

**INLAND REGIONAL CENTER
VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

VIA ZOOM

MINUTES

November 14, 2022

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Felecia Arnold, Transportation: Marie Chatman, Vocational Programs: Lynn De Anda, Day Programs: Ruth Goodsell, Member at Large: Rachel Steward, Behavioral Mod Programs.

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

MINUTES: Motion made to approve minutes of October 17, 2022: M/S/C Vote tabled due to no quorum

Vendor Category Report:

- 1. Day Program:** Ms. De Anda reported they met last Wednesday. Ms. Arnold from Transportation and staff from IRC joined the meeting. They discussed Transportation and Day Program issues. IDT meetings must include Transportation so the consumers can be added to the transportation routes. They need time to plan the routes. IRC was asked to remind CSC's to ensure Transportation is included in the meetings. They asked for clarification on the ending of ASD. They are hearing 12/31 but have not received anything formal as of yet. They talked about HCBS and about Covid cases increasing. There are concerns with safely providing services during this time. Next meeting is January 4th as they will be dark in December.
- 2. Health Facilities:** No Report
- 3. Infant/Children's Program:** No Report
- 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 she met with Ms. De Anda and the Day Program providers. They discussed the challenges they are having with not getting paid. They have been accepting TSR's, but costs are going up while they are waiting to be paid for the services they have provided. Insurance, workers comp and gas are all increasing. Many providers have not been paid since September while others have been waiting for over 9 months. They also discussed the hiring challenges. They are waiting to hear about the increase from Barns & Associates. Ms. Arnold thanked regional center and POS for their hard work.

10. Vocational Program: Ms. Chatman reported on the Pre-Vac of November 9th. IRC provided updates. DOR gave updates on changes to billing for supported employment, the pilot program for those with dual diagnosis, employability grant program and Cal DOR debit cards for individuals. They discussed assessments. They are waiting on the incentive payments. Next meeting will be January 4th as they will be dark in December.

11. Behavioral Mod: Ms. Steward reported they met with the Day Program Providers and Ms. Arnold from Transportation was on the call. The Behavioral Modification providers continue to look at reopening in January. There are still 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: Ms. Goodsell had nothing to report.

Committee Reports

1) **Legislative Committee Report:** No Report

2) **Membership Committee Report:** Ms. Goodsell reported all positions are now filled. She will compile a report for those who will be terming out next year. She will report the findings at the January meeting.

Motion made to approve Naomi Arroyo as the Residential Lvl 2 & 3 representative: M/S/C/ vote tabled due to no quorum.

Regional Center Update: Mr. Toms thanked all the veterans for their service. He let the providers know he is a little behind on emails. He has been focusing on the directives coming in for the \$8000 incentive. There is a plan in place. The contract will only require a signature from the provider. Atlas is coming together. This was a huge undertaking and there are still some issues to work out. Atlas has a greater capacity than Sandis did and will have the vendor portal. Vince thanked the providers for their patience. The TDS template will be going out soon. IRC is moving forward with the template. Vince would like to have a phone call with the day program providers maybe the week of the 28th. The template is based on the regulations so it is not anticipated things would need to be done twice. TDS is individualized in programming. There has been no talk of extending the 12/31 end date for ASD. ASD was meant to help prop up the system during the lockdown, not be forever.

Financial: Ms. Steuwer had no financial updates but did report that everyone is waiting for the incentive payment. They did receive answers from DDS. Amy Alloway and Amanda McGuire are finalizing the details. Contracts will be going out to those providers who qualified for the \$8000 payment from DDS. Many questions and comments ensued from the providers who are having difficulty getting the correct billing from IRC for ASD and Traditional authorizations. There seems to be a systems issue. Merissa and Vince will be meeting with all the Directors this morning and will talk with the other Directors about the issue. Vendors will be paid for the work they have provided to the consumers.

Training Offering: None

Resources: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Input: None

Next meeting is scheduled for January 9, at 9:00 am via Zoom.