

OFFICE OF CLIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCACY
Protection & Advocacy, Inc.

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 15, 2006

To: Jeanne Molineaux

From: Emma Hambright, Lisa Navarro, Eva Casas-Sarmiento

Re: **Annual Outreach Report July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006**

OVERVIEW

At the start of the fiscal year, OCRA staff committed to working on a two-year outreach plan with an emphasis on building stronger community relationships with traditionally underserved communities of color across the state. As in past years, each OCRA employee (administrative staff, attorneys, advocates, supervisors) was expected to complete a minimum of 3 outreach activities to his or her identified group, and each office was required to complete one self-advocacy training during the fiscal year. However, staff were encouraged to repeatedly go to a particular community to better identify its needs and to develop a relationship of trust whereby community members would recognize OCRA's commitment to providing consistent and quality advocacy services to members of that group.

Over the course of the plan year, OCRA met its commitment to the development of on-going relationships with traditionally underserved communities of color, providing trainings to communities on a variety of subjects including the following: special education overviews and IEP development, regional center IPP development and the fair hearing process, Medi-Cal, Social Security, supported employment, and IHSS. OCRA staff also conducted numerous client-centered outreaches, training clients on financial abuse, voting rights, and overviews of clients' rights.

In addition to substantive trainings, OCRA staff conducted "Intake Clinics," staffed information booths at important conferences, and joined the planning committees of important conferences throughout the state such as Respectability, Fiesta Educativa, Asian Pacific Islander Conference; Fiesta Familiar, and an Investigating and Prosecuting Sexual Abuse conference.

OCRA staff also conducted numerous outreaches within their communities to groups that would not be considered “traditionally underserved,” but who still require education and assistance.

As the chart below indicates, OCRA employees continue to uphold OCRA’s commitment to developing relationships of trust with traditionally underserved communities of color.

Ethnic	% Reg Center Clients (current)	% OCRA Clients 05/06	% OCRA Clients 04/05	% OCRA Clients 03/04	% OCRA Clients 02/03	% OCRA Clients 01/02	% OCRA Clients 00/01	% OCRA Clients 99/00
Afric-Amer.	10.60	10.0	10	10	10	9	9	8
Latino	31.26	29	29	28	27	24	24	24
Ameri-Indian or Alaskan Indian	.4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Asian	5.67	4	4	5	4	3	5	4
Pacific Islander	2.36	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
White	42.9	45	44	47	49	47	48	56
Multicult. (self-ident)	Not listed	3	5	3	4	4	4	3
Unknown/ Other	6.81	6	5	5	4	11	8	8

OCRA and PAI multi-cultural affairs advocates continue to work together to address community needs across the state, meeting to discuss ways to improve PAI/OCRA collaboration, and ways to improve the On-line outreach calendar. OCRA has renewed its commitment to working with PAI staff to reach out to consumers in both urban and rural hard-to-reach areas.

END OF PREVIOUS TARGET OUTREACH PERIOD

OCRA completed the first year of its two-year outreach plan as of June 30, 2005. OCRA outreach staff worked with each office to identify underserved communities of color for community relationship building. As the population of California continues to grow, so does the diversity of the population. To address this changing dynamic, OCRA maintains a list of the language abilities of staff. In addition, OCRA continues its practice of hiring staff to meet the language needs of the communities it serves.

