

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
December 2, 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  
Keri Castaneda  
Jim Storck  
Kyra Griffith  
Dee Prescott  
Kelly White  
Nicole Hajjar

**EXCUSED**

Greg Sanchez

**Guests:**

Beatriz Diaz/In2Vision	Pam Arturi/Easterseals	Casey Johnson/Options for Life
Sam Anuakpado/Avanti	Cesar Torres/Inclusion Svs	Traci Jones Martinez/Adventist Glendale
Allan Baca/Inclusion Svs	Nancy Niebrugge/The Campbell Ctr	Brian Nguyen/Easterseals
Maura Enriquez/Easterseals	Charlotte Heim/Precise Care	Andrea Devers/PCS Lanterman
Dennis Moreno/Model Res	Joann Ahn/ECF	Bijan Beizai/In2Vision
Veronica Aleman/SVS	Cynthia Martinez/Easterseals	Cynthia Cordon/In2Vision
Chaghig koulajian/ACT	Cindi Raimondi/ABLE	Yvonne Nakamoto/Total Programs
Azniv Tonoyan/In2Vision	Ashly Dominguez/In2Vision	Nanette Cruz/ECF
Rachel Saucedo/Easterseals	Priscilla Garcia/SVS	Cynthia Barron/ECF

**Staff**

Pablo Ibañez  
Sonia Garibay

**Public Comments**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from November 4, 2020 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board**

Ms. Isaac reported the following:

- Ms. Melinda Sullivan presented on the Purchase of Service disparities and how services at the center are allocated across different populations.
- Mr. Ibañez and Mr. Carmine gave a presentation on Participant Directed Services.
- The Liability Insurance coverage for LRC was reviewed.

- Jack Gilbertson was nominated as a new Board member.

### **HCBS Self-Assessment Status**

Ms. Garibay reported that there are no new updates but shared that the next meeting for the program evaluators statewide is scheduled for next week. She'll report at the next meeting. Ms. Garibay also reported that 25 million dollars statewide will be available in HCBS compliance funds again this year. The application will be out during the holidays so Ms. Garibay encouraged providers to be on the lookout since it's a short around time.

### **Staff Training/Vendor Fair Committee**

Mr. Sanchez shared that he met with Mr. Ibañez and discussed the possibility of having a virtual panel discussion as the vendor component is not workable right now. Mr. Ibañez will share this concept with Regional Managers to find out what topics they would like to discuss. This plan will take place sometime next year.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Legislative Advocacy**

Ms. White shared that there's a big push for families and clients to fill out the DDS survey as DDS would like to hear from them. Ms. White emphasized the importance of completing this survey which is due December 18.

Mr. Sanchez shared that Home Instead as well as CASA and ATLA, which are organizations that support home care hospice and home health, are working on a project that will benefit the entire developmental disabled population. Caregivers will be able to perform paramedical activities, like assisting with medications. Mr. Sanchez will keep the group informed of new developments.

#### **DDS Updates**

Mr. Ibañez reported the following:

- Alternative Services – as of today, no updates from DDS about the monthly rates.
- Monthly reporting – providers that work with multiple regional centers shared they're confused in terms of getting inconsistent information from different regional centers. Mr. Ibañez will be meeting with all CS Directors at a statewide meeting next week and will clarify their concerns. He reported that the instructions received from DDS is that providers only need to submit one survey naming their vendoring regional center and the data they provide will be for their entire organization.
- DDS has started to audit regional centers regarding absence billing as there's a possibility that some providers may be "double dipping".
- COVID Reporting – DDS requires that regional centers report any known provider staff COVID cases. Residential providers should report to their QA liaison if clients/staff have tested positive. Non-residential programs should report to Mr. Ibañez if clients/staff attending their programs have tested positive. Mr. Ibañez encouraged providers to reach out to the regional center if they need assistance especially residential providers as they have been the most affected with the new surge of positive cases. More information will be included in the next Provider Bulletin.

- Mr. Ibañez clarified that if a staff tested positive, there's no need to do an SIR but if the client has tested positive a SIR should be submitted. It was also clarified that even if staff work remotely and have no contact with clients it positive test needs to be reported.
- Mr. Ibañez reminded providers that PPE supplies are still available if needed.
- A 30 day extension for supplemental residential services funding has been officially extended thru January 12, 2021.
- In-Home Respite – CPR requirements have been waived altogether as a result of the State of Emergency for those individuals served who do not have presenting health concerns.
- Participant Direct Services gives a family/client more control in terms of who their provider is going to be. Originally this only applied for respite, transportation, day care, nursing and community based training services but because of COVID, ILS, Supported Living and Personal Assistance services were added. The added services are meant to stop once the SOE ends. SOE rates and SOE service codes will be discussed at the next meeting. Providers that are interested to know the rates before the next meeting were encouraged to visit the DDS website under reimbursement rates.
- LRC Fiscal Audits have been waived due to SOE.

Ms. Hajjar shared a concern regarding families not wanting to continue receiving services remotely and she asked if service coordinators have been asked to encourage parents and educate them on the benefits of continuing receiving remote services due to the alarming increase of positive cases. Mr. Ibañez confirmed that those conversations with service coordination are happening on an ongoing basis, but he reaffirmed that the last choice on how to receive/provide services is made by the family and the service provider.

Ultimately, the regional center wants to make sure that providers are taking all necessary precautions to keep everybody safe and providers are asked to share with the regional center the protocols they are putting in place to ensure the safety of clients and staff.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **LRC Updates**

- New accounting assignments. Mr. Ibañez shared the link in the chat but this info can also be found on the LRC website

## **UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

- Tree Lighting at the Capitol – information will be included on the next Service Provider bulletin.
- Ms. Castaneda shared a couple of links in the chat 1. an article on the LA Times about people with developmental disabilities being most likely to die from COVID than any other individuals and 2. an advocacy letter with recommendations that the first wave of individuals to get the COVID vaccine be individuals with developmental disabilities. Mr. Ibañez informed that DDS will be part of the selection group.

**ADJOURNEMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

/ip

*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											
K. CASTANEDA	X	X											
N. HAJJAR	X	X											
D. PRESCOTT	X	X											
J. STORCK	X	X											
G. SANCHEZ	E	X											
K. GRIFFITH	X	X											
K. WHITE	X	X											
VACANT													
VACANT													