

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
May 6, 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  
Traci Jones-Martinez  
Keri Castaneda  
Jim Storck  
Yvonne Nakamoto  
Kyra Griffith  
Dee Prescott  
Nicole Hajjar  
Kelly White  
Greg Sanchez

**Guests:**

Janet Upjohn/Cheerful Helpers	Nancy Niebrugge/Campbell Ctr	Lisa Peterson/Shield Healthcare
Beatriz Diaz/In2Vision	Laura Campana/Way Finder Fam.	Cynthia Barron/ECF
Aida Herrera/ECF	Jacklin Pfaff/Total Ed. Solutions	Veronica Solano/Jeffrey Found.
Sam Anuakpado/LSSSC	Allan Baca/Inclusions Svs.	Andrea Devers/PCS Svs.
Azniv Tonoyan/In2Vision	Adrian Estrada/In2Vision	Carmen Haley/CIHSS
Joann Lockett/ECF	Cynthia Raimondi/ABLE	

**Staff**

Melinda Sullivan  
Karen Ingram

**Public Comments**

Mr. Sanchez asked for help identifying COVID-19 testing sites for staff working with LRC clients. He shared that direct staff should be tested as they are considered front line workers.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from April 1, 2020 were accepted as submitted.

**Committee Check-In**

Members shared that for the most part everyone is doing well. They shared the following concerns:

- Some clients have tested positive.
- 90% of the families are now participating on the tele therapy sessions (EI).
- Need to use masks and thermometers when reinstating the in-person meetings.
- Difficult to hire help to care for clients that have tested positive even at \$20/hour
- What happens with SOE funding after May 15?

- ST providers conducting sessions while wearing masks doesn't work. NOTE: Ms. Prescott informed that Easterseals is working with a local company to produce "clear" masks; those interested should contact Ms. Prescott.

## **REPORTS**

### **Board**

Ms. Isaac reported the following:

- LRC reviewed the steps taken to allow all employees to work from home. Phone calls to families and providers are being made; virtual IPP meetings are being held; most committees and support groups are meeting virtually. It is business as usual, just not in person.
- The Budget was reviewed.
- Mr. Carmine Manicone was introduced as the new Associate Director for Client & Family Services.
- The Board voted to support AB 2024 (rates).
- ARCA is supporting a proposed change to Workers Comp risk factors. There is a hearing on May 18 to discuss the proposal.

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

Ms. Ingram reported that DDS changed the deadline to submit the self-assessments from March 31 to June 30 due to the State of Emergency. She informed that 41% of providers have completed their self-assessments and strongly encouraged the 49% that have not responded to do so soon. The goal of the survey is to determine where providers are in meeting the new requirements. There is no expectation that providers be at 100% at this time.

### **Service Provider Breakfast**

Ms. Jones-Martinez informed that the committee has decided to cancel this year's breakfast due to the pandemic. Committee will meet at a later date to discuss the 2021 event or plan something different in lieu of the breakfast.

### **Provider Training Committee**

Ms. Prescott suggested that due to the circumstances, this training could possibly be done as a webinar. Another suggestion was having a round table discussion with breakout sessions within the Zoom settings. This was a popular idea. It was suggested having the training before September since one of the topics proposed was "Remote Services" which is currently happening. The committee will meet before the next SPAC meeting

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

Mr. Sanchez stated that the same format suggested for the Provider Training will apply to the Staff Training/Vendor Fair. He suggested recording "vignettes" of information to share with providers. The committee will meet before the next SPAC meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Legislative Advocacy**

- Ms. White shared that California State Senator Henry Stern continues to support AB 2024 and that advocacy needs to continue for the good of providers.

- Rate Study is on hold.
- Concern was shared regarding DDS possibly auditing providers who receive federal loans from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and decreasing their rates. Ms. Sullivan informed that she participates in weekly calls with DDS and Regional Center Directors, and this topic has never come up.

### **DDS Updates**

#### **Review of New Covid-19 Directives**

Ms. Ingram reviewed the Directives that have come out since the April 1 SPAC meeting. She informed that Directives are still coming and those affecting providers will be shared as quickly as possible. The Directives can be found on the LRC and DDS websites.

### **LRC Updates**

#### **Review Implementation of Directives**

Ms. Ingram shared some COVID-19 numbers as of April 30:

- 924 clients have been tested
- 166 have tested positive – LRC has 7 clients
- 576 clients tested negative – LRC has 10 clients
- 175 clients are pending results – LRC has 3 clients
- 19 deaths related to COVID-19 – LRC has 1 client
  - 16 deaths unknown if they are related to COVID-19
- 236 hospitalized – KRC has none
- 152 employees (RC, DDS< Providers) tested positive – LRC has 10 providers
- No LRC employees have been affected.

Ms. Ingram strongly encouraged providers to follow the Center for Disease Control & Public Health recommendations to keep everyone safe.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CA Budget 20/21**

Ms. Ingram informed that the May Revise is due May 10. Word is that the 2020/21 budget will be a ‘workload’ budget with no new programs or services being funded. Governor Newsom’s priorities for funding are wildfire prevention, COVID-19, and the homeless crisis.

LRC is doing a survey of day programs to determine how remote services are going. There will be a series of Zoom conversations for providers to gather information and share ideas for providing services differently in response to social distancing and other factors. The meetings will start with day programs, but will also occur for children’s after-school programs and other group programs.

DDS has authorized Regional Center Executive Directors to approve Health & Safety Waivers related to COVID-19. Ms. Ingram shared the following:

- Residential providers were approved to receive additional funding for staff since clients are now home with the day programs closed. Providers received a form to provide information needed by LRC to calculate a rate for this additional staffing. Most residential providers

submitted a request. LRC is still processing the requests and setting up payment authorizations in the system.

- LRC will reimburse providers that are paying their direct care staff overtime due to the virus.
- LRC is also reviewing funding requests from providers working with COVID-19 positive clients who need to pay an incentive to staff to work with the clients.

**UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

None

**ADJOURNEMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 AM

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

<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>N O V 19</b>	<b>D E C 19</b>	<b>J A N 20</b>	<b>F E B 20</b>	<b>M A R 20</b>	<b>A P R 20</b>	<b>M A Y 20</b>	<b>J U N 20</b>	<b>J U L 20</b>	<b>A U G 20</b>	<b>S E P 20</b>	<b>O C T 20</b>	<b>T O T A L</b>
<b>K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair</b>	SP	X	N	X	X	X	X		N				
<b>T. JONES MARTINEZ</b>	B	X	O	X	X	X	X		O				
<b>K. CASTANEDA</b>	R	X	M	X	X	X	X						
<b>N. HAJJAR</b>	E	X	E	E	E	X	X		M				
<b>D. PRESCOTT</b>	A	E	E	X	X	X	X		E				
<b>J. STORCK</b>	K	X	T	X	X	X	X		E				
<b>Y. NAKAMOTO</b>	F	X	I	X	X	X	X		T				
<b>G. SANCHEZ</b>	A	X	N	X	X	E	X		I				
<b>K. GRIFFITH</b>	S	X	G	X	X	X	X		N				
<b>K. WHITE</b>	T	X		X	E	X	X		G				