

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by GAMC Play to Learn Center  
January 6, 2016  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**GUESTS**

Bryan Chacon – Maxim Healthcare Services  
Elana Schechtman – Jewish Family Services  
Bill Martin – Autumn Cottage  
Jim Storck – Autumn Cottage  
Elaine Murphy – Maxim Healthcare  
Beatrice Diaz – In2Vision  
Morgan Behny – Total Education Solutions  
Julie Hruby – Total Education Solutions  
Gloria Leyva – Jeffrey Foundation  
Veronica Solano – Jeffrey Foundation

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of December 2, 2015 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board Meeting**

No meeting in December.

**Advocacy Updates**

The Governor will be releasing his FY16/17 budget tomorrow. It is anticipated that there will be no changes on the regional center system budget. Villa Esperanza Services and other non-profit organizations sent an e-blast mail asking the Legislators not to approve the budget unless it includes additional monies for developmental disabilities.

## **CMS Final Rule**

Ms. Ingram reported that LRC is conducting a series of meetings with service providers by service categories to make providers aware of the CMS Final Rule. The first meeting is scheduled for January 19 for day programs, hosted by Villa Esperanza Services. The second meeting is scheduled for February 2 for workshops, hosted by AbilityFirst. The third meeting is scheduled for February 12 for after school and social skills programs, hosted by Total Education Solutions. The goal of these meetings is to inform providers of the CMS Final Rule expectation that all services are provided in integrated settings. The meetings will be scheduled 3-4 times per year at this time, but as the transition date approaches they will be scheduled more frequently. It is hoped that providers of comparable services will be able to work together and share ideas for converting their programs. Invitation letters were mailed, providers need to RSVP to attend.

Residential provider meetings will be scheduled in March and April.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **SP Breakfast**

The next breakfast will be on November 2, 2016, again at the La Canada/Flintridge Country Club. Subcommittee members are searching for a keynote speaker. Recommendations should be given to Sandy Contreras, Traci Jones-Martinez, Dee Prescott or Nicole Hajjar.

### **FSLA Overtime Rule Rate Adjustment**

Fair Standard Labor Act Overtime Rule rate adjustments are being made for In-Home Respite, Supported Living agencies and companion services. Effective December 1, 2015 these agencies will have a 5.82% rate adjustment to cover the cost of hiring, recruiting screening and training additional staff.

A letter was sent to families advising them of the change in the overtime law and asked them not to request their workers to stay late or arrive early because by law, the agency will have to pay overtime but the agency will not get compensated.

LRC is waiting for DDS to send letters before changing the rate (for rates set by DDS). Rate changes for providers with open authorizations will be a priority; rates for providers without open authorizations will follow. Rate change will be retroactive to December 1.

### **Minimum Wage Adjustment**

Ms. Ingram reported that the State minimum wage increase to \$10/hour was effective January 1, 2016. Any rate established by DDS will be adjusted by DDS (ILS, Adult Day Programs, In-Home Respite and Infant Development Programs). LRC will not change these rates until a letter with the new rate is received from DDS.

Rates established by LRC (median rate and negotiated rate) will be reviewed and adjusted by LRC. Requests must be submitted on the workbook, which is posted on the provider page of [lanterman.org](http://lanterman.org). Ms. Ingram clarified that providers with multiple vendor numbers should submit only 1 vendor number per workbook; otherwise it will not be accepted. Providers were encouraged to send their request as early as possible before the deadline of March 31, 2016. Medi-Cal rates are not affected.

Ms. Ingram shared that LRC is considering sending a post card to all providers informing them of the minimum wage adjustment opportunity as some providers may not aware of this change and there is a concern that providers who need the rate adjustment will miss the opportunity because they are not informed. Notices will also be included in their e-billing notices.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Provider Training Opportunities**

Ms. Ingram informed that the Service Provider training next Tuesday, January 12, will be on El Nino preparation. The City/County of Los Angeles emergency preparedness department will be doing the presentation. This training will be free of charge for all providers.

Providers were encouraged to check the Provider/Training section on the LRC website to get information on future trainings.

Tom Pomeranz will be doing presentations the week of February 8-12. Information on these trainings is available on the LRC website. Providers will be able to register on line and make payments thru a Pay Pal account.

### **Provider Newsletter/Communication**

Ms. Ingram asked committee members for input/suggestions on how best to communicate with providers: hard copy newsletter, mailings or email, and how frequently. The concern is that many providers don't attend SPAC or regional center meetings and don't receive email blasts so they are not aware of the changes and challenges that will affect them.

Suggestions made include:

- SPAC members make phone calls
- Send targeted e-mails
- Collect their emails when they are vendored
- Have a pop up when they open their e-billing
- Make a legal notice with confirmation that the notice was read by the provider

### **2016 SPAC Meeting Locations**

- 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**

- Subcommittee members for the SP Breakfast were amended; Ms. Hajjar was added.
- Smile Pediatric is sponsoring a fundraiser concert on March 23.
- The CCL/Provider Forum task group will have their first meeting in February
- LRC is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. SPAC members who did not receive an e-vite should contact Ms. Ingram.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 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										
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	X										
S. CONTRERAS	R	X	X										
B. MURPHY	E	X	X										
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X										
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X										
K. CASTANEDA	F	X	X										
M. WHITFIELD	A	X	X										
N. HAJJAR	S	E	X										
D. PRESCOTT	T	X	X										