

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Programs & Services Committee

October 14, 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT

Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso, Chair
Oscar Carvajal
Karla Garcia
Darryl Goodus
Yudy Mazariegos
Howard McBroom

GUESTS

Christopher Perri

STAFF

Carmine Manicone
Adrian Jimenez

NOT PRESENT

Debbie Cornejo
Gladis Cabrera
Josephine Ko
Michiko Wilkins

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held remotely using ZOOM and was called to order by Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso at 10:03 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of September 9, 2020 were reviewed and approved by consensus.

ALTERNATIVE STAFFING MODEL

Mr. Manicone reminded the committee that Lanterman has been using an alternative staffing model for years to account for several other positions outside of service coordination in our staffing

ratios. The purpose of Mr. Manicone's presentation is to obtain support and consideration from the committee for the center to continue with this.

He highlighted that positions in Clinical, KYRC, Community Services and Fiscal and Accounting complement each other to coordinate services and supports to our clients and families. The Alternative Staffing Model began in 1999 where two Quality Assurance positions were added. In 2004, 1 Family Support Specialist and 1 Resource and Information Specialist was added. In 2017 DDS granted the approval to replace the Resource and Information Specialist with the Second Family Support Specialist Position. This year, the proposal continues to use 2 Quality Assurance and 2 KYRC positions as part of our service coordination model. Additionally, these are the 4 positions that Lanterman is asking this committee to continue to support. Mr. Manicone reviewed the language from the Lanterman Act that describes the need for these positions.

Currently, Lanterman's caseload ratio is 1:78 (last year it was 1:71). The required ratio is supposed to be 1:66. All regional centers are finding it nearly impossible, even with the use of alternative staffing models, to maintain the average 66 clients per SC because the formula that the state uses to fund SC positions is not adequate.

Lanterman needs the committee's support and the best way to do this is to E-mail Ms. Melinda Sullivan with a letter in support of the alternative staffing model. A template letter is available for members who would like one.

Mr. Goodus reported that he had already sent a letter of support and wanted to know if more than one letter per agency can be sent. Mr. Manicone said yes.

Mr. Perri added that PCDA supports this model and has already sent a letter to Ms. Sullivan. He added that he appreciates KYRC support.

Ms. Garcia reported that the KYRC is a valuable resource for parents and providers because they inform parents about the providers and creates one less phone call for SCs. She discovered play groups and support groups via KYRC and invited other parents to those groups.

Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso asked about concerns that staff had about the alternative staffing model. Mr. Manicone stated that staff's concern is they feel it reduces the reality of the overall average. Many SCs have a 1:90 average caseload, but this varies from unit to unit. However, these positions are a valuable resource for case management and would be employed even without the adoption of the Alternative Staffing Model.

Ms. Mazariegos stated that she appreciates the staff at KYRC but also believes that they should assist SCs. She added that SCs need better training to learn how to use the resource center and how to help parents with this.

Ms. Garcia added that perhaps there should be a standard procedure to take all new parents to the KYRC after their first visit.

Mr. McBroom stated that he misses the resource center and considers it to be a very valuable place.

Mr. Manicone reported that the virtual meetings have been very well attended recently.

Mr. Carvajal stated that although we would like as much information as possible, there should also be a balance about the content and the amount of information that is provided in any training. He added that he and his agency love the resource center.

FINAL REVIEW OF 2021 PERFORMANCE PLAN-FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Mr. Manicone reminded the committee that we've already reviewed the 2021 performance plan. It was presented in four community meetings in September. There were 52 attendees at the SPAC meeting. There were 60 attendees at the Spanish speaking meeting. There were 12 attendees at the CAC meeting. Lastly, there were 8 attendees at the final community meeting. There were no objections or revisions to the 2021 performance plan.

Mr. McBroom asked about the budget. Mr. Manicone reported that the center is spending within the budget for our operations. We currently have 2 service coordinator positions posted. In January, we will reassess where we are in the budget and take further steps to add more positions.

Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso asked about the DDS survey results. It seems like families need a lot of support with IEPs and would like to know if Lanterman is considering this when hiring. Mr. Manicone stated that he will take a closer look at that survey. He added that we have a legal clinic at Lanterman and it is a resource for IEP support.

Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso asked if information about the legal clinic is available on the Lanterman website. Mr. Manicone stated that most referrals to the legal clinic come via the IPP process and meetings with service coordinators.

Ms. Mazariegos made a motion to recommend the 2021 Performance Plan to the Board for final approval. Ms. Garcia seconded the motion and it was approved by consensus.

OTHER

Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso thanked and acknowledged Mr. Howard McBroom for his participation in a news segment sharing the importance of clients to vote.

Mr. Manicone announced that he e-mailed the committee an announcement about a webinar on legislative advocacy training that is taking place on Monday, October 19 from 9:30AM-11:00AM.

Mr. Manicone reported that Lanterman mailed out a satisfaction survey to every individual who is receiving services at Lanterman. There were fewer than 11,000 surveys that were sent out with a pre-paid postage envelope. He is encouraging all those who received the survey to fill it out and return it and to encourage other parents to do the same. Ms. Mazariegos stated she received it and returned it.

Mr. McBroom asked if Lanterman had discussed the possibility of civil unrest after the election. Mr. Manicone replied that they have not discussed this but he will mention it to Ms. Sullivan. He also stated that there are only approximately 25 staff persons at the office and if there was a need; everyone would be able to work remotely.

Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso reported that her agency, Easter Seals, put out a huge campaign for voting.

NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting is scheduled on November 11, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09AM.

/gs

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
2021 DRAFT - Performance Plan**

Goal	Objectives
<p>1. Decrease the number of Lanterman clients residing in Institutional settings or Out-of-State</p> <p>Number and percentage of RC caseload in DC. Baseline 1/01/21 =</p> <p>- Q1:</p> <p>Number of and percentage of RC caseload in IMD Baseline 1/01/21 =</p> <p>- Q1:</p>	<p>A. Develop 1 new individualized living option for clients moving into the community from the developmental centers, IMD's or Out-of-State. Point Person – Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 –</p>
	<p>B. Assist 1 previously identified client to move into the community through the Community Placement Plan. Point Person- Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1:</p>
<p>2. Maintain the percentage of children residing with families at 99%. Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>Number and percent of minors residing with families.</p> <p>- Q1:</p>	<p>A. Provide technical assistance and support to ensure continued operation of support groups. Point Person-Rose Chacana</p> <p>Q1-</p>
	<p>B. Provide Peer Support Partners at critical life transitions for all families requesting such assistance.</p> <p>Point Person: Rose Chacana</p> <p>Q1-</p>
	<p>C. Promote information and referral services of regional center and generic resources. Point Person: Rose Chacana</p>

Goal	Objectives
	<p>Q1-</p> <p>YTD-</p> <hr/> <p>D. Provide Service Coordination and Advocacy Training (SCAT) for all eligible parents who request it to improve their ability to advocate for their child.</p> <p>Point Person-Rose Chacana</p> <p>Q1-</p> <p>YTD -</p>
<p>3. Increase the number and percent of adults residing in home settings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Independent Living - Supported Living - FHA - Family Home <p>Number and percent of adults residing in independent living. Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>- Q1:</p> <p>Number and percent of adults residing in supported living. Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>- Q1:</p> <p>Number and percent of adults residing in adult Family Home Agency homes.</p>	<p>A. Partner with an existing FHA (Family Home Agency) to create more living opportunities for our adult clients. Point Person – Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1 –</p> <p>B. Promote trainings with clients and families concerning financial planning. Point Person: Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1 –</p>

