

**SAN GABRIEL/POMONA VALLEYS
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 7, 2021

The following committee members were in attendance at said meeting:

PRESENT:

David Bernstein, Chairperson
Olaf Luevano
Valerie Donelson
Bryan Chacon
Bryan Chacon
Charmayne Ross
Jose Mendoza
Jay Bhavsar
Nancy Bunker

STAFF:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director
Lucina Galarza, Director Community Services
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services
Dara Mikesell, Associate Director of Community Services
Jaime Anabalon, Manager of Quality Assurance
Johnny Pang, Manager of IT
Erika Gomez, Exec. Assistant – BOD
Willanette Satchel, Exec. Assistant - Management

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Baldo Paseta
Nicole Mirikitani
Rosalind Ford
Vanessa Besack
Susan Stroebel

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

None

A. CALL TO ORDER

David Bernstein called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. A quorum was established. Introductions were made of the VAC members.

The minutes from the December 3, 2020 meeting were approved.
M/S/C (Donelson & Chacon) The committee approved the minutes.

B. IMPACT OF COVID 19 AREAS OF DISCUSSION

- Staffing Concerns – Mitigation plans need to be submitted to licensing by January 24, 2021. There continues to be fear among the provider community about sharing with regional center their staffing issues.
- Vaccine Discussion – The vaccine campaign has started. All residential facilities must provide the vaccine. The Southern California Executive Directors will meet today to discuss the distribution process. The members also discussed the process of the consent forms and the cultural concerns that have come up.
- Surveillance Discussion – Testing will continue after the vaccine has been rolled out.

C. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS

Adult Programs

Vocational – Olaf Luevano encouraged the members to stay connected to the individuals served and with staff.

Adult Day – Jose Mendoza shared that his program understands that some staff have multiple jobs with other providers, and they will not make them choose. As long as staff continue to work safely and take the necessary health and safety precautions, they can continue to work. He also shared that the Health Department has told vendors that if they test positive for COVID- 19, they should not retest for 90 days.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Charmayne Ross briefly talked about families canceling services likely due to the surge.

Transportation

Baldo Paseta was not present.

Independent Living Services

ILS Services – Nicole Mirikitani was not present.

SLS Services – Nancy Bunker acknowledge that ILS and SLS programs are in survival more as they continue to struggle.

Residential Services

Specialized – Mr. Bernstein shared about the passing of one of his employees and the members offered their condolences.

CCF –Jay Bhavsar and Valerie Donelson reported that times are challenging. The survey from Community Care Licensing gets to be too much. Also, some individuals served that work in warehouses are being pressured to return to work and are being threatened that they will lose their jobs if they don't. Lastly, there was discussion about reimbursing providers that have paid their staff extra when caring for COVID-19 positive individuals. Staff reminded the vendors that staff should not be paid extra once the virus resolves, the differential is only for the time during the illness.

ICF- (1 Vacancy)

Other Vended Services- Bryan Chacon shared the difficulties that programs face when staff test positive and they have to quarantine. There was discussion about the COVID-19 sick time in California being extended.

At Large- Susan Strobel was not present.

D. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

None

E. SG/PRC STAFF UPDATES

Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services, talked about the alternative services rates that came out. Providers should have received them and she asked that those that didn't let her know as soon as possible. If their service code was not included, they should inform her right away because the rates will be downloaded. For alternative services, providers must turn in their ISP to the Service Coordinators.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was discussion about the new billing format, it seems that for those providing alternative services, the process will be lengthy.

A provider shared her program's experience with the vaccine. There were some side effects for some and with a few the side effects were more extreme. She advised that if possible, providers stagger the dates when staff and individuals served receive the vaccine in case people do not feel well.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on February 4, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.