

Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center

Programs & Services Committee

September 8, 2021

MINUTES

PRESENT

Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso, Chair
Debbie Cornejo
Oscar Carvajal
Karla Garcia
Darryl Goodus
Yudy Mazariegos
Christopher Perri

STAFF

Juan Maldonado
Carmine Manicone

NOT PRESENT

Howard McBroom

GUEST

Jackie Brown, A-1 Homecare

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held remotely using ZOOM and was called to order by Ms. Lupe Trevizo-Reinoso at 10:04 AM.

INTRODUCTIONS

The committee introduced themselves to Ms. Jackie Brown and welcomed her.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 11, 2021 were reviewed and approved by consensus.

CASELOAD RATIO PRESENTATION & ALTERNATIVE STAFFING MODEL

Mr. Manicone shared a presentation regarding caseload ratio and the alternative staffing model. He highlighted that all 21 regional centers failed to meet the caseload ratio for the past 5 years. There were also a lot of retirements, resignations and leave of absence employees during the pandemic. Additionally, there are more complex issues such as dual diagnosis, developmental centers are closing, and Self-Determination program is being implemented.

Three new service coordinator (SC) positions were added last year. However, to be fully compliant Lanterman would need 19 SCs, 3 managers, and 3 secretaries. This would amount to approximately \$1.7 million in salaries and benefits per year. The proposed plan of correction is as follows: when we receive our 2021-22 allocation; we will work with our Board to add as many positions as possible and we anticipate to be able to add 5 positions. This would allow us to maintain compliance with the specialized ratios and reduce our overall ratios.

In 1999 DDS approved 1 Quality Assurance positions. In 2004, DDS approved 1 Family Support Specialist, and 1 Resource Information Specialist as part of our Alternative Staffing model. The 2021 proposal continues to use all of these positions as part of our service coordination model. The committee was asked to demonstrate their support of this model in the form of hand written letters or e-mails.

Ms. Cornejo asked how providers, parents and staff can support Service Coordinators. Mr. Manicone reported that all Lanterman staff have until the end of September to get vaccinated and their working at the office mandate was pushed back until October. He added that staff are receiving stipends for use of their cell phones and other working at home expenses. The committee discussed allowing SCs have a space available at providers' locations and everyone was in agreement.

Ms. Mazariegos expressed her satisfaction with Mr. Joe Perales for all of his efforts with support groups. Regarding the caseload ratio; she asked if ARCA or DDS have the power to make any changes. Lastly, she believes that parents can be trained to work in collaboration with service coordinators. For example; prior to a meeting, parents should receive a pre-meeting checklist so that both parties are better prepared. Mr. Manicone and Mr. Maldonado will work on this.

Ms. Garcia thinks that the SCAT training should be updated in order to develop a better partnership with SCs.

Ms. Brown would like to be added on a future agenda to share what the intake process is from her end.

OTHER-

A face-to-face meeting will be put on hold for now. All meetings will continue to occur virtually.

NEXT MEETING

The next committee meeting is scheduled on October 13, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 A.M.

/gs