

Harbor Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee
May 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Members Present: David Gauthier-Chairperson; Deaka Mc Clain-CAC Co-Chairperson ; Rita Teodore; Danielle Schorr; Debbie Howard; Michelle Roach; Mead Duley; Tom Basch; Wesley Dale; Kelly Sutton

HRC Staff Present: Brent Fryhoff; Kris Zerhusen

Life Steps Staff Present: Jenelle Reyes-Tenorio

Call to Order & Minutes Approved

David called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

The minutes were unanimously approved by all committee members.

Guest Speaker: Christofer Arroyo

Chris Arroyo, who is a Self-Advocate from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, shared a power point presentation on Self-Determination to the CAC members. Chris explained what self-determination is all about and how it works in the presentation. He explained that Self-Determination allows adults with disabilities or families of children with disabilities, with the support of family, friends, and professionals whom they trust, to take charge of their own futures by gaining control over the services, supports and resources that they need. You decide what services you'd like and who should provide them. Additionally, Self-Determination is voluntary.

Chris also explained that the law says that individualized budgets must be determined fairly and that everyone must be treated the same way. The law also says that Self-Determination will be phased in over three years. The amount of money spent on services for the previous 12 months will be the amount of money you get for your individualized budget. The budget will be good for one year and it can be adjusted for reasons such as a change in circumstances or unmet needs. A new Individual Program Planning (IPP) will be needed to reflect the change of document any budget adjustment.

The power point presentation also talked about what the Facilitator is and what their role would be in helping you find the services and support you need. Your person-centered plan would be

HRC Client Advisory Committee Meeting
May 13, 2017 Minutes
Page 2

written with the help of a Facilitator. The Facilitator helps you find and hire the right people to support you and to decide how much they should be paid. The Facilitator also makes sure everyone you hire is qualified and that you don't spend more money than you have in your budget. Hiring a facilitator is optional and you pay for the facilitator out of your budget. You can get a facilitator for free if you have a family member or friend willing to take on the task, but they have to be trained and qualified.

The presentation also went into what a Financial Management Service is and why you will need this. It went over when people will be able to get Self-Determination, and what people can do now. Chris explained that the Self-Determination program is still not available until California gets a Federal Waiver. Getting a federal waiver will allow the state to get back some of the money spent on Self-Determination services. The state has already applied and been rejected. Another version of the waiver will be submitted within the next few months. After the waiver is approved regulations will likely have to be written. Self-Determination is probably at least 6 months away from implementation.

Chris told the CAC members that they should let their service coordinator know if they want Self-Determination and have it put in their IPP if interested in this program. He also encouraged CAC members to call DDS and tell them to act quickly.

HRC Self Determination Committee Update

Deaka shared with the CAC group that the HRC Self-Determination meetings are open to the public and all CAC members are encouraged to attend these meetings. The next meeting will be held Wednesday June 14th at Harbor Regional Center. Deaka and David will be attending this meeting.

DDS CAC Update

Deaka shared that she will be attending the next DDS CAC meeting in Sacramento in June. She will report back to CAC members all updates at the meeting in August. Also, DDS would like Deaka to present the "Feeling Safe, Being Safe" presentation at the next HRC CAC Meeting. DDS sent all materials and handouts to Harbor Regional Center for Deaka to use at the August meeting.

Community Outreach

The HRC Client Advisory Committee will be participating in the Special Olympic Games this year cheering on athletes at the Basketball event hosted at Cal State Long Beach. The CAC group will meet on Sunday June 11th at the Cal State Long Beach Pyramid. The CAC members

HRC Client Advisory Committee Meeting
May 13, 2017 Minutes
Page 3

will be meeting up with 24hr Home Care Organization as Fans in the Stands. The CAC group would also like to visit a Partial Work Program before August of this year to present to clients what the Client Advisory Committee is all about and to potentially get more members to join the CAC.

