

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
Hosted by Smile + Wonder
December 6, 2017
Minutes**

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly West-Isaac
Dee Prescott
Sandy Moreno
Traci Jones-Martinez
Keri Castaneda
Nicole Hajjar
Jim Storck

EXCUSED

Israel Ibanez
Yvonne Nakamoto

GUESTS

Janet Upjohn – Cheerful Helpers
Beatriz Diaz – In2Vision
Stephanie Davis – Jewish Family Service
Gregorio Sanchez – Home Instead Service Care

STAFF

Karen Ingram

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM. Introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of October 4, 2017 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board Meeting

Ms. Isaac shared the following: There was a presentation on the diversity projects that are going on at the KYRC. The Promotora Program has been very successful; they have 280 graduates since 2013 when they started. The Community Health Workers, serving the Korean-American families are currently serving 20 families. Diversity funds are also being used for an online learning literacy program for parents (ESL/English as a second language) and for a state wide notification system.

CMS Final Rule

Ms. Ingram reported that the day program workgroup would like to meet more frequently, therefore, they decided to meet every other month; the next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2018.

Participation has decreased at the residential meetings. The providers have been meeting in smaller groups at these sessions to share ideas and help each other problem solve. LRC does keep a record of attendance at these meetings and will reach out to those providers who are not participating.

Ms. Prescott and Ms. Castaneda shared with the group that as community integration is increased, providers should be mindful, responsible and good stewards when they take clients into the community. For example: they should not inundate certain public areas, overcrowd a retailer or approach a site for volunteer opportunities when another provider is already volunteering there. It is important to keep people with disabilities in a positive light. Ms. Ingram suggested discussing this at the CMSFR meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

SPAC Breakfast

Ms. Moreno shared the highlights of the breakfast. Attendance was higher than in prior years and the food was good and plentiful. There were some technical difficulties during the viewing of the “We are Here to Speak for Justice” documentary, but overall it was a good event.

The committee discussed the possibility of discontinuing the goodie bags as it requires a lot of coordination and it’s hard to get providers to donate 200 of the same items. A suggestion was made to give each attendee only one item instead of a goodie bag. This will be discussed by the breakfast committee. The committee members for next year are: Ms. Moreno, Ms. Jones-Martinez, Ms. Prescott and Mr. Storck.

Review 2017 Goals

Four 2017 goals were met, one was partially met.

Minimum Wage H&S Waivers

Ms. Ingram reported that there are currently six agencies that have programs in Pasadena or the City or County of Los Angeles who have submitted requests for Health and Safety waivers due to the minimum wage increase. Providers were advised to use an old workbook as it calculates and adjusts the rate based upon wages. Service Coordinators have to write a letter for each client outlining why the rate increase is needed for the client’s health and/or safety, which is then submitted to DDS. LRC is processing one provider at a time.

Ms. Ingram informed that because AB 279 was vetoed, DDS is required to have a task force to try to figure out a better process for the health and safety waiver requests. Ms. Ingram has been invited to participate on the task force.

Transition Grants

Ms. Ingram reminded providers that there is 16 million dollars of transition grant funding available to providers. Information is posted in the LRC website. The deadline to submit requests to LRC is January 5, 2018; however, LRC is asking providers to submit their requests by December 15 to have enough time to review them. All requests will be submitted to DDS who will select the recipients. Responses from DDS will be available by March.

Ms. Ingram also reminded providers not to request vehicles, especially vans. Requests for training have a good chance of being approved. Agencies with multiple programs can submit all on one application even if it crosses regional center boundaries.

NEW BUSINESS

2018 SPAC Goals

- 1 – Host the SPAC Appreciation Breakfast
- 2 – Host a Community Meeting
- 3 – Host a Vendor Fair – Task Group members: Ms. Hajjar, Ms. Castaneda & Ms. Jones-Martinez.
- 4 – Host a Training – Task Group members: Ms. Contreras, Ms. Isaac, Ms. Prescott & Ms. Hajjar.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Ms. Prescott reported that the pilot project to promote socialization in the L.A. area for adult clients is going well. The group meets twice a month on Saturdays.
- Ms. Ingram received notice from DDS of the Statewide Minimum Wage effective January 1, 2018. If the rates are set by DDS, the request for a rate adjustment should be sent to DDS, but if the rates are negotiated the requests should be sent to the regional center. For residential providers the ARM rates adjustments effective 1/1/18 have already been sent to the regional centers.
- Training with Tom Pomeranz is scheduled at the La Canada Country Club on February 23, 2018. This training is specifically for staff that works with clients who have significant physical limitations and/or health challenges.
- Smile + Wonder will soon be vendored with Westside Regional Center for the Early Start Denver Model; they are in the process of completing their vendorization paperwork.

2018 SPAC meeting Locations

Ms. Prescott asked the committee to consider having all SPAC meetings at the same location; she'll bring information about different sites to the February meeting so see if this concept works for all. In the meantime, only the February meeting is scheduled, the rest will be updated once the committee decides what to do.

- January 3 – No Meeting
- February 7 – Easter Seals, Glendale

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 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						N				
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	O						O				
S. MORENO	R	X											
I. IBANEZ	E	E	M						M				
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	E						E				
N. HAJJAR	K	X	E						E				
D. PRESCOTT	F	X	T						T				
J. STORCK	A	X	I						I				
Y. NAKAMOTO	S	E	N						N				
VACANT	T		G						G				