

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
March 3, 2021
Minutes**

This committee Zoom meeting was called to order at 10:07 AM and roll call was taken.

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

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

EXCUSED

Nicole Hajjar
Keri Castaneda

Guests:

Beatriz Diaz/In2Vision	Christian De Paz – ACT	Darryl Goodus/Villa Esperanza
Nita Davis/Almansor Center	Andrew Day – PCS Lanterman	Traci Jones Martinez/Adventist Glendale
Jessica Baker/ECF	Kimberly Bermudez – 24Hr Care	Brian Nguyen/Easterseals
Janet Amador/In2Vision	Celia Montes/	Andrea Devers/PCS Lanterman
Bryan Chacon - Maxim	Krishna Tabor/Butterfli	Bijan Beizai/In2Vision
Veronica Aleman/SVS	Marina Margaryan/Westview	Cynthia Cordon/In2Vision
Chaghig Koulajian/ACT	Isis McDonald/AbilityFirst	Priscilla Garcia/SVS
Azniv Tonoyan/In2Vision	Ashly Dominguez/In2Vision	Nanette Cruz/ECF
Anna Polin – Build Rehab	Rachel Saucedo/Easterseals	Ben Karakunnel/Home Instead
Kendra Espinoza - TTHC	Pamela Arturi/ESSC	Nancy Niebrugge/The Campbell Center
		Allan Baca/Inclusion Services

Staff

Pablo Ibañez
Sonia Garibay

Public Comments

It's important to get vaccinated.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from February 3, 2021 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board

Ms. Isaac reported the following:

- Ms. Karem Chacana, Director of Human Resources, gave a presentation on the recruitment and hiring process, turnover and vacancies for LRC. She informed that ten additional service coordinators will be hired.
- Ms. Gwen Jordan, Director of Clinical Services, gave an overview of the Medicaid Waiver program. She reported that out of 11,000 LRC clients 3,700 clients are enrolled in the Medicaid Waiver; there are two Federal Revenue Coordinators that work with the program.
- Budget Review – the budget has increased significantly because of COVID and all expenses related to it.
- There will be two Community Meetings in March.

HCBS Update

Ms. Garibay reported that six providers (one supported employment, four day services and one social skills) applied for HCBS compliance funding. She shared that there are 15 million dollars available statewide to help providers to come into full compliance with HCBS requirements. The requests received for this funding are for training, staff positions and technology.

Ms. Garibay shared that the pilot program for the on-site visits, which included 120 providers, has been completed; the remaining 1,080 on-site virtual visits will begin in March and will continue through July 2021. PCG will be conducting 50-70 on-site assessments per week. A list of participants will be sent to regional centers soon. Providers will also receive an email from CADDSHCBS@pcg.com with information about the site-visits. There will be a webinar available sometime in March to review the on-site assessment program. LRC will participate in these visits as a third party reviewer and support for the provider.

Providers that need to re-schedule because they have been affected by COVID outbreaks or for any other situation should notify PCG and Ms. Garibay at sgaribay@lanterman.org

Ms. Garibay shared that for providers that are not in compliance a Remediation Plan will be developed by PCG to track progress towards compliance; those plans will be shared with the regional center.

Self Determination Update

Mr. Ibañez gave an overview of the Self Determination Program. He stated that there will be a broad implementation of these services by June 2021. LRC will host info sessions hoping to have at least 3 sessions from March through June 2021. Mr. Ibañez shared that new service opportunities that exist as part of the Self Determination program include:

- Independent Facilitator – agency or person that will guide the family through the process and help them connect to services and supports.
- Person Centered Planning – This is a separate planning meeting that takes place prior to the IPP meeting and engages the client to think about what they want to be or what they want to do. This can be a vendored or not vendored service.
- Financial Management Services (FMS)- help with employer of record responsibilities.

Provider's input as to the time that works best for them to schedule these meetings will be welcomed.

OLD BUSINESS

Legislative Advocacy

Ms. White shared that the L.A Coalition will meet next week and that Assembly member Holden and other assembly members are in support of the minimum wage increase (AB 230).