Goal	Objectives
<p>Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>Number and percent of adults residing in family homes (home of parent or guardian). Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>- Q1:</p>	
<p>4. Minimize the number and percent of minors living in facilities serving more than 6 clients. Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>- Q1:</p>	<p>A. Annually review service needs of each child residing in a facility serving more than 6 clients to determine the appropriateness of an alternative living option. Point Person- Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1:</p>
<p>5. Minimize the number and percent of adults living in facilities serving more than 6 clients. Baseline 1/01/21</p> <p>- Q1:</p>	<p>A. Identify clients living in large facilities, evaluate their needs for level of service/care and transition those for whom it is appropriate to a more appropriate environment. Point Person – Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1:</p>
<p>6. Ensure that all clients have access to appropriate medical (including dental and vision) care.</p>	<p>A. Collaborate with Clinica Romero (FQHC) to assist FDLRC clients and their families to locate a medical home. Point Person – Gwen Jordan</p> <p>Q1:</p>
	<p>B. Conduct 1 Reproductive Health and Self Advocacy (RHSA) training programs. Point Person-Maureen Wilson</p> <p>Q1 –</p>
	<p>C. Promote good oral health by continuation of screenings, education of caregivers and clients, and referral to dental professionals. Point Person-Gwen Jordan</p> <p>Q1:</p>

Goal	Objectives
	<p>D. Designated clinical staff will consult with community partners such as DMH and local health care plans to identify psychiatrists and or psychiatric nurse practitioners to provide needed medication monitoring services for clients.</p> <p>Point Person-Gwen Jordan</p> <p>Q1:</p> <p>E. Work with LA Care and Health Net to ensure that clients enrolled in health plan are receiving the needed services.</p> <p>Point Person-Gwen Jordan</p> <p>Q1:</p>
<p>7. Minimize the incidence of abuse of regional center clients.</p>	<p>A. Conduct annual training of service providers on responsibilities related to client rights and mandated abuse reporting.</p> <p>Point Person-Maureen Wilson</p> <p>Q1:</p> <p>B. Review all Special Incident Reports and ensure appropriate follow up on abuse issues.</p> <p>Point Person- Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1:</p> <p>C. Conduct 1 training program focused on personal safety and on sexual abuse and exploitation risk reduction.</p> <p>Point Person-Maureen Wilson</p> <p>Q1 –</p>

Goal	Objectives																																								
8. Percent of total annual purchase of service expenditures by individual's ethnicity and age. - Birth to age two - Age three to 21 years - Age twenty-two and older	A. Track respite service expenditures for clients' age three and above. Point Person- Carmine Manicone Q1: B. Provide training on respite service standard to clients and families. Q1:																																								
9. Provide a translated IPP to those who request it.	A. Track IPP translation requests and completed IPP translations by language. Point Person- Carmine Manicone Q1:																																								
10. Total annual per capita Purchase of Service expenditures by primary language (for primary languages chosen by 30 or more consumers only)	A. Establish baseline data for future planning purposes. <table><tr><th colspan="3">FY 2018-19</th><th>FY 2019-20</th></tr><tr><th>Primary Language</th><th>Count</th><th>Avg. Per Capita</th><th>Change +/-</th></tr><tr><td>English</td><td>7875</td><td>\$15,867</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Spanish</td><td>3561</td><td>\$9,238</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Korean</td><td>360</td><td>\$16,209</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Armenian</td><td>414</td><td>\$18,697</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Tagalog</td><td>66</td><td>\$18,393</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Cantonese Chinese</td><td>41</td><td>\$15,874</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Russian</td><td>37</td><td>\$9,710</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Arabic</td><td>31</td><td>\$19,588</td><td></td></tr></table>	FY 2018-19			FY 2019-20	Primary Language	Count	Avg. Per Capita	Change +/-	English	7875	\$15,867		Spanish	3561	\$9,238		Korean	360	\$16,209		Armenian	414	\$18,697		Tagalog	66	\$18,393		Cantonese Chinese	41	\$15,874		Russian	37	\$9,710		Arabic	31	\$19,588	
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11. Number and percent of individuals, by race/ethnicity, who are satisfied with the services and supports received by the family and family member.	A. Obtain information by mailing surveys to all Lanterman families to track their level of satisfaction with services and supports received by family member. Point Person- Carmine Manicone Q1:																																								