Regional Center Update

Brent shared with the CAC members that HRC is currently down to 4 clients at Fairview Developmental Center. HRC hopes to have 0 clients at Fairview by Halloween of this year and will be a cause for much celebration. HRC currently has 38 clients in Skilled Nursing Homes. There continues to be a huge push to get clients out of large facilities and into more community integrated settings.

Brent discussed the CMS ruling that will be implemented now in March of 2022. The date has been expected for 2019, but was pushed back. Brent reminded CAC members how this will change the way service providers run their programs. Day Programs and Group Homes will be required to have more opportunities of true community integration, client choice, and employment options. HRC is meeting with providers to assist them in making the necessary changes in order for them to be in compliance by 2022.

Brent also shared with the CAC members that Harbor Regional Center recently went through the HCBS Medicaid Waiver Audit in April of this year. The audit went very well and the DDS auditors were extremely impressed with the services Harbor Regional Center provides to its clients. The auditors commended HRC for its quality day program services and good working relationship HRC has with all of their providers.

Brent shared with the CAC Members that there is a big initiative across the state of California to increase employment of persons with developmental disabilities. This is an exciting time because the state has finally provided extra funding for this purpose to get more of our clients employed. We have two new employment programs through DDS that are up and running for Regional Centers. Brent explained the Competitive & Integrated Employment Incentives to the CAC group and how this should help with job retention of people with developmental disabilities across the state. It also is an incentive to the Supported Employment agencies to place more clients in competitive jobs.

Brent then talked about the second employment program, which is paid internships. Regional Centers can now fund for paid internships. The amount for these internships is \$10,400 for up to 12 months and covers workers comp, min wage, job coaching, and other expenses. These jobs must be developed with potential employers with intent of the client being employed by the company they are interning at. We want clients to intern at jobs they would like to obtain with

HRC Client Advisory Committee Meeting
May 13, 2017 Minutes
Page 4

the hope of them being hired. It's a foot in the door to companies that otherwise may have not given our clients a chance. Brent shared that Harbor Regional Center recently had a client who did a 3 month internship at Sketcher's Cooperate office in Manhattan Beach and was then hired him on full time in their business office. This model is perfect for clients who may have difficulty interviewing; however may have the skill level to be employed. The internship gives these clients an opportunity to prove themselves. Brent let CAC members know that Harbor Regional Center was the first Regional Center of all 21 Regional Centers across the state to have an internship turn into a real job. Harbor Regional Center has embraced this new employment program and hopes to have a significant increase of clients who are employed at competitive jobs in the community within their service area.

Kris shared that an Annual Cost Statement is now being sent each year during the client's birth month to every client at Harbor Regional Center. This statement includes all services that were paid by Harbor Regional Center and totals the amount within a year.

Brent and Kris gave a brief description of what the ABLE Act is and encouraged CAC members to attend the next Meeting on the Able Act held June 8th in Torrance.

Adjournment

David adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Next CAC Meeting

The next Client Advisory Meeting will be held on Saturday August 12th, 2017 at HRC Torrance office.

Client Services Committee

Date: April 25, 2017

Time: 6-8 Pm

Attendees: Antoinette Perez, LaWanna Blair, Fu-tien Chiou, David Gauthier, Ronda Kopito, Melanie Brossus, and Deaka McClain

The group met to begin series review on Transition.

Barbara Del Monico provided a tour and presentation on “overview of Family Resource Center and material related specific to Transition.”

The group was given materials used by HRC to prepare/educate families on transition. They have the assignment of reviewing the material at their own leisure and should be prepared to provide feedback at our next meeting in May.

Also the provided was given some updates regarding their feedback from our BHT series-

- HRC is developing parent and staff training that will begin in the fall led by Cori-Reifman (HRC benefits specials), Teresa Warner (BST), and case management representative regarding how to access BHT through insurances and interim funding by HRC.
- HRC revisiting current material to make even more user friendly.
- HRC looking to developing policy on co-pay.

