

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Programs and Services

March 14, 2012

MINUTES

PRESENT

Ann Seisa, Chair
Howard McBroom
Diane Cullinane
Anila Guruji
Marjorie Heller
Josephine Ko
Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso

STAFF

Melinda Sullivan
Hasmig Mandossian

NOT PRESENT

Michiko Wilkins

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Seisa at 10:00 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 8, 2012 were reviewed and approved by consensus.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND ASSURANCE

Ms. Hasmig Mandossian, Assistant Director of Intake, reviewed the final Quality Improvement and Assurance (QIA) report summarizing the efforts of the regional center in 2011. She reported that this effort has taken the better part of two years and included a review of 13 agencies; these agencies were selected based on the number of FDLRC clients that they served. She proceeded to review the findings.

Discussion followed.

Recommendation: The Committee emphasized the need for open and objective communication between the regional center and the ABA providers. In the spirit of partnership and support, technical assistance needs to be offered as early as possible, to avoid more complicated or serious issues.

EARLY START AUDIT RESULTS

Ms. Sullivan reviewed the Early Start audit results with the committee. She reported that the regional center is focusing on the two areas where it scored the lowest. Discussion followed.

Recommendations: The Committee supported the development of a detailed check list as part of the referral screening process. It was also recommended that additional training be provided to the staff performing the initial screenings.

DISPARITIES IN SERVICE UTILIZATION

Ms. Sullivan reviewed the *Notes on Disparities in Service Utilization between Hispanic and Caucasian Families*. The recent Los Angeles Times articles there have created a great deal of discussion at the legislative level, with a hearing scheduled for late April. Ms. Sullivan reported that the Center has had focus groups with service coordinators, as well as Peer Support Partners, who serve the Hispanic families; it also intends to conduct a focused audit of client records. While the Committee supports the research efforts of the Center, several members expressed that these articles are not formal studies and should be used only as a tool when determining if the Center needs to take any action.

Recommendation: During discussion, the Committee identified cultural issues that may have an impact on families, especially newer immigrants. One suggestion is to review existing parent trainings through the KYRC to determine if this issue is currently addressed or if a curriculum would need to be modified.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 A.M.

/gs