

Department of Developmental Services (DDS)  
Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)

Meeting Minutes  
February 10-11, 2009

Members Attended

Amy Jesse  
Eugenia Jones  
Sam Durbin  
Robert Taylor  
Cindy White  
Tracey Mensch  
Michelle Gordon  
Krisi Franzone  
Lisa Krueger  
Tommy Michaels  
Pattie Simpkins  
Sue Ann Hankensiefken  
Joseph Flanagan

John Orland  
Betty Pomeroy  
John Graber  
Jesse Padilla  
Clyde Pomeroy  
Chris Pratt  
Jolene Bradford  
Edward White  
Carol Risley  
Tammy Evrard  
Mark Starford  
Beth Rubenstein  
Eric Torres  
Robert Brashaw  
Bethany Howard

Member Absent

Danielle Knight

Dorsey Griffith  
Sharon Fallis  
Marilyn Smith

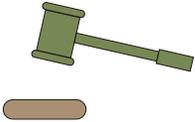
Others Attended

Nyron Battles  
Ellen Lewis  
Carol Lopes  
Lori Sloan  
Darcy Jean Foddrill

Sandy Hansen  
Christina Jessee  
Tommy Mestmaker  
Leslie Levine  
Kathleen Ozeroff  
Sarah Steenhausen

**February 10, 2009**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**



Cindy White, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.



- A. Everyone introduced herself or himself.
- B. General announcements were made.

2. **REVIEW OF THE DAY'S AGENDA**



Mark Starford and the CAC went over the agenda for the day. Mark introduced Leslie Levine to the CAC as one of the people who helped with the look of the CAC products. Mark and Leslie went over how the different parts came about that you see on every product that the CAC has done over the years like: the logo, the words “My Life My Way”, colors, vision statement, font and graphics.



3. **TRIBUTE TO DONALD ROBERTS**

The CAC took some time to remember Donald Roberts, a former CAC member, who passed away in January 2009. They viewed a DVD that celebrated his life as an advocate.



#### 4. **CAC LEADERSHIP UPDATES**

**Mentoring** -Sam Durbin introduced John Orland, his mentor. Sam shared with the CAC members how he went about finding a mentor and how his mentor is helping him with writing his second book.

**Having A Job**- Cindy White talked about how she met her goal; getting a well paying job with benefits.

**Leading My IPP Meeting**- Robert Taylor shared how he used the Leading My IPP Meeting DVD to help him with having the best IPP ever have.

**Mission Statement**- The two new members Eugenia Jones and Tracey Mensch shared their mission statements. Eugenia's mission statement is: "I want to stay healthy, live independently. Be a strong self advocate and have my own catering business." Tracey's mission statement is: "Help pave the road for people with developmental limitations and educate people in general on how important it is to include everyone in decision making."

**Accepting Advice**- Tommy Michaels talked to the CAC about how getting advice from someone he really trusts helped him in achieving his goal.

#### 5. **EVERYBODY CAN WORK**



The CAC watched a DVD titled Everybody Can Work that Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center created. It was about how people in the Los Angeles area are using their community resources to find work or start their own business.



## 6. **TAKE ACTION, MAKING IT HAPPEN**

The Leadership Project is in its last three months and it is important to the group to keep everyone involved and moving forward on their goals. The CAC took time to talk about what would be their next steps as individuals to continue their work and what supports they would need in the last three months of the project.



## 7. **CAC MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The following members gave reports on what they have been doing on behalf of the Committee, their People First and/or local self-advocacy groups: Lori Sloan, Betty Pomeroy, Nyron Battles, John Graber, and Debra Beeter.

## 8. **LEADERSHIP REFLECTIONS**

The CAC took time to think over the full leadership project and where members were at the start of the project three years ago in their lives, and how the project has changed them today. The CAC talked about how important it is to continue the work of sharing this project with others even if the project is coming to an end as a group.



## 9. **COMMUNITY ASSIGNMENTS**

The following assignments were made for the leadership project participants:

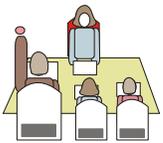
Personal Goals:

- a. Meet with your Board Resource Center (BRC) and CAC facilitator so they can support you in March and April 2009 on your leadership goal.
- b. Think about ways you can meet new people in the community to help you with your leadership goals.
- c. Meet with your mentor.

Advocacy:

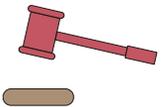
- a. Make a report to your regional center consumer advisory committee and/or advocacy groups about CAC's work.
- b. Show your local regional center your CAC leadership notebook.
- c. Tell everyone the final DVD will be ready in May 2009.

