

**SAN GABRIEL/POMONA REGIONAL CENTER  
DEVELOPMENTALSERVICES, INC.  
Minutes of the Meeting of the Client Services /Advisory Committee  
October 23, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Client Services/Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, October 23, 2019. The following committee members were present at said meeting:

**PRESENT**

Mary Soldato, Chair  
Pretti Subramaniam  
Victor Guzman  
Daniel Clancy  
David Grisey  
Jenny Needham  
Sheila James  
Herminio Escalante  
Julie Lopez  
Shannon Hines

**STAFF:**

Lucina Galarza  
Elisa Herzog  
Marilyn Carmona

**ABSENT:**

Sherry Meng  
Ardena Barlett  
Ning Yang

**RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS**

**THE CLIENT SERVICES/ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:** None

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**ITEMS DISCUSSED**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson, Mary Soldato called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm  
A Quorum was established.

With the correction of Sheila James from absent to present for the meeting of September 25, 2019, the committee approved the minutes of said meeting.  
Approval of Minutes, with correction: Sheila James/Victor Clancy

**B. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**C. CLIENT ADVOCATE – : Elisa Herzog**

A) The Pacific ADA Center hosted an annual conference on September 13th & 14th @ the 4 Points Sheraton LAX that features multiple learning tracks

and subject matter experts to share recent ADA and state law developments and information.

- Some sessions I attended included, (but not limited to):
  - What Every ADA Coordinator Should Know
  - Public Rights of Way Accessibility
  - Accessibility of Transportation Facilities and Vehicles
  - Recovery After Disasters and Individuals with Disabilities
  - ADA Update by the U.S. Department of Justice

B) October 10th & 11th was the Supported Life Institute's conference in Sacramento that featured keynote speaker Nancy Bargmann Director of California Department of Developmental Services

- Inclusive audience: mixture of about 2/3 professionals and 1/3 self-advocates and family members
- Attended sessions with a wide range of topics including, but not limited to some of the following:
  - The How-to's of an Effective IEP
  - Real Work for Real Pay in the Real World: various paths to competitive integrated employment (CIE)
  - Implementation of CMS Final Rule: Enjoying the Benefits of Community Life
  - Blocking the Punches Safety Training
  - Different Options for Administering a Special Needs Trust.

C) Plan ahead to attend the 25th annual statewide Self-Advocacy Conference: May 8-9th 2020. Please see the provided flyer to sign up registration materials

D) The last Client Training Group meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the West Covina Library on Cal-Fresh presented by Mayra Pizeno, SG/PRC's Healthcare Support Specialist was well received

E) Now, Elisa must secure a new meeting location due to the library policy changes—your suggestions are welcomed

- Charge \$60 to hold meetings at the library. Usually there are 15-20 people per training.
- New venue suggestions welcomed. Venue must be transportation and wheelchair accessible.
- Another library or parent's place were suggested. There must be bus lines on that street.
- Question asked: Would you be open to a donation to keep holding it at the West Covina library?

F) Medicare's Open Enrollment Period is here-December 7th to compare coverage options for 2020

- Visit Medicare.gov to review coverage options.
- Any changes will take effect January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

- Fair mental health insurance coverage is a federal law known as Mental Health Parity for coverage equivalent to physical health care coverage
- Learn more about these compliance rights with the provided flyer to ensure your plan is following the law

**C. Committee Follow-up – Future training topics**

Mary Soldato / Lucina Galarza addressed training topics.

The committee agreed on the following training topics to be provided:

- November-No meeting
- December (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month)-Quality Assurance-Group of Specialized Positions

**D. Special Presentation: Regional Center Specialist Positions - Nora Perez Givens-Education Specialist**

- This position is new to SG/PRC effective July 2019
- Nora supports our SCs and families with support with IEPS, 504s and other related issues in the education arena. Her main goal is to empower families and SCs.

**E. Director of Client Services Report**

*Cal-Fresh*

- A staff member from Parents Place will be here to fill out application for Cal-Fresh- by appointment. Walk-ins will be seen, but may have a wait time.
- There are about 4000 people that are eligible to receive CalFresh and our goal is to assist them getting this generic benefit.

*Self Determination*

On November 22, there will be a new drawing for new set of participants. We plan to provide orientations in December 2019, January 2020, and February 2020 to this new selection of participants. To find out who was chosen, visit DDS website on the self-determination portal. You will need UCI #.

- New selection has 3 target groups:
  1. Siblings of those already selected
  2. Family members of committee members
  3. Those who are age 42+

There are currently 2 openings on the advisory committee. Please contact Lucina Galarza for applications, questions or concerns. The deadline is October 28, 2019.

**F. ADJOURN**

Chairperson Mary Soldato adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

The next Client Services/Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11, 2019. Meeting will be held in the Assembly Room.