

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

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

The following committee members were present at said meeting:

PRESENT

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige
Joseph Huang
Tina Wright
Adriana Pinedo

STAFF

Yvonne Gratianne, Communications & Public
Engagement Officer
Salvador Gonzalez, Director of Service Access and
Equity and Community Outreach Team
Erika Gomez, Liaison - BOD & RDDF
Elba Moreno, Dept, Assistant - Communications

ABSENT

Paula Rodarte
Henrick Wong

GUESTS

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 6:03 p.m. A quorum was not established.

The minutes of the February 21, 2024, and March 20, 2024, meetings were reviewed and approved.

M/S/C (Huang & Wright) The committee approved the minutes.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES & OTHER INFORMATION

Executive Director, Jesse Weller, presented the following:

Statewide/ Local Updates:

- Proposed Vendor Rally – Susan Stroebel, former VAC Chairperson, shared that the Vendor Advisory Committee would like to hold a rally to push for the uninterrupted implementation of service providers rate increase. It is important individuals served and their families to be visible and voice their concerns when budgets are being discussed. Tentatively the rally is planned to take place on Friday May 31, 2024, 10:00 am. There are efforts in place to work with legislators and hold the rally in the parking lot outside their offices.
- Grassroots Day – April 2, 2024 – The delegation of individuals served, staff, vendors and parents went to Sacramento on April 1st & 2nd. After being conducted over Zoom for the last couple of years due to Covid-19, Grassroots Day was in person which was more impactful. The rate delay was one of the primary discussions with legislators, as well as the blue envelope program.
- Budget Letter – A letter request for the uninterrupted implementation of disability service provider rate increases has received a lot of support from legislators.
- AB 2002, Blue Envelope Program – Focuses on supporting and facilitating more effective interactions between law enforcement and individuals served, during routine stops and/or emergencies. It is a voluntary initiative. The envelope must be requested from the DMV, to hold license and information notifying law enforcement that the individual has special needs or requires accommodations. San Diego is piloting the program with positive feedback.
- Master Plan – The Master Plan for Developmental Services, has the support of California Health and Human Services, it's important to the Governor's office ensuring that our system is evolving to be more responsive to our community. The next public meeting will be April 24, 2024, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm. The following public meeting will be May 15, 2024, 10 am-3:30 pm.
- Vendor Job Fair – Will be led by the vendor community at the SG/PRC conference center on May 3rd from 10am to 3pm. The 50-vendor capacity has been reached. Vendors are providing bios of their organization and information on the positions they are looking to hire for. SG/PRC assists in the registration process, promoting the event, distributing the information through several outlets, and social platforms encouraging attendance. The goal is to support the service providers by holding this type of event annually.
- Parents Place Informational Fair – Sunday April 28, 2024, 1pm-4pm at Cortez Park. 2,500 to 4,000 attendants are expected.
- The Advocacy Connection – TAC will meet May 23, 2024, at 5 pm. The topic will be Diabetes Awareness with training by one of SG/PRC'S nurse advocates. The time that the meetings are being held is being revisited to make it more accessible for individuals to attend.

- The Chalk Art Event – Was a great event and had good turnout.
- SDP – There’s L.A. Times article on Self Determination about Hispanic individuals being underrepresented. It touches on what regional centers can do to help support enrollment and getting information out to the community.

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:

- Night in Hollywood Dance – This in-person event held for individuals served ages 18+ was a huge success and it was really well attended.
- Sirens of Silence – This annual event was the best one attended, seeing over 430 participants.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting will be on May 15, 2024.