

**INLAND REGIONAL CENTER
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

June 12, 2023

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Audrey Andrade, Member at Large: Felecia Arnold, Transportation: Johana Caidedo, Infant & Children's Programs: Marie Chatman, Vocational Programs: Michelle Clarke, Health Facilities: Lynn De Anda, Day Programs: Doug McKown, Specialist/Support Programs: April Stewart, Member at Large.

Ms. Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:05

MINUTES: Motion made to approve minutes of May 15, 2023: M/S/C De Anda/Arnold.

1. **Day Program:** Ms. De Anda reported on the Pre-Vac of last week. IRC was in attendance and gave updates on the new provider training, Vendor Fairs and the insurance requirements. The providers wanted to know when QA will start audits again. Monica gave them a list of requirements of what is required for the audit. They are concerned that CSC's are having meetings during the day and consumers have to miss work or program. CSC's used to try to have the meetings after hours. They are struggling with CSC's not including the providers when making programming decisions for the consumer. Another concern is CSC not going into the programs to find out what services are offered either. Next meeting is July 12th.
2. **Health Facilities:** Ms. Clarke reported not much is happening at this time. They discussed contracts being sent out from Health Net and some others but not all and knowing who to contact. They are concerned with the number of openings. They talked about Covid restrictions and having to house consumers who have Covid somewhere other than the facility.
3. **Infant/Children's Program:** Ms. Caicedo reported they met May 22nd. They discussed the Early Start restructure. ISC's changing teams are going to keep their caseload and cover the same area for now. There will be a Quarterly Training today on protecting children and supporting families. Ms. Caidedo shared at the Pre-Vac that the funds for provider training were not being maximized. Some providers said it was too time consuming and others said it was too hard to pay up front and wait for reimbursement. There will be an IEP overview on July 25th in English and on July 26th in Spanish. They met with the Early Start interagency council to discuss the feedback requested from stakeholders and that DDS would like the providers to come up with an Early Start packet to be handed out to families so that regional centers are more standardized with the information handed out. Next meeting will be on June 26th.
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:** Mr. McKown reported his group did not meet but the providers know they can contact him at any time via email with issues or concerns.
9. **Transportation:** Ms. Arnold reported the transportation providers are having issues with the hours listed on the TSR and the actual hours at the program. Next meeting will be June 15th.
10. **Vocational Program:** Ms. Chatman reported they met last Wednesday for their Pre-Vac. Andrew and Beth were in attendance. They talked about ACRE training, the IE Business Roundtable on August 16th and the Vendor Fair on July 26th. Amy Alloway requested providers let her know of any vendor numbers not being utilized. DOR talked about wanting to expand supported employment. Ms. Chatman said she would like a copy of the VAC by-laws. She would also like follow-up on issues that have been expressed at the VAC meeting but were not answered at the time. She would like the follow-up to be noted on the agenda.
11. **Behavioral Mod:** Ms. Steward reported the Behavioral Modification providers met with the Day Program providers, so she has the same information that was reported already. Some of the things that differed with her group and were discussed were difficulties with staffing due to requirements and wage differences, 1:1 staffing shortage, mileage reimbursement and the Burns & Associates rate study money. Next meeting will be July 12.
12. **Member At Large:** Ms. Andrade had nothing to report. Ms. Stewart talked about the CMS proposed new rule. Comment period was extended to July 3rd. She also talked about the 80/20 pass through. Many providers are not aware of the new rule.

Committee Reports

- 1) **Legislative Committee Report:** Report was email.
- 2) **Membership Committee Report:** Ms. Stewart reported there is 1 opening for SLS and 1 for Residential Level 2 & 3 and Ms. Creer is not able to continue representing Level 4 and is hoping someone will assume the position. Let Ruth of April know if interested in any of the positions.

Regional Center Update: Mr. Toms thanked Ms. Stewart for her advocacy and Ms. Caicedo for addressing the provider training issue. Issues addressed at Pre-Vacs that are held 1 week before the VAC meeting do not give enough time to look into and get an answer. He is requesting a 10 day turn around. He said QA is holding off on day program visits for the time being. He also said the vendor fair will give CSC's the chance to learn about the programs.

Financial: No Report

Training Offering: None

Resources: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Input: None

Next meeting is scheduled for June 12th, at 9:00 am via Zoom.