



**PARENTS COORDINATING COUNCIL  
AT LANTERMAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER**

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**JUNE – JULY 2012**

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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 MAY 30, 2012 – 263**

## **No General Membership Meeting in July**

### **Upcoming Parents Coordinating Council Meeting Dates:**

#### **July 14, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. –12:00 Noon – PCC Board Meeting**

The Board will meet in the Research Conference Room to work on goals and challenges of the coming year. All are welcome to attend.

#### **August 11, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. –PCC General Membership meeting**

The first meeting of the New Year will be held in the George DeBell Auditorium.

The program will be announced later. It will feature important information that you should have! Save the date! Mark your calendars now!

### **New Officers and Board of Directors for 2012-2013**

**Co-Presidents** – Anna Agopian and Dorothy Juarez Fulco

**Vice President** – Dorothy Diamond

**Secretary** – Jackie Bayer

**Treasurer** – Terry DeBell

#### **Board of Directors**

Lee Bayer  
Kathy Emerson  
Tom Emerson

Dante D'Amore  
Norman Fulco  
Robert Hazard

Art Lopez  
Molly Long

Elaine McKay  
Carmen Raymond

We had 33 people who voted; one voted no for Co-Presidents and one voted no for Treasurer. Come to the August 11, 2012 PCC meeting and meet your new Officers and Board of Directors.

## ***Health Care for Lanterman Movers***

What do Health Net, Molina Health Care, LA Care, and Inland Empire Health Plan have in common? These managed care plans, through special arrangement with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), will provide medical, dental, and therapeutic care to Lanterman movers, along with a few other plans which operate in Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. The Federal Government must give a final sign-off on these plans, but the DHCS is confident that they will be approved. Those residents who have already left Lanterman will be able to join these programs also. Our sincere appreciation goes to the representatives of these plans, who met with the Lanterman families on June 16 to describe their programs, and answer questions. They told us about many health plan features really important to families – such as:

- The RN Case Manager staff can coordinate care among the different specialists caring for the client
- A choice of which health plan your family member may use, depending on county of residence
- A choice of primary physicians and other healthcare professionals who are familiar with developmental disabilities
- Mobile laboratory and X-Ray is available, and physician house calls can be provided
- The Health Plans will provide and maintain the “durable medical equipment” that many of our residents use, such as wheelchairs and special beds.

### **You can help the Health Plans provide for your family member!**

- 1. Contact your Regional Center Case Worker for more information about which plans your family member is eligible for – there are other plans available! There is also the option for some residents to remain on Medicare**
- 2. Work with your Transition Team to identify all the particular health and equipment needs of your family member, and which Health Plan will be able to meet those needs**
- 3. Speak with the Health Plan directly to let them know about your family member** – the more information they have about their clients, and the sooner they have it, the better they will be able to coordinate the needed services. Contact the PCC office for more information on the Health Plans

## ***Community Placement Plan Money***

The Lanterman Act calls for “dedicated funding” for the development of resources in the community, including those for residents of Developmental centers. These are called Community Placement Plan funds, or CPP funds. The amounts are based on Regional Centers’ identification of what services their DC clients will need in a community setting. With the closure of Lanterman, the CPP funds have been concentrated on developing services and supports for Lanterman residents. The Department of Developmental Services recently responded to the PCC request for an overview of these funds, and what services and supports have been developed.

Since 2010, \$88 million has been distributed to the Regional Centers involved in the Lanterman closure. There will be an additional \$43 million available July 1 (if the budget is signed on time!) Almost \$1 million of these funds is dedicated to the formal assessments and evaluations of clients, to make sure that all their needed services and supports have been identified before they move to the community. Some of these funds have been used for the transition and care of 117 former Lanterman residents. Some money has gone to non-profit housing corporations to purchase and remodel homes, which will always “belong” to individuals with disabilities. These funds have also been used to develop the Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs (the special medical model homes), specialized day programs, professional staff, transportation services, crisis management services, and other programs that will support Lanterman residents in their new homes.

## ***CASHPCR Update***

The California Association of State Hospital Parent Councils for the Retarded is more than 40 years old, as its old-fashioned name suggests! The current members are family groups at Lanterman, Fairview, and Porterville Developmental Centers. In the past 2 years, the closure of Lanterman Developmental Center has been the most important DC issue, but CASHPCR has still been active in other areas, including legislative and budget matters.