Ms. Prescott shared that because of advocacy and support efforts, people with disabilities are now eligible to get vaccinated as of March 15. She attended a call meeting with FEMA about vaccinations, accessibility and transportation to vaccination sites for people with disabilities. She also shared that SCDD invited Easter Seals to apply for mobile vaccination sites. Easter Seals will be using CVS clinics at some of their sites to vaccinate clients but CVS will not offer this option after March. SCDD and the City of Los Angeles are offering providers the opportunity to open vaccination sites at the providers' sites.

Mr. Sanchez shared that AB 281 by assembly member Burke is for small businesses to ensure that tax deductibility for PPP loans are aligned with federal expectations. This bill is in assembly now; providers were strongly encouraged to support this bill especially those that got PPP loans. He clarified that this bill impacts all businesses in California.

DDS Updates

Mr. Ibañez shared some of ARCA's legislative priorities:

- Close the digital divide
- Big push for a statewide system of Community Navigators. Some regional centers through disparity grants are starting their local efforts listing community members that will serve as a bridge between the system and families
- End sun setting of the provider increases and furloughs
- Support the minimum wage adjustment process
- Increased funds for IHSS, Special Ed and other programs
- Regional Center caseload ratios

Budget Hearing on February 23 – Mr. Ibañez shared the following:

- Slowing of caseload growth in general – big concern about not getting “funds for growth” as caseloads and Intake cases have not increased because of COVID
- 30 day extensions directives – have continued and there is a push to make these permanent as part of the SOE to avoid need for 30 day extensions
- PPE – continue outreach in that area. Providers that still need PPE supplies should contact Ms. Garibay.
- Alternative Services – Mr. Ibañez reminded providers to send their certifications so they can receive their monthly rate.
- DDS will use Survey Monkey to collect provider's monthly report. Missing information on those reports will be reported to the regional center.

LRC Updates

Mr. Ibañez shared the following:

- In Person Services – for providers that are starting to offer in person services nothing has changed in the process. Providers need to submit plans to regional center and although

regional centers cannot require the plan submission this can have an adverse effect on referrals and messaging to families.

- LRC continues to work with a skeleton crew, employees that had a scheduled day to come to the office before the most recent “stay home” order are allowed back again.
- Vaccinations – all regional center providers are now eligible for the vaccine and clients 16-64 years old are also eligible as of March 15. More info to come.
- Access Services is providing transportation to and from vaccination sites to RC clients which means they will wait for the 15 minute post-vaccination period.
- A vaccination survey was sent to ILS, SLS, Personal Assistance, Home Maker services, all other service categories will be surveyed.
- LRC would like to serve as a vaccination site for the entire Lanterman community.
- All family member care givers are now eligible to get vaccinated as they are considered health care workers.
- Reminder – SIRs reports generated by providers are due to FDRLC within 24 hours.
- Community Meetings – March 9 at 6:00 PM in Spanish and March 25 at 4:00 PM in English. Zoom information will be included in the Provider’s Bulletin. Links shared during meeting.
- Minimum Wage rate increase requests received are being reviewed and will be processed.

NEW BUSINESS

SP Breakfast

Mr. Storck reported that the subcommittee met and is suggesting a large outdoor site to hold the breakfast, like a movie drive-in location. Providers were asked for suggestions for a site big enough and for a motivational speaker.

Vendor Fair

Mr. Sanchez reported that the subcommittee will schedule a meeting and will report at the next SPAC meeting.

Provider Training

Ms. Prescott stated that is still early to plan this training as it was originally thought to be scheduled for late summer or fall. Subcommittee will meet at a later time.

Ms. White reached out to providers for recommendations on therapists or mental health providers available to provide grief counseling for direct care staff to teach them self-help tips and how to deal with the loss of a client during the pandemic.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Ms. Isaac – Workshop “Being Resilient in a Pandemic” March 9, go to gtrc.org to register.

ADJOURNEMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 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								
K. CASTANEDA	X	X	X	X	E								
N. HAJJAR	X	X	E	X	E								
D. PRESCOTT	X	X	X	X	X								
J. STORCK	X	X	X	X	X								
G. SANCHEZ	E	X	X	X	X								
K. GRIFFITH	X	X	X	X	X								
K. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X								
VACANT													
VACANT													