Goal	Objectives
12. Number and percent of individuals, by race/ethnicity, whose IPP/IFSP includes all of the services and supports needed.	<p>A. Obtain information by mailing satisfaction surveys to all Lanterman families to track whether IPP/IFSP includes all the services and supports their family member needs.</p> <p>Q1:</p>
13. Number and percent of families, by race/ethnicity who report that services have made a difference in helping their family member at home.	<p>B. Obtain information by mailing satisfaction surveys to all Lanterman families to track if families feel that services and supports have made a positive difference in the life of their family member?</p> <p>Q1:</p>

Goal	Objectives
<p>14. Document number and percentage of clients, ages 16-64 with earned income.</p>	<p>A To obtain this information the following tasks will be completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Coordinators will be trained to complete employment information on the CDER and in the IPP. • The Employment Specialist will work with Service Providers to ensure they report client earnings and job related information. • The Employment Specialist will conduct regular meetings with Service Coordinators regarding the importance of reporting accurate employment information for their clients. • The Employment Specialist will conduct at least two trainings for families to promote Employment for their family members. • The Employment Specialist will review reports received from EDD, DDS and other sources to assist in the reporting of information. • Work collaboratively with SELPAs, Department of Rehabilitation, and supported employment providers to ensure that clients transition from school to work. Participate in transition fairs. <p>Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 -</p>
<p>15. Document annual wages for clients ages 16-64.</p>	<p>A. Information will be obtained from EDD reports distributed by DDS.</p> <p>Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 –</p>

Goal	Objectives
16. Document annual earnings of clients ages 16-64 compared to people with all disabilities in CA.	<p>A. Information will be obtained from EDD reports distributed by DDS. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 –</p>
17. Document number of adults who have obtained competitive, integrated employment following participation in a Paid Internship Program.	<p>A. Employment Specialist to collect and maintain database to track information. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 –</p>
18. Document percentage of adults who have obtained competitive, integrated employment following participation in a Paid Internship Program.	<p>A. Employment Specialist to collect and maintain database to track information. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 –</p>
19. Document average hourly or salaried wages and hours worked per week for adults who participated in a Paid Internship Program during the prior fiscal year.	<p>A. Employment Specialist to collect and maintain database to track information. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1</p>
20. Average wages and hours worked for adults engaged in competitive, integrated employment, on behalf of whom incentive payments have been made.	<p>A. Employment Specialist to collect and maintain database to track information. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez</p> <p>Q1 -</p>

Goal	Objectives
21. Total number of \$1000, \$1250 and \$1500 incentive payments made for the fiscal year.	A. Employment Specialist to collect and maintain database to track information. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez Q1 –
22. Percentage of adults who reported having integrated employment as a goal in their IPP.	A. Establish baseline by obtaining information for individuals ages 22 – 40 on who has employment as a goal in their IPP. B. Conduct audit of random sample client files to confirm this information. Point Person: Pablo Ibanez Q1 –

Goals Reflecting Compliance Outcomes

Goal	Objectives
A. Achieve an unqualified independent audit with no material findings	A. Continue to conduct regional center business in a manner consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Point Person-Kaye Quintero Q1 –
B. Demonstrate substantial compliance with DDS fiscal audit.	A. Achieve an audit outcome with no first-tier findings. Point Person-Kaye Quintero Q1 –
C. Project POS expenditures as reflected on SOAR within 10% of actuals as defined in DDS measurement methodology.	A. Review and refine, as appropriate, current strategies for developing accurate SOAR projections. Point Person-Kaye Quintero Q1 –

