

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center  
Service Provider Advisory Committee  
Hosted by FDLRC  
September 2, 2015  
Minutes**

**SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Kelly White  
Israel Ibanez  
Kathleen Kolenda  
Nicole Hajjar  
Miriam Whitfield  
Bill Murphy  
Keri Castaneda  
Traci Jones-Martinez

**EXCUSED**

Sandy Contreras

**ABSENT**

Kimberly West-Isaac

**GUESTS**

Lusineh Gharapetian – Panda Learning Serv.	Veronica Solano – The Jeffrey Foundation
Gloria Leiva – The Jeffrey Foundation	Mark Le – Therapedes, Inc
Francis Falcis – Vagthol’s Residential Care	Andrea Seisa – Vagthol’s Residential Care
Judith Bean – Pacific Clinics/Early Start	Beatrice Diaz – In2Vision
Jim Storck – Autumn Cottage	Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center
Dee Prescott – Easter Seals	Shakeila Jones – L.A. Early Intervention
Esthela Rodriguez – The Speech Language	Raul Alvarez – California Mentor
Kyra Griffith – TLC Speech Therapy	Jose Juan Bustamante – Panda Learning Serv.
Dr. Mary Jo Bautista – Family Way	Miriam Olmedo – Almansor Center
Sabrina Godinez – Easter Seals	Danny Tapia – Easter Seals
Elana Schechtman – Jewish Family Services	Cindy Raymondi – ABLE
Lyn Wood Brown – Family Way	Morgan Behny – Total Education Solutions
Carmen Haley – Family Way	

**STAFF**

Karen Ingram

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of August 5, 2015 were accepted as submitted.

## **REPORTS**

### **Board Meeting**

Ms. White reported the following:

- LRC hosted a Legislative round table on August 5. Southern California Regional Center staff, families, clients and providers discussed the impact of continued budget cuts and rate freezes and lives and services, and representatives from local Legislators responded to these concerns.
- The legislature is holding a special session on September 11 to address permanent and sustainable funding for Medi-Cal and developmental disabilities services.
- Julie Ocheltree, LRC Legal Counsel, reviewed the duties and responsibilities of Board members and the Conflict of Interest Policy.
- The updated Whistle Blower Policy was reviewed and approved by the Board. Ms. White reminded all that providers are also required to have a Whistle Blower Policy.
- Three new members were appointed to the Board of Directors: Anthony Stein, Linda An and Ramona Warfield. Board member Ed Solis submitted his resignation as he has moved out of the Lanterman catchment area.
- The closure of the Sonoma and Fairview Developmental Centers is approaching. Sonoma DC will close by 2018 and Fairview DC by 2020. A town hall meeting was held at Sonoma and families expressed opposition to the closure.
- RCs were informed by DDS that they need to add a goal on Disparity on their 2016 Performance Plan.
- Trailer Bill language requires that ABA services purchased by Regional Centers for clients that are eligible for MediCal be transitioned to MediCal funding. ARCA, DDS and regional centers are working with Health Net and L.A. Care to make this transition possible by February 2016. In the meantime, regional centers will continue to purchase needed ABA services.
- California has posted its draft transition plan for the HCBS Waiver and is currently accepting public comment. DDS continues to develop the assessment tools that service providers and regional centers will use to determine if a program meets the criteria of the CMS Final Rule.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **SP Breakfast**

Ms. Kolenda reminded that the SP Breakfast is scheduled for November 4 at the La Canada/Flintridge Country Club. The Speaker is confirmed; the Save the Date postcards were mailed; invitations will be mailed by next week. Easter Seals will donate the centerpieces and SVS will donate the tote bags. Bags will be assembled after next month's SPAC meeting. Members were reminded to donate items for the raffle. Other providers may also contribute items.

### **DOL Overtime Rule Update**

Ms. White and Ms. Ingram reported on the Department of Labor Overtime Rule. Last year DOL ruled that home care workers are entitled to overtime. There was an appeal of that decision, and a decision is expected soon. Providers impacted by this overtime rule are: supported living agencies, home care providers and personal assistance.

### **3 Day Sick Update**

Requests for a rate adjustment due to the mandatory 3 day sick law were due September 1. LRC received 32 requests for rate changes. It is unknown how many were submitted to DDS. DDS adjusted the rates for residential providers. All rate adjustments are effective July 1, 2015.

### **Legislative Advocacy**

Providers were encouraged to continue writing letters to Legislators, attend rallies and contact the Governor to express concern about the lack of rate increases. Providers are having a rough time retaining employees or hiring new employees because of low salaries.

### **Zero Tolerance Policy Update**

Ms. White reminded committee members that providers and their employees are required to sign this policy upon hire and annually thereafter. A sample policy will be posted on the Provider page of the LRC website.

### **CMS Final Rule Update**

Ms. Ingram gave an update on the preparation for the implementation of the Final Rule requirements for inclusive and integrated services and programs. LRC will begin meeting with providers by service categories (i.e. residential and after school programs) to discuss what is known about the Final Rule at this time. Additional meetings will be held early next year to review the draft tools that will be used to identify where providers are in terms of meeting the new requirements for integrated and inclusive services. Groups will also discuss strategies to help providers change their services to be in compliance by the March 2019 effective date.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS**

Ms. White shared that the appeals court upheld a lower court's ruling that DDS could not mandate Uniform Holiday Closures or Half-Day Billing as cost savings measures. Providers should use their old holiday closure schedules and they may end half-day billing.

LRC received a closure notice for a 10 bed home. Programs continue to close because of the inadequate rates, and clients and families have to wait longer to receive some services.

### **2015 SPAC Meeting Locations**

- October 7 – Easter Seals/Glendale Senior Center
- November 4 – SPAC Breakfast
- December 2 – AbilityFirst/Kinneloa

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM

/ip

*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		
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	E	E	X	X	X	E	E	O	E	X		
S. CONTRERAS	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	E		
B. MURPHY	E	E	X	X	X	X	E	X	M	X	X		
K. WEST-ISAAC	A	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	E	X	E		
I. IBANEZ	K	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X		
K. KOLENDA	F	E	X	X	X	E	X	X	T	X	X		
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	X	X	E	X	X	E	I	X	X		
M. WHITFIELD	S	E	X	X	E	X	X	X	N	X	X		
N. HAJJAR* seated 3/15	T				X	E	X	X	G	X	X		

New member\*