

**ALA
PLANNING & NETWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Meeting of April 5, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Irma Canfield, Chair
Mary Hanlon-Hillis, Vice Chair
Pam Stephens, Community Member
Martha Moyer, Family Member
Sandra Iracheta-Cruz, Community Member
Nana Knowles, Family Member
Debbie Valdez, Family Member
Becky Tarwater, Community Member
Jackqueline Cooper, Community Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cara Magrane, Community Member
John Evans, Parliamentarian
Commissioner Paul Elizondo
Senator Leticia Van de Putte

STAFF PRESENT

Susan Lodge, Deputy Director
Anthony Jalomo, ALA Director
Sonja Baggett, Quality Improvement Services Manager
Teresa S. Kolenda, Administrative Assistant

GUEST PRESENT

Tim Trevino, Public Relations, Director

1. Ms. Canfield called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m.
2. Roll Call by Ms. Kolenda.
3. No citizens to be heard.
4. Consider and approve minutes of January 11, 2011. Ms. Stephens motioned to accept the minutes; seconded by Ms. Knowles. All in favor, motion carried.
5. Mr. Jalomo discussed his recent visit in Austin during the Legislative Session:
 - February 7, 2011 AACOG Management attended.
 - Provided contact information for assistance during the session.
 - Sponsored by Senator Leticia Van de Putte
 - March 2 AACOG Board of Directors established a legislative committee to provide the top 3 priority items to be addressed during the session
 - ◊ State Planning Assistance Grant
 - ◊ Natural Resources and Recovery Program Funding
 - ◊ ALA Program Funding
 - ALA Program Funding accepted as one of the top priority items.
 - Members will send in any compelling story of individuals that may be impacted by the budget cuts and present to AACOG Board Members.
 - Medicaid Waiver Program caseloads will be funded at August 2011 levels.
 - Funding for Intake, Access & Eligibility increases from \$184.1 million in FY11 to \$194.8 million in GR FY12 & FY13.
 - Funding for the IDD Community Safety Net Services is cut by 50% from 102.6 million in GR FY11 to \$51.1 million in each year of the new biennium.

- Funding for the IDD In-Home and Family Support Program is cut from \$5.7 million GR FY 11 to 2.86 million GR in each year of the new biennium.
- No new allocations to expand HCS waiver services under HB1/SB1. Currently Bexar County has a total of 3272 (ALA and other MHMRs within AACOG region combined total 6060. Person waiting the longest in Bexar County has been on interest list for 8.5 years (since Aug 2002).
- An across the board Medicaid provider rate reduction of at least 10% and other cuts within the program that amount to 30%

Ms. Lodge introduced Mr. Tim Trevino, Public Relations Director. Mr. Trevino announced the 2011 AACOG Regional Awards and currently accepting nominations in the following categories:

- ◇ Regional Citizen
- ◇ Corporate Citizen
- ◇ Community Project
- ◇ Government Regional Project

Any person, corporation, community project, or governmental regional project that has contributed to the significant positive advancement of the region and/or communities in the twelve counties of the Alamo Area is eligible for nomination. Nomination form(s) must be received by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2011. The AACOG Board of Directors will be reviewing the nominations and making a selection.

The applications were made available to members as well as being listed on the website, www.aacog.com/award . The nomination forms can be mailed, faxed, emailed electronically or hand carried.

6. Mr. Jalomo requests members input in assisting the ALA in preparation of the anticipated budget cuts. The information collected will be utilized in making decisions on the services currently offered and other areas that may be impacted. Mr. Jalomo suggests a sub-committee be formed to meet and discuss ideas.

- ◇ Target date: one month
- ◇ Bills are moving forward and finalized
- ◇ July 2011 receipt of our new DADS Contract
- ◇ Private provider contract FY12-13 will need a draft by May1
- ◇ Email will be sent to all PNAC members for consideration to be on the sub-committee
- ◇ Time to be determined to meet (2 hrs)
- ◇ April 26 – 28, 2011 DADS QA Review

7. Ms. Baggett discussed the need to have a program slogan and would like for members to submit their ideas. Since our last meeting on 1/11/11 it was an agenda item and to date none have been received. Ms. Baggett requests members to submit their ideas by Friday, April 8 and will comply suggestions, send to members with a vote button to finalize.

8. Mr. Jalomo discussed the idea of having volunteers in assisting families that otherwise might not have any family support in making decisions. Ms. Baggett also reviewed the possibilities of having volunteers to advocate for families.
 - ◇ Local Plan FY12-13.
 - ◇ Send to members the section that applies to ALA for review.
 - ◇ Discuss at sub-committee meetings

9. Ms Canfield opens the floor for announcements:
 - Ms. Canfield announces the Autism & Beyond workshop on Behavior Management on April 30, 2011 @2:00 pm – 4:00 p.m.
 - Ms. Knowles announces the 7th Annual Walk for Autism on April 16, 2011. at 8:00 am – 11:00 am at the AT&T Center. All proceeds raised stays here in San Antonio. A blue light was lit in the ALA lobby in observance of Autism Awareness Day on April 1, 2011.
 - Ms. Hanlon-Hillis acknowledged Mr. James Almaguer on a wonderful presentation on January 19 at the ADAVAC meeting at Region 20. The families were well informed and very interested in the presentation. One parent is interested in joining the PNAC and an application was given to her. Kenneth White also from ALA assisted one of the parents with her son in getting more attendant care hours and move from CLASS to HCS program. Discussion followed on the decision making families have to go through and being well informed in making good choices.
 - Ms. Valdez discussed concerns about the consumer's rights and directing them to right person to assist. Mr. Jalomo assured members ALA does have a staff member, Brian Lopez, Client Rights Office, is tasked to assist families with any concerns in services received.
 - Ms. Stephens discussed the two (2) Town Hall meetings held in February at the ARC with over 100 people attending both. Mr. Jalomo was one of the presenters discussing the budget cuts. Ms. Kathy Griffith focused on the HCS program and Melissa Rasco discussed the possible cuts in the ICF. Ms. Stephens also reviewed the Rally held on March 1 at Morgan's Wonderland and 1000 people participating with guest, Ms. Eva Longoria, and she also went to the capitol.
 - Ms. Tarwater announced the Asperger Discussion and Social Group that meets monthly every 3rd Tuesday @6:30-8:00 pm at the ARC. All individuals are welcomed, age range 4 thru 30 years old. Social events are held every month.

10. Ms. Canfield announced the next meeting on 12 July 2011 at 1 pm. Agenda items will be discussed between Ms. Canfield and Ms. Baggett.

11. Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Stephens; seconded by Ms. Cooper; all in favor, motion carried.