

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
Hosted by Easter Seals
March 6, 2019
Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM and introductions were made.

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Nicole Hajjar
Dee Prescott
Jim Storck
Greg Sanchez
Yvonne Nakamoto
Kyra Griffith

EXCUSED

Traci Jones-Martinez
Kimberly West-Isaac
Sandy Moreno
Keri Castaneda

GUESTS

Lorena Garcia – ETTA
Cynthia Martinez – Easter Seals
Andrea Torres – Smile Pediatrics
Rachel Saucedo – Easter Seals
Lisa Peterson – Shield Healthcare

Bryan Chacon – Maxim Healthcare
Lauren Ludlow – Jewish Family Service
Brian Nguyen – Easter Seals
Araceli Cornejo – AbilityFirst
Elinor Szekunda – ECF

STAFF

Karen Ingram

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 6, 2019 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board Meeting

No report.

Legislative Training

Ms. Ingram reported that the Legislative Training was well attended. All agreed that the information shared was very valuable. Mr. Hector Rodriguez from Assemblyman Chris Holden's office shared a handout on how to involve elected officials and how to present; those interested in getting that information should contact Mr. Holden's office. Ms. Ingram informed that Mr. Daniel Savino from ARCA will forward the PowerPoint presentation of the training; once received it will be posted on the LRC webpage.

Ms. Ingram emphasized the importance of legislative advocacy and stated that more local visits will be scheduled this year. The LRC team for the annual Grassroots Day is

already arranged. She encouraged providers to get more involved in local visits, especially this year because of the rate study.

NEW BUSINESS

Debrief on Burns & Associates Provider Rate Study

Ms. Ingram gave a report from the DDS meeting she attended in Sacramento February 25-26. She shared that Burns & Associates was contracted by DDS to do the rate study in 2018. While only 52% of providers responded to the study it was enough to give them meaningful data.

Ms. Ingram also reported the following:

- A separate study was done for Early Intervention Providers and another survey was done for parents.
- Ms. Ingram clarified that the rate study is not to set rates but to collect and analyze data and make some recommendations to the Legislature and DDS on rate setting methodologies.
- Proposed methodologies include variables from multiple sources and can be adjusted as needed. For example, mileage is based on the IRS mileage rates.
- B&A is looking for comments on the factors used in the proposed methodologies and not comments on the rates.
- The 2,173 page study can be found at dds.ca.gov.
- There is a recommendation to collapse some of the 150 service codes into one service code and to eliminate some service codes.
- There is a recommendation to change the daily rates to hourly rates.

LRC has appointed Ms. Ingram and Ms. Isaac to collect provider's comments to be forwarded to DDS. The deadline to submit comments to DDS is March 22, but this deadline may be pushed back since the report to the Legislature has been pushed back.

The Committee and guests provided comments on the methodologies that will be included in the report to DDS. Ms. Ingram thanked everyone for their comments and encouraged the group to speak with their colleagues about the methodology to see if it will work or not.

The group agreed that holding meetings with providers by service type would be helpful in getting feedback from providers. Meetings will be scheduled over the next few weeks.

Bridge Funding

Ms. Ingram reported that California submitted their request for Bridge Funding to CMS but there is no response yet. Bridge funding will be given only to programs with DDS set rates in high-cost areas: residential services, day services, in home respite and independent living services. This increase is one-time and only for one year. DDS will be sending notification letters.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Ms. Ingram informed that the first of many budget hearings is scheduled for today, March 6; Ms. Isaac is attending per Mr. Holden's invitation. Ms. Castaneda is also attending today's hearing.

- Mr. Sanchez shared that L.A. County has grants available for family caregivers thru the USC Family Care Giver Center. The \$2,500 Grants are one-time only, but will allow family caregivers to get respite. To receive these funds, the care recipient must reside in the San Gabriel Valley.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM

/ip

Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2018-2019	N O V 18	D E C 18	J A N 19	F E B 19	M A R 19	A P R 19	M A Y 19	J U N 19	J U L 19	A U G 19	S E P 19	O C T 19	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	SP	E	N	X	E				N				
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	O	E	E				O				
S. MORENO	R	X		X	E								
K. CASTANEDA	E	X	M	X	E				M				
N. HAJJAR	A	E	E	X	X				E				
D. PRESCOTT	K	X	E	X	X				E				
J. STORCK	F	X	T	X	X				T				
Y. NAKAMOTO	A	X	I	X	X				I				
G. SANCHEZ	S	X	N	X	X				N				
K. GRIFFITH	T	X	G	X	X				G				