

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by Smile Pediatrics  
June 3, 2015  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kelly White  
Sandy Contreras  
Israel Ibanez  
Kathleen Kolenda  
Nicole Hajjar  
Miriam Whitfield  
Bill Murphy  
Kimberly West-Isaac

**EXCUSED**

Traci Jones-Martinez  
Keri Castaneda

**GUESTS**

Gloria Leiva – The Jeffrey Foundation  
Carmen Haly – Family Way AFHA  
Dr. Mary Jo Bautista – Family Way AFHA  
Guillermo Richarson – Smile Pediatrics  
Lynn Lewis – Improvised Program  
Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center  
Kae Yabuki – Seek Education  
Bill Martin – Autumn Cottage  
Elana Schechtman – Jewish Family Service  
Cindy Raimondi - ABLE

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram; Patrick Aulicino

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. and introductions were made.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of May 6, 2015 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board Meeting**

Ms. White reported the following:

- LRC supporting the upcoming World Special Olympic games.
- Mr. Howard McBroom, Chair of the Client Advisory Committee, did a presentation on their committee activities.

- Mr. Enrique Roman, Associate Director, gave a presentation on the Community Living Options team and the efforts to move clients out of locked facilities.
- The Legislation passed a resolution recognizing the hard work of all regional centers involved in the closure of Lanterman Developmental Center.
- For FY 2014-15 there are CPP startup funds available. A motion passed to award a contract to Mercedes Diaz, Inc. to develop 2 homes that will serve up to 4 clients each. Contract amount not to exceed \$550,000.
- Ms. Melinda Sullivan informed the Board that DDS sent a letter stating that as of March 2015, LRC did not meet the caseload ratio for clients. None of the other regional centers met the caseload ratio either. A plan of action regarding a caseload ratio survey is being developed. A community meeting to discuss the plan will be hosted by the Programs and Services Committee. The meeting is scheduled for June 10 at Lanterman. To RSVP visit the LRC webpage or contact Gabriela Sanchez [gsanchez@lanterman.org](mailto:gsanchez@lanterman.org)
- The Board approved the Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies service standard in 2010. Under these standards, clients under 3 years of age can receive diapers if parents are able to demonstrate financial need.
- Kern Regional Center received a Corrective Action Plan from DDS that has 12 issues that need to be addressed. The full report can be found on the Kern RC website.
- The Nominating Committee presented the slate for new Officers and Directors. The election will be held at the annual meeting in June.

### **May Revise**

Mr. Patrick Aulicino presented on the May Revision of the budget, which is not much different from the version released in January. Copy of the ARCA Analysis of the FY 2015-16 May Revision was distributed. The biggest addition is the closing of the remaining developmental centers: Sonoma by 2018, Fairview & Porterville by 2021. The secure treatment area at Porterville DC will remain open for clients that had encounters with the Law and can't be placed somewhere else. There are no funds added to increase provider rates or regional center operations.

Mr. Aulicino shared that money is assigned for caseload growth, as the system will serve more clients. It is anticipated that by January 2016, the system will serve 280,000 clients and their families.

The strong push to increase funding for services providers and regional center operations continues. There are two different proposals in the Senate and the Assembly; one proposal is a 10% rate increase only for Supported Living, Supported Employment, Respite and Transportation. The other proposal is to increase 5% across the board for all providers. There is a lot of Legislative activity regarding the issue of provider rates, but it is uncertain if either of these proposals will be approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **SP Breakfast**

No updates.

## **Uniform Holiday Closure Appeal**

No updates.

## **10% Rate Increase Status**

Ms. White reported that advocacy efforts continue across the board regarding the 10% rate increase for all service providers. Advocacy efforts need to continue thru June 15. Providers were asked to continue writing letters and making phone calls to Legislators.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Payment to Vendors**

An anonymous complaint letter was received at the regional center stating that LRC doesn't pay providers on time. The letter alleges that payments are made late, after the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, and that the payment system is very inconsistent. Mr. Aulicino explained that payments are made on the 10<sup>th</sup> or the next working day when the 10<sup>th</sup> is a weekend or a holiday. Mr. Aulicino asked committee members and guest providers for feedback and they had no similar complaints or concerns. He advised providers to contact their Accounting Associate or the Controller, Mr. Barry Londer, to solve any issues regarding payments. A copy of the letter was shared at the meeting, as well as an explanation of provider payments that will be posted on the web.

### **Line of Credit**

Mr. Aulicino shared the benefit of LRC having a line of credit with Citi National Bank when the budget doesn't get signed on time. LRC is able to make payments to providers and employees but the downside is that when the budget is signed, the interest accumulated is paid from the Operations budget as DDS doesn't reimburse RC for it. DDS is currently waiting for federal fund reimbursement and is not reimbursing the regional center the full amount that has been expended. LRC will access the line of credit in June to pay providers and regional center operating expenses.

### **CAADS – California Association of Adult Day Services**

Ms. Kathleen Kolenda gave a presentation on CAADS, a membership organization for agencies providing services to senior citizens. Easter Seals learned of the organization when they began operating a program. This senior program started as a private pay program for typical seniors and is now a blended model also serving seniors with life-long disabilities. Ms. Kolenda encouraged providers to visit the website and consider joining CAADS. A brochure was distributed.

### **City of L.A. Minimum Wage**

Ms. Ingram reported that the City of L.A. voted overwhelmingly to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00/hr by 2020. The City of L.A. increases begin July 1, 2016, with an increase to \$10.50/hr. Regional Centers will have to do health & safety waivers for each client receiving services from a provider based in the City of L.A. It is expected that this process will be cumbersome.

### **Legislative Updates**

SB490 (Beall) – Vendor Audit threshold made it out of the Senate and is in the assembly. It is anticipated that this bill will pass and will be signed by the Governor.

SB638 (Stone) – this bill to revise the rate system for providers was held in submission and may be revisited next year.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

- Mr. Murphy shared that FVO Solutions is one of the three finalists in a Cal State L.A. engineering contest. An FVOS client, family member and one staff will be flown to Washington D.C. for the results presentation, which is next Wednesday.
- Mr. Ibanez informed that SB26 got rejected.

### **2015 SPAC Meeting Locations**

- July – No Meeting
- August 5 – FVO Solutions, Inc.
- September 2 – LRC – Community Meeting
- October 7 – Easter Seals/Glendale Senior Center
- November 4 – SPAC Breakfast
- December 2 – AbilityFirst/Kinneloa

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am

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

2014-2015	N O V 14	D E C 14	J A N 15	F E B 15	M A R 15	A P R 15	M A Y 15	J U N 15	J U L 15	A U G 15	S E P 15	O C T 15	T O T A L
K. WHITE, Chair	SP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N				
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	E	E	X	X	X	E	E	O				
S. CONTRERAS	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
B. MURPHY	E	E	X	X	X	X	E	X	M				
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	E				
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E				
K. KOLENDA	F	E	X	X	X	E	X	X	T				
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	X	X	E	X	X	E	I				
M. WHITFIELD	S	E	X	X	E	X	X	X	N				
N. HAJJAR* seated 3/15	T				X	E	X	X	G				

New member\*