

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

August 4, 2022

The following committee members attended said meeting:

PRESENT:

Susan Stroebel, Chairperson
Grace Kano
Jeanette Cabrera
David Bernstein
Brenda Baldeon
Olaf Luevano
Jose Meraz
Nicole Mirikitani
Charmayne Ross
Jay Smith
Jose Meraz
Christina Buth
Nancy Bunker

STAFF:

Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services
Lupe Magallanes, Associate Director, Early Intervention
& Intake
Lourdes Sanchez, Program Evaluator
Scott Kelley, Manager, Client Services
Linh Lee, Employment Specialist
Lisa Cipres, Housing Specialist
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant – Board of Directors

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Schlanser

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 and Chairperson, Susan Stroebel, announced that some members needed to leave the meeting early and the agenda would go out of order a bit to prioritize their reports.

The minutes from the July 7, 2022, meeting were reviewed approved.
M/S/C (Kano & Luevano) The committee approved the minutes.

B. RECRUITMENT

The following categories have one vacancy: Transportation and Vocational. To apply, please email egomez@sgprc.org

C. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS

Adult Programs

Vocational – Olaf Luevano announced he will hold a subcommittee meeting on the third Wednesday of the month. SG/PRC staff will send an eblast with more information.

Adult Day – Jose Meraz and Christina Buth would like to have a subcommittee meeting this month. They will work with SG/PRC staff to coordinate. Jose shared a flyer regarding Monkey Pox. He also shared his concerns about family and staff not being transparent after having contact with someone who has COVID-19.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Charmayne Ross said there was a LICA meeting last month and Lupe Magallanes, Associate Director of Early Intervention and Intake, is planning to put together a networking event in the fall. She spoke about the areas of Trailer Bill SB188 that will impact service providers:

- The Family Cost Participation Program and The Annual Family Program Fee are suspended through June 2023.
- Enhanced service coordination for 0-5-year-olds, zero/low POS (1:40 caseload
- The Early Start caseloads will be reduced, IFSP review to be done quarterly.
- Alternative Nonresidential Services can continue to the end of 2022.

Transportation

Vacant

Independent Living Services

ILS Services – Nicole Mirikitani shared that ILS providers continue to experience shortages of staff and are unable to provide services at times because of this challenge.

SLS Services – Nancy Bunker echoed the same concern as Nicole Mirikitani. She also shared that since the cost of living is so high, for individuals served, going to

the food bank is becoming the norm. This high cost of gasoline is also becoming a challenge for staff. Lastly, she asked her peers to share with her information on COVID-19 sick-pay assistance if/when someone knows anything. The information has not come out yet.

Residential Services

Specialized – Chris Schlanser was not present.

CCF:

Jay Smith shared there was a subcommittee meeting where several topics were discussed such as having open lines of communication and the vacancy report. The group is thinking about how they can help providers who have vacancies. Lastly, Jay encouraged his peers to participate in upcoming meetings.

David Bernstein reported that licensing changed their approach for their reviews. They are notifying the facility when they will conduct a review and want to see updates to the program design. He also shared that Trailer Bill SB188, Chapter 49, will impact all vendors as effective January 2023 most of the rate increase will have to be allocated to enhance wages and benefits.

ICF- Grace Kano said that from the Residential Subcommittee meeting, vendors expressed they would like vendor meetings to go back to the former Zoom style. She then reported that the new ICF rates came out and provided a breakdown. Lastly, with COVID-19 number high, she is conducting tests as much as possible.

Other Vendored Services- Jeanette Cabrera shared a picture of her newborn and the members congratulated her.

At Large- Brenda Baldeon reported that she completed the survey of needs for families and encouraged others to do the same. Susan Stroebel informed that the Pomona Farmer's Market double up on Cal Fresh points.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Please see the materials.

MOST PRESSING CONCERN FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

The members as well as an attendee had a lengthy discussion about their preference of Zoom meeting formats. They prefer that the meetings with vendors to go back to the former, traditional Zoom meeting style. It was expressed that they feel isolated and not heard with the webinar format. It was suggested for SG/PRC staff and/or the Chairpersons to give guidelines before each meeting and to remove people if they become disrespectful or don't allow for the meeting to

proceed effectively. The members made the following motions:

- **M/S/C (Bernstein & Bunker) The VAC recommends to the Board and Administration to go back to the regular Zoom (format) to maintain engagement and provide support to each other.**
- **M/S/C (Kano & Bunker) If the Board and Administration denies the VAC's (above mentioned) recommendation, the members request an explanation to as to why and what the plan of correction will be.**

CRITICAL STAFF UPDATES

- Lisa Cipres, Housing Specialist, shared that the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Waiting List Open Enrollment was extended to August 6, 2022.
- Staff presented the Monthly Referral Report and listened to the suggestions of the members about what else to add to their data
- Staff met with members of the VAC to talk about the \$284,100 HCBS money. They came up with a plan and have presented it to DDS.
- Linh Lee, Employment Specialist, encouraged everyone to complete the Community Needs Survey posted on SG/PRC's website. The deadline was extended as the survey was translated in different languages.
- Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services, announced the upcoming 8-week Social Connection Workshop Series that will be for adults served by SG/PRC and Presented by Service Center for Independent Living (SCIL). It will cover the following:
 - Conflict Resolution/Self-regulating
 - Positive Body Image
 - signs of being taken advantage of/signs of a healthy and unhealthy relationship
 - Setting Boundaries
 - Texting etiquette/ Safe Social Media Usage
 - Dating and Romantic Relationships
 - Self-Advocacy
 - Building Blocks of Friendship

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Grace Kano announced the 34th Annual Richard D. Davis Foundation Golf Tournament, scheduled for September 12, 2022, and encouraged her peers to participate, sponsor and/or donate.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on September 1, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.