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS OF OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, FOURTH QUARTER:

1. Westside Regional Center-6/9/06; Sellery Morley Special Education Center family support group.
2. Westside Regional Center-3/2/06; State Counsel on Developmental Disabilities focus group.
3. Kern Regional Center-5/19/06; New Advances for People with Disabilities self-advocacy training.
4. Kern Regional Center (monthly, on-going); Planning board meetings for Fiesta Educativa.
5. South Central Regional Center-10/8/06/ and 4/17/06; LAUSD Special Education Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee resource fair and IPP training.
6. South Central Regional Center-3/8/06; Los Angeles Kinship Council training on IDEA changes.
7. Inland Regional Center-1/21/06; Fiesta Familiar SSI and Supported Employment training.
8. Inland Regional Center-2/17/06; Unidos Por Nuestros Ninos, IPP training and intake clinic.
9. Tri-Counties Regional Center-6/20/06; UCP Santa Barbara, Presentation on OCRA services.
10. Tri-Counties Regional Center-2/24/06 and 4/28/06; Rainbow Family Resource Center, Consumer rights and 16 tips for getting regional center services trainings.
11. San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center-9/16/05, 11/18/05, 12/16/05, 2/03/06, 2/17/06, 3/17/06, 4/07/06, 4/12/06, 4/21/06, 5/5/06, 6/16/06, IEP and IFSP training workshops.
12. San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center-9/24/05; Fiesta Educativa training on regional center appeals and mediation.
13. North Los Angeles Regional Center-6/23/06, Cultivar y Crecer, overview of OCRA services

14. North Los Angeles Regional Center-6/3/06, 19th Annual Festival Educational presentation on alternatives to conservatorship.
15. San Diego Regional Center-10/29/05, Introduction to SSI for regional center families.
16. San Diego Regional Center-4/1/06, Fiesta Educativa training on IDEA.
17. Harbor Regional Center-8/22/05, Family Resource Center training on Transition for Age 3.
18. Harbor Regional Center-1/25/06, Self Advocacy Training at Fairview Developmental Center.
19. Lanterman Regional Center-3/1/06, Mi Familia Su Familia, training on respite and regional center services.
20. Lanterman Regional Center-10/12/05, Fair Hearing process training for Spanish-speaking parents.
21. Regional Center of Orange County-11/18/06, Asian Pacific Islander Conference.
22. Regional Center of Orange County-5/31/06 and 6/28/06, Vietnamese Health Day and steering committee meetings.
23. Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center-10/20/05, 11/04/05, 12/16/05, 1/13/06, 2/17/06, 5/12/06, and 5/26/06, Alternatives to Conservatorship trainings for families.
24. Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center-10/13/05, Voting and Self ADVOCACY training for ELARC consumers.
25. Alta California Regional Center-6/6/06, New Laws: Special Education Training for ACRC Children's Unit.
26. Alta California Regional Center-4/19/06, IPP Training to Galt Family Support Group.
27. Central Valley Regional Center-5/19/06, Immigration Training to Spanish Speaking Parent Group in Firbaugh.
28. Far Northern Regional Center-5/25/06, Introduction to OCRA Training to RISE-Resources for Indian Student Education at Honor Gathering.
29. North Bay Regional Center-4/8/06, IDEA Changes Training to Spanish speaking parents group, Padres Unidos.
30. North Bay Regional Center-5/26/06, Your IPP Guidelines (Spanish) to Parentes CANN.
31. Regional Center of East Bay-5/13/06, Getting Good Regional Center Services to Oakland Friends of Children with Special Needs.
32. Regional Center of East Bay-5/3/06, Your Regional Center and Special Education Rights: An Overview and Q & A to Dublin Parent Support Group.
33. Redwood Coast Regional Center-4/21/06, IHSS training to Hispanic Family Group in Clearlake.
34. Redwood Coast Regional Center-5/4/06, Self Advocacy Training (to introduction to OCRA) to HCAR in Eureka.

35. San Andreas Regional Center-3/3/06, SSI & Medi-Cal training to Spanish speaking parent group, Grupo Renacer.
36. San Andreas Regional Center-5/27/06, What is OCRA training to Spanish speaking parents group, Grupo Puedo.
37. Valley Mountain Regional Center-1/30/06, Bingo Self-Advocacy training to ARC Calaveras.
38. Valley Mountain Regional Center-5/12/06, Special Education training to Hispanic Family Support Group in Hough Community Center.