

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by Smile Wonder  
May 3, 2017  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**GUESTS**

Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center  
Beatrice Diaz – In2Vision  
Janet Upjohn – Cheerful Helpers  
Becky Parkia – Smile Wonder  
Sylvia Thompson - LivHome

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram  
Sonia Garibay

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM and introductions were made.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of March 1, 2017 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board Meeting**

Ms. West informed that the Board meeting was a brief, she reported the following:

- Ms. Karen Ingram gave an overview of the Community Services activities and the new Employment Specialist Carmen Jimenez-Wynn and QA Manager Sonia Garibay.

**CMS Final Rule**

Ms. Ingram reported that DDS has released the list of providers selected to be recipients of the transition funds. LRC had 26 applicants and two were selected. AbilityFirst's request for funds to provide staff training will be shared with four regional centers. FVO Solutions requested funds to purchase a car, conduct staff training and hire staff. Contracts will be in place by June 30. Detailed information on all awards is posted on the DDS website.

The Governor's proposed 2017-18 budget includes another 15 million dollars for CMS Final Rule but there's no information yet as to how those funds will be utilized.

Ms. Ingram reminded the group that the deadline for CMS Final Rule is March 17, 2019, after which federal funds cannot be used for segregated programs. CMS meetings are ongoing.

Ms. Ingram shared that RCs received funding for 3 new positions this fiscal year: Employment Specialist, Cultural Specialist and Program Evaluator. LRC decided to take the funds for the Program Evaluator position and incorporate them into a Quality Assurance Manager who will have responsibility for CMSFR implementation. Ms. Ingram introduced Ms. Sonia Garibay as the new QA Manager. Ms. Garibay gave a brief history about her many years of experience at LRC. The group welcomed Ms. Garibay

### **Legislative Advocacy & Grassroots**

Ms. West reported that she attended Grassroots in Sacramento in April with an LRC manager, a client and his mother. They advocated with Legislators that represent the LRC area for AB279 which will allow DDS and regional centers to adjust rates to meet local minimum wage requirements. They were encouraged to keep the bill out of the “Suspense File” and push it to the Appropriation Committee.

Ms. West reported that during fiscal year 2015-16 approximately 169 residential programs and about 39 day programs went out of business because providers could no longer afford to continue providing services at their low rates. She also shared that out of the 21 RCs, 19 had a representative at Grassroots, and she had the opportunity to meet Governor Brown while flying up to Sacramento.

Ms. Ingram distributed to the group a sample letter to the Speaker of the Assembly to be used by providers and families to ask him to support AB279 as he has the authority to decide what bill stays alive to the next session. Hopefully, this bill won’t end up in the “Suspense File”.

Ms. Ingram shared that providers are free to use ARCA’s advocacy tools, she encouraged them to visit local offices as they report directly to Sacramento.

Ms. Prescott shared that Easter Seals has honored several Legislators and that in March Easter Seals completed advocacy training for their core directors.

Ms. Ingram informed that the County Supervisors have been asked to pass a resolution in support of AB279. If they pass the resolution, it will enable their lobbyist in Sacramento to speak on behalf of AB279.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **ABX 2-1 Update**

Ms. Ingram distributed the Draft of the DDS tool. DDS is asking for specific information about the categories providers use and how funds are spent. DDS goal is to have the tool ready by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Providers will have from June 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> to submit it; the tool is due October 1<sup>st</sup>. If the provider does not submit the completed form by October 1<sup>st</sup> the rate adjustment stops and the rate will go back to the pre-ABX2-1 adjustment effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Ingram clarified that the monies already paid will not be taken back but the provider will not receive the rate increase anymore. Once the draft is finalized, DDS will have webinars for providers to review the survey and take questions.

The rate adjustment form has to be completed annual by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Providers were asked to review the draft and provide feedback to Ms. Ingram by May 4.

### **SP Breakfast**

The Service Provider breakfast is scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup> at La Canada Country Club. It was suggested that in lieu of a speaker, the video “We’re Here to Speak for Justice” be shown. Another suggestion was having a served breakfast instead of the usual “buffet” style. Ms. Ingram will bring this to Ms. Wilson to see if it will be cost effective. Committee members would like the breakfast to be a different experience for attendees, various options were shared. The sub-committee will discuss this further and will report at the next meeting.

Ms. Moreno reminded the group to start contacting their vendors for donations for the goodie bags. At least 200 items are needed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **DDS Dashboard**

Ms. Ingram reported that the DDS Dashboard finally went live. Visit [www.dds.ca.gov](http://www.dds.ca.gov) to find regional center information such as, client ages, residential types and more. She informed that 75% of the Lanterman clients are under the age of 22. There is discrepancy about the number of clients employed because the data is taken from the CDER and sometimes the information from the CDER is not accurate. Lanterman is working to make sure all information is updated.

#### **Provider Training**

Ms. Ingram asked providers if they are interested in having Tom Pomeranz do some workshops on how providers can work with families during the transition to more integrated services. He will be in town in August and October working with other organizations and some cost-sharing can be done. Consensus was ‘yes’.

#### **Community Care Licensing**

Ms. West expressed concern regarding CCL passing legislations/regulations that affect service providers but the providers are not aware of and have no voice on decisions that affect them directly. She asked if a provider advocate could attend the quarterly meetings that regional centers have with CCL offices to have some input on these regulations. Ms. Ingram clarified that the purpose of these meetings are for CCL to inform regional centers about new regulations that will affect RC providers and to discuss programs in development with regional centers that will require licensing, not for RCs to give input on pending CCL regulations.

### **UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

- CCL has hired new LPAs and started doing visits again.
- Glendale Adventist Medical Center is changing its name to Adventist Health Glendale. This change will be official in July.

#### **2017 SPAC meeting Locations**

- June 7 – Easter Seals – Glendale, CalWes will host
- July 6 – No meeting
- August 2 – Gogian House – Glendale

- September 6 – FDLRC – Los Angeles
- October 4 – Easter Seals – Glendale
- November 1 – SP Breakfast – La Canada
- December 6 – Smile Wonder – Los Angeles, Inclusion Services to host

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM

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*Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting*  
**ATTENDANCE**

2016-20167	N O V 16	D E C 16	J A N 17	F E B 17	M A R 17	A P R 17	M A Y 17	J U N 17	J U L 17	A U G 17	S E P 17	O C T 17	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	SP	X	N	X	X	N	X		N				
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	O	X	X	O	X		O				
S. MORENO	R	X		X	E		X						
I. IBANEZ	E	X	M	E	X	M	X		M				
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	E	X	E	E	X		E				
M. WHITFIELD	K	X	E	X	X	E	X		E				
N. HAJJAR	F	X	T	X	E	T	X		T				
D. PRESCOTT	A	X	I	E	X	I	X		I				
J. STORCK	S	X	N	X	X	N	X		N				
VACANT	T		G			G			G				