Goal	Objectives
D. Operate within the center's OPS budget.	A. Operate within the center's allocation as specified in the contract with DDS. Point Person-Kaye Quintero Q1 –
E. Maintain certification to participate in Medicaid Waiver.	A. Review Medicaid Waiver audit report and ensure that all areas of identified follow-up have been addressed. Point Person- Jocelyn Doucette. Q1 -
F. Demonstrate compliance with Vendor Audit Requirements per contract, Article III, Section 10.	A. Implement a vendor audit plan that identifies the types and numbers of vendors to be audited and that meets the targets established in the contract. Point Person-Kaye Quintero Q1 –
G. Maintain current CDERs and Early Start Reports for all regional center clients.	A. For calendar year 2020, this compliance measure is on hold pending full implementation of the new Early Start Report (ESR).
H. Demonstrate compliance with timelines for completing Intake/assessment and IFSP development for client's age 0-3.	A. Continue requirement for completion of intake/assessment within 35 days to allow sufficient time for SC to develop IFSP. Point Person – Carmine Manicone Q1:

Goal	Objectives
I. Demonstrate compliance with timelines for intake/assessment for clients age 3 and above.	<p>A. Maintain current procedures for intake and assessment of clients age 3 and above, assuring compliance with the 120-day assessment period. Point Person- Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1:</p>
J. Demonstrate compliance with requirements for IPP development as specified in W& I Code section 4646.5 (c)(3).	<p>A. Conduct SC training addressing audit findings to ensure compliance with specific requirements of W&I Code 4646.5 (c)(3). Point Person-Maureen Wilson</p> <p>Q1 –</p>
	<p>B. Continue supervisor review and internal audits, as necessary, to assess SC compliance with requirements of W&I Code section 4646.5 (c)(3). Point Person- Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1:</p>
K. Demonstrate compliance with Title 17 criteria for IFSP development as specified in the “Audit Review, March, 2018”	<p>A. Continue requirement for completion of intake/assessment within 35 days to allow sufficient time for SC to develop IFSP. (See goal H)</p>
	<p>B. Continue supervisor review and internal audits as needed to ensure the IFSP is held within required timelines, timeliness of provision of services, timeliness of referral to LEA (Lead Education Agency) location of services are identified, and services are being provided in the natural environment.</p> <p>Point Person – Carmine Manicone</p> <p>Q1-</p>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

October 14, 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT

Dina Richman, Chair
Elizabeth Beltran
Mark Higgins
Gloria Leiva
Louis Mitchell

GUEST

Larry DeBoer

STAFF

Melinda Sullivan
Karem Chacana

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Richman called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Corrections to the minutes:

Page one – (Last paragraph) Spelling error: “Amount of contact” s/b “Amount of contract”.

Page two – (Heading) Spelling error: “BOARD OF DIRECTORS TRAINING PLAN” s/b “BOARD OF DIRECTORS TRAINING PLAN”

The minutes of September 9, 2020 were approved by consensus with the above noted changes.

ENDOWMENT FUND – PROPOSAL FOR USAGE OF FUNDS

For Information Only -

Ms. Sullivan advised the Committee that the Administrative Affairs Committee discussed the hypothetical theory of using money from the Endowment Fund to purchase tablets or laptops, whichever is most cost effective, and cover the monthly cost of portable hotspot device for each. The focus would be on adults in day services who have not been able to access remote services due to lack of technology. A sample exercise was presented on how many individuals the project

could assist with \$100,000. Ms. Sullivan reported that the equipment purchased would be part of the KYRC lending library program.

Ms. Sullivan reported that a proposal from the Administrative Affairs Committee would be coming to the Board in October.

The Executive Committee were in support of the hypnotical proposal going to the Board.

SATISFACTION SURVEY UPDATE

Ms. Sullivan reported that all 11,000 clients/families have been sent a paper satisfaction survey as of today. An announcement has been made on Facebook, the E-Bulletin, and posted on the Lanterman website.

