

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by AbilityFirst  
December 2, 2015  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kelly White  
Israel Ibanez  
Miriam Whitfield  
Bill Murphy  
Keri Castaneda  
Traci Jones-Martinez  
Sandy Contreras  
Kimberly West-Isaac  
Dee Prescott

**ABSENT**

Nicole Hajjar

**GUESTS**

Bryan Chacon – Maxim Healthcare Services  
Miriam Corona – Premier Healthcare  
Cindi Raimondi – ABLE  
Elana Schechtman – Jewish Family Services  
Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center  
Sarah Yoon – Jewish Family Services  
Michael Barkyoub – AbilityFirst  
Delia Valenzuela – AbilityFirst  
Lynwood Brown – CIHSS, Inc

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of October 7, 2015 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board Meeting**

Ms. White reported the following:

- Holidays are for Sharing –This special fund helps clients to cover emergency needs such as food, which they are not allowed to get thru Purchase of Services. Providers were encouraged to donate if they are able.
- LRC is planning a series of events for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the regional center system. A kick-off event is scheduled for January 15, 2016.
- A CPP contract with Anka Behavioral Services was approved to develop two crisis homes for children. Anka will receive \$250,000 for each home.

- LRC reviewed the agency's insurance package; cyber insurance (for data breach) was added. There was an \$8,000 cost savings in premiums this year.
- Cash flow is good, a million dollar deficit is anticipated which will be covered by DDS.
- Survey results showed that in 2014 LRC received 631 new referrals, 74% were under the age of 3 and 70% were diagnosed with Autism. Another survey done in July 2015 showed that LRC received 673 new referrals, 75% were under the age of 3, 90% were deemed eligible and 62% were diagnosed with Autism.
- Enrique Roman, Associate Director, gave a presentation on the Programs & Services Committee's 2015 contract performance goals and the Alternative Staffing Model. The same goals will be kept for 2016, with the addition of two goals for the disparity concerns.
- SPAC breakfast was very successful. Some Board members donated gift cards for the raffle.
- The Board will go dark in December.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **SP Breakfast**

Ms. Contreras reported that the SP Recognition Breakfast was a very successful event. The success was due to a great speaker, venue, food and all the gifts that were raffled. She thanked everyone who helped in the planning and organization. The next breakfast will be on November 2, 2016 at the same location.

### **2015 Goals**

All 2015 SPAC goals were met.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2016 Goals**

- Host the annual SP breakfast
- Host one community meeting
- Support legislative advocacy efforts.
- Participate in CMS Final Rule and HCBS discussions
- Host a forum for residential providers to dialogue with regulatory agencies.

Subcommittee members for the breakfast are: Ms. Jones Martinez, Ms. Prescott and Ms. Contreras. The committee will assist with finding a speaker, obtaining goodie bag and raffle items and center pieces.

Subcommittee members for the forum are: Ms. West (Chair), Ms. White, Ms. Whitfield and Ms. Castaneda. The committee will determine the topic and identify which agencies they would like to be invited to participate. Residential provider concerns include conflicts in regulation between CCL & DDS, enforcement differences between the CCL offices.

Ms. Whitfield suggested discussing the changes to supported employment, including the change in definition, that may mean clients will not be able to stay in supported employment and will have to be transferred to day programs

## **2016 SPAC Meeting Locations**

- January 6 – Glendale Adventist Medical Center – Play to Learn Center – Eagle Rock
- February 3 – Villa Esperanza – Pasadena
- March 2 – FVO – Pasadena
- April 6 – The Campbell Center – Glendale
- 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**

- Ms. Contreras suggested that “Advocacy Update” should be a standing topic on the SPAC agenda.
- Ms. Castaneda shared that AbilityFirst has a task force to look at the future direction of the work center.

Ms. Ingram reported the following:

- Los Angeles RC Directors have invited the Community Services Directors and the SPAC Chairs to meet in February 2016 to discuss implementation of the CMS Final Rule.
- LRC will hold a series of information sessions by service category to ensure that providers are aware of the changes coming with the CMS Final Rule, which is effective March 17, 2019. SPAC members agreed to participate in the appropriate service session(s).
- The Fair Labor Standards Act overtime rule for companion care was effective November 1, 2015. LRC sent a letter on November 20<sup>th</sup> to clients and families who receive in-home respite, SLS or personal assistance services informing them of the law, and asking them not to request that their workers stay longer than authorized as providers are required to pay the overtime but they will not receive reimbursement from the regional center for any overtime they pay to workers.
- DDS has informed regional centers that the 5.82% rate increase for the above mentioned companion services will be effective December 1, 2015. This rate increase is intended to help offset the provider’s costs to recruit, hire, train and supervise the additional workers needed to avoid staff working overtime to meet a client’s authorized support needs.
- The State’s minimum wage increase to \$10/hour is effective January 1, 2016. LRC will be posting the letter from DDS and the workbook providers will need to complete for each vendor number to request a rate adjustment due to the increase in minimum wage. The deadline to submit requests is March 30, 2016. LRC will submit a report to DDS by April 30, 2016 regarding the fiscal impact of approved rate adjustments.
- Providers in the City of L.A. and the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County will have their first rate adjustment to \$10.50/hr effective July 1, 2016. This will be done as a health and safety waiver request for each client.

- A letter was received from Santi Rogers, recently retired Director of DDS, regarding the upcoming closures of Sonoma, Fairview and Porterville Developmental Centers.
- The interim Director of DDS is Michael Wilkening.
- Most SPAC members sent ornaments made by clients to DDS to decorate the Christmas tree at the Capitol.
- The City of Inglewood opened up their Section 8 waiting list today.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 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											
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X											
S. CONTRERAS	R	X											
B. MURPHY	E	X											
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X											
I. IBANEZ	K	X											
K. CASTANEDA	F	X											
M. WHITFIELD	A	X											
N. HAJJAR	S	E											
D. PRESCOTT	T	X											