

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
August 4, 2021
Minutes**

This SPAC Committee Zoom meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM and roll call was taken.

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly West-Isaac
Kyra Griffith
Dee Prescott
Kelly White
Greg Sanchez

Excused:

Nicole Hajjar
Keri Castaneda

Guests:

Traci Martinez/Adv Health	Bijan Beizai/In2Vision	Nanettee Cruz/ECF
Brian Nguyen/Easterseals	Kendra Espinoza/Tender T	Nancy Niebrugge/TCC
Kimberly Bermudez/24Hr	Kelly Privitt/AbilityFirst	Cindi Raimondi/ABLE
Nita Davis/Almanson Ctr	Sam Sousa/In2Vision	Andrew Day/PCS Lanterman
Yvonne Nakamoto/Total	Bryan Chacon/Maxim	Andrea Devers/PCS Lanterman
Allan Baca/Inclusion Svs	Veronica Solano/Jeffrey F	Beatriz Diaz/In2Vision
Kimberly Yrigoyen/SVS	Jessica Baker/ECF	Janet Amandor/In2Vision
Ms. V/Health Wellness	Cynthia Gordon/In2Vision	Lateisha Getter/Inclusion Svs
AnjaLi Carrasco/CFDK	Azniv Tonoyan/In2Vision	Ashly Dominguez/In2Vision
Veronica Aleman/SVS	Maura Enriquez/Easterseals	Rachel Saucedo/Easterseals
Cynthia M/Easterseals	Yancy Chavez/Easterseals	Darryl Goodus/Villa E
Priscilla Garcia/SVS	Armine Kim/Avanti	

Staff

Sonia Garibay

Public Comments

- Ms. White asked for clarification on the recent authorizations providers have received from LRC that are ending on 10/31/21 and the reason why they were not automatically rolling over. Ms. Garibay reported that funding with a 6/30 end date will no longer be rolling over; some of the 8/31 expiration dates may have to do with the state of emergency funding.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from the July 7, 2021 meeting were accepted by the SPAC members as submitted.

REPORTS

Board

Ms. Isaac reported that the Board had their annual training, whistleblower policies were signed and member responsibilities were reviewed.

HCBS Update

Ms. Garibay shared that the virtual site assessments are mostly completed; she attended several of them. DDS will be sending providers and LRC a copy of the report to share the results of the assessment and to let providers know what needs to be done to be in full compliance by 2023. Providers may be asked to write a plan on how the recommendations will be implemented. She reported that overall, visits went well.

Self Determination Update

Ms. Garibay reported that in June the Self Determination Program was opened to all clients and families after the pilot program was completed. About 69 families were selected for the pilot program; since it was opened to all clients, approximately 32 additional families have expressed interest in participating.

The new budget has approved funding for the RC to have “Participant Choice Specialists”. These individuals will be assisting families transition to Self Determination. As of now, it is not clear how many positions will be assigned to each regional center, perhaps depending on the size of the regional center and the level of interest from families. More information will follow.

Ms. Garibay also reported that Self Determination Network has launched a website to help families that are looking for independent facilitators or other Self Determination providers. She clarified that LRC cannot vouch for any service providers listed on this website.

Their website is <https://www.thecasdpnetwork.org>

There was a discussion regarding families not giving service providers a 30-notice to terminate services and not communicating with their service coordinator when they decide to switch to self-determination and end their services. This raised the question about the possibility of improving service coordinator communication to providers when the families they serve have decided to move to self-determination.

The main concern among providers is that many services may be in jeopardy because are being cancelled, as families are employing their own family members to provide the same services provided before by a more qualified service provider. Another question that was raised regarding who will be doing the vetting to ensure the providers selected by the client or their family is qualified to provide the services they hired them to provide. Some providers are concerned because it seems like some families are hiring their own family members because they want that extra income, Ms. Isaac stated that “this could potentially collapse the system that has been professionalized and built up for many years”.

Ms. Garibay shared that there is not an extensive vetting system in place when it comes to self-determination, however there is some level of vetting involved, which is done by the FMS. She assured that service coordination will be made aware a 30 day notice to terminate services should

be provided to service providers by the regional center and that SCs will also be asked to encourage their clients/families to discuss their plans for services with their existing providers once they enter the Self Determination Program. This will help service providers plan better to prevent losing staff due to lack of work for their staff. There is an opportunity next week to present this information to service coordinators.

OLD BUSINESS

Legislative Advocacy

No updates

DDS Updates

Ms. Garibay reported that DDS have initiated their workgroups to start implementing the trailer bills. More information to follow.

LRC Updates

Ms. Garibay reported that the LRC authorizations rollover system has been recently modified. The services standards require that services be reviewed on at set schedule depending on the service. It may be quarterly, semiannually or annually depending on what the service standard indicates. Moving forward, service coordinators will be reviewing services, prior to the expiration of the authorization. Typically checking authorizations that will expire a month ahead of time to initiate the re-authorization process. Ms. Garibay advised service providers to follow up with their service coordinators before the authorizations expire.

Ms. Garibay also reported that starting mid-August LRC staff will be required to return to the office once a week and starting mid-September staff will be required to be in the office twice a week. All schedules are alternated to assure social distancing.

Ms. White expressed concern about some service coordinators not returning phone calls timely Ms. Garibay encouraged providers to reach out to the service coordinator's supervisor if they have made attempts to reach with coordinator without success; she will inform the Associate Director about this concern. The Center is considering implementing new protocols to ensure callers and people emailing, know whom they can reach out to if the service coordinator is not available.

Another concern brought up by providers is that service coordinators are requesting reports for regular services and another for alternative services. The providers are concerned about the workload the multiple reports present to their already heavy workloads.

SP Breakfast

No updates.

Vendor Fair

Mr. Sanchez reported that the vendor fair is scheduled for September 9, from 9:30 – 11:00. Mr. Ibanez and Mr. Manicone will review the panel candidates. By August 6, Mr. Sanchez will share with the panel candidates who was selected to participate and by August 16, a pre meeting will be scheduled. Providers were encouraged to submit their e-brochures.

Provider Training

Ms. Prescott asked providers for feedback on the Disability Thrive Initiative. She shared that this statewide initiative will end in December and that it is a resource center as well. Information was shared in the chat.

NEW BUSINESS

None

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Mr. Sanchez proposed that Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) updates be included on the SPAC monthly agenda moving forward as providers will be required to report on those visits starting at the beginning of 2022.
- Ms. White shared that there will be an honorary event for Direct Support Professionals, hosted by Assemblyman Chris Holden. This event is scheduled for Monday, August 23. An e-blast will be sent to Southern and Northern California providers. All providers are encouraged to have their direct care staff log in so they can enjoy the very well deserved recognition. Ms. White will share a draft with Ms. Garibay for distribution to providers.
- Ms. Garibay reminded that the meeting in September will be the combined SPAC and Community meeting.

ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 AM.

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Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2020-2021	N O V 20	D E C 20	J A N 21	F E B 21	M A R 21	A P R 21	M A Y 21	J U N 21	J U L 21	A U G 21	S E P 21	O C T 21	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	E	X			
K. CASTANEDA	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	E			
N. HAJJAR	X	X	E	X	E	X	X	X	E	E			
D. PRESCOTT	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
G. SANCHEZ	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
K. GRIFFITH	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
K. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
VACANT													
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