



**PARENTS COORDINATING COUNCIL  
AT LANTERMAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER**

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**AUGUST — SEPTEMBER 2011**

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# CONTACT

THE NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND FRIENDS

**Important Reminder:** The PCC Office is staffed by dedicated volunteer family members who donate their time to support the Lanterman families. These volunteers take care of the many organizational and office duties, ranging from sending out the Newsletter to running the fundraiser, to responding to individual family needs and many more activities. The PCC Office is open most but not all days, and may be reached by phone (909-444-7572), fax (909-444-2047), email ([ldcpcc@gmail.com](mailto:ldcpcc@gmail.com)), or U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 4408, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

**LANTERMAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER POPULATION AS OF AUGUST 10, 2011—310**

## **Parents Coordinating Council Meeting**

**When: Saturday — September 10, 2011  
Start Time — 10:00 a.m.**

**Where: Lanterman Developmental Center  
3530 Pomona Boulevard  
George DeBell Auditorium**

**Important Meeting -- Learn about Medical Services for your Loved One!**

### **Health Care for Lanterman Movers in the Community**

As part of the Closure Plan for Lanterman Developmental Center, residents who move to a community setting are to have all health care needs and all medical providers identified before they leave. Legislation has been passed to implement the development of the Health Care Plans that will cover these services. Harold Pitchford, the former Executive Director of Agnews Developmental Center, is leading the identification and implementation of these Health Care Plans. Mr. Pitchford will present these Health Care Plans at the next PCC meeting. This is your opportunity to learn about how the future medical, dental, and therapeutic needs of your relative may be covered!

### **Co-President's Message – Terry DeBell – Dorothy Juarez Fulco**

Everyone can agree that the health care that our residents receive at Lanterman is one of the most appreciated elements of Developmental Center placement. Receiving those services outside of Lanterman is an extremely important part of the transition plans for our residents. Make sure that you attend the next PCC Meeting on Saturday, September 10, to learn how these Health Care Plans will provide services for your relative.

Most people are familiar with the Individual Program Plan (IPP) meetings held every year. As family members and conservators, you are an important part of the Team that develops this plan. If you would like assistance in any aspect of the IPP, please contact the PCC Office. The IPP Committee members can help to explain the process, assist in developing a Preferred Future, and let you know about appeal rights.

As part of the Unit Consolidation at Lanterman, a Consolidation Team is assembled to address the process and the issues and concerns over moving individuals from one unit to another. We need Lanterman families to volunteer to serve on the Teams that will address these upcoming moves! If you need additional information, or are interested in serving on the Team that will address moves in the area of your relative, please contact the PCC Office!

The PCC Board has met recently with the Lanterman Administration to discuss "Life at Lanterman" issues, including IPP scheduling, the Lanterman Clinic, staffing numbers, staff training, unit consolidation, and other items. We have also recently met with Regional Center Directors to discuss "Life After Lanterman" issues, including community placements, transition planning, funding, and quality management. Both meetings were valuable in the exchange of information and the sharing of concerns on all sides. The PCC is committed to regular communication with those who are directly involved in the present and the future of the Lanterman residents.

### ***Families Share Transition Experiences***

At the August 13 PCC meeting, family members discussed their recent experiences in the transition process. Although very few of the attendees were currently in the transition process, several had visited different community placements and had discussed possible services with their Regional Center case workers. Some of these placements were rated highly by families, and some were not considered appropriate for our residents. Regular and clear communication with one's Regional Center was urged, along with knowing what services the Lanterman movers are allowed under the Closure Plan. These services include enhanced staffing, placement, and monitoring. A survey was distributed, that focused on elements of transition outside of Lanterman, whether that would be a community placement or transfer to another developmental center. The survey will also be used by the PCC to identify areas where families may need assistance – either in relations with Regional Centers, their own case-workers, in visiting possible placements, in choosing a service provider, in communicating to the ID team their preferences for placement and possible roommates. PCC has formally requested Regional Centers to provide us with the procedures for transferring from one Regional Center to another. Once we receive this information from Regional Centers, we will forward this information to all families.

### ***Dear PCC Officers and Board Members,***

We have long intended to write to you to thank you for your outstanding leadership and efforts on our behalf re: the closing of Lanterman Developmental Center, and after Saturday's meeting and the discontent expressed by some who attended, we can procrastinate no longer. We admired and appreciated your calm response as you reminded us of your many trips to Sacramento, arranging for representatives from DDS, etc., to come down and hear our thoughts on the matter, encouraging us to write our legislators PRIOR to the legislature's vote to close LDC, and, above all, that the closure is now law and we must simply "live with it". Needless to say, all of us wanted Lanterman to remain open, but we firmly believe that everything possible was done to stop the closure and we are most thankful for the countless hours spent by PCC in keeping us abreast of what was going on, as well as for the advice and valuable information you have provided us in connection with the transition of our son to the community. Your work on our behalf is much appreciated!

Gratefully,  
Tom and Bernita (Bunny) Anderson  
Parents of Douglas Anderson, Unit 2

### ***Get To Know Your PCC Board!***

Articles on PCC Board Members has been a popular addition to our newsletter, as it gives everyone a chance to learn more about the individuals who represent others in the PCC. This month we are featuring Bruce Ireland, one of our new Board Members. Bruce has chosen to let us know about him by writing in the voice of his sister Robin. We appreciate knowing more of the Ireland family, and especially appreciate Bruce coming forward and sharing his love and devotion to Robin.

***Dear PCC:*** My name is Robin Maureen Ireland. I am a resident on Ward # 58 (Acute Unit) at LDC. I have lived here over the last 47 years. I have a younger sister named Melanie. She is a mother of three daughters. She calls to hear about my happiness and sends me presents on my Birthday and at Christmas every year. I also, have a brother named Bruce. You know him; He's my Conservator and is a retired College

Professor from The Claremont Colleges... He visits me whenever he can get the chance. ..I just thought you would like to meet My FAMILY! Love to Everyone and Thank You, Robin M. Ireland on Ward # 58.

