

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

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

MINUTES FROM THE MAY 19, 2021 MEETING

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Penne Fode
Joseph Huang
Rachel McGrath
Natalie Webber

GUESTS

STAFF:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director
Lucina Galarza, Director of Community
Services
Joe Alvarez, Associate Director of Clinical
Services
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Community
Outreach and Compliance
Rosa Chavez, Associate Director- Family &
Transition Services
Yaned Busch, Manager, Family Services IV
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)
Gisele Ragusa
Georgina Molina

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Penne Fode, called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. A quorum was established.

The minutes from April 21, 2021 were reviewed and approved.

M/S/C (Webber & Huang) The committee approved the minutes.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MONTHLY REPORT*

Xochitl Gonzales and Amos Byun, Community Outreach Specialists, presented the monthly Outreach Report for April 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:

- New Director of Community Outreach and Compliance – Salvador Gonzales was introduced as the new Director of Community Outreach and Compliance.
- ARCA Press Release – ARCA urges the Budget Committees to increase funding with an additional ongoing allocation of \$60 million annually.
- New Video on Regional Centers, Developmental Disabilities - A 3-minute video showcasing the regional centers and developmental disabilities will be made available to the public and with legislators. This was created to educate legislators for Grassroots Day.
- ARC 41 (Holden) – This recognizes Direct Support Professionals for their ongoing and heroic efforts.
- May Revise –
 - Early Intervention Services will continue through age 5.
 - Investments will be made to support Self Determination.
 - There were no cuts to the Developmental Disabilities system.

- As a result of a lawsuit that was settled, there will be funding for a specialist for people that are hard of hearing. DDS would also have a liaison with this focus.
- The Holiday Closure schedule was eliminated.
- ARCA will continue to advocate for more funding to reduce caseload ratios.
- ARCA will continue to advocate for rate increases.
- ARCA will continue to have the Family Participation Program eliminated.
- SG/PRC Dental Clinic – SG/PRC hosted a dental clinic and will hold another one on May 22, 2021. These are held every other week. Approximately 70-80 individuals are seen.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

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

- Remote Workforce Adjustments – 93% of staff are vaccinated. 20% of staff are back in the office. Fiscal, IT and administrative staff returned on May 10, 2021. The leadership team has also returned. Service Coordinators return once a week. The number of days that staff are required to return will increase with each phase. It is expected that staff will be back in the office for 4 days out of the week by September 16, 2021.
- Vaccine Policy – Inland Regional Center issued a policy that requires staff and their Board to receive the vaccination. There has been push back but they remain firm in their policy.
- Daniela Santana shared the data collected of individuals served who have been vaccinated. Individuals served are not required to get vaccinated and service providers cannot refuse to serve those who are not vaccinated.
- SG/PRC is a testing site every Wednesday and will expand to test 3 days a week starting in June. Results are sent to those that test 11 hours after. Everyone tested has tested negative.
- SG/PRC hosted another vaccine clinic on May 6, 2021. Another vaccine clinic is scheduled for May 27, 2021. Staff partnered with the LA Sheriff's Department to administer in home vaccination to those that are homebound.
- COVID -19 Report – Joe Alvarez provided individual stats on COVID-19; spoke about the trends, presented information on the DDS report to the Committee. California has the least amount of people that are hesitant about the vaccine.

- Re-Engagement Non-Residential Services –Day Program providers will were allowed to re-engage starting this month. 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.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting is on June 16, 2021.