

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

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS/ LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JANUARY 17, 2024**

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige
Joseph Huang
Henrick Wong
Tina Wright

ABSENT

Paula Rodarte
Adriana Pinedo

GUESTS

Adrian Jimenez, DDS

STAFF

Yvonne Gratianne, Communications & Public
Engagement Officer
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and
Equity and Community Outreach Team
Suyan Carcedo, Emergency Management Coordinator
Erika Gomez, Executive Assistant - BOD & RDDF

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTIONS

The Community Relations/Legislative Committee recommends the following:

None

CALL TO ORDER

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was established.

The minutes of the October 18, 2023, meeting were reviewed and approved.
M/S/C (Zarsadiaz-Ige & Wright) The committee approved the minutes.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

On behalf of Executive Director, Jesse Weller, Yvonne Gratianne, Communications &

Public Engagement Officer, presented the following:

Statewide/ Local Updates:

- The advocacy connection – Miss Herzog, Advocacy Liaison to Individuals Served, is leading “The Advocacy Connection,” for adult individuals served by SG/PRC creating opportunities for self-advocacy, engaging with peers, and learning about important resources and hot topics to develop, grow, and thrive. Their next meeting on January 25, 2024, will focus on housing rights and the presenter will be Lisa Cipres, SG/PRC Housing Specialist.
- Monthly Community Calendar – A monthly calendar with SG/PRC’s events will be sent via eblast every month. Staff report a 30% increase in engagement since the calendar started going out via eblast.
- Website Updates Sitemap & Transparency Section –
 - SG/PRC is moving forward with redesigning the website. This project could take up to a year to complete. In the design of the new website, there will be a platform for success stories.
 - The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is requiring all 21 regional centers to have a uniform “transparency” feature on their website.
- Holiday Events & 2023 Recap – Through the Holiday Reach Out, 210 families were positively impacted. Through the contribution of the Richard D. Davis Foundation, these families received \$100 grocery gift cards.
- Emergency Preparedness Activities – Suyan Carcedo, Emergency Management Coordinator, was introduced. She started in November 2023 and has been rolling out initiatives and attending trainings. She has also collaborated with the Empower Now group. At some point she will do a presentation to board about her role.
- Grassroots Day – April 2, 2024 – Grassroots is spearheaded by ARCA and will resume being in-person this year after being via videoconference for the last few years due to Covid-19. Staff will provide updates at upcoming meetings.
- Vendor Advocacy Group – Legislative Outreach Training – A group of vendors meet to discuss legislative efforts. Miss Gratianne provides them with support. Training will be coordinated to encourage service providers to do more advocacy.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH-UPDATE- Community Outreach Specialists.

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

○ Monthly Report:

-Amos Byun, Community Outreach Specialist

- Critical Issues Forum Videos
- Organizing And Facilitating Workshops
- Person Centered Conversation
- Translation For Korean Families
- CHLA Early Star Research Project
- Language Access and Cultural Competency Plan
- Outreaching Through Asian Pediatricians
- Help Me Grow La First Five

-Maria Vargas, Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Program Manager of North and South

- The Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs have provided support to over 150 children and adults while serving nearly 77,000 combined hours.
- Recognition events were held for each program honoring the volunteers' dedication and commitment to serving their communities.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on February 21, 2024.