ADJOURNMENT FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mitchell moved to suspend the General Session meeting at 12:27 p.m. for Executive Session to conduct business on Approval of Minutes, Personnel, Litigation, and Status Report on Executive Director's Goals. Ms. Leiva seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

RECONVENE FOR GENERAL SESSION

The Committee conducted business in Executive Session on Approval of Minutes, Personnel, Litigation, and the Status Report on Executive Director's Goals.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

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CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Client Advisory Committee

October 12, 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT

Howard McBroom, Chair
Rachelle Cabrera
James Li

GUEST

Thomas Espinosa
Jessica T. Franey, Esq.
Nicholas Pietrantonio
Susanna Megerdichian
Annalyse Bee
Stafanie Scoot

NOT PRESENT

Arthur Corre
Thomas Fambro
Marilyn Franklin
Garik Gyuloglyan
Vahan Nisanian

STAFF

Carmine Manicone
Lyndon Marshall
Helane Schultz

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30PM.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 10, 2020 were reviewed and approved by consensus.

CLIENT'S RIGHTS

Ms. Jessica Franey, attorney with Waterson, Huth & Associates was present to talk about client's rights, advocacy, and resources. She described specifics regarding each topic and informed the committee specifically who they could reach out to. Two of these resources include Disability Rights California, State Council of Developmental Disabilities, and Disability Voices United. Discussion followed.

The committee will receive the power point presentation that Ms. Franey shared via e-mail per their request.

ZOOM HAPPY HOUR GROUP

The committee briefly talked about the zoom happy hour group. Since many CAC members are already part of the Peer to Peer group; they agreed that they would not like to move forward with this new group at this time.

OTHER

Mr. Manicone reminded the committee that they need to choose a project to work on next year and this will be an agenda item next month.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled on November 10, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35P.M.

/gs

SERVICE PROVIDER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
October 7, 2020
Minutes**

This committee Zoom meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM and roll call was taken.

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly West-Isaac
Traci Jones-Martinez
Keri Castaneda
Jim Storck
Yvonne Nakamoto
Kyra Griffith
Dee Prescott
Kelly White
Greg Sanchez
Nicole Hajjar

Guests:

Beatriz Diaz/In2Vision
Michaelann Gabriele/CDK
Lendy Ruano/Easterseals
Krishna Tabor/ButterFli
Maura Enriquez/Easterseals
Rachel Saucedo/Easterseals
Yancy Chavez/Easterseals
Aide Herrera/ECF
Doniell Miciano/Easterseals

Christopher Perry/PCDA
Nannette Cruz/ECF
Nancy Niebrugge/The Campbell Ctr
Charlotte Heim/Precise Care
Bryan Chacon/Maxim Healthcare
Jacklin Pfaff/Total
Marina Margaryan/Westview Svs
Kendra Espinoza/Tender Touch
Veronica Solano/Jeffrey Found.

Patricia Flores/Life Steps
Karina Andrade/EL ARCA
Brian Nguyen/Easterseals
Cindi Raimondi/ABLE
Andrea Devers/PCS Lanterman
Allan Baca/Inclusion Svs
Bernadette Manalop-Lew/NBC GH
Bijan Beizai/In2Vision
Joann Lockett/ECF

Staff

Pablo Ibañez
Sonia Garibay

Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 2, 2020 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board

Ms. Isaac shared that the following was discussed:

- To date, over 200 service providers have received PPE supplies.
- LRC has raised \$27,000 for food distribution.
- 1,523 gift cards have been distributed to 900 families/clients.

