

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

**July 6, 2023**

The following committee members attended said meeting:

**PRESENT:**

Cris Schlanser, Chairperson  
Jay Smith  
Valerie Donelson  
Theresa Jones Zarour  
Cristina Torres  
Sharon Ehrig  
Charmayne Ross  
Brenda Baldeon  
Jeanette Cabrera  
Jose Meraz  
Christina Buth

**STAFF:**

Jesse Weller, Executive Director  
Lucina Galarza, Deputy Executive Director  
Tim Travis, Associate Director, Community Services  
Yvonne Gratianne, Communications & Public  
Engagement Officer  
Scott Kelley, Manager of Client Services  
Olivia Funaro, Manager, Client Services  
Jaime Anabalón, Quality Assurance Manager  
Erika Gomez, Exec. Assistant – BOD & RDDF  
Nereyda Barba, Exec. Assistant – BOD & RDDF

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Kelly Privitt

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**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

**THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

None

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Cris Schlanser, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the meeting on June 1, 2023, were reviewed and approved.

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

**B. MOST PRESSING CONCERNS FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Nothing was reported.

## **C. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS**

### **Adult Programs**

*Vocational* – (1 Vacancy) Cristina Torres had nothing to report.

*Adult Day* –Christina Buth and Jose Meraz reported there was a subcommittee meeting last Wednesday at 2:30pm and will continue to hold them on the last Wednesday of the month at 2:30pm. Lucina Galarza, Deputy Executive Director, attended and provided information on percentage rate adjustments. Linh Lee, Employment Specialist, also attended and spoke about CIE incentives. Lastly, they shared that Olaf Luevano, former VAC member, led the Empower Now meeting. Individuals served will be the officers of that committee.

### **Infant & Children Services**

*Infant Development Program* – Charmayne Ross announced that the next LICA meeting will be on July 13, 2023. She also shared that Christine Nicholson, Early Intervention (EI) Manager, is retiring; she was a tremendous asset to the EI program and a great mentor.

### **Transportation**

Theresa Jones Zarour shared that Lucina Galarza and Executive Director, Jesse Weller, will meet with transporters in two weeks.

### **Independent Living Services**

*ILS* – Sharon Ehrig encouraged SLS Service Providers to apply for the SLS vacancy on the VAC. She had a subcommittee meeting with the previous representatives, and she made a list of discussion topics for the “Coffee with Jesse” event. The biggest concern for ILS vendors is rates for minimum wage; some service providers may not be able to service areas where the minimum wage goes up. Another concern is affordable housing as individuals served who receive SSI find housing nearly impossible with the high cost of rent.

*SLS Services* – (1 Vacancy)

### **Residential Services**

*Specialized* – Chris Schlanser reiterated the same concerns regarding minimum wage rates and shared that the drastic increase makes it hard to keep up with.

*CCF* - Jay Smith and Valerie Donelson reported that there is an ongoing challenge to stay competitive in the market. They will have a subcommittee meeting soon to hear the voices of the CCF community.

*ICF*- After interviewing the following individual, Chairperson, Cris Schlanser

recommended Ookie Voong to represent the ICF category.

**M/S/C (Meraz & Ehrig) The committee approved the recommendation for Ookie Voong to represent the ICF category on the VAC effective immediately.**

**Other Vendored Services-** Jeanette Cabrera had nothing to report.

**At Large-** Brenda Baldeon spoke about the justification letter for clinic-based services. Staff shared that it will be discussed and reviewed at the next LICA meeting.

**D. RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

The following VAC members will help with recruiting efforts:

- Christina Buth
- Jay Smith
- Jose Meraz

**E. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

The committee needs a member to provide monthly legislative updates.

**F. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JESSE WELLER, PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING UPDATES:**

- Budget
  - SB 101 - [SB 101](#) (Skinner) – This is the 2023-24 Budget that was passed by the Legislature on June 15<sup>th</sup> and has been signed into law.
  - [AB 102](#) (Ting) – This is the updated 2023-24 Budget. The Autism Services Branch at DDS now has additional reporting requirements, with a strong focus on service access and equity.
  - [AB 103](#) (Ting) – The 2022 Budget provided \$700,000 for DDS and the Department of Education to work on parent-friendly resources related to a child’s transition from Part B and Part C.
  - [AB 120](#) (Com. on Budget) – Human Services – Administrators of a wide range of residential care facilities must do trainings to get their (state-issued) certification. This would let that training happen online.
  - [AB 121](#) (Com. on Budget)
    - There is now provisional service eligibility for children under the age of three.
    - For generic services, if the IPP team determines they can’t be found within 60 days, they have to be “authorized” for (regional center) funding.
    - The Family Home Agency and Independent Living Services rate issues have been addressed.
    - There will be an “Office of Employment First” created within the

CA Health and Human Services Agency.

- The Annual Family Program Fee and Family Cost Participation Program fee delays got extended until at least the end of next June (2024).
- Remote IPP and IFSP meetings get to continue until at least the end of next June (2024).
- [AB 1147](#) (Addis) passed the Senate Human Services Committee. After extensive staff work in the run-up to this hearing, ARCA's request for the term limits issue to be addressed was informally agreed to by the Committee, but those amendments will be formally taken at its next hearing.
  - Please note, Board Term Limits: The proposed six-on, five-off term limits will be removed, and the current seven-on, one-off structure will remain in place.
  - Public Records Act subject to regional centers
- Service Provider Insurance Policy – The VAC had the opportunity to review the draft Service Provider Insurance Policy and provide input.  
**M/S/C (Buth & Ross) The committee approved to move the Service Provider Insurance Policy to the Board of Directors for approval.**

#### **G. SG/PRC UPDATES BY LUCINA GALARZA, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF**

- New Services
  - Coordinated Family Supports
  - Self-Directed General Supports for Self Determination (service code 099)
- DSP Workforce Survey - Due to high volume, vendors may register through June 30, 2023, and enter their survey date through July 31, 2023.
- HCBS Trainings
  - New partner, ALO, to provide trainings to vendors, families and individuals served, and SG/PRC staff.
  - New contracts for additional projects for Helen Sanderson and Associates to begin in January 2024
  - New contracts for additional projects for Tammy Evrard consulting to begin January 2024.
- The following Service Codes will be eliminated: 055, 063 and 048. Staff will work with vendors to transition them to a new code. Behavioral Management Day Programs will need to have RBTs. Medical Focused Day Programs will need to have CNAs.
- Scott Kelly, Manager of Client Services, presented the Referral Report. There was a discussion about the large number of vacancies for ICFs statewide.

- New Placement Coordinator, Monique Galindo, was introduced.
- There is a limited amount of PPE left. Service Providers in need can request via [ppe@sgprc.org](mailto:ppe@sgprc.org)
- The Advocacy Meeting is going to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10am.
- The SG/PRC website, [www.sgprc.org](http://www.sgprc.org) has a list of cooling centers.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

The Richard D. Davis Foundation's Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 11, 2023. The foundation will also launch the scholarship program again.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The next regular meeting will be held on August 3, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.