

**INLAND REGIONAL CENTER
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

May 16, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Johana Caicedo, Infant/Children Programs: Marie Chatman, Vocational Programs: Kedra Creer, Residential Level 4: Lynn De Anda, Day Programs: Ruth Goodsell, Member at Large: Doug McKown, Specialist/Support Programs: April Stewart, Member at Large.

Ms. Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:03.

MINUTES: Motion made to approve minutes of April 18, 2022: M/S/C Goodsell/Caicedo.

Vendor Category Report:

- 1. Day Program:** Ms. De Anda reported on the Pre-Vac last Wednesday. Beth Crane and Andrew Burdick were on the call. They had a presentation from Arrowhead Regional Medical Center about volunteer opportunities for vendors at their facility and at other off-site clinics. They have various hours and days to choose from. They discussed issues with CSC's terming authorizations for ASD. Beth and Andrew will assist with the issue. They talked about the end of ASD billing and what it will look like going forward. They will need to prepare addendums to their program design. They talked about the Infection Control Plan for CCS that is due June 30th and no template has been released yet. They have questions about the parameters of ASD and Traditional services and the definition of each. They also have questions about N95 masks and if they are still the standard for IRC. CCL has not lifted the physical distancing mandate so they cannot open to full capacity. They are still struggling with staffing issues.
- 2. Health Facilities:** No Report
- 3. Infant/Children's Program:** Ms. Caicedo reported they met on April 20th. They had about 45 to 50 attendees. They talked about the DDS Directives being extended. The Parent Training Subcommittee will be hosting a training on June 13th on Feeding and Picky eaters. A representative from Casa Colina will be providing the training. Email Ms. Caicedo in interested. They discussed the Waiver of In-person service coordination requirements being rescinded. They will be discussing this with parents. They asked if they were already back to providing in home visits and needed a make-up visit, could this be done electronically and yes, it can be done via telehealth. The Infant Development Association will be hosting a discussion on Early Intervention and Advocacy as well as the California budge. Next meeting is next Monday.
- 4. Residential Service L2-L3:** No Report
- 5. Residential Service L4:** Ms. Creer reported they met on May 3rd. They had about 20 attendees. Ms. Goodsell attended the call to talk about the opening for a representative for Residential Level 2 & 3.

6. **Respite Program:** Ms. Stewart reported IRC sent new guidance which allows the providers to continue First Aid and CPR online. Title 17 for Respite does not require in person specifically.
7. **SLS:** No Report
8. **Specialist/Support Programs:** Mr. McKown reported the group has not met. They continue to communicate via email.
9. **Transportation:** No Report
10. **Vocational Program:** Ms. Chatman reported they met on the 11th. IRC and DOR joined the call. They had a presentation from Heather of Amazon regarding jobs available. They have questions about ASD going away July 1st. Vendors are panicked as staffing will not allow them to be completely Traditional. They heard a rumor that effective July 1st, CSC's will be doing all visits face to face. Andrew and Beth let them know they have had a lot of changes in their unit and thus are covering so it may take them longer to respond. They were told if they are having trouble reaching CSC's, to call the PM's. DOR said their website now gives the ability for clients to request contact form DOR and to apply for services. DOR is going to start in person job coaching again. Next meeting is June 8th at 11 am.
11. **Behavioral Mod:** No Report
12. **Member At Large:** Ms. Goodsell had nothing to report.

Committee Reports

- 1) **Legislative Committee Report:** No Report
- 2) **Membership Committee Report:** Ms. Goodsell thanked Ms. Creer for having her at their Pre-Vac. She wanted to talk about the opening for Residential Level 2 & 3 and recruit for that position. She will talk with the QA liaison for SLS to find out when they meet so she can recruit for that position also. She thanked Ms. Creer for inviting Level 2 & 3 to her meetings and for bringing their concerns forward as well. She reminded everyone that the representatives collaborate with IRC. IRC reaches out to the representatives to get information out to the group. If a group has no representative, information may be delayed.

