

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

June 2, 2022

The following committee members were in attendance at said meeting:

PRESENT:

Susan Stroebel, Chairperson
Valerie Donelson
Grace Kano
Olaf Luevano
Brenda Baldeon
Jeanette Cabrera
Nicole Mirikitani
Nancy Bunker
Jose Meraz
Charmayne Ross
Chris Schlanser

STAFF:

Anthony Hill, Executive Director
Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services
Jaime Anabalon, Manager of Quality Assurance
Willanette Satchell, Executive Assistant – Management
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant – Board of Directors

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Baldo Pasetta
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.

The agenda was reviewed.

The minutes from the May 5, 2022, meeting were approved.

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

B. VAC VACANCIES

There are vacancies in the following categories:

- Residential (CCF)
- Adult Day Program

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

C. TERMS & UPCOMING CHAIRPERSON ELECTION

The following members are terming off on June 30, 2022:

- Susan Stroebel (At Large)– May serve an additional year if selected Chairperson again.
- Nicole Mirikitani (ILS)
- Nancy Bunker (SLS)
- Olaf Luevano (Vocational)
- Baldo Paseta (Transportation)
- Vanessa Besack (Vocational)
- Valerie Donelson (Community Care Facilities)

Anyone interested in filling these upcoming vacancies can email egomez@sgprc.org for an application.

D. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

Susan Stroebel was nominated by the committee last month and no one else's name was submitted for consideration.

Susan Stroebel was unanimously selected Chairperson of the VAC effective July 1, 2022 for Fiscal Year 22/23.

E. MOST PRESSING AREAS OF CONCERN

The following was mentioned:

- There is frustration because of the Provider Independent Audit they are required to do, as it is going to cost \$10,000 to complete. Mr. Hill will talk to ARCA about this.
- Rate acceleration- Susan sent emailed the letter and provided it in the chat, encouraging her peers to advocate. The self-advocacy survey was sent out, but so far only 20 responses have been submitted.
- Last night, the House and Senate had meeting and a budget compromise was reached. The big ask is that it includes an acceleration of rate reform and elimination of family fees as well as revisions of core staffing formula.

F. SG/PRC STAFF UPDATES

Staff provided the following updates:

- CFO Transition – Roy Doronila is retiring, and Dara Mikesell will replace him. In the meantime, he will mentor Dara until the end of August. He will remain a consultant along with Pete Tiedemann.
- Joe Alvarez is also retiring on August 1, 2022, and will also mentor his replacement, when one is selected.
- May Revise – Major policy items impacting regional centers are as follows:
 - Early Start Eligibility – The budget includes funding to support revised statutory eligibility provision for early intervention services, including lowering the eligibility threshold and identifying Fetal Alcohol Syndrome as a risk factor for developmental delays. SG/PRC will adjust its structures internally to model what the Governor is planning ailing in early childhood development, which will also align with “First 5.” More children served will require more staff; approximately 40 Service Coordinators and 6 managers will be hired.
 - A temporary suspension of Family Fee programs.
- Social Recreational – A lot of families are finding their own and SG/PRC will reimburse.
- Residential vacancies will be addressed at the next subcommittee meeting.
- The 3 RFPs on the website were awarded.
- HCBS- Several deadlines are coming up, an email with that information went out to around 300 yesterday. Everyone who is in compliance must submit a validation form, those not yet in compliance-must complete a re-mitigation plan.
 - There are \$284,000 that must be used to provide training to providers for HCBS compliance. More information will follow.
- Some programs have not submitted their program’s profile that assists with referrals.

G. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS

Adult Programs

Vocational – Olaf Luevano thanked Susan for her efforts while serving as Chairperson.

Adult Day – Jose Meraz shared that the subcommittee met and discussed hiring issues. He talked about the importance of sharing resources among vendors.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Charmayne Ross said there will not be a LICA meeting this month.

Transportation

Baldo Paseta was not present.

Independent Living Services

ILS Services – Nicole Mirikitani reported that the rate increase for ILS was received but not for the TDS component. Staff clarified that this is something that will be done manually. She also thanked Susan for serving as the Chairperson this term.

SLS Services – Nancy Bunker shared the following:

- Concerns on staffing issues as hiring and retaining staff continues to be challenging.
- She asked that new management at SG/PRC be introduced to service providers at meetings as there has been a lot of turn around.
- Vendors and service coordinators who work with the Deaf or Hard of Hearing population should have trainings to be able to communicate with them.
- Numbers of positive COVID-19 cases are rising.

Residential Services

Specialized – Chris Schlanser has also seen an uptick in COVID-19 cases. He reported that it is very difficult to hire DSPs with the increase in pay in other job opportunities. A lot of trained clinical staff retired in the last two years and finding replacements has been difficult.

CCF – Valerie Donelson (**one vacancy in this category**). Valerie encouraged providers to look in their spam folder for the HCBS email.

ICF- Grace Kano shared that vacancies, overall, have gone down slightly. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for June 9th. She is concerned with the staff shortages and the uptick of COVID-19 cases.

Other Vended Services- Jeanette Cabrera reported that 3 campuses have termed for the semester. Some classes transferred to online sessions because of the uptick of COVID-19 numbers and this was upsetting to some students.

At Large- Brenda Baldeon expressed that she is excited for specialization for Early Intervention in SG/PRC.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Please see the materials.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on July 7, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.