Next meeting will be on May 23rd and will include presentations on the following:

1. Transition through the schools and how HRC collaborates
2. Project Search
3. College2Career

Client Service Committee

May 23, 2017

Present: LaWanna Blair, Antoinette Perez, Mercedes Lowery, Rhonda Kopito, Melanie Brossus, Deaka McClain, David Gauthier, Fu-Tien Chiou, Marianne Propst, Mihaela David, Shauna Hageman, Shelia Jordan-Jones, Nicole Douglas

Project Search – Mercedes Lowery

- For students 18-22 in their last year of school; this is a one year internship; progress is tracked
- The client has to be a part of LAUSD; partner with Best Buddies
- Yolanda Lopez in the children's' department provide the case management
- The SC play an important role in helping the client through the process
- The expectation is that they will be given the same opportunity to apply
- This is not a paid internship but they will be able to leave with job experience on their resume
- Participants questioned the number of intern slots provided
- Would the license allow you to expand to other places, participates want this in other areas
- A parent questioned if the group will be able to see other types of programs that are available, those programs that will train their kids to do other things,
- Want the district to measure the success of what happens after the information is given out for the clients, are they successful with what program was recommended
- The parents want the client to be a part of the choices provided, say where they want to go, what they want to do
- Parents said RC was not apart of the clients transition but they feel they need the SC to guide them and tell them what they should be doing as they prepare for their transition
- Parents expressed concern that when it was time to visit the different programs there was never an option given about day programs and supported employment, they didn't know the client could go to two different program
- Parents want RC to become more involved at the transition age, start this at 14yrs; feels there is a disconnect

LAUSD Transition Planning - Shelia Jordan-Jones, and Nicole Douglas

- Focus on mild to moderate students
- Have a transition teacher at every transition meetings
- Plan who should be at the table
- Working towards independence, at 18 law says they get to make their own decisions
- Parents feel the district should tell you when the client is 17 that at 18 they will be able to make their own decisions, parents will need to obtain a conservatorship if necessary
- When you are in school IDEA is the laws but then ADA comes into play
- What do we do: levels of support for post-secondary goals, documentation that we will support post-secondary goals, target tier approach for students with disability attending high school, can request for appointment with a transition counselor, should be given an SOP at every transition meeting so parents/clients know what he/she needs to be successful in the next setting/placement
- transition services: mobility training bus management, etc., will have a parent guide coming out in the fall

- transition teacher go out in the community and connect with other agencies to increase support for the student/parents, they take tours or have the community partners come speak to the student/family
- Can start a transition plan at 12

Programs LAUSD offer students on an alternate curriculum (18-22yrs)

- Serve students with moderate to severe students
- Don't transition the student until they have completed the 4th year of high school
- Focus on this age group because in LAUSD a lot of students were leaving school unprepared
- Focus on employment, social skills and independent living skills
- Offer vocational training and they can participate in project search
- If they are not connected to regional center they make sure they are connected
- All programs located on LAUSD campus
- Center for Advance Transition Skill (CATS), age 19, work experience program, offered at 6 locations
- Project Search: Dignity Health, Good Samaritan hospital
- Have a 4 plus 1 program where they offer support to student after their ???

College to Careers

- Educational Coaching 20 hours
- Students attend classes that are not modified
- they use Moodle to check assignments
- have up to 4 yrs. to complete the program with a certificate or an AA degree
- have to be 18 years because you will be moving out
- program is funded through RC and SSI benefits
- \$500 per month with utilities included, \$350 if you share a bedroom
- Will give them educational advisement once they have received their AA or certificate, RC is funding the program to assist people with getting better jobs, work with SVS – they attend the annual meetings and in the last year they work with the student on job development.
- Department of rehab assist with financial assistance, they can fund the college tuition, they are usually brought in when the department of supportive employment starts
- Work on providing internships in the summer to boost up the resume
- Parents want to know how to find out about the C2C program
- Cypress College has a lot of different options, "School of Continuing Education"
- Will not take students with problematic behaviors, they have to follow the student code of conduct and cannot disrupt the class, the program will not put a student in an environment where they will not thrive
- The students don't have any 1:1 aides; want the student to be able to self-monitor, they would need to be able to exit on their own in cases of an emergency
- Have a program called Pathways specifically for LBUSD students that offers a way into long beach city college to cal state long beach

