

**INLAND REGIONAL CENTER  
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**VIA ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

**June 13, 2022**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Audrey Andrade, Member at Large: Felecia Arnold, Transportation: Johana Caicedo, Infant/Children Programs: Marie Chatman, Vocational Programs: Lynn De Anda, Day Programs: Jenn Delgado, Respite: Ruth Goodsell, Member at Large: Doug McKown, Specialist/Support Programs: Rachel Steward, Behavioral Modification: April Stewart, Member at Large.

**Ms.Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:04.**

**MINUTES: Motion made to approve minutes of May 18, 2022: M/S/C Andrade/Goodsell.**

**Vendor Category Report:**

- 1. Day Program:** Ms. De Anda reported on the Pre-Vac of June 8<sup>th</sup>. The providers are having some issues with authorizations and CSC's falling off. They are working with the Program Managers and POS to resolve. They were reminded to include everyone in the IDT meetings when there are any changes to services. They talked about the CCL Infection Control Plan that is due June 30<sup>th</sup>. There will be a call this Wednesday to discuss more. The providers were told there is a 30 leeway once the process is complete to get an authorization. It was suggested to keep in contact with the CSC
- 2. Health Facilities:** Ms. Clarke was not at the meeting but submitted her report via email: They tried to hold a meeting on 6/8/2022 but the invite was not received correctly. One of the questions that comes up is what is going to be done with consumers whose health seems to be better with ASD services? Also, what are providers to do with the inconsistency of trying to go back to regular programming with in-person day programs? Staff, Clients are having exposures which is increasing the risk of spreading to consumers in the homes. Most facilities are attempting to go back to in-person day program services, but it is very difficult. Various community activities continue to be shared so that even if consumers are not going back to in person day programs there are still an increasing list of opportunities to engage in in the community.
- 3. Infant/Children's Program:** Ms. Caicedo reported they met on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Vanessa Hunter and Alicia Haynes were in attendance to introduce themselves to the providers. They continue to discuss the rate increase. They talked about the May Revise and changes that are coming for Early Intervention. The Early start group has an Executive Committee partnership with other agencies, professionals, families, FRN, to collaborate. They also have a Parent Training Subcommittee. They are looking for a co-chair for the Executive Committee Council. If anyone is interested, let Johana know. Ms. Caicedo and Ms. Gallardo met with DDS representatives who said they are planning targeted marketing for Early Start in the next few weeks. Most regional centers had a drop in referrals during Covid but 3 regional centers were greatly impacted, one of which was Inland. They are looking at possibly putting up billboards, flyers etc. in the high desert and Coachella Valley are for a while. It is for a limited time but could be extended.

4. **Residential Service L2-L3:** No Report
5. **Residential Service L4:** No Report
6. **Respite Program:** Ms. Delgado reported on the Pre-Vac held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. They had approximately 11 attendees via zoom. The group heard some announcements regarding DSP survey, CPR certification requirements. Vince Toms attended as a guest and presented to the group regarding Out of home respite policy going into effect July 1<sup>st</sup> at IRC. Also discussed was the State of Emergency funding. Clarity was provided that IDT meetings will be utilized to communicate ending or continuing SOE funding for consumers. Some questions from the vendor group: How does out of home respite affect transportation? Will vendors be expected to allow workers transport consumers? Will IRC be adjusting any vendor audit processes now that EVV is a requirement? How will time and attendance be audited by regional center? Next meeting will be held in August via zoom. Time and date are TBA.
7. **SLS:** No Report
8. **Specialist/Support Programs:** Mr. McKown reported his service category has not met but they continue to keep in contact via email and address issues as they arise.
9. **Transportation:** Ms. Arnold reported they met on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Lindsey Haussamen was in attendance. They talked about ASD and when it will end. They first had heard June 30<sup>th</sup> but have heard it may not be until December 31<sup>st</sup>. They have been working with the Day Program providers on the split program shifts. They have been attending IDT meetings.
10. **Vocational Program:** Ms. Chatman reported they met on June 8<sup>th</sup> and had about 21 providers in attendance. They are having POS billing issues with the new rates. Some providers are having money pulled back the following month. They are having issues with ebilling and consumers being on the billing from month to month. They are also wondering when ASD will end. Next meeting will be July 13<sup>th</sup>.
11. **Behavioral Mod:** Ms. Steward reported she was not able to attend the Pre-Vac and has no report.
12. **Member At Large:** Neither Ms. Andrade nor Ms. Goodsell had anything to report.

## Committee Reports

- 1) **Legislative Committee Report:** Legislative report emailed June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) **Membership Committee Report:** Ms. Goodsell reported there are still openings for SLS and Residential Level 2 & 3. She encouraged providers to nominate those providers who they think would be good at being a representative. She will reach out to them to ask if they are interested and answer any questions. In the past, others always nominated those who they thought would be good at the position.

**Regional Center Update:** Mr. Toms reported DDS has sent the vendors that employ Direct Service Providers (DSP) a survey and directions to assist in gathering data for the National Core Indicators (NCI) Survey on Staff Stability. It is called the DSP Workforce Survey. Some of the data being gathered will pertain to DSP tenure, turnover, vacancy rates, wages, benefits, recruitment, retention and supervision support. It is a voluntary survey and will collect quantitative information about the aforementioned factors and how they impacted the workforce during the 2021 calendar year (includes the Covid-19 impact). It must be submitted by June 30, 2022.

Just about every service category is included and they break them down into three support categories: Residential, In-Home and Non-Residential. Details of the survey and service codes are on the DDS website. Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) may participate in the survey, but the responses are confined to the DSPs funded by the IRC and not through federal funding, so most ICFs will be precluded from the survey. If any vendor has further questions, they can be submitted to the email address: [DSPWorkforce@DDS.CA.gov](mailto:DSPWorkforce@DDS.CA.gov).

All agencies that complete the entirety of the data collection instrument and submit their responses before **the data collection window closes on June 30<sup>th</sup>** later will receive **an incentive payment of at least \$8,000** for each organization's participation. Agencies must submit responses to every question to be eligible for the incentive. Only one incentive payment will be paid for each organization.

1. HCBS assessment results have been shared by DDS with the RCs. RCs are starting to work with providers to complete the Final Rule assessments and more will be coming later this month, especially for the day program and residential vendors.

**Financial:** Ms. Steuwer gave some insight to some of the billing issues: if providers receive the wrong billing, please do not submit that billing. Request the correct billing. If a provider is paid on the wrong billing, POS would have to take the money back in order to issue correct billing as federal law says only one type of service can be provided per month. When going from ASD to Traditional or vice versa, an IDT meeting must be held and an addendum completed to the IPP in order to make those service changes. POS looks for those changes and cannot make those updates unless the CSC has completed those updates.

**Training Offering:** None

**Resources:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Public Input:** Question: When will Social Rec vendorizations be ready? The RFN will be posted this week with a little more detail and a template for the providers.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2022, at 9:00 am via Zoom.