### ***October is VOR Awareness Month!***

VOR is the national organization that advocates on the federal level for individuals with severe and profound mental retardation who are cared for in our nation's developmental centers, training schools, and other intermediate care facilities (ICF). For the past 28 years, VOR, which is composed of the families and friends of ICF residents, has worked tirelessly in legislative, legal, educational, and media areas to advocate and inform legislators, attorneys, journalists, policy makers, and many others on the issues that affect our family members. The PCC, along with other California Developmental Center family groups, has been part of VOR for many years. Our current VOR representative is Bob Hazard.

If you are not an individual member of VOR, you should be! The issues that they address our family members, no matter where they reside! **They need your support, and you need theirs.** Contact VOR at <http://www.vor.net/>, at 836 S. Arlington Heights Rd. #351, Elk Grove Village, Illinois 60007, at 877-399-4867.

### ***Lanterman Developmental Center -- Outpatient Clinic Update*** ***– by Cheryl Bright***

Over the past several months, since the initial meeting in November 2010, the Outpatient Clinic (OPC) Committee has convened on a scheduled basis to draft and finalize steps needed to open a fully operational Outpatient Clinic. From the inception of the OPC Committee, partnership and collaborative discussion has occurred on a continuum with the staff from the Agnews Outpatient Clinic and the Department of Developmental Services. Collaboration has resulted in the sharing of important information and experiences pertaining to the development of the OPC, the equipment needed to operate the OPC and the guidance offered through each phase of the development process.

To date, a number of activities have been completed that we wanted to share. The OPC committee reviewed the services that we currently provide, the staffing resources used to deliver such services and the services that will continue to be provided through the OPC. A brochure has been designed that outlines the Services that will be provided through the Out-Patient Clinic.

The committee, in conjunction with the Section Chief from the Department of Developmental Services - Facilities Planning and Support Section, toured three areas within the Lanterman Campus to determine the best location for the OPC. The Acute Building, where services are currently provided, was selected. The Reception and Waiting Room areas will be located in the lobby of the Acute Building. Additionally, the TK Oasis will offer an appealing atmosphere in a patio-like setting.

Representatives from the Department have toured this Outpatient Clinic location and recommendations for minor improvements were identified.

Plant Operations identified maintenance projects in the Acute Building that warranted completion and modifications to two bathrooms adjacent to the Acute Lobby were initiated to improve accessibility. Currently, most enhancements have been completed and the bathroom, modifications are expected to be completed in early August. Other projects to promote the longevity of the OPC are underway. These projects are expected to be completed by early fall.

The Clinical Records Department has been instrumental in formatting the Outpatient Clinic referral forms , medical records, and future billing invoices.

The Clinical Director and Director of Quality Assurance met with Regional Center representatives, provided copies of the Outpatient Clinic brochure, and briefly reviewed the referral process. Lanterman's Quality Assurance department researched regulations relative to licensing approval for the Outpatient Clinic, and legislation enacted in 2009 provided a streamlined application and review process. Lanterman submitted an application, which included forms and extensive documentation, to the California Department of Public Health, Licensing and Certification Division on July 13, 2011. Based on their review, the Center received notification that the application for Outpatient Services was approved effective July 26, 2011.

Residents of Lanterman Developmental Center continue to receive their services without interruption, and the Lanterman Community looks forward to providing Outpatient Clinic services in the near future.

Lanterman hosted an Open House for the Outpatient Clinic on August 23rd. Invitations to the event were sent to Families and Regional Center Representatives will were welcome to attend the Grand Opening in order to obtain an overview of the services that will be offered through the Outpatient Clinic.

**The Executive Committee will continue to keep you informed regarding any additional updates.**

**Parents Coordinating Council & Friends  
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ldcpcc@gmail.com  
www.lantermanpcc.org**

**The PCC welcomes** interested residents, families and Lanterman staff to attend all meetings. Contact the PCC office for information on meeting dates and times.

**The Contact, PCC Post, and the Website** -- The Parents Coordinating Council communicates regularly with all Lanterman families and others who have shared their contact information with us, regardless of whether or not they are PCC members. We honor the privacy of all families and do not share any contact information given to us. The Communication Committee greatly appreciates everyone who helps us with the following methods we use to distribute information:

**The PCC POST** is a one-page emailed update sent out on most Fridays that gives condensed information on what has happened in the past week and what is coming up. This format allows us to get information out on a regular (and inexpensive) basis without waiting for the Contact to be published. People who do not have email or who do not get the **PCC POST** by email receive the past issues with their mailed **Contact**.

**The Contact** newsletter is mailed every 4 to 6 weeks. It contains articles and information on prior and upcoming meetings, important issues facing Lanterman, and updates on resident activities. It is designed to help family members who may not be able to visit Lanterman or attend meetings regularly keep in touch with what is going on.

[www.lantermanpcc.org](http://www.lantermanpcc.org) is our website address, where past issues of the Contact and the PCC POST may be found, along with meeting minutes, family resources, important links, newspaper articles, etc.

**Parents Coordinating Council & Friends at Lanterman Developmental Center**

**OFFICERS**

<b>Co-President</b>	<b>Terry DeBell</b>
<b>Co-President</b>	<b>Dorothy Juarez Fulco</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	<b>Art Lopez</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	<b>Dorothy Diamond</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Anna Agopian</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Kathy Emerson</b>

**The PCC is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. Financial statements are provided upon request. The PCC newsletter is meant to educate families. All articles herein are the opinion of the authors.**