South Central Los Angeles Regional Center is pleased to announce that Karmell Walker has been selected as its new Fair Hearing Manager. As such, Ms. Walker will coordinate and investigate all fair hearing requests, represent the agency at all informal meetings and administrative hearings; provide administrative consultation by responding to questions or concerns regarding legal or regulatory matters, draft resolutions to Welfare and Institution Code § 4731 complaints, coordinate referrals to legal consultants and function as a liaison at all SCLARC related judicial procedures. Additional duties will include:

- Researching background information for fair hearing requests to include applicable laws, regulation and/or policies,
- Analyzing individual case information by: reviewing records or thorough discussion with staff, consumers, authorized representatives and vendors,
- Meeting with consumers and/or their authorized representatives and vendors during all applicable stages of the appeal process, including informal meetings, mediations and state level hearings,
- Mediating disputes as they relate to services,
- Facilitating Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) trainings, and
- Managing records requests.

Karmell began her career with SCLARC as a Service Coordinator in 2015. She holds a Juris Doctor, Law Degree from William Howard Taft University, a Master of Arts Degree in Human Behavior from National University, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from California State University, Northridge and she completed paralegal studies at Cerritos College. Before joining SCLARC, Ms. Walker worked for the Orange County Superior Court as a Probate Court Investigator where she investigated conservatorship issues.

Please join the Leadership Team in wishing Ms. Walker continued success as she facilitates the fair hearing process and works with our consumers and families to find resolution to their concerns.