

**INLAND REGIONAL CENTER  
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**VIA ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

**January 9, 2023**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Felecia Arnold, Transportation: Johana Caidedo, Infant & Children's Programs: Marie Chatman, Vocational Programs: Michelle Clarke, Health Facilities: Lynn De Anda, Day Programs: Ruth Goodsell, Member at Large: Rachel Steward, Behavioral Mod Programs: April Stewart, Member at Large.

**Ms. Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:08.**

**MINUTES: Motion made to approve minutes of November 14, 2022: M/S/C De Anda/Goodsell:**

- 1. Day Program:** Ms. De Anda reported they met last Wednesday and, Vince attended the meeting for clarification regarding the new Directive Orders (Traditional and Remote Traditional Services). They conversed about the new platform for traditional services and remote services. Ms. De Anda also reported; there will be no longer ALT's going forward. Going forward, there needs to be an IDT meeting returning back to traditional or traditional remote services with the homes as well with transportation. Ms. De Anda also mentions, there needs to be an email sent to the IRC/ CSC's regarding IDT's meeting platform. Day Program next meeting will be held February.
- 2. Health Facilities:** Ms. Clark reported their biggest issue is the ongoing plan to switch to managed care. Ms. Clark invited her Vendor group to a stakeholder meeting that the Managed Care team was holding on 12/16/2022. Ms. Clark stated, they did not get through all of the slides that were to be presented. There is still no understanding on how they're going to handle some aspects and who the Managed Care providers will be in some areas of Health Facilities. Ms. Clark stated an email did go out in Nov. Ms. Clark is asking if all the providers can contact Managed Care to find out which organization will cover Health Facilities. Ms. Clark stated, the providers are not able to move forward because they still don't understand how Managed Care is going to work out, because of payment. Ms. Clark also stated another difficulty is payment in some cases will be Transportation, because some of the consumers are unable to wear a mask. Changes will be happening July 1, 2023. Ms. Clark stated that the next meeting will be January 18, 2023.
- 3. Infant/Children's Program:** Ms. Caicedo stated they did not have a meeting in December, however there was a meeting in November and usually they invite Program Managers at IRC to the meeting, however Ms. Caicedo reported that it's been difficult to have Program Managers to attend the meeting due to short staffing at IRC. Ms. Caicedo is requesting to invite a Rep from IRC to do a Demo on the new program. The next meeting for Infant/Children's Program will be January 30, 2023.
- 4. Residential Service L2-L3:** No Report
- 5. Residential Service L4:** No Report

6. **Respite Program:** No Report
7. **SLS:** No Report
8. **Specialist/Support Programs:** No Report
9. **Transportation:** Ms. Arnold reported they are still having challenges with not getting paid. They are still accepting TSR's, but costs are going up while they are waiting to be paid for the services they have already provided. Insurance, workers comp and gas are all increasing. Also, there are concerns with the new Remote Traditional and Traditional Services that will take in effect this month of January. They are very concerned that the January pay will be delayed until IRC system is fully in use. In addition, with all programs opening back up with full Traditional Services, Transportation vendors are concerned that they will have a hardship as well hiring challenges. They are still waiting to hear about the increase from Barns & Associates. Ms. Arnold thanked regional center and POS for their hard work. Next Transportation meeting will be held on January 20, 2023.
10. **Vocational Program:** Ms. Chatman reported on the same information as Day Programs. Ms. Chatman and their Vendor group were in the same meeting as the Day Program vendors and as well with Vince. Ms. Chatman also talked about the Traditional and Remote Traditional Services going forward. Ms. Chatman will be sending out information to their Vendor group regarding the DDS Directive Orders. They discussed the same information regarding the platform for the traditional services and remote traditional services as the Day Program.
11. **Behavioral Mod:** Ms. Stewart reported they met with the Day Program Providers with the exact same things that the Day Program reported. The Behavioral Modification providers are opening this month and continue to work with IRC on the changes. They are still having issues with staffing and having enough staff to provide services in person to consumers. They continue to work with Day Programs and Transportation.
12. **Member At Large:** Neither Ms. Stewart nor Ms. Goodsell had anything to report.

## Committee Reports

- 1) **Legislative Committee Report:** No Report
- 2) **Membership Committee Report:** Ms. Goodsell reported she is requesting a meeting with Felecia, April and Coby to meet on Zoom for the following information: There are 5 individual chair terms that will be up in February (Kedra, Michelle, Doug, Audrey and Ruth). We need to hear back from these individuals to see if they are interested in a second 2-year term. Also Ms. Goodsell did mention back in October we put in a nominee for Residential Services L2-L3 with Elizabeth T. but miss the deadline within that week. At this time, we still don't know where that stands. We still need to find a few replacements. One is Lynn De Anda and Johanna Caicedo who are both up for replacement this year. In addition, I'm trying understand if April and Felecia 2 years extension starts this year or next year. Here is the extensions breakdown below.

Lynn De Anda, Day Programs – Completed 2 full terms and a 2-year extension  
 Johanna Caicedo, Infant/Children's Programs – Completed 2 full terms and a 2-year extension  
 Felecia Arnold, Transportation – Completed 2 full terms and 1 year of a 2-year extension (I think)  
 April Stewart, Member at Large – Completed 2 full terms and 1 year of a 2-year extension (I think)

**Regional Center Update:** Mr. Toms reported the following:

1. The statewide CIE/PIP numbers are in, and IRC ranked third in PIPs and second in CIE placement for all RCs. Job well done by the vendors.
2. There is a new directive sent late Friday regarding Transportation and more will be shared as soon as possible with the transportation vendors once the IRC Administration reviews the directive and creates an operational plan.
3. On 1-18-23, IRC Training Unit will have an all-staff training session on TDS and remote services. It is the soonest we can coordinate training, given the timing of the DDS directive. The TDS updates will be going live on the IRC internet site later today and sent to Marie and Lynn to send to the vendors.
4. IRC staff will be unable to attend all monthly VAC meetings, but will attend every other month, starting in January. A written report will be offered, as much as possible, on the months we do not attend.
5. IRC vendors residential and day service vendors continue to work with the QA team in getting into compliance with the HCBS-Final Rule standards. Currently, 96.5% are in compliance. There are only 26 vendors out of the 744 that still require work to get into compliance. Great job to all involved in this, as we are one of the few RCs that are even close to compliance.

**Financial:** No Report

**Training Offering:** None

**Resources:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Public Input:** None

Next meeting is scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am via Zoom.