

**SAN GABRIEL/POMONA VALLEYS
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, INC.**

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 20, 2021 MEETING

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Daniel Rodriguez (Chair)
Penne Fode
Joseph Huang
Rachel McGrath
Georgina Molina

STAFF:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services
Joe Alvarez, Associate Director of Clinical Services
Carol Tomblin, Director of Yvonne Gratianne,
Manager of Communications & Public Relations
Willanette Steward-Satchell, Executive Assistant
(Management)
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant - BOD

GUESTS

ABSENT:

Gisele Ragusa
Natalie Webber

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Daniel Rodriguez, called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm. A quorum was established.

The minutes from November 18, 2020 were reviewed and approved.

M/S/C (McGrath & Molina) The committee approved the minutes.

Abstain: Rodriguez, Fode

PUBLIC INPUT

None

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MONTHLY REPORT*

Carol Tomblin, Director of Compliance, presented the monthly Outreach Report for November and December. The Community Outreach Specialist have focused on the following projects:

- Progress/Status of Continuing POS Equity Projects Funded by DDS FY 19-20 Disparity Program Grants
- Ongoing Projects Previously Funded
- Other Equity-Related Activities not supported with Disparity Grant Funds.
- Family Support/ Training

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

Anthony Hill, Executive Director reported the following:

Governor's Budget - The regional center system's budget did not have significant changes. There was a dip in the overall caseload number within the regional center system totaling 8,000.

In the budget, there was an allocation for 5 Forensic Specialists and \$2 million for the 21 Regional Center Emergency Coordinator positions. The Uniform Holiday Schedule remains suspended and the end date for provider rate increases has been extended.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

- SG/PRC lost another staff member, Joann Boutin, and a celebration of life session was held in her honor last week, Dr. Ragusa participated.
- A few weeks ago there was a fraud attempt, using the SG/PRC logo, to scam people to donate money. Staff informed the community and are working to resolve this matter.
- Regional Center Executive Directors meet every Thursday and they have discussed the importance of having staff focus on Health and Safety. Together, they composed "Creating Space for regional centers," a document that will be sent to DDS, asking that bureaucracy not be the focus during this time in order to help protect the lives of those served. A directive will come out to inform that health and safety will be priority.
- The Intake and Eligibility process was suspended for two weeks to avoid the rise of covid exposure but has since resumed.
- Staff are participating in the Check in Program which targets 570 individuals living independently. This group of people receive a call every two weeks. Staff are also checking in on 85 individuals that have been identified as high risk due to mental health issues.
- Mr. Hill continues to advocate for nonresidential providers to also be

included in the early stages of the vaccine distribution.

- PPE efforts continue and staff actively distribute to the community, including vendors.
- Joe Alvarez provided individual stats on COVID-19; spoke about the spikes, presented information on the DDS report to the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting is on February 17, 2021.