

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Programs and Services Committee

March 13, 2013

MINUTES

PRESENT

Ann Seisa, Chair
Diane Cullinane
Marjorie Heller
Howard McBroom
Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso
Julie Gaona
Rigo Gaona
Michiko Wilkins
Josephine Ko

STAFF

Melinda Sullivan

GUEST

Karla Garcia-Diaz

NOT PRESENT

Mary Bakchachyan

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Seisa at 10:15 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 13, 2013 were reviewed and approved by consensus.

Recommendation: As part of the minute approval process, there was further discussion of the QA Protocol which was originally presented at the February committee meeting. After further discussion, Dr. Cullinane moved to recommend that the QA Protocol be presented at one of the monthly Service Provider in-services. Ms. Heller seconded the motion and it was approved by consensus. Ms. Sullivan will share this information with Community Services.

SERVICE APPEAL TRENDS FOR 2012

Ms. Sullivan reviewed the Service Appeal Trends for 2012. She highlighted that there were fewer appeals in 2012 than in 2011 and that the two major categories were regional center

eligibility and ABA services, especially in light of the new law requiring health plans to provide this service rather than regional centers.

Ms. Sullivan also explained that after a hearing, the center debriefs on each case to discuss the outcomes, in order to evaluate the Center's actions.

POS SERVICE DISPARITY

Ms. Sullivan reviewed the "Disparities in EI and School Services to Clients with Autism" report. She explained that the data was divided by ethnicity and language and reflected the services received while in the Early Start program as well as at the initial IEP. The Committee discussed the report at length, citing that an untended focus was 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 underserved communities.

***Recommendation:** The Committee recommends that the center consider different outreach avenues to encourage other community resources to refer to the regional center. Some ideas included school psychologists, child care providers, and teen mom programs. Public service announcements and even advertisements such as the Penny Saver and Angie's List might be options. The need is for families to be informed about regional centers so that eligible children access services at the earliest age as possible.*

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled on April 10, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 A.M.

/gs