

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

November 4, 2021

The following committee members were in attendance at said meeting:

PRESENT:

Susan Stroebel, Chairperson
Valerie Donelson
Grace Kano
Charmayne Ross
Nancy Bunker
Baldo Paseta
Nicole Mirikitani
Olaf Luevano
Brenda Baldeon
Jeanette Cabrera

STAFF:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director
Rosa Chavez, Associate Director, Family & Transition
Services
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Community Outreach and
Compliance
Lupe Magallanes, Associate Director, Early Start and
Intake Services
Jaime Anabalón, Manager of Quality Assurance
Willanette Satchell, Executive Assistant – Management
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant – Board of Directors

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jose Mendoza
Vanessa Besack

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

None

A. CALL TO ORDER

Susan Stroebel called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum was established after roll call.

The agenda was reviewed.

The minutes from the October 7, 2021 meeting were approved.

M/S/C (Ross & Donelson) The committee approved the minutes.

B. VAC VACANCIES

There are vacancies in the following categories:

- Residential (Specialized)
- CCF
- Adult Day Program

Anyone interested can email egomez@sgprc.org for an application.

C. IMPACT OF COVID 19 AREAS OF DISCUSSION

The following concerns were discussed:

- Staffing issues continue and seem to be getting worse. Susan suggested that SG/PRC conduct a survey of the job opening that vendors have, in hopes that it helps Mr. Hill with the Vendor Workgroup. Susan also put together a list of local health aids to assist vendors with their hiring needs.

D. SG/PRC STAFF UPDATES

Vendor Workgroup – Mr. Hill shared that the workgroup met and discussed strategies and possibilities to deal with the hiring issues vendors are facing. He will share information when it is possible. He agreed with Susan's suggestion and will ask staff to put together the survey of position vacancies.

CCL's VAC Meeting Participation – Lucina Galarza coordinated a meeting with CCL to explain the PINs that providers are having a difficult time understanding. The meeting is on November 16, 2021 at 2pm, Residential and Day Program providers are encouraged to attend.

E. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS

Adult Programs

Vocational – Olaf Luevano share that the LPA form CCS visited his program and checked that the mitigation plan is being followed. He advised his peers to ensure their mitigation plans are being enforced.

Adult Day – Susan Stroebel reported on behalf of Jose Mendoza. She shared that the Trunk or Treat was a success. There was a DJ and dance area. Participants also made Christmas ornaments for the Capitol Tree Lighting event.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Charmayne Ross provided an update regarding the use of courtesy vendors and SG/PRC vendors. SG/PRC stopped requests for courtesy vendorizations to evaluate the referrals process, service modalities and service needs. In the review process, it was discovered that SG/PRC has a good number of vendors in all areas of service (OT, PT, ST, and Early Interventionists).

It was further found that there are barriers in coordinating services with SG/PRC therapists due to lack of therapists willing to provide face-to-face services or in the cities which they provide services. Speech therapy was the service area in most need. The few therapists are willing to provide face-to-face services, but they cannot meet SG/PRC's overall needs.

Last week a Service Coordinator reached out to 7 speech therapists that SG/PRC knows services the area where a parent requested face-to-face services and none of the 7 therapists could provide care. This shortage of availability led SG/PRC to use a courtesy vendor instead since the child had been waiting to start services since August.

Transportation

Baldo Paseta shared that the CDC guidelines for transporters have not been updated since January 2021. The next subcommittee meeting is on November 8, 2021.

Independent Living Services

ILS Services – Nicole Mirikitani had nothing new to report.

SLS Services – Nancy Bunker shared that her program continues to struggle, like most vendors, with hiring.

Residential Services

Specialized – **One vacancy in this category**

CCF – Valerie Donelson (**one vacancy in this category**). Mrs. Donelson had nothing new to report.

ICF- Grace Kano shared that staff are having to work 12-18 hours shifts and providers are having to pay overtime because nursing staff from the registry do not always show up. She also took the opportunity to thank those that participated in the Richard D. Davis Foundation Golf Tournament.

Other Vendored Services- Jeanette Cabrera reported that she is gearing up to follow the academic schedule for winter and spring, taking into account the vaccination status of students.

At Large- In response to what Charmayne Ross reported, Brenda Baldeon shared

that when attempting in person services, she is finding that families are not disclosing their vaccine status and/or when members in the home are ill. Also, families question the use of a mask by the vendors. In addition, prior to the pandemic, upon arrival to a home, caregivers would leave the SLP to do 1:1 when the focus of Early Start is on family education. The family needs instruction on language strategies that in telehealth is well suited for because they have to be present with the child. She also said that the tele modality has been used for many years by SLPs and it is not related to the pandemic; she believes it should be an option for families that are good candidates. Lastly, she is glad teletherapy is part of the Trailer Bill. Her suggestion was to reach out to SLP vendors to determine what their reason(s) are for not providing more in person services. Staff stated this was something that was sent out in a survey, which she did complete but doesn't recall a question regarding the reason(s) for providing the tele modality. Staff said this was something that could be discussed at the next LICA meeting on November 11, 2021.

F. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Susan Stroebel referred to the materials for the legislative updates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Staff shared that planning for the upcoming Transition Fair will start next week and information will be forthcoming.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on December 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.