

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Programs & Services Committee

April 8, 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT

Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso, Chair
Oscar Carvajal
Aaron Kitzman
Yudy Mazariegos
Howard McBroom

GUESTS

Debbie Cornejo

STAFF

Adrian Jimenez
Melinda Sullivan
Carmine Manicone

NOT PRESENT

Karla Garcia
Josephine Ko
Christopher Perri
Michiko Wilkins

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held remotely using ZOOM and was called to order at 10:03 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

While there was a quorum, those present at today's meeting were not at the March meeting and it was determined a vote on the minutes would be postponed to the May meeting.

UPDATE ON COVID-19

Ms. Sullivan gave an overall summary of activities related to COVID-19. She reported that Lanterman closed to the public on March 19th. Employees began to work remotely with the assistance of our IT department as of the week of March 23. Emphasis has been on connecting with our clients, families and residential providers. Staff is also beginning to use Zoom video

conferencing for committee meetings and family support meetings. Ms. Sullivan reported that there are only about 20 persons that are at the Center on any given day and those are leadership staff.

The committee talked about supplies from Community Care Licensing that the Center distributed specifically for residential homes. Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso and Mr. Kitzman talked about their experiences with this. Mr. McBroom asked if everyone was aware that wearing a mask was a must as of Friday when going to places like the pharmacy or the grocery store. Mr. Carvajal stated that if people don't have a mask; they can use something else to cover their mouth and nose.

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES DIRECTIVES

Ms. Sullivan reported that DDS has given 14 directives to regional centers and they are good for 30 days. All of these directives are on DDS's website. Ms. Sullivan highlighted that regional centers have more flexibility on health and safety and working remotely. She stated that we are in planning mode for surge placements and have been advised to develop living options for persons who cannot stay in place where they are currently. The Department is calling regional centers on a weekly basis for updates.

Mr. McBroom asked Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso if Easter Seals has had any problems with persons self-isolating and she shared what they have done thus far. She also thanked Lanterman's Community Services Unit and the nursing team for all of their help recently.

Mr. Carvajal shared that Optima Family Services is having difficulty working with families remotely and some families have expressed that they would rather wait to receive services later. He expressed that the changes being implemented now are really preparation for the upcoming months, and possibly into next year. Members of the committee agreed this that the COVID-19 response is not a short term event.

Ms. Sullivan clarified that remote services do not need to meet the exact unit of service a Provider might typically due, but rather first the emphasis should be on connecting with the family; as our system gets better at this, we may see a change in how remote services are offered. Mr. Kitzman added that at Villa Esperanza some of their contacts have been as short as 5-10 minute services and have had success with this for now. Ms. Cornejo reported that Education Spectrum reached out to groups; most with children under the age of 10. They also had a parent training this past weekend to discuss current changes. This was successful and parents were very grateful.

Ms. Mazariegos asked if services coordinators were working regular hours and if the community was aware of this. She also asked about families who don't have access to the internet. Ms. Sullivan stated that all staff is working as usual and if parents call their service coordinator, the call will reach them. She added that Everbridge messages have been sent out in different languages to keep the community updated.

CASELOAD RATIO SURVEY

Ms. Sullivan reported that the caseload ratio survey was due in March and she is working to submit a final version to DDS by the end of this week.

OTHER

Ms. Trevizo-Reinoso shared that Costco just announced priority access for healthcare workers and first responders.

Mr. Kitzman stated that Assemblyman Ting sent an e-mail stating that the budget process will be significantly different this year due to COVID-19 and that the budget will not be in a position to consider new or increased projects. Ms. Sullivan will share a similar letter to the committee regarding budget.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled on May 13, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19AM.

/gs