STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION AND PURPOSE FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE OFFICE OF CLIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCACY

PURPOSE -

Provide input on the quality of clients' rights advocacy provided by OCRA staff.

Serve as liaisons between OCRA and the developmentally disabled community.

Provide an independent sounding board.

Provide information about individual and systems issues.

MEMBERSHIP -

There will be seven Advisory Committee members, selected by the PAI Board of Directors. The members of the Advisory Committee will reflect the geographic, ethnic and disabled diversity of California. The PAI Board of Directors shall appoint a liaison to the Advisory Committee who will interchange information between PAI and the Advisory Committee.

TERMS OF OFFICE -

An Advisory Committee member serves a two-year term. The initial year, members will be appointed to two and three year terms so that thereafter the terms will be staggered. This will allow continuity in the committee's work. To enable new membership, a member can be elected to a maximum of two consecutive terms and after serving two terms will not be eligible for reappointment.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES -

Each committee member is expected to:

- * Attend three of the four meetings per year.
- * Actively participate in the functioning of the Committee. ie chair one meeting per year, or other activities of the committee, as requested.
- * Be available for individual or group consultation to the Director or individual CRA of OCRA.
- * Advise OCRA as to issues concerning regional center consumers.
- * At each annual meeting, review OCRA priorities.

OFFICERS -

The Advisory Committee shall annually select co-chairpersons, who shall be a consumer, and a parent member of the committee. Both persons shall jointly develop the agenda and submit it to OCRA for finalization. The responsibility for facilitating the meeting shall be rotated.

MEETING PROTOCOL:

The annual meeting shall be in April, of each year.

The committee will operate through consensus and will use Roberts Rules of Order, as needed. An opportunity will be given for every member to speak on an issue.

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