10. **CAC MEMBERS' CHECK-IN SESSION**



Members met with Carol Risley, Kathleen Ozeroff, and Nicole Patterson. The CAC talked about activities they could possibly do together.

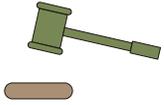
11. **FACILITATORS' CHECK-IN SESSION**



Mark Starford met with the facilitators.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 5:05 p.m.

February 11, 2009



1. CALL TO ORDER

Cindy White, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

- A. General announcements were made.
- B. The agenda was reviewed and no changes were made. **It was moved (Pattie Simpkins), seconded (Michelle Gordon), and carried to approve the agenda with no change.**
- C. The minutes of the November 2008, CAC meeting were reviewed. **It was moved (Sue Ann Hankensiefken), seconded (Pattie Simpkins), and carried to approve the minutes as presented.**



2. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee Report was presented by Nyron Battles. **It was moved (Amy Jessee), seconded (Pattie Simpkins), and carried to accept the report as given.**



3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Officers:

- The election was held for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
- The CAC elected Sam Durbin as Chairperson and Cindy White Vice-Chairperson.



#### 4. HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW

Carol Risley talked about the process, to make a bill a law. Here are the steps:

- a) The bill is introduced- goes to the house the author of the bill is working in.(Assembly or Senate)
- b) Committee Hearing- this is where the public can come and speak about the bill to the committee. The committee will vote for it or against it.
- c) Floor Action-where they vote as a group. If it passes, it will go to the house where the author does not work in.
- d) Committee Hearing- this is where the public can come and speak about the bill and committee vote for it or against it.
- e) Floor Action-where they vote as a group. If it passes without changes, then it goes to the Governor to be signed.



#### 5. “WE INCLUDE” EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE FOR PEOPLE INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

Sarah Steenhausen and Dorsey Griffith talked to the CAC about the “We Include” project that the First Lady of California Maria Shriver is working on. The “We Include” project is to help bring more awareness to the employers about the benefits of hiring people with developmental disabilities. The Department of Developmental Services is one of the state Departments that have several projects that are working toward this mission to not only educate employers, but to help find meaningful jobs for people with disabilities.



## 6. CAC MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following members gave reports on what they have been doing on behalf of the committee, their People First and/or local self-advocacy groups: Amy Jesse, Tommy Michaels, Michelle Gordon, Sue Ann Hankensiefken, Lisa Krueger, Robert Taylor, and Joseph Flanagan



## 7. 2008-09 UPDATES AND 2009-10 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET

Carol Risley talked about items in the Governor's Updated Budget for this year and for 2009-10:

There is \$4.65 billion for DDS in 2008-09, and \$4.57 billion for 2009-10. This is \$75 million less than the revised 2008-09 budget.

### **2008-09 Update**

#### ▶ **3% Less Money for Some Service Providers**

Providers of services and supports, except supported employment and some others will get paid less. If a consumer's health and safety is hurt by this change, DDS can waive it.

#### ▶ **3% Less Money to Run Regional Centers**

Regional centers' will get \$6.6 million less to run the centers. To help them make this cut, DDS would let the centers:

- not make as many reports;
- have more consumers, who have moved from developmental centers, served by a service coordinator; and
- not use as many contractors.

► **SSI/SSP for Regional Center Services**

DDS will give more money for the Independent Living Supplement to cover the cut in SSP for adults in independent and supported living arrangements so consumers can stay in independent and supported living.

**2009-10**

The Governor's Budget proposes 2009-10 funding for services and supports to persons with developmental disabilities in the community at \$3.87 billion, \$45 million less than the revised 2008-09 budget. The 3% less money for service providers and to run the regional centers would keep going along with:

► **More Cuts in Regional Center Services**

**\$100 million less money for services and supports for consumers.** DDS is asking consumers, families, providers and advocates for ideas about how to save money.

DDS will give a report to the Governor and Legislature about how to save the extra money.

8. **COORDINATOR OF CONSUMER SERVICES REPORT**



Nicole gave a report on what she has been doing for the past few months:

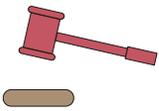
She has been working on getting all the people that attended a Being Safe, Feeling Safe certification training certified so they can do training in their area. She attended weekly meeting with other state agencies that deal people with some type disability. This

committee was put together to look at the Cal job website [www.caljobs.ca.gov](http://www.caljobs.ca.gov) to try to make it more accessible to all people.



## 9. **CAC MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The following members gave reports on what they have been doing on behalf of the committee, their People First and/or local self-advocacy groups: Sam Durbin, Cindy White Pattie Simpkins, and Krisi Franzone.



## 8. **END OF MEETING**

Sam Durbin, Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.