

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

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2023**

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Joseph Huang
Karen Zarsadias-Ige
Tina Wright

GUESTS

Gisele Ragusa

ABSENT

Paula Rodarte
Rachel McGrath

STAFF

Jesse Weller, Executive Director
Yvonne Gratianne, Manager of Communications &
Public Relations
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and
Equity
Community Outreach Team
Willanette Steward Satchell, Executive Assistant –
Exec. Director
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant - BOD & RDDF

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:
None

CALL TO ORDER

Joseph Huang, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the March 15, 2023, meeting were reviewed.

M/S/C (Karen Zarsadias-Ige & Huang) The committee approved the minutes.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

Jesse Weller, Executive Director, and Yvonne Gratianne, Manager, Communications/Public Relations, presented the following:

Local Statewide Updates:

- *ARCA Grassroots Day* – This advocacy event took place on March 29, 2023 via Zoom. 18 out of the 21 regional centers participated. Ms. Gratianne led SG/PRC’s legislation group. Karen Zarsadias-Ige is participating along with 2 individuals served, vendors, another parent, and staff. Karen shared about her experience and how everyone’s story was impactful.
- *Client Advocate* – The Client Advocate, Elisa Herzog, has been reassigned to be part of the Communications and Public Engagement Department. She will be involved in reigniting her efforts prior to the pandemic and is committed to increase social media presence.
- *Parents’ Place Parent’s Information Resource Fair/Board Outreach* – This event is returning for the first time in 3 years. It is expected that 2500 people will attend. This event can be a great opportunity for Board recruitment.
- *Sirens of Silence* – The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be hosting their 2nd Annual Event for a Special Day with First Responders. In partnership, the event will be hosted at SG/PRC on Saturday April 29, 2023, from 9AM-12PM. The community will have opportunities to interact with safety equipment, interact and engage with first responders, and learn how to be protected in emergencies.
 - Karen shared that a Torrance Beach lifeguard tower has been transformed to bring Autism awareness and acceptance. The working tower was adorned with hearts and the words, “Care needs no words.”
- *80’s Dance* – SG/PRC hosted a Spring virtual dance on April 14, 2023, for individuals served 18+. There was an 80’s costume contest, dance contest and games. 45 individuals served participated and had a great time.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Community Outreach/Compliance Department staff shared where their efforts have been and presented their monthly report. Updates for the following areas were provided:

Josefina Martinez, Community Outreach Specialist

- Parent Mentor Initiative Progress
- Bridging families to Case Management
- Community Meeting
- POS Expenditure Data
- Outreach Events
- Help Me Grow

Amos Byun, Community Outreach Specialist

- Promoting Service Access & Equity in Asian RC Communities
- Community Outreaching to Promote Service Access & Equity

*(The full report is attached to these minutes) **

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on May 17, 2023.