

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
Hosted by Easter Seals/CalWes Homes
April 4, 2018
Minutes**

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly West-Isaac
Dee Prescott
Sandy Moreno
Traci Jones-Martinez
Keri Castaneda
Israel Ibanez
Yvonne Nakamoto

ABSENT

Nicole Hajjar
Jim Storck

GUESTS

Jack Darakjian – Modern Support Services	Bryan Chacon – Maxim Healthcare
Brian Nguyen – Easter Seals	Yvette Torres – Premier Healthcare Services
Lisa Peterson – Shield Healthcare	Kelly White – Villa Esperanza Services
Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center	Arpi Gulgulyan – The Campbell Center
Greg Sanchez – HomeInstead Pasadena	

STAFF

Karen Ingram
Sonia Garibay
Taeki Kim

Meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM. Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 7, 2018 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board Meeting

Ms. Isaac shared that the Board was short because it was followed by a community meeting on POS Disparity.

CMS Final Rule

Ms. Garibay reported that DDS has not announced the transition grant recipients yet. The day program services meeting will take place on April 27 @ BCR Burbank from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. The children’s services meeting will be scheduled sometime in May, depending on provider’s availability. Ms. Garibay will send out an e-mail.

OLD BUSINESS

SPAC Breakfast

Ms. Moreno reported that location and date for the breakfast have been confirmed. A speaker is still needed and suggestions should be sent to Ms. Moreno. The subcommittee is meeting today after SPAC.

SP Vendor Fair

Ms. Castaneda confirmed that the Vendor Fair for children's services is scheduled for August 9 @ LRC, 2nd floor. The subcommittee met to discuss the structure of it, having a speaker and topics that the Service Coordinators may be interested in hearing about. Set-up will be at 8:30 and the event will start at 9:30.

Service Provider Training

Ms. Prescott informed that the SP training will be scheduled sometime in September.

Ms. Prescott shared that the most popular topics for the training were: HIPAA, technology and social media. One speaker has been confirmed. It was suggested that insurance companies be invited to display in case providers have questions regarding coverage needed in today's business environment. Subgroup will meet again on April 13. Additional ideas should be routed to Ms. Prescott.

Provider Rate Surveys

Ms. Ingram shared that the DDS Provider Rate Study is not available yet. The survey will include questions regarding wage, benefits, utilities and other costs incurred by service providers to operate their business. Ms. Ingram also shared that at the recent Community Services Director's meeting there was discussion about how to ensure that smaller providers get the support they need to complete the survey. Some large providers will be asked to "adopt" small providers to help them go thru the process. Even though this survey is voluntary, providers are strongly encouraged to participate. Once the surveys are completed, Burns & Associates will compile results and determine the rate needed for each service code. Their report is due to the Legislature in March 2019.

Early Intervention Meeting

Ms. Ingram informed that the Early Intervention meeting scheduled for March has been rescheduled for April 20th at 9:30 at LRC. Notices were sent to providers. The Legislative Analyst Office's report recommending that EI services should be provided by regional centers and not by school districts will be discussed at this meeting.

Minimum Wage Adjustment

The State Minimum Wage went up on January 1, 2018. Notices were sent to providers that have rates set by the regional center with instructions to submit a request for a rate adjustment by March 1, 2018. Only 7 providers submitted a rate adjustment request, one request was denied because the provider entered wages higher than allowed, the rest were approved and are being processed.

SPAC Vacancy

Ms. Ingram reminded the committee that SPAC still has a vacancy. Those interested should contact Ms. Ingram or Ms. Isaac.

NEW BUSINESS

SDS & Disparity

Mr. Taeki Kim, RC Special Projects Coordinator, gave a presentation on Disparity and Self Determination Services. Mr. Kim shared that one possible reason for POS Disparity is the lack of services available in the client/families language of choice. Mr. Kim suggested that foreign language newspapers, as well as service agencies and churches could be places for providers to recruit staff. The full disparity presentation is available on the Lanterman website.

Under the Self Determination Services (SDS) program, participating clients will have a budget to find and pay for the services they want. Only clients living with their families or living independently are eligible to participate. DDS has specific criteria, including but not limited to ethnicity, gender, age and disability, to help with their selection of SDS participants from each regional center. LRC will have 74 of the 2500 pilot participants.

It was clarified that, even though the clients will be able to make their own choices, there still be a level of service coordination involvement, but the “Independent Facilitator” will be the person helping the client find the appropriate programs for them. The fee for the Independent Facilitator will come from the individual’s budget, as will the fee for the Fiscal Monitoring Service (FMS) that is responsible for paying the bills.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Jack Darakjian, Modern Support Services, has been appointed to the Los Angeles County Commission on Disability.
- The Help Group Autism Center is hosting a special needs event on April 8, from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm in Sherman Oaks. Admission is free.
- Easter Seals hosted their annual Legislative dinner on March 22.
- Assemblymember Chu has introduced a bill that extends the regional center eligibility age to 22.
- ARCA Grassroots was held on March 19 in Sacramento. Representatives from the regional center attended and discussed the need to withdraw the Governor’s proposal to reinstate the Uniform Closure dates. Assemblyman Holden’s proposal for bridge funding for providers was also discussed, with a request to support the measure.
- Ms. Ingram strongly encouraged providers to continue talking to their elected officials to vote out of the budget the Uniform Holiday closures to make sure it won’t make it to the May Revise.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

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Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2017-2018	N O V 17	D E C 17	J A N 18	F E B 18	M A R 18	A P R 18	M A Y 18	J U N 18	J U L 18	A U G 18	S E P 18	O C T 18	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	SP	X	N	X	X	X			N				
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	O	X	X	X			O				
S. MORENO	R	X		X	X	X							
I. IBANEZ	E	E	M	X	X	X			M				
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	E	X	X	X			E				
N. HAJJAR	K	X	E	X	X	E			E				
D. PRESCOTT	F	X	T	X	X	X			T				
J. STORCK	A	X	I	X	X	E			I				
Y. NAKAMOTO	S	E	N	X	X	X			N				
VACANT	T		G						G				