

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
April 6, 2022  
Minutes**

This SPAC Committee Zoom meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM and roll call was taken. Ms. White is chairing the meeting in the absence of Ms. Isaac

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dee Prescott  
Kelly White  
Keri Castaneda  
Kyra Griffith  
Nancy Niebrugge  
Nicole Hajjar  
Andrew Day  
Michaelann Gabriele  
Greg Sanchez

**Excused**

Kimberly West-Isaac

**Guests:**

Kimberly Yrigoyen/SVS	Bijan Beizai/In2Vision	Kimberly Bermudez/24hr HC
Brian Nguyen/Easterseals	Christian De Paz/ACT	Joann Ahn/ECF
Adriane Mota/ECF	Andrea Devers, PCP	Patricia Flores/Life Steps
Nanette Cruz/ECF	Sam Sousa/In2Vision	Armine Kim/Avanti
Cynthia Barron/ECF	Dulce Vallejo/SVS	Jessica Giron/AbilityFirst
Beatriz Diaz/In2Vision	Azniv Tonoyan/In2Vision	Michael Barkyoumb/AbilityFirst
Regina Alina/In2Vision	Nita Davis/Almanson	Joann Lockett/ECF
Priscilla Garcia/SVS	Bryan Chacon/Maxim	Jen Pippard/ARC
Cindi Raimondi/ABLE	Krishna Tabor/Butterfli	Marina Margaryan/Westview
Kimberly Avila/Inclusion Svs	Karina Andrade/EL ARCA	Kendra Espinoza/Tender Touch
Anna Polin/BuildAbility	Darryl Goodus/Villa Esperanza	Estherlancia Mercado/Vision Life
Kevin Shields/BuildAbility	Allan Baca/Inclusion Svs	Cassandra Luques/SVS

**Staff**

Pablo Ibañez  
Sonia Garibay

**Public Comments**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes from the March 2, 2022, meeting were accepted as submitted.

## **REPORTS**

### **Board**

No report, Ms. Isaac did not attend SPAC.

### **HCBS Update**

Ms. Garibay reported that LRC received notification of the recipients for the compliance funding. Out of five LRC applicants only one applicant received funding for hiring staff proficient in sign language. Ms. Garibay will work with the provider to develop a contract.

Ms. Garibay also reported that no updates on the virtual site visits have been received.

### **Self Determination Update**

No updates.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Legislative Advocacy**

Mr. Ibañez shared that the Board is in support of the rate acceleration implementation. A letter of support signed by the Board's president was sent to the Senate and Assembly.

Ms. White stated that besides the LRC Board of Directors, ARCA, CDSA, L.A Coalition, DSN and other coalitions are also in support of the rate acceleration implementation.

### **Grassroots**

Ms. Garibay reminded attendees that Grassroots day is usually scheduled during the month of April and it's an opportunity for regional center staff, families and clients to visit different Legislators to voice their concerns. Traditionally this event is organized in Sacramento but because of the pandemic, for the past couple of years has been done virtually. Ms. Garibay reported that this year's event went well. LRC had seven scheduled visits but one was a no show. Representatives from the offices of Assemblymen Hertzberg, Freedman, Bryan, Durazo, Santiago and Holden attended; a meeting with John Sawyer will be rescheduled later.

Key points that were discussed included: modernizing the core staffing formula to be properly funded for new staff, repealing the family cost participation program and the annual program family fees. Rate reform implementation acceleration was also discussed.

Ms. Garibay shared the following Assembly Bills that LRC is advocating for:

- SB 882 – creates an advisory council to improve interactions between law enforcement and people with developmental disabilities.
- AB 2378 – to give tax credit to California employers that hire people with developmental disabilities.

Providers were strongly encouraged to contact/visit their Legislators and State Senators.

### **DDS Updates**

No updates since one and the same with LRC updates.

