

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
Hosted by The Campbell Center/Alma House
April 6, 2016
Minutes**

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Kelly White
Israel Ibanez
Keri Castaneda
Traci Jones-Martinez
Kimberly West-Isaac
Bill Murphy
Sandy Contreras Moreno
Nicole Hajjar

EXCUSED

Dee Prescott

ABSENT

Miriam Whitfield

GUESTS

Beatrice Diaz – In2Vision
Annie Vartanian – The Campbell Center
Bill Martin – Autumn Cottage
Jim Storck – Autumn Cottage
Elana Schechtman – Jewish Family Service
Elaine Murphy – Maxim Healthcare
Bryan Chacon – Maxim Healthcare
Deborah Cool – Shady Acres

STAFF

Karen Ingram

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 2, 2016 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board Meeting

Ms. White reported the following:

- Gwen Jordan, R.N., Director of the Clinical Services Unit, introduced Dr. Leslie Richard, Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician. Dr. Richard has been a consultant with the regional center as since 1998. Dr. Richard gave a presentation on her

interactions with the medical community to educate them about regional center clients in an effort to improve the medical services our clients receive.

- ARCA reports –ARCA has hired a new CFO, Robert Diaz. Mr. Diaz will be visiting many regional centers to expand his knowledge of our system.
- Self Determination – DDS answered almost 180 questions from CMS. As a reminder, this waiver must comply with the CMS Final Rule before being approved.
- ABX2-1, formerly MCO Reform – Legislation includes \$287 million dollars in general funds and with federal reimbursement rate, the full infusion to the RC system is \$473,000,000 dollars.
- The financial threshold limit for Provider Financial Reviews was raised to \$500,000 and 2 million for audits. Providers with clean reviews/audits may request a 2 year exemption. To expedite the exemption process, providers will be advised to submit their Financial Review/Audit with a letter requesting an exemption.
- The Board is in the process of reviewing the CEO evaluation as Ms. Melinda Sullivan will reach her second year as the LRC Executive Director in June.
- DDS did an audit of LRC with positive results; there were some finding but they were corrected.
- Grassroots – Mr. Ibanez attended the Grassroots rally in Sacramento on March 31. He shared that it was a great experience for him as he had the opportunity to meet a few Legislators in person. It was strongly recommended that providers continue visiting their local Legislators as advocacy efforts should never stop.
- The Documentation Retention Policy was approved as revised.
- LRC has conducted three community meetings on Disparity Data. Meetings were held with the Korean and Spanish parent groups, and in English following the March Board meeting.

CMS Final Rule Update

Ms. Ingram reported that all initial meetings with the provider groups are completed. LRC is in the process of developing a task force that will include representatives from each of the provider groups. This task force group will bring information from the provider work groups to the task force and take information from the task force back to the provider work group to ensure that clients and their families are getting consistent messages from the regional center and the providers.

Ms. Ingram shared that the Community Services Directors have been charged to help figure out what physical and monetary resources will be needed to make some CMSFR transitions become a reality. This topic will be part of the SPAC monthly agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

SP Breakfast

Ms. Moreno reported that the keynote speaker, Peter Laity, is confirmed and will present on “Honoring Direct Support Professionals”. Ms. Moreno asked providers to contact the vendors that they do business with to request donations for at least 200 goodie bags. Mr. Bill Martin, Autumn Cottage, will donate the centerpieces, and Mr. Ibanez, Inclusion Services, will donate the tote bags. Ms. Moreno will be the breakfast MC. The subcommittee will meet after today’s SPAC meeting.

MCO Tax Reform

DDS has posted a letter on their website that was sent to regional centers summarizing the bill (ABX2-1). Funds for providers include, but are not limited to: 15 million dollars in grants for providers to transition their programs; 5% rate increases for specific provider groups; and wage pass thru increase for all provider groups.

There is \$169 million dollars for these rate increases and DDS will calculate the wage pass thru rates based on a formula created with the results of 2000 surveys sent to randomly selected providers. DDS will provide a list to Regional Centers of the percentage that will be used to calculate the rates by service codes for rates that are not set by DDS.

Ms. Ingram informed that in October 2017 all providers will be required to complete a survey that shows how they used the wage pass thru funds. She emphasized the importance of keeping track of how those funds were utilized as providers who fail to submit that survey or cannot demonstrate that the funds were used for staff wages will not continue to receive these funds.

Minimum Wage Update

Ms. Ingram informed that the deadline for providers to receive a retroactive rate adjustment was March 31. Rate adjustment requests received at the regional center after March 31 will be reviewed, and if approved, they will be effective the month after the request was received. After the rate adjustment is processed, LRC will send a letter to providers and user regional centers notifying them of the rate adjustment.

FY 2016/17 Proposed Budget

Ms. Ingram shared that the Governor's FY 2016/17 budget includes additional funds for the CMSFR transition and a new 4-bed ARM rate for residential providers.

2016 SPAC Meeting Locations

- May 4 – AbilityFirst (Kinneloa) – Pasadena
- June 1 – Villa Esperanza, hosted by West Residential – Pasadena
- July 6 – NO MEETING
- August 3 – AbilityFirst (Green Street) – Pasadena
- September 7 – FDLRC – Los Angeles
- October 5 – Easter Seals – Glendale
- November 2 – SP Breakfast – La Canada
- December 7 – Smile Pediatric – Los Angeles

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Nancy Bargmann is the new DDS Director.
- Tom Pomeranz will be here April 19 - 22. The April 19 training will be at the Los Angeles Cathedral and will help day programs transition to CMSFR compliance. LRC is sponsoring 2 staff from each of its day programs. Information for the April 20, 21 and 22 trainings is available on the LRC website.
- There will be a Forensic Conference in May at the Goodwill Training Center in Atwater Park.

- Smile Pediatric is applying for a grant to develop an organic garden to feed children with feeding disorders and is asking service providers for their support to be able to receive this grant. Ms. Hajjar will send an e-mail to SPAC members with more details.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM

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Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2015-2016	N O V 15	D E C 15	J A N 16	F E B 16	M A R 16	A P R 16	M A Y 16	J U N 16	J U L 16	A U G 16	S E P 16	O C T 16	T O T A L
K. WHITE, Chair	SP	X	X	X	X	X							
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	X	X	X	X							
S. MORENO	R	X	X	E	E	X							
B. MURPHY	E	X	X	E	E	X							
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X	X	X	X							
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X	X	X	X							
K. CASTANEDA	F	X	X	X	X	X							
M. WHITFIELD	A	X	X	X	A	A							
N. HAJJAR	S	E	X	X	E	X							
D. PRESCOTT	T	X	X	X	X	E							