

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by Easter Seals  
October 5, 2016  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kelly White  
Traci Jones-Martinez  
Nicole Hajjar  
Kimberly West-Isaac  
Israel Ibanez  
Dee Prescott  
Keri Castaneda

**EXCUSED**

Bill Murphy  
Sandy Moreno  
Miriam Whitfield

**GUESTS**

Brian Nguyen – Easter Seals	Bill Martin – Autumn Cottage
Rachel Saucedo – Easter Seals	Cindi Raimondi – ABLE
Cynthia Martinez – Easter Seals	Jim Storck – Autumn Cottage
Kelly Trenent – CFA, Inc	Sandra Mendoza – Maxim Healthcare
Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center	Sarah Blitzstein – Jewish Family Services
Beatrice Diaz – In2Vision	Laura Campana – Junior Blind
Janet Upjohn – Cheerful Helpers	Christina Unlaco – 24hr Homecare

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. and introductions were made.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of September 7, 2016 were accepted as submitted.

**REPORTS**

**Board Meeting**

Ms. White reported the following:

- Mr. Sam Suzuki, Regional Manager, retires this month after 40 years of service.
- Board members Conflict of Interest forms were reviewed and will be sent to DDS. There were no conflicts of interest.
- The Board appointed Ms. Castaneda, Ms. Martinez, Ms. West-Isaac and Mr. Ibanez for another 2-year term on SPAC. Mr. Storck was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Ms. White as she is termed out. Terms are from November thru October.

- The Accounting Department sent a satisfaction survey to 120 services, 24 from each of the five Accounting Associates, regarding processing of authorizations, and invoices, and the timeliness of returning phone calls. Responses were received from 58 providers. Overall quality of service was rate excellent (64%) or good (26%)
- Budget looks good year-to-date.

### **CMS Final Rule Update**

Ms. Ingram reported that DDS has been working to respond to the 150 questions CMS had regarding the submitted plan. They are down to 30 questions left to address and the State anticipates resubmitting the plan this winter.

The Home and Community Based CMSFR transition grant application deadline has been extended to October 30 by DDS. Providers were encouraged to continue submitting their requests for transition funds to the regional center. Providers were also asked to share the deadline extension with other providers.

### **Legislative Advocacy**

Ms. White shared that there will be a “Candidates Forum” on October 18 in North Hills from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Senator Fran Pavley, from District 25 and a supporter of the regional center system, is terming out. Henry Stern and Steve Fazio are running for that position. Senator Carol Liu, from District 27 and also a supporter of the regional center system, is terming out, too. Anthony Portantino and Mike Antonovich are running for this position. Providers are encouraged to attend to ask candidates how they intend to support their constituents with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Ms. White informed that the formula for worker’s comp has changed and will most likely increase premiums as much as 52% effective January 1, 2017. All providers will be impacted by this increase, therefore, they were strongly encouraged to attend this forum as the new Legislators don’t know or understand the 6 billion dollar regional center system and how these decisions impact service providers. Ms. White emphasized that the advocacy must continue.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **SP Breakfast**

All is set for the breakfast. SPAC members were reminded to send their RSVPs before the deadline and to bring gift cards for the raffle. SPAC members were asked to be at the site by 8:00 am to help with set-up and registration. Goodie bags will be assembled after the meeting.

#### **ABX2-1 Update**

Ms. Ingram reported that LRC is in the process for giving providers the paid internship process, as well as the competitive integrated employment incentives process. She explained that there has been some confusion about the incentives; she will have a conference call with DDS tomorrow to find answers to the provider’s questions.

Ms. Ingram clarified that the incentives are for providers that get a client a competitive job. LRC will require the client’s recent pay stubs to make sure that he/she is still

working before paying the provider the incentive. The paid internships have a financial limit of \$10,400 per client. Not all clients are eligible to participate on this internship. Rates will be retroactive to July 1, when the law went into effect. Letters will be mail to providers in October.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **SPAC Vacancy**

Ms. Ingram reported that there will be a vacancy since Mr. Murphy will be retiring in December. He still has one year on his term. The committee is looking for a member to complete the one year term. While there is no special service category needed, a representative from an L.A. program would be ideal. Requirements to apply are: to be in the LRC catchment area, be an administrator in your organization, be a regular attendee or participant in SPAC meetings, and be a provider in good standing. Anyone interested in being appointed to fill the vacancy should contact Ms. Ingram at 213-252-5694 or [kingram@lanterman.org](mailto:kingram@lanterman.org) or Ms. Irma Padilla at 213-252-6006 or [ipadilla@lanterman.org](mailto:ipadilla@lanterman.org).

### **Speech Therapy Review**

Ms. Ingram shared that Early Intervention Speech Therapy services were monitored this year. Providers were asked to provide a list of LRC clients receiving services, assigned therapist, copy of the therapist license and the site where the services were rendered. This monitoring was prompted by complaints that Speech & Language Pathology Assistants are doing in-home services, which is not allowed by Title 17. Ms. Ingram reported that the monitoring indicates that there is no evidence of this happening. The results will be shared with providers, SPAC and the Client & Family Services Committee.

### **DDS Visit with LRC Board**

Ms. Ingram informed that Nancy Bargmann, DDS Director, and Brian Winfield, DDS Deputy Director, are attending the November Board meeting. SPAC members will be invited to attend. Ms. Ingram asked the committee if they could ask DDS to answer one questions, what it would be. A suggestion was to ask how DDS will ensure consistency among regional centers to determine what a CMS compliant setting is. The committee was asked to email additional questions to Ms. Ingram and Ms. Padilla. They will be compiled and sent back to the committee for review and selection of one.

## **UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

- Nancy Bargmann and Brian Winfield will be touring a few LRC programs prior to meeting with the Board in November.
- Ms. Ingram shared the flyer DDS sent regarding flu shots. DDS has made flu shots a high priority for clients this year. Providers were prompted to make sure that clients receive their flu shot.
- There will be a support group for families with children with special needs at Temple Beth Hillel starting November 1. Free parking and childcare will be available.

- Training with Dr. Tom Pomeranz will be on November 12 at the Goodwill Community Enrichment Center in Atwater Park. Providers and families are invited to learn how to better prepare individuals to be integrated into their communities. The training will be from 9:30 – 12:30; registration will start at 8:30; cost is \$10
- Ms. White thanked the committee for their support during her years of service as the committee Chair.

**2016 SPAC Meeting Locations**

- November 2 – SP Breakfast – La Canada
- December 7 – Smile Pediatric – Los Angeles

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM

/ip

*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	X	X	X	X	E	N	X	X	X	9
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	10
S. MORENO	R	X	X	E	E	X	X	E		X	X	E	6
B. MURPHY	E	X	X	E	E	X	E	X	M	X	E	E	5
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	E	X	X	9
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	E	X	X	X	9
K. CASTANEDA	F	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	T	X	A	X	8
M. WHITFIELD	A	X	X	X	A	A	X	E	I	X	X	E	6
N. HAJJAR	S	E	X	X	E	X	E	E	N	E	X	X	5
D. PRESCOTT	T	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	G	X	X	X	9