meeting will be in July. The 102 vendors will be getting a new liaison for our group which is very helpful. Some of the vendors use the on site program audit as a tool to gain information, impact of budget slow process of referral, looking at doing additional services but the problem was not knowing the median rate. We discussed draft budget and meeting with Tiki prior to spending any time or money. It gave vendors the opportunity to share their ideas. Some nice resource ideas were also mentioned.

TRANSPORTATION: William Ames reported that they did not receive enough information to compose the cost to operate flow chart. He also stated that he has not received any complaints, or calls. He stated that his e-mail is open to receive complaints and/or comments.

RESIDENTIAL: Donita Remington reported that at our next meeting we will have more representatives present. We will keep the same flow of the meeting and will keep the reports brief with time for everyone to communicate. Residential providers met on May 23. It was a small meeting but the vendors that were there discussed being on the right List Serv. We encourage all providers to go on the website and go to "Contact Us" and ask to make sure they are on the right list. The budget was also a topic discussed and the residential providers would like to see Debbie Mannon, Manager of the Revenue Unit present at the next meeting. The next Residential meeting is scheduled for July 8.

HEALTH CARE: Kelly Snellings announced the placements of client will now be handled by Gina Gregory, Manager of the ICF Unit. Providers are concerned with how slow referrals are coming. They express the concerns of when they will receive the next referral. Spa supplemental is now receiving invoices but providers are concern if and when they get audited things are not going to be reconciled. These payments are being made but are not reconcile.

SOCIAL RECREATION: Bob McGuire reported they did not have a Social Rec Meeting. The Social Rec liaison is currently on leave. SLS vendors met on June 17. They discussed the procedure regarding hours being decreased. Three representatives met with the regional center to discuss how SLS hours are being reviewed, handled and how referrals for services are needing to be increased or cut. Recently there have been a lot of hours being cut and the consumer is not present. There seems to be more SLS vendors out there therefore vendors are experiencing less referrals. We discussed the need for an Independent Assessor to go out and review hours and service. The Independent Living Grants are still available. You can still request one through your CSC. The option is still available; we just are not using a third party. We will continue to work together. Our next SLS meeting is scheduled for August 9, at 10:00 a.m. Our new liaison is Kathy DeCoud. .

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Carol Fitzgibbon reported we are watching Trailer Bill and the budget.

TRAINING REPORT: Patti Harrold announced they are putting the final touches on the website and are building on to it as they go. Inland will be going live with Facebook and You Tube. Our Weekly Insight is in three formats: Consumers, Staff and Vendors. Copies are on the table but if you sign up on the List Serv you will receive information electronically. Patti asked that everyone help us reach out to those who have not signed up for the List Serv. The Advisory Committee meeting will be moved to Thursdays from 5:00 – 7:00. Patti thanked everyone for supporting Monte Carlo night. If anyone is interested in information about sponsoring an event contact our training unit.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vendor Agreement – Carol Fitzgibbons looked at the Annual Vendor Agreement and checked Title 17 regulations and it was determined it was not needed. A provision we set up last year still applies. You do not have to sign an Annual Vendor Agreement. Listing IRC as additional insured is not a requirement either.

Membership Committee – Ruth Goodsell wanted to thank everyone for the overwhelming response they received of individuals wanting to serve on the Vendor Advisory Committee. She also wanted to thank Andrea Wells, Sharon Guillary, Dr. Jose Fuentes and Linda Herbst for sitting on the interview panel. The following recommendations were presented for approval: 1) increase the membership from the current 6 members to 13 members. 2) The following representative to serve a two year term: Tina Eyraud, SLS; Barry Solomon, Residential; Dr. Richard Yodites, B-Mod; Sharon Young, Infant; Elisha Hall, Respite. 3) The following representative to serve a one year term: Dennis Mattson and Tammi Simpson, Members At Large. 4) The committee is recommending that the following VAC representative be appointed their second term of two years: Kelly Snellings, Health Care; William Ames, Transportation, Sharon Barton, Day Program. 5) The committee is recommending the slate of officers to remain as stated: Donita Remington, Chair; Ruth Goodsell, Co-Chair; Bob McGuire, Secretary. All of these appointments will all expire or renew in the month of June instead of having different months. Motion made to approve the above recommendations M/S/C Barton/Snelling.

The Membership Committee would also like to recommend procedure to be as followed: 1) During the February VAC meeting an announcement will be made seeking letters of interest for open positions. 2) A Membership Committee will be created at the February VAC meeting. 3) All Letters of Interest must be forwarded to Sandra Guzman prior to March 31st. 4) Sandra Guzman will then forward letters to Chair of Membership Committee by April 1st. 5) Chair of Membership Committee will be responsible for setting up interviews 6) Membership Committee will make recommendations for the new members and officers during the month of May. 7) Recommendations will be up for vote during June's VAC meeting and forward to Board of Trustees for approval at their July's meeting. 8) Orientation for all members of the VAC prior to August meeting. Motion made to approve the new nomination procedures M/S/C McGuire/Ames

Donita Remington will present the above motions to the Board of Trustee meeting at their July meeting.

Question: Does this give the committee a full Board? Answer: Yes, all categories are full but we are not at the maximum of 18 members. We will not be filling some Member at Large positions at this time. As the committee sits right now, we will have a quorum. A quorum will consist of 7 members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Don Meza announced we have introduced the new combined IPP/AR to staff. Staffs are starting to use this new format and we hope you will be pleased with this new document.

PUBLIC INPUT: 1) Therese Kragness, IBP wanted to share with everyone her experience she had during a fair hearing and also wanted to let everyone know that as a vendor they are allowed to attend fair hearings. 2) Vicki Smith noticed that during hearings the CSC's are not sitting with or supporting the families. Families are scared to death and need the CSC's support. Maybe some kind of training should be offered to the CSCs. She also mentioned that there should never be a time when a service gets reduce or terminated without the consumer being present. This must happen during an IDT meeting. Unfortunately, this is still happening. If this continues to happen Area Board 12 needs to know. Area Board is there for support to consumers as well as for the regional center. John Decker, who is present screen calls and directs them where they need to go. John is in the process of conducting a needs assessment and we would like two representatives from the vendor community to sit on this committee. This survey will be put on line. Donita asked everyone present if they wish to sit on this committee to contact her and she will forward the names to Vicki Smith.3) The Professional Advisory Committee will be meeting every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. after IRC's Monday Board meetings. This committee is for owners and administrator of all levels. 4) Area Board 12 gave three grants: First one is for a one day Self Advocacy Conference for the Inyo, Riverside and San Bernardino areas. Second one is a Transition Planning Workshop for the lower desert area. This workshop will help kids coming out of school and the third one is a workshop on Criminal Justice. 5) Jim Stream asked for clarification on what is the difference between an IRC median rate and State-wide median rate? Each regional center has a regional center median rate and a state-wide median rate. The Department's requirement is that the regional enter pays the lower of the two. 6) Donita asked if there was an interest in a Legislative Committee? Jim Stream expressed his interest in participating on this committee. 7) Can you clarify the requirements of Molestation/Abuse insurance? This requirement is at the discretion of the vendor. It is not a requirement but it is recommended. If you have a specific insurance question you can contact Shirley Martin, Manager of the Vendorization unit.

Next Meeting: August 15, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40

sg:IRC/7-18-11