

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
Hosted by Easter Seals
October 7, 2015
Minutes**

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

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

GUESTS

Bryan Chacon – Maxim Healthcare Services
Miriam Corona – Premier Healthcare
Dee Prescott – Easter Seals
Alexandra Von Ritzhoff – Easter Seals
Beatrice Diaz – In 2 Vision
Cindi Raimondi – ABLE
Elana Schechtman – Jewish Family Services
Fredlyn Berger – Every Child Achieves
Gloria Leiva – 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 September 2, 2015 were accepted as submitted.

REPORTS

Board Meeting

Ms. White reported the following:

- Caseload ratio – DDS accepted LRC’s plan of action and a copy of the letter was shared with the Board. Staff are in the process of developing the staffing plan, which is the first step in determining the number of new service coordinator positions that can be added. The anticipated ratio plan will be presented to the Administrative Affairs Committee at their October meeting.

- Every Board member was required to fill out a Conflict of Interest Statement.
- Mr. Aulicino gave an overview of the FY 2015-16 budgets.
- The Board attended the Community meeting to review the Budget, Performance Plan and Alternative Staffing Model,

Debrief on SB 2X – 14

Ms. White reported that nothing came out of the special session held; it was disappointing that the 10% increase for providers didn't come thru and that it never made it to Governor Brown's desk. Per Ms. Ingram, ARC sent out a special appeal last week, especially for the area covered by Assemblyman Miguel Santiago, asking providers to continue advocating for the 10% rate increase. To date, close to 435 homes and 25 day programs and supported work programs have closed due to lack of rate increases.

Minimum Wage Adjustments

The State's minimum wage will increase to \$10/hr effective January 1, 2016. Ms. Ingram reminded providers to submit their rate adjustments on time. There will be no rate adjustment for providers that are already paying their staff \$10/hr.

Ms. Ingram clarified that when a City requires a minimum wage that is higher than the State's, regional centers must apply for a health and safety waiver by client. DDS must then review each request and either approve or deny. This process will be used when the minimum wage for the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles increases to \$10.50/hr effective July 1, 2016.

Department of Labor

The Department of Labor is looking at job classifications throughout the State to ensure that workers are being classified appropriately. Some business classify a worker as a supervisor to avoid paying overtime, but the DOL is finding that the workers duties don't meet the requirement for the exemption from overtime. LRC will invite the Department of Labor to do a workshop for managers and administrators.

OLD BUSINESS

SP Breakfast

Ms. Contreras shared that all is arranged for the breakfast. She reminded providers to bring their gift baskets and gift cards for the raffle. To date the confirmed attendees are 95; providers were encouraged to send their RSVPs ASAP. RSVPs received after October 23 will be increased from \$20.00 to \$35.00 per person. Goodie bags will be stuffed at GAR at a later date. Ms. White will be the MC.

3 Day Sick Adjustments

All requests received at LRC for rate adjustment due to the mandatory 3 day sick law have been processed. The number of requests was lower than expected as many providers are already paying sick time for their employees. LRC is now in the process of sending notifications to the other regional centers. DDS is still processing requests they received.

CMS Final Rule

Ms. Ingram informed that the State plans have been resubmitted to the Feds. Ms. Ingram will be discussing the CMS Final Rule with DDS on October 8; in the meantime, LRC is in the process of putting together some information session. Four providers have been recruited to host these meetings. The intent is to have these informational meetings by service category (i.e. residential and after school programs), and to convene them periodically as information is learned.

Overtime Rule

Ms. Ingram reported that the Federal Court is not going to consider the Overtime Rule; therefore the Overtime Rule goes into effect on October 13, 2015 and will be enforced by the Dept. of Labor effective November 13, 2015. Services that will now have to pay overtime to staff who work more than 40 hours per week are, Supported Living, Independent Living, Home Health and home care services.

SPAC Nominations

The Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors will present SPAC nominations at the October Board meeting. The following are recommended for another term: Ms. Contreras, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Whitfield and Ms. Hajjar. Ms. Dee Prescott is being nominated for her first term. Ms. Kolenda will be leaving SPAC at the end of October. The election results will be announced at the SP breakfast.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- The ARC of California is putting on a conference called “Caring and Competence” for direct support professionals and front line supervisors. Sessions are offered in northern California on December 3, and on December 2 in Los Angeles by LAX. LRC will offer 20 spaces to providers.. QA staff and residential Liaisons will be given a nomination form to submit names of providers to be considered for this event.
- Ms. West-Isaac discussed the possibility of having SPAC, LRC and CCL participate in a meeting to discuss regulations and providers issues. This will be on the December agenda to be included with the 2016 SPAC Goals.
- AbilityFirst sold its property in Northridge to The American Israeli Council. Last day in business at that location will be November 20th.
- There will be an open house on October 15 and 16 to celebrate FVO Solutions 50th Anniversary. Providers were invited to attend.

2015 SPAC Meeting Locations

- November 4 – SPAC Breakfast
- December 2 – AbilityFirst/Kinneloa

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM

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Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2014-2015	N O V 14	D E C 14	J A N 15	F E B 15	M A R 15	A P R 15	M A Y 15	J U N 15	J U L 15	A U G 15	S E P 15	O C T 15	T O T A L
K. WHITE, Chair	SP	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	N	X	X	X	10
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	E	E	X	X	X	E	E	O	E	X	X	5
S. CONTRERAS	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	E	X	9
B. MURPHY	E	E	X	X	X	X	E	X	M	X	X	X	8
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	E	X	E	X	8
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X	10
K. KOLENDA	F	E	X	X	X	E	X	X	T	X	X	X	8
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	X	X	E	X	X	E	I	X	X	X	8
M. WHITFIELD	S	E	X	X	E	X	X	X	N	X	X	X	8
N. HAJJAR* seated 3/15	T				X	E	X	X	G	X	X	X	6

New member*