

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

December 1, 2022

The following committee members attended said meeting:

PRESENT:

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

STAFF:

Lucina Galarza, Director, Community Services
Hortencia Tafoya, Director of Clinical Services
Lupe Magallanes, Associate Director, Early Intervention
& Intake
Rosa Chavez, Associate Director, Family & Transition
Services
Scott Kelley, Manager, Client Services (Residential II)
Lourdes Sanchez, Program Evaluator
Jaime Anabalón, Quality Assurance Manager
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant - BOD & RDDF

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Theresa Jones Zarour
Jay Smith

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

None

A. CALL TO ORDER

Susan Stroebel called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the meeting on November 3, 2022, were reviewed approved.
M/S/C (Bunker & Luevano) The committee approved the minutes.

B. MOST PRESSING CONCERNS FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Staffing shortages
- Uptick of COVID-19 cases

C. SG/PC STAFF UPDATES

- Alternative Services – Regional centers will be required to confirm with the individuals served their preference. Regional centers must ensure that the person will benefit from the traditional service in a remote matter.
- Work programs will lose their 14C Certificate. There was a brief discussion about the impact that can cause, specifically to funding.
- Rate model implementation – Beginning January 1, 2023, through Fiscal Year 2023-24, the Department must adjust rates to equal one-half of the difference between rates in effect March 31, 2022, and the fully funded rate model for each provider, and additional funding must be available for the quality incentive program. Most of the rate increase for Fiscal Year 2022-23 must be used for the purpose of enhancing wages and benefits for staff who spend a minimum of 75 percent of their time providing direct services to individuals served.
- Quality Incentive Program (QIP) - DDS is implementing a voluntary Quality Incentive Program (QIP) for service provider designed to: improve consumer outcomes, service provider performance and quality of services. Participating service providers that meet or exceed quality measures developed by DDS with input from stakeholders, will be eligible for incentive payments. Through the collective work of the Quality Incentive Program Workgroup, the QIP has six areas of focus:
 1. Prevention and Wellness
 2. Employment (designed to expand capacity to support individuals with
 3. CIE)
 4. Early Intervention
 5. Workforce Capacity
 6. Service Access
 7. Informed Choice and Satisfaction
- Today is the due date for the submission of the Social Recreational Grants.
- Managers are informed when there are vacancies in Day Programs.
- Staff is working on getting transportation providers higher rates for their drivers that are competitive. Lucina Galarza, Director of Community Services, met with the VAC Transportation Representative to discuss this.
- Social Connections Workshop - A free 8-week workshop for adult individuals (ages 18 & over) served by SG/PRC focused on building

community and friendships. Please see flyer in meeting materials folder to register and for more details.

- DS1891 are required to be updated every two years.
- PPE is available. Please email ppe@sgprc.org,
- The TAT training calendar will be available next week. Next years' topics will focus a lot on behavior issues.
- In 2023, the Quality Assurance Specialists will return to do unannounced visits. Unlike in the past, moving forward, the visits will be fully unannounced.
- Holiday Closure Dates – SG/PRC will observe December 23, 26, and 30, 2022 as well as January 2, 2023. SG/PRC will maintain the 24-hour emergency access to assist individuals served, families and service providers.

D. **VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS**

Adult Programs

Vocational – Olaf Luevano shared the link to an upcoming job fair:
abilityjobfair.org

Adult Day – Jose Meraz and Christina Buth didn't have a meeting in November but encouraged their peers to review the handouts provided as they have great information.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Charmayne Ross asked Lupe Magallanes, Associate Director, Early Intervention & Intake, to announce the LICA Networking Event taking place on December 8, 2022.

Transportation

Susan welcomed Theresa Jones – Zarour was not present.

Independent Living Services

ILS – Nicole Mirikitani spoke about the difficulties of taking on new individuals served due to staff shortages and is hopeful new staff can be hired with the rate increase.

& SLS Services – Nancy Bunker hopes that DDS can help with the high cost of gasoline. She is also really concerned about the future of the individuals served as the cost of living is going up and many cannot afford rent. Lastly, she informed those present that in July 2023, she and the ILS representative will term off and she

encouraged her peers to take their place when that happens.

Lucina shared that she requested a grant that would allow for funding of 5 apartments in Pomona for \$252/month.

Residential Services

Specialized – Chris Schlanser reaffirmed what everyone else voiced.

CCF - David Bernstein said it's projected that there is going to be a \$25 billion dollar deficit for next year's budget. Mr. Bernstein allowed Scott Kelley, Manager, Client Services (Residential II), to present the monthly Vacancies Report.

ICF- Grace Kano shared in the chat a link to DHCS regarding the Cal Aim Program. She also spoke about the challenges of hiring and retaining staff. Lastly, she shared a COVID-19 testing resource located in the city of La Puente.

Other Vendored Services- Jeanette Cabrera reported that because there's a lot of illness going around, students are impacted.

At Large- Brenda Baldeon shared that the LA Zoo offers sensory bags.

E. **RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

Vacancy in Vocational, to apply please email egomez@sgprc.org

F. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

The meeting materials were referenced.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on January 5, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.