

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

September 5, 2024

The following committee members attended said meeting:

PRESENT:

Cris Schlanser, Chairperson
Valerie Donelson
Jay Smith
Theresa Jones Zarour
Wanda Averhart-Collins
Kelly Privitt
Ookie Voong
Sharon Ehrig
Johnnie Martinez

STAFF:

Jesse Weller, Executive Director
Lucina Galarza, Deputy Executive Director
Jaime Anabalon, Quality Assurance Specialist
Lisa Cipres, Housing Specialist
Elba Moreno, Assistant Communications
Department

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Alyssa Zubia
Jesse Silva

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

THE VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

None

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 2, 2024, were reviewed and approved.

M/S/C (Averhart-Collins & Donelson) The Vendor Advisory committee approved the minutes.

B. New Members were welcomed.

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

The following concerns were raised:

- Rate change concerns are ongoing for service code 116. A subcommittee meeting will be scheduled for E.I. vendors to discuss solutions to these issues.
- There is confusion as to what certificates are required to be compliant with the insurance requirements.
- For clarity on the process for service code 055, service providers are to reach out to the regional center they are vendored with. If vendored with San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center, they were asked to email Mrs. Galarza.

D. **VENDOR CATEGORY REPORTS**

Adult Programs

Vocational – (1 Vacancy) Alyssa Zubia was not present.

Adult Day – (1 Vacancy) Johnnie Martinez did not have anything to report but shared his experience with his participation at the SG/PRC Vendor Resource Fair.

Infant & Children Services

Infant Development Program – Wanda Averhart – Collins had nothing to report.

Transportation

Theresa Jones Zarour shared that the transportation subcommittee is trying to expand the advocacy group and trying to get more associated with legislative efforts.

Independent Living Services

ILS – Sharon Ehrig is trying to tap into different generic sources to work with individuals served for affordable housing.

SLS Services – Jesse Silva was not present

Residential Services

Specialized – Chris Schlanser had nothing to report.

CCF – Jay Smith shared that the Residential Subcommittee had a meeting Tuesday, September 3, 2024 with Mrs. Funaro, Residential Services III Manager, and Ms. Galindo, Placement Coordinator. The meeting was a Q&A session, with focus on the process of how referrals are made, and how vendors get coordinators

more information to streamline the process.

ICF- Ookie Voong ICF Subcommittee Meeting was held on August 8, 2024. Many providers are still not getting paid from MCPs on a timely basis. Providers worry about cash flow as MCPs do not appear to be set up to pay weekly or at the cadence that providers are used to billing MediCal. Some providers are nervous about LAG funding ending in December. A provider shared tips on getting paid from MCPs by using a claim agent. Also, ICFs are dealing with having to change providers/specialty doctors – There was dismay expressed at having to change doctors who have followed their clients for many years. Continuity of care is not necessarily the reality/current experience for many of individuals served. Even MediMedi clients who do not usually have any issues getting seen are now being required to get a referral, which ultimately causes delays in health care access. There are concerns around the lack of placement referrals given to ICFs and the extended time vacancies stay open are ultimately hurting their bottom line. Providers are trying to come up with more creative ways to fill the beds and want more clarity on what that process might look like. The next monthly ICF subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2024 at 2pm.

Other Vendored Services- (1 Vacancy)

At Large- (1 Vacancy) Kelly Privitt had nothing to report.

RECRUITMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The following members made a commitment to form the VAC Recruitment Subcommittee: Jay Smith, Cris Schlanser and Wanda Averhart-Collins

There was a discussion for VAC members to collaborate with Community Services in the creation of a PowerPoint/Flyer to educate vendors on what the VAC does, and how they benefit from being a part of the committee. Mrs. Galarza also suggested providing informational inserts in New Vendor Packets.

The following applicants were interviewed and recommended to the VAC for membership :

- Beba Seba for Other
M/S/C (Averhart-Collins & Privitt) The Vendor Advisory committee approved the membership of Beba Seba, effective immediately.
- Christina Buth for Adult Day Care
M/S/C (Privitt & Voong) The Vendor Advisory committee approved the membership of Christina Buth effective immediately.

Currently recruiting for the following for FY 24/25:

- Vocational (1)
- At Large

To apply, please email elba.moreno@sgprc.org or egomez@sgprc.org

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Kelly Privitt will consider taking on the role of updating the committee with legislation. It will be discussed at the October meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATES

Jesse Weller, Executive Director, reported on the following:

- There has been no notification on Nancy Bargmann's replacement for Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).
- AB 1147 Regional Centers would be subjected to the Public Records Act as of January 1, 2026. Governor Newsom has until September 30, 2024, to sign off on the bill (approve, veto or amend). There are concerns on how it would impact Regional Centers workloads as well as fiscally. Another part of the bill states that senior leadership staff is prohibited from hiring family members. Regional Center staff are not to accept gifts to exceed \$15 a year, another area is requiring the department to work with subject matter experts as it relates to the Master Plan process.
- IPP Template – Regional Centers will begin to use the new template January 1, 2025, the final deadline to integrate is January 1, 2027. The new document was shared with the committee.

SG/PRC UPDATES

Lucina Galarza, Deputy Executive Director:

- Direct Support Professional (DSP) Recognition Week September 8-14, 2024
- Statewide Provider Directory
- Rate Implementation
- HCBS Trainings
- Future HCBS Projects
- Quality Incentive Program (QIP) Update
- Direct Support Professional (DSP) Internship Program
- Social Recreation Services, Camping Services, Non-Medical Therapies
- CPP Vendorization
- Payment Assistance for ICFs during transition to Managed Care
- DSP Training Stipend Program
- New Process for Review of Vendor Insurance

There was a discussion about setting up a time to meet with Community Services to discuss VAC inclusion in the development of DSP inclusion.

PUBLIC INPUT

Grace Kano announced the upcoming Richard D. Davis Foundation Golf Tournament on September 9, 2024, is sold out.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The next regular meeting will be held on October 3, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.