**Harbor Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
June 6, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Terri Nishimura, Chair, Pediatric Therapy Network; Rhiannon Acree, Paul Quirez, Cambrian Homecare; Alex Saldana, Oxford Home Care; Kristy Glass, Able Arts Work; Diane Sanka, Easter Seal Southern California; Rob Haupt, Autism Spectrum Therapies; Ben Espitia, Goodwill, SOLAC; Jose Guzman, Ambitions; Louise Scott, ICAN; Clare Gray, South Bay Vocational Center; Jessica Beltran, Roundtrip Transportation; Nancy Langdon, Canyon Verde College; Steve Goclowski, California Mentor; Adriane Moto; ECF; Kristine Engels, Life Steps Foundation; Angie Rodriguez, Social Vocational Services; Harry Van Loon, ARC-Long Beach; Brian Lockhart, Aacres

HRC Staff Present: Pat Del Monico; HRC Executive Director; Judy Wada, CFO, Ashley Ayala, HRC Fiscal Monitor; Colleen Mock, Erika Braxton-White HRC Community Services Director.

Our Diverse Community Presentation by Erica Braxton-White

Ms. Erika Braxton-White reviewed the HRC diversity data. She also presented on the HRC Parents as Partners, a parent mentor and care coordination program. This is a new program that will be implemented by Harbor Regional Center and 211 LA County to improve access and utilization of regional center services and generic community resources for underserved groups in the HRCC service area.

CMS-HCBS:

Ms. Mock noted that although CMS may allow states to delay the CMS Final Rule date from March 17, 2019 to March 17, 2022, the State of California has not announced they will be requesting this time extension.

Self-Determination Update

Ms. Mock noted DDS has been preparing the training materials that have not yet been made available for distribution.

ABX2-1 Service Provider Rate Increase Survey

Ms. Colleen Mock announced that this survey must be completed by October 1 for every service provider who received the ABX2-1 rate increase. The draft survey was distributed to members of the committee when released by DDS. The finalized survey will be made available by DDS June 1, 2017. Ms. Wada noted that service providers will complete the survey through a portal.

HRC Service Provider Advisory Committee
6/6/17 Meeting Minutes
Page 2

Budget Update

Ms. Del Monico noted that the May Revise is a stay in place budget. Ms. Wada announced that HRC is anticipating a deficit of \$5 to \$6 million by the end of the fiscal year. She noted there are eight regional centers that are experiencing a deficit.

Harbor Regional Center Update

Ms. Patricia Del Monico discussed the three service policy reviews that will begin this August. Employment, Adult Day Services and Employment will be reviewed. Board Members, service providers, families and clients are invited to participate. It is anticipated that these reviews will be a six month process. The schedules will be posted on the HRC website.

Ms. Del Monico announced that Colleen Mock, will be stepping down as the Director of Community Services and after her replacement has started, she will be the Manager of Psychological and Behavioral Services.

Service Provider Training

Ms. Mock announced that HRC will be offering two additional sessions of cultural diversity training for service providers on October 17, 2017.

Ms. Terri Nishimura suggested that a representative from 211 make a presentation to the service provider advisory committee.