## **LRC Updates**

**Rate Reform Implementation** – Mr. Ibañez shared that the State organized the service codes that were part of the rate study into four batches. LRC has received back from the State the finalized rates for service providers for batch 1 and batch 2. Rate change notifications will be sent to providers on batch 1 sometime this month via email and will include the excel spreadsheet that shows April and final rates. Providers are expected to communicate to the regional center if they agree or disagree with the rate. For those that are in agreement, a formal rate letter will follow. A link with the rate reform batches was shared in the chat.

Mr. Ibañez advised providers to fill in the excel spreadsheet for service code 055 if they want a rate increase because, even though this service code will be discontinued, it is a part of the rate study.

Mr. Ibañez informed that DDS will assign an updated service code to 055 providers that want to continue doing business as usual and are not interested in doing something different with their services.

Mr. Ibañez shared that DDS confirmed that alternative services will be terminated, it's just a matter of time but the gains that were achieved that the families have found very positive, want to be preserved. DDS will take into consideration the impact of the rate reform and the future of services before making a final decision.

All questions regarding rate reform should be sent to Aide Herrera at [aherrera@lanterman.org](mailto:aherrera@lanterman.org)

**General/Liability Insurance** – providers were reminded that they need to keep current insurance information, including naming LRC as an additional insured up to date. All renewal certificates should be emailed to Irma Padilla at [ipadilla@lanterman.org](mailto:ipadilla@lanterman.org)

**DS1891 Form** – providers were also reminded of this requirement. The Disclosure Statement DS1891 form must be completed by all providers every two years. The provider e-bulletin will include a seamless link of the form and the link will be also posted on the Service Provider web page.

## **DDS Electronic Visit Verification**

Ms. Garibay reminded providers that personal care services providers, such as, respite, supported living services, personal assistance and homemaker services that have not implemented the EVV system are out of compliance as of March 1, 2022. They will be required to enter the information retroactively so the longer they wait the more data they will have to enter. DDS is authorized to implement sanctions, corrective action plans and recovering payments to enforce this requirement. DDS is available to provide technical assistance,.

Ms. Garibay also shared that for health care services, which include some of the therapy services, the EVV system will go into effect January 1, 2023. A link for EVV was posted in the chat.

Out of compliance providers were strongly encouraged to set the EVV system up.

### **Service Provider Breakfast**

The subcommittee is meeting after SPAC and will bring an update to the next meeting.

### **2022 Goals**

Mr. Sanchez suggested that no new goals should be added to the list at this point. Committee members agreed to keep the existing goals:

- Host the Service Provider breakfast in November
- Host one Vendor Fair
- Host one Provider Training
- Host the Community Meeting in September

#### ➤ **Service Provider Subcommittee**

- Dee Prescott
- Nicole Hajjar
- Nancy Niebrugge
- Joann Lockett
- Beatriz Diaz
- Anna Polin

#### ➤ **Training Subcommittee**

- Brian Nguyen

For the Provider Training Ms. Prescott recommended the “Seven Transformational Guides to Engage Staff” training, all committee members welcomed the suggestion.

#### ➤ **Vendor Fair Sub committee**

- Greg Sanchez
- Kelly White

### **UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

None

### **ADJOURNEMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 am

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*Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting*  
**ATTENDANCE**

2021-2022	N O V 21	D E C 21	J A N 22	F E B 22	M A R 22	A P R 22	M A Y 22	J U N 22	J U L 22	A U G 22	S E P 22	O C T 22	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	X	X	X	X	X	E							
K. CASTANEDA	X	X	X	X	X	X							
N. HAJJAR	E	X	X	X	X	X							
D. PRESCOTT	X	X	X	X	X	X							
G. SANCHEZ	X	X	X	E	X	X							
K. GRIFFITH	X	X	X	X	X	X							
K. WHITE	X	X	X	X	X	X							
N. NIEBRUGGE	X	X	X	X	X	X							
M. GABRIELE	E	E	E	X	X	X							
A. DAY	X	E	X	X	X	X							