

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

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 14, 2021 MEETING

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Penne Fode
Joseph Huang
Gisele Ragusa
Georgina Molina
Rachel McGrath

GUESTS

Amber Angell

STAFF:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director
Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services
Joe Alvarez, Associate Director of Clinical Services
Yvonne Gratianne, Manager of Communications &
Public Relations
Xochitl Gonzales, Community Outreach Specialist
Willanette Steward-Satchell, Executive Assistant
(Management)
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant - BOD

ABSENT:

Daniel Rodriguez (Chair)
Natalie Webber

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Penne Fode, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. A quorum was established.

The minutes from March 17, 2021 were reviewed and approved with the following correction:

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2021.

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

PUBLIC INPUT

None

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MONTHLY REPORT*

Xochitl Gonzales, Community Outreach Specialist, presented the monthly Outreach Report for March 2021. 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, and staff reported the following:

- Grassroots Day – Yvonne Gratianne shared that this was a jammed packed, two days (virtual) event. SG/PRC participated in 7 meetings. Penne Fode participated in one and so did Georgina Molina. Overall, the experience was positive as most legislators and staff were very receptive. The delegation consisted of staff, one who is a manager and parent, a service coordinator who has a specialized caseload, a Board member who is also an individual served and two service providers. The biggest difference from this year to previous ones is that staff did not have to start from ground zero with some legislators as many had knowledge of the regional center system. A lot of legislators were interested in a follow up meeting.
- Dr. Angell- USC (Research Projects) – the following information was discussed:
 - Autism Disparities
 - Latinx Families’ Experiences of Autism Diagnosis and Services
 - Current and Future Research Studies
 - Autism Diagnosis Trajectories of Girls
 - Parental Attitudes and Decision Making About Autism Services and Treatments Among Latinx Populations
- Western University Partnership – SG/PRC sent a letter of support to Western University for their dental desensitization program.
- SG/PRC Dental Clinic – SG/PRC hosted a dental clinic and will hold another one on May 22, 2021. An RFP was sent out for a CPP grant to expand SG/PRC’s dental program to a centralize location with better accessibility and the ability to administer general anesthesia. The deadline was on Friday. Staff

are reviewing the proposals and will decide tomorrow. A video from the March dental clinic was presented.

- Technology Lending Library- Staff were able to get a modification and CPP proposal. \$50000 was received from the state to Parents' Place and they have to encumber funds before end of June. They plan to use that for assistance with the lending library and connectivity. Connectivity is the biggest issue for families. SG/PRC donated 250 of used iPads to Parents' Place and \$20000 for connectivity.
- FEMA -Funeral Assistance – FEMA is providing financial help for payments for funeral costs for Covid cases. This information was shared with the community, vendors and staff.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director, and staff reported the following:

- COVID -19 Report – Joe Alvarez provided individual stats on COVID-19; spoke about the trends, presented information on the DDS report to the Committee.
- Re-Engagement Non-Residential Services – The Blueprint for Economy came out on April 2, 2021. Day Program providers will be allowed to re-engage starting in May. In May 40% clients will be allowed to attend program, an additional 40% will be allowed back in June with the remainder being allowed in July. Staff are working with families and providers to give vaccination information to nonresidential providers as the individuals served return to in face services. Licensing has clarified that providers cannot limit activities or participation for those that have not been vaccinated.
- COVID-19 Vaccine Data Collection- As of April 1, 2021 - 2690 individuals served have been vaccinated, as of the date of this meeting – 3410 individuals served have been vaccinated.
- SG/PRC COVID-19 Testing Clinic – The first event took place on April 7, 2021, it was a drive up set up. Members can access the link to register to be tested. A video of this event was presented.
- SG/PRC COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic – On April 8, 2021, SG/PRC partnered with LA County to do a vaccination site in the building where there was an observation room intended to be relaxing. The next vaccination clinic is scheduled for May 6, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting is on May 19, 2021.