The HRC Service Provider Advisory Meeting Schedule for 2017

August 1, 2017
October 3, 2017
December 5, 2017

HABOR REGOINAL CENTER
Self Determination Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2017

Opening

The regular meeting of HRC Self Determination Advisory Committee was called to order at 6:15 PM on Wednesday June 14, 2017 in conference room A-4 at Harbor Regional Center in the City of Torrance. Chairperson Ray Ceragioli was absent; Miriam Kang was present and presided over the meeting. Not able to established Quorum due to absent committee members.

Committee Member Present

David Gauthier, Client
Marsha Johnson, Disability Rights California
Rosalinda Garcia, Parent
Miriam Kang, Parent
Mariano Sanz, Parent

Committee Member Absent

Ray Ceragioli, Parent
Linda Chan-Rapp, Parent
Deaka McClain, Client
Carola Mranon, Parent

HRC Staff Present

Mary Hernandez - Director of Adult Services
Liz Cohen-Zeboulon - Client Services Manager
Diana Sandoval – Service Coordinator

SCDD Staff Present

Christopher Arroyo

Visitors

Andrew Wang – HRC client
Maria Poulete – Parent

Welcome: Introductions of committee members and guests; quorum was not established.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the regular meeting held on March 14, 2017 were not approved due to quorum not being established at the June 14th meeting.
No meetings were held during the months of April and May.

Harbor Regional Center Monthly Update

- At the January 11th meeting it was agreed that HRC representative Mary Hernandez would give a monthly update to the committee members and guest as to what is going on at HRC.
- Mary Hernandez continues to do SD training for new Service Coordinators at HRC. This training consists of a general overview of the Self Determination Program. Trainings are open to all HRC staff.
- Mary continues to do community outreach and held several SD trainings during March and April for Support Groups.
- HRC has established specialized caseloads for the Self Determination program. Total of four Service Coordinators, 2 Spanish speaking and 2 English speaking.
- Mary Hernandez and SC's have been attending several trainings on Person Center plans.

Updates:

- On June 1, 2017 Mary Hernandez attended the ARCA Director of Client Services meeting, Jim Knight; Assistant Deputy Director to DDS provided an update on the status of the Self Determination program. Mary shared the current information with the committee.
- New CMS rules have caused confusion with the application process, the new CMS rules have created barriers to get waiver submitted. DDS has worked through many questions, according to Jim Knight they are down to 10 questions. They have received verbal approval. on some of the 10 questions.
- There continues to be discussion regarding the service category definitions. Are they too broad ?
- DDS and CMA are still trying to determine how respite and day care differ
- There continue to be discussions regarding how will SIR's (Special Incident Reports) be handled?
- CMS wants to know how it will be determined if the chosen SD services are in CMS compliance? Will this be done through an individual assessment? Or do client, FMS and RC need to do this together?
- A lot still needs to happen before the SD application is approved.
- DDS is targeting late July or early August to train Regional Centers only.
- Training will be offered for interested families and clients.
- DDS will also be doing train the trainers, anyone can attend.
- Anyone that has been certified can do the orientation – Autism Society of LA, and SCDD have stated they plan on blanketing the area and doing trainings. The trainings will be standardized
- Orientation trainings still need to be translated
- DDS has stated they will be setting up website for families and clients to verify if their name was submitted.
- Correction to HRC's S.D. numbers, still at 98 however 45 will be for adults (21 years and older) instead of the original 18 as thought.
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Trainings

- HRC and Lanterman hosted training on the Self Determination program for Japanese speaking clients and families, this was a combined training.

Announcements and Public comments

- Miriam Kang suggested taking the summer off, the committee will go going dark for the months of July and August, meetings will reconvene in September. Many committee members will be out of town
- A parent attending the meeting, asked why the meetings were not in Spanish? Parent was provided a translator for the meeting. We informed mom that we have many clients and families that speak a many different languages and if needed we can provide a translator.

New Business

- **Next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 13, 2017 at the Torrance site in room A4 from 6-8pm**

Adjournment

Chairperson Miriam Kang adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM. Minutes submitted by Liz Cohen-Zeboulon.