Regional Center Update: Mr. Toms said regarding ASD ending on July 1st; these are assumptions. No timeline has been given to end ASD. We are assuming that will change at some point, but nothing is set in stone. Day Programs need to start shifting back to Traditional to get ready for Final Rule in March 2023.

The CPR directive has been walked back from the last VAC meeting. OSHA has no strict standards for in person. If the DSP needs CPR, as long as they are certified and meet the standards, the vendor can decide.

DDS is proposing a new division called The Division of Community Assistance and Resolutions. This will be a spin off of QA, Fair Hearings and Risk Management. They will have additional staff to work in that unit. It probably means more oversight especially over the Fair Hearings process.

DDS approved IRC's Respite policy. Beginning July 1st, there will be an IPP template or statement for the IPP. If a client of family want respite provided outside the family home, if it is in the IPP, it can be done. IRC must train the PM's and CSC's before this can be implemented. Vince has offered to attend Pre-Vac's if needed to talk about this.

DDS has approved IRC's Social Rec policy and we are looking at dates to begin. DDS also approved a monthly \$100 stipend for outings. This will help families and disparity. If the IPP says the family cannot pay for outings, then IRC can fund the \$100.

CJ Cook said his unit is finishing a blog that will roll out Social Rec, Camp, Non-Medical Therapies and Educational Services to the public. It will be on the website when it is complete which should be late this week or early next week.

Questions:

In the May Revise, it says ASD services are approved through December 31st? this is correct but the May Revise is not the final version, and it could change.

What are Taylor Made Services? This is a service that has not caught on in our area. This is where the consumer may want 8-12 hours of intense programming per month in place of day program. Most families want the daily programming so they can plan their days. We can vendor someone if needed.

Does Residential need to do CPR in person? No. They can also do virtual but need to check CCL requirements for Residential also.

Will Traditional services still be Monday – Friday for 6 hours per day? Don't change anything right now. If you have the same program as prior to Covid, even if done remotely, it is still Traditional.

Will IRC lead a group to get feedback to DDS on the value of ASD? IRC cannot lead but we can support. The VAC can lead. Our contract with DDS is restrictive when it comes to lobbying. Vendors can write letters at their Pre-Vac meetings. They can also connect with CDSA and CCLN as they take on a lot of these issues.

Is there an update on the Covid Enhanced Rates for Residential providers? We still have to develop a rate.

When is the last day to appeal the Burns rate? Usually, 60 days from release but it did take a few days to be uploaded. Plan on 4 to 6 weeks from when you received your rate.

When going back to Traditional, can we begin billing for LVN services? If you were billing prior, when you have the IDT meeting, make sure the CSC knows about it so the IPP can be added for LVN also. Make sure everyone is at the IDT meeting.

Have there been changes in IRC's development of new facilities? The process was streamlined, and we now have open beds. We cannot tell someone they cannot develop a new facility, but we can tell them they may not get referrals. Keep in mind that placement requests are starting to increase. More referrals are coming in.

What about SLS and consumers living on their own? We support it. We have developed a streamlined process. We want to revamp SLS in the Fall. It would be beneficial to have a SLS representative to work with.

Are Covid 19 additional Respite hours ending on June 30th? Vince will look into this and revisit next VAC meeting.

Vince thanked Merissa, Ben and the Burns rate team for all their hard work. It is a huge project.

Financial: Ms. Steuwer reported POS, Vendorization and the Audit team have processed about 2000 rates. Out of those rates, about 10 providers were given the incorrect rate. Ms. Steuwer apologized to those vendors for the inconvenience. They hope to have these fixed by this week. If providers have not gotten notice, their rates are correct. They are still working on 113, EBSH and CCH rates. If providers have not completed their worksheets, they need to do so and send to DDS so IRC can receive the rates and implement them.

Training Offering: None

Resources: None

Old Business: Update from Vince to question of “Covid 19 additional Respite hours going away on June 30th?”

New Business: None

Public Input: None

Next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2022, at 9:00 am via Zoom.