- LRC has partnered with the L.A. Food Bank to assist families with food distribution during the pandemic as food insecurity is high these days.
- Ten support groups have been actively participating during the pandemic thru the KYRC; a total of 60 sessions per month have been held. These meetings are helping families stay connected to services and informed regarding what's going on in the community.
- LRC is trying to partner with a mobile testing site thru Community Care Licensing for families and clients who are at home.
- The contract for Crisis Support Services has been renewed. This service will benefit families who are experiencing a mental health or behavioral crisis with their children/family member. Services are available 24/7 once connected with the provider.
- The Board of Directors is recruiting a new member.

HCBS Self-Assessment Status

Ms. Garibay stated that no developments have occurred since the last meeting. The State Program Evaluators will meet soon; Ms. Garibay will give an update at the next meeting. She encouraged providers that are not in full compliance to start working to get all the changes implemented to be in full compliance by 2023.

Ms. Garibay also noted that after providers reach full compliance their program designs must be reviewed and updated.

Provider Training Committee

Ms. Prescott stated that the residential and day services providers met via Zoom and that it had a very positive outcome.

Some of the issues/concerns that were shared are:

- Availability of testing sites and corresponding challenges
- Knowledge of who's coming into the homes
- Staff working at the homes 24/7
- Exposure, re-entry policy plan for staff
- Providers not being reimbursed for the over time they are paying their staff
- Homes not being able to share staff the way they did pre-COVID
- Holidays approaching and staff wanting to take time off will put a strain on providers
- Flu season approaching adding to the COVID stress

Mr. Ibañez advised that providers who have paid their staff overtime should let their QA assigned person know as LRC will look into possible case by case assistance.

Mr. Ibañez shared that another residential and day services providers meeting will be scheduled for next week.

Staff Training/Vendor Fair Committee

Mr. Sanchez shared that the staff training/ vendor fair is on hold for now. He will touch bases with Mr. Ibañez and then the subcommittee will meet; he will report at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Legislative Advocacy

Ms. White encouraged everyone to vote in the upcoming Presidential elections. Ms. Prescott also stated that 25% of the population who votes are clients so it's very important for providers to encourage/guide them to vote.

DDS Updates

Mr. Ibañez reported the following:

- DDS clarified that if a provider cannot provide the services they were originally meant to provide they are in a position to provide Alternative Services.
- Half-day billing has been waived.
- Day service providers who are providing Traditional Services will be able to continue billing for full days.
- DDS will be hosting a webinar about rates, authorizations and back up documentation for providers who are providing Alternative Services. No date set yet.
- DDS has not set the monthly rates for Alternative Services yet.
- LRC will not require providers to submit an engagement log.
- If a provider offers Alternative Services to clients/families and they decline, the provider will still be able to bill for the initial engagement to offer those services.

LRC Updates

- LRC continues operating in the same fashion, with a skeleton crew.
- PPE supply distribution continues.
- No budget updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Alternative Staffing Model

Mr. Ibañez gave a presentation on the LRC Alternative Staffing Model and asked the committee for their support so the current model continues. E-mails and letters of support can be e-mailed or mailed to LRC Executive Director, Ms. Melinda Sullivan.

SPAC Vacancy

Ms. Isaac announced that the committee has a vacancy. She encouraged potential participants to send a letter of intent and their resume to Mr. Ibañez.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Mr. Ibañez – LRC is hosting a Legislative Advocacy Leadership Training on October 19 from 9:30 – 11:00 am for clients, families and community members. This webinar is free of charge. This notice will be included on the next E-Bulletin and will also be posted on the LRC webpage.

ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.

/ip

Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2019-2020	N O V 19	D E C 19	J A N 20	F E B 20	M A R 20	A P R 20	M A Y 20	J U N 20	J U L 20	A U G 20	S E P 20	O C T 20	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	SP	X	N	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	9
K. CASTANEDA	R	X	M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10
N. HAJJAR	E	X	E	E	E	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	7
D. PRESCOTT	A	E	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
J. STORCK	K	X	T	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10
Y. NAKAMOTO	F	X	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	9
G. SANCHEZ	A	X	N	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	9
K. GRIFFITH	S	X	G	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10
K. WHITE	T	X		X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9

INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Strength in Numbers: We Are the 25%

By CV Weekly on October 1, 2020 · 1 Comment



Photo provided by ESSC

ABOVE: Howard McBroom is an activist for people with disabilities and spokesman for We Are the 25%.

