



April 11, 2019

Ms. LeeAnn Christian
Deputy Director
Community Services Division
Department of Developmental Services
1600 Ninth Street, Room 320, MS 3-9
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Expenditure and Data Report

Dear Ms. Christian,

This letter is a summary of Lanterman Regional Center's activities pursuant to W&I Code 4519.5 as well as our contract with DDS. In December 2018 Lanterman Regional Center posted a report "Purchase of Services Expenditure and Demographic Data: Fiscal Year 2017-2018" on our website. This report includes the data related to purchase of service authorization, utilization and expenditures, with respect to age, ethnicity, language, living arrangement and disability. Two public meetings were held in March of this year regarding this data

Notification of our public meetings was posted on our website on February 8, 2019 as well as included in two email blasts to our clients and families, as well as service providers, and it was shared on our Facebook page on February 8 and reshared on March 4th. We also posted the meeting announcement at the Koch-Young Resource Center Helpdesk and announced the meeting schedule to our support groups and family trainings during this time period. One meeting was hosted by one of our Spanish parent support groups which meets at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles. The second meeting was held the night of March 27th at the regional center.

Spanish Support Group

The Padres Unidos del Centro Lanterman support group hosted our first meeting on March 13. Approximately 34 family members attended the presentation, in which both the oral presentation and the Power Point were in Spanish.

Comments from the participants included the acknowledgment that, culturally, it is not unusual to not ask about services, which may lead to losing valuable time of service implementation. We also received constructive input regarding making sure that service coordinators explain a parent's right to a written denial with appeal rights and two parents encouraged others to not take a 'wait and see' approach as to the needs of their child, but to seek out information and another parent specified that the support group

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has been a good source of information. One parent specifically encouraged others to enroll in Lanterman' disparity project on literacy and English as a second language classes as a way to become better informed, then a better advocate for their family member.

English Community Meeting

An English presentation was held on March 27th. Two regional center staff, one representative from OCRA, one representative from the State Council, one representative from DDS and four community members were in attendance and one board member provided written testimony. In addition, seven (7) Spanish speaking family members came to this meeting and the Regional Center convened an impromptu meeting in Spanish.

There were several questions from the OCRA representative regarding the Promotora program; she was given the necessary contact information so as to pursue her detailed questions. One participant praised the literacy classes for monolingual Spanish speaking parents and the written testimony suggested a computer/technology class so as to improve the usage of the website by families.

The Power Point presentations used at the community meetings are posted on our website. The following observations were made:

- Lanterman Regional Center staff continue to mirror the ethnic and language demographics of the clients we serve.
- 94% of our Hispanic and 89% of Asian clients live in the family home, while only 75% of White and 70% of African-American clients live in the family home.

These meetings were an opportunity to share information related to some of our disparity projects:

- 1) Our Promotora Project is now in its fifth year and has four promotoras supporting 104 families.
- 2) Our Korean Community Health Worker project, modeled after the Promotora Project, is smaller in scope and serves 38 Korean families.
- 3) Our Literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) class serves a small number of families, but for those who complete it, we have seen the impact it has had. As we have heard several times 'it does not matter if you translate a letter or IPP if I cannot read it'.

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- 4) Lanterman continues to coordinate an automated telephone message system which 14 regional centers utilize to send message in a family's preferred language. We have submitted for continued funding and are awaiting a response.

In addition to the two public meetings, we were invited to speak with our newly established Chinese support group, the Korean support group and the Client Advisory Committee on this topic.

If you have any questions concerns our community meeting, please do not hesitate to call.

Regards,


Melinda Sullivan
Executive Director