**Pending legislation:** SB 1051, SB 1522 and SB 1377 all address injury and abuse at Developmental Centers. They refine the reporting of any incidents so that they are addressed in a more timely and effective manner, and improve the Office of Protective Services. SB 1377 will also allow tracking of abuse in the community setting. SB 1392 would allow the state to lease the grounds of closed DCs in order to generate funds for people with disabilities. CASHPCR has supported all of these bills, which are currently scheduled to have their final committee hearings. If they pass, it will be up to the Governor to sign them into law.

**Budget:** Along with Sonoma DC, CASHPCR has represented Developmental Center families and residents at the Budget Stakeholder Workgroups that DDS called to review approaches to budget cuts. The current budget calls for \$43 million for the Lanterman closure, the expansion of the special medical model ARFPSHN (962/853) homes state-wide, and a short-term crisis center to be established at Fairview. The budget also calls for a moratorium on admissions to Developmental Centers (which we do not support) and the use of the DC resources for people in community placement (which is something we have long asked for). The budget also calls for the 4.25% provider cut to be dropped to 1.25%. This is an issue that Lanterman families and other advocates addressed personally with legislators as these cuts really affect how community providers can care for their clients.

***Voice of the Retarded (VOR) Trip to Washington D.C***

***by Robert Hazard***

Bob Hazard and Brad Whitehead, California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT) Lanterman chapter president, attended this year's VOR Conference and Washington Initiative that were held at our nation's capitol from June 9 through the June 13. We were joined by approximately 75 other family members from across the nation as we met to share our experiences to keep our developmental centers open.

I met with our national Legislative Committee to discuss our progress and strategies to move HR 2032 through Congress and to obtain sponsorship in the Senate. We are close to having our much-needed bill passed in the Judicial Committee. This bill requires that before a federally funded agency, like Protection and Advocacy, can file a class action suit against another federally funded intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR) to move the residents out, they have to give us, the guardians, conservators, and family members 30 days notice and then must give us 60 days to opt out of the class action suit. Simple bill with a simple message that gives us a much needed right and voice to be given the choice as to where our loved ones shall continue to live.

The highlight of the conference presentations was a keynote speech by Sam Brock, anchor/reporter at CBS out of Richmond, Virginia. His mantra is "treat everyone with the same dignity". Sam became involved in our quest to keep the developmental centers open when he heard an older mother of a profoundly developmentally disabled daughter exclaim, "I can't die. I can't die! Who will take care of my child?" In his research, he found several Department of Justice (DOJ) violations of the DD Act (the Developmentally Disabled). He documented just who lives in ICF/MRs to learn first-hand how the state of Virginia treats those with DD. He was strongly moved by the degree of the residents with profound mental retardation.

In Virginia, the DOJ declared that they want the state to close 4 of the 5 training centers (developmental centers), because in their eyes, they have "failed the community by allowing the DD to remain in institutions." On June 8, just one day prior to our conference, the judge ruled that the guardians and conservators for the DD shall have the freedom of choice and therefore the Virginia training centers will not be closed down in order to continue to provide that choice. We feel Sam Brock's news documentaries had a significant impact upon that decision. He left the room with a continuous round of applause.

***Lanterman Happenings***

***by Dorothy Diamond***

Very Special Arts event was held in the De Bell Auditorium on Tuesday, June 19, 2012. My son Michael and I were very fortunate to be able to attend this gala event that Belinda LoVerde, VSA, Chairperson arranged to display LDC's residents art work and pottery. They held a silent auction on all the articles and I was able to acquire a beautiful piece of art work called "Sunset" painted by one of the residents on 21. When Michael moves into the community he will have a part of LDC to take with him.

Many awards were given out at this social event not just for Best Use of Colors or Best Use of Material but also for events that go on here at LDC. Some residents received certificates for Best Singing, Dancing, Personality and even Best Smile! Many, many awards were given out. Even though my son did not receive an award, the reward for us was in watching the enjoyment and smiles the awardees gave us in attendance when they received their certificates and sashes. One of our residents Tania D. received a special award for her painting "Storm Swirl". This painting will be featured in the DDS Fact Book in Sacramento. Tania has been painting for several years and loves to paint in the abstract; her favorite colors are purple and orange. Look for Tania's picture to be displayed at LDC's Administration Building in the near future.

Thanks to all who helped with this Very Special Arts program event.

**CONGRATULATIONS to all that received awards!!!**

**If you do not happen to see some of the street signs, do not worry LDC is taking them down for refurbishing and will be brought back as soon as possible.**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LDC COMMUNITY FOR A SUCCESSFUL NF SURVEY OUTCOME**

**Parents Coordinating Council & Friends  
at Lanterman Developmental Center  
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Mailing Address: P. O. Box 4408  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 444-7572  
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.**