

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by Villa Esperanza  
May 6, 2015  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kelly White  
Sandy Contreras  
Israel Ibanez  
Kathleen Kolenda  
Nicole Hajjar  
Keri Castaneda  
Miriam Whitfield

**ABSENT**

Traci Jones-Martinez  
Bill Murphy  
Kimberly West-Isaac

**GUESTS**

Gloria Leiva – The Jeffrey Foundation  
Raul Alvarez – CA Mentor  
Tina Rodriguez – CA Mentor  
Carmen Haly – Family Way AFHA  
Dr. Mary Jo Bautista – Family Way AFHA  
Guillermo Richarson – Smile Pediatric

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. and introductions were made.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of March 4, 2015 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board Meeting**

Ms. White reported the following:

- Ms. Gwen Jordan, Director of Clinical Services, reported that a task group has been established to address the mental health needs of the RC population. She reported that 33% of people with developmental disabilities develop a mental health disorder. The Department of Mental Health (DMH), Department of Children & Family Services and some DMH service providers are part of this group. They meet quarterly.

- Ms. Melinda Sullivan, Executive Director, reported on Self Determination. The LRC committee will meet in May.
- The Regional Center system is turning 50 next year and Centers are already thinking about how to celebrate the Lanterman Act and this service system.
- Mr. Patrick Aulicino, Associate Director of Administrative Services, reported that Lanterman will not need to use a line of credit this year.
- Late billing - some providers are years behind in submitting their billing. Ms. Ingram stated that regional centers have to keep the books open for 3 years to accommodate late billings.
- There has been an increase of 161 clients (2%) at Lanterman from July 2014 to March 2015.
- The Board approved the Employment First Policy.

### **Grassroots**

A small team comprised of two Lanterman staff, including Ms. Ingram, a parent and a service provider represented Lanterman at Grassroots on April 15. They met with Senator Holly Mitchel, as well as staff for other representatives. They discussed the Lanterman Coalition's request for a 10% rate increase this year for service providers, and a 5% annually thereafter until the State develops a mechanism to keep the system fully funded. Providers were encouraged to read the ARCA newspaper "On the Brink".

Ms. White informed that nine hundred and fifty (950) letters to the Governor were generated as a result of Legislative Town Hall meetings held at NLARC, ECF, Villa Esperanza and New Horizons. Providers were strongly encouraged to continue writing letters or making phone calls to the Governor as the May revise is coming out next week.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **SP Breakfast**

SP breakfast is set for November 4 at the La Canada Country Club. Keynote speaker is booked; fee is still \$20.00 per person pre-registration and \$35.00 at the door (space permitting). Tote bags will be donated by SVS and center pieces will be donated by Easter Seals. Ms. Contreras reminded committee members and guests that at least 200 promotional items are needed for the goodie bags, bags will be assembled in October after the SPAC meeting.

#### **Uniform Holiday Closures**

ARC and UCP had a lawsuit on uniform holiday closures that went on for 4 years. The Federal Court determined that the State could not implement this change without approval from CMS. After indicating there would be no appeal, the State is now appealing the decision. Ms. Ingram informed that there are no imminent uniform holiday closure dates. There will be a hearing in mid-May. Providers were advised to continue uniform holiday and half-day billing until they hear differently.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **WIOA Meeting**

This federal Legislation takes effect July 1, 2015. Clients younger than 24 years cannot be referred to a segregated environment unless they have attempted to work twice and have been unsuccessful. The WIOA meeting hosted by LRC on April 21 was very well attended. Representatives from Rehab, EDD, School Districts, LRC staff, work activity programs and supported employment attended. They will meet again in July.

### **Legislation**

AB987 by Assemblyman Levin - This bill will prohibit employers from retaliating when an employee asks for a reasonable accommodation. This bill is moving forward, it's in the Senate Rules Committee. ARCA supports this bill.

SB490 by Senator Beall – This bill changes the threshold for vendor financial reviews and audits to \$500,000 for the review and \$2,000,000 for the audit. This bill is moving forward. ARCA supports this bill and attendees were encouraged to support it as well.

SB638 by Senator Stone - This bill will require that DDS submit a plan by August 1, 2016 that would address the Community Services rate system. This bill is moving forward. ARCA supports this bill.

For more information on current bills go to [www.arcanet.org](http://www.arcanet.org) click on Legislation then click on “follow the bills”

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

- LRC is hosting the second workshop on Dual-Diagnosis at the Brookside Golf Course from 9:00am to 4:00pm on June 2. A \$10.00 charge will apply. RC and mental health providers will be attending.
- Tom Pomeranz will be doing a half day training for parents of clients birth to five on Saturday, August 29 at Lanterman. This training will be free of charge to Lanterman families and providers; it will be a \$10.00 charge for everybody else. More information on the website.
- AbilityFirst will be operating Camp Paivika for summer camp in the San Bernardino Mountains. There are about 20 openings for children; they offer a very generous scholarship for families that qualify. Families that don't qualify for scholarship can still receive financial assistance. Flyers will be distributed.
- There will an SLS forum in San Diego on May 29 to discuss changes and challenges to supported living services.

### **2015 SPAC Meeting Locations**

- June 3 – Smile Pediatric (parking \$6.00)
- 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 11:00 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						
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	E	E	X	X	X	E						
S. CONTRERAS	R	X	X	X	X	X	X						
B. MURPHY	E	E	X	X	X	X	E						
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X	X	X	X	E						
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X	X	X	X	X						
K. KOLENDA	F	E	X	X	X	E	X						
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	X	X	E	X	X						
M. WHITFIELD	S	E	X	X	E	X	X						
N. HAJJAR* seated 3/15	T				X	E	X						

New member\*