By Mary O'KEEFE

Easterseals SoCal (ESSC) has launched "We Are the 25%," a voter awareness campaign that highlights the importance of disabled citizens getting out to vote.

There are over 61 million people across the United States who have a disability. That equals one-in-four voters, or 25% of the U.S. population, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"It is important to let people know the power they have, we have," said Howard McBroom, an activist for people with disabilities and spokesman for We Are the 25%. "The total of the disabled voting population of the United States is one quarter of all voters; that's a lot of people, that's a lot of power."

McBroom has autism and also uses a wheelchair. He advocates for disability rights with state and city legislators in Sacramento and throughout Southern California. He is passionate about serving his community and about reaching out to it with the message of voting power.

"We want people to know they have the power to make a real difference. We want people to know they need to vote, and this is very important – your vote is your voice," he said. "This is the way you can stand up for what you believe in and make a real difference. That is what we are trying to accomplish with We Are the 25% campaign."

McBroom added there is a need to have faith in democracy. He does have a message for candidates running for elected positions on Nov. 3.

"I want to tell [the candidates they] need to campaign for compassion, to promote compassion and caring. They need to reach out to people like [those in] our disability community who have problems, who need help and who deserve to get that help. The rules of advocacy are simple – you tell people who you are, what you want, what you need, why you need it and above all else you have to tell them why it is in their interest to give it to you."

He also hopes that the November election can be done in a respectful and peaceful way.

"Another thing I would like to tell the candidates is that hate does not make a nation great. Compassion is what makes a nation great," he added. "You can't solve important social issues with hate. You solve social problems by sitting down and talking to people and telling them you recognize them as human beings. That's what I want to say to the candidates."

Under the banner We Are the 25%, the campaign's goals are to raise awareness and to educate people on the various options available to them outside of traditional voting avenues that cater to their needs, by mail, at home or at the polls and to encourage them to take action, according to an Easterseals statement.

"As our country strives for true inclusion, justice and equality, people with disabilities must play a larger role, renewing our fight against marginalization, stigmas and gross underrepresentation. Our elected officials, whether seated locally or in Washington, D.C., make decisions every day that dramatically impact the lives, wellbeing, health and prosperity of every person within the disability community. We vote to be heard, to be counted, to be included and to ensure our government makes informed decisions about necessary social services, access to healthcare, critical employment or educational supports and more. The stakes have never been higher, we must get out our vote," stated Mark Whitley, president and CEO of ESSC.

ESSC's campaign will assist more than 13,000 people with developmental disabilities and other special needs throughout Southern California, encouraging them to register and to vote.

"I would recommend [the disability community] to vote-by-mail," McBroom said.

ESSC has a website (www.WeAreThe25.org) that answers questions about how to register, where to vote and voting options [like vote-by-mail] and other resources.

"This isn't just another election," he said. "This is going to decide what kind of country we are going to be for the next couple of generations."

Information on the We Are The 25% can be found at www.WeAreThe25.org or call ESSC in Irvine at (714) 834-1111.

For information from Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk on polling places, registering to vote and other resources, call (800) 201-8999 or visit lavote.net and click on Voting and Elections, then Voting Options and then Voting Accessibility.

 Mary Okeefe

Strength in Numbers: We Are the 25% added by CV Weekly on October 1, 2020

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Name



Paul Luther • 20 days ago

It was wonderful to see this article and that Howard McBroom was a part of it. I grew up with Howard, starting with grade school and have known him all my life. He's an incredible person! Thank you for the article and sharing some of Howard's wisdom.

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