

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

August 3, 2023

The following committee members attended said meeting:

PRESENT:

Cris Schlanser, Chairperson
Jay Smith
Theresa Jones Zarour
Cristina Torres
Sharon Ehrig
Charmayne Ross
Brenda Baldeon
Kelly Privitt
Ookie Voong
Jeanette Cabrera
Christina Buth
Jose Meraz

STAFF:

Jesse Weller, Executive Director
Dara Mikesell, Chief Financial Officer
Rosa Chavez, Associate Director, Family &
Transition Services
Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services
Tricia Vannucci, Associate Director, Adult &
Residential Services
Tim Travis, Associate Director, Community
Services
Yvonne Gratianne, Communications & Public
Engagement Officer
Erika Gomez, Exec. Assistant – BOD & RDDF
Nereyda Barba, Exec. Assistant – BOD & RDDF

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Valerie Donelson

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

None

A. CALL TO ORDER

Cris Schlanser, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the meeting on July 6, 2023, were reviewed and approved.

M/S/C (Ross & Ehrig) The committee approved the minutes.

B. MOST PRESSING CONCERNS FOR SERVICE PROVIDERS

Members voiced their concerns regarding being understaffed and the challenges with there being different wage rates in different cities which has made recruitment difficult. Another circumstance that has affected their ability to recruit new staff is that new hires prefer a work schedule of Monday-Friday. Kelly Privitt encouraged service providers to hire interns and offer them an opportunity to gain experience.

C. VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS

Adult Programs

Vocational – (1 Vacancy) Cristina Torres is planning to schedule a subcommittee meeting to discuss vocational recruitment and other common concerns.

Adult Day –Christina Buth shared they are also experiencing understaffing. Lastly, she shared the successful outcome of the Empower Now meeting.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Charmayne Ross asked Brenda Baldeon to report on the LICA meeting as she was unable to attend. Brenda reported that the main topic of discussion was the justification letter. She encouraged Early Start vendors to press upon DDS the importance of reimbursement for cancellations. Charmayne talked about the cancellation policy for her program and asked Jesse Weller, Executive Director, to review it.

Transportation

Theresa Jones Zarour shared that Mr. Weller will meet with transportation providers on August 9, 2023.

Independent Living Services

ILS – Sharon Ehrig reported there will be an ILS/SLS subcommittee meeting on August 23, 2023. She also shared that the city of La Verne is having a Luau dance on August 11, 2023 from 5:00pm-9:00pm.

SLS Services – (1 Vacancy)

Residential Services

Specialized – Chris Schlanser welcomed Monique Galindo as the new placement Coordinator.

CCF – Valerie Donelson and Jay Smith would like to schedule a subcommittee meeting and would like Monique Galindo, Placement Coordinator, to attend.

ICF- Ookie Voong expressed her concerns about the upcoming transition from

straight Medi-Cal/Fee for Service to Managed Care Plans (CalAim) that will go live in January 2024 affecting ICF providers specifically. Member notices will go out in November for enrollment and regional centers will get notices in August. There are a lot of unknowns still. ICF providers are concerned with the possibility of losing their current physicians once in Managed Care, contracting and credentialing nuances with the legalese and authorizations between the different Managed Care Plans (3-4 assigned to LA County), with, billing being an even bigger concern for providers, and even, questions around eligibility of placement were raised. She asked for Lastly, she encouraged ICF providers to share any conversations had with Managed Care Plans. Hoping to get an ICF subcommittee coordinated to further discuss. She provided her email address to anyone interested: Ovoong@hopehouse.org.

Other Vendored Services- Jeanette Cabrera had nothing to report with the exception that her program has had more stabilization in recruitment and retainment.

At Large- Brenda Baldeon is glad that service providers are talking about cancellation concerns. Kelly Privitt asked that vendors who do not fall under traditional groupings reach out to her to have a subcommittee meeting. She also offered to help her peers with Outlook/Google programs to help schedule and remind individuals served of their appointments.

RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Vacancies in: Vocational and SLS. To apply, please email egomez@sgprc.org

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Theresa Zarour encouraged vendors to write to legislators. Additional legislative information was uploaded to the meeting materials.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JESSE WELLER, PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING UPDATES:

- The Service Provider Insurance Policy was approved by the Board of Directors at the July 26, 2023 meeting and will be posted to the SG/PRC website.
- The Richard D. Davis Foundation granted \$10,000 to support individuals in ILS and SLS.

SG/PRC UPDATES BY COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, TIM TRAVIS

- DS 1891 – Applicant/Vendor Disclosure Form - Every vendor must complete and submit a current Applicant/Vendor Disclosure Statement, DS

1891 (disclosure statement) as part of a complete application packet for vendorization or upon request of the vendoring regional center.

- Quality Incentive Program – Employment Capacity Incentives - Eligibility for Incentive Payments Any service provider who assists an employee to become certified as a trained employment specialist will be eligible for an incentive payment as described above. This QIP is not limited to service providers who primarily provide employment services and supports.
- Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) –Self Determination Program (SDP) - EVV is a requirement of the 21st Century Cures Act
- Rate Study Implementation - Implementation Timeline: April 1, 2022, January 1, 2023, July 1, 2024
- Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule – Funding to support compliance with the final rule.

(For more detailed information, please refer to the meeting materials drive on the SG/PRC website.)

- Referral Report Update: Daniela Santana, Director of Client Services shared that the report was not ready but it will be emailed to the committee on Monday and reported on at the next VAC meeting.
- Dara Mikesell, CFO, announced that in October service providers will receive two payments.

PUBLIC INPUT

Olaf thanked staff for attending the Empower Now event.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on September 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.