



LDC Closure News

WINTER 2013

INTRODUCING:

Amy Wall joined DDS in early November as the Assistant Director for Lanterman Developmental Center Closure.

Amy has an extensive background in communications and government affairs. Her role is to act as a single point of contact for all of the different parties involved in the closure process.

Amy is your direct line to the Department for any questions or concerns you may have.

You can reach Amy by phone at 916-654-1946 or by email at amy.wall@dds.ca.gov.



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Welcome to The Inaugural Issue!

Welcome to the first issue of *LDC Closure News*. The goal of this publication is to serve as one more way for the Department of Developmental Services (the Department) to keep members of the Lanterman Developmental Center (LDC) community informed about the LDC closure process.

This newsletter will be distributed to families, Regional Centers (RCs) and other stakeholders, available at LDC, and posted on the DDS closure website.

The Department is committed to the Lanterman Act and working with all stakeholders to achieve a



"Realizing Potentials - Providing Opportunities."

smooth, safe and successful closure of LDC. The closure process is informed by policies and initiatives that were successful during prior facility closures, but tailored to meet Lanterman-specific needs and circumstances.

Throughout the closure process, the Department has been continually communicating and working

with stakeholders to identify and address issues as they arise. Closure will occur when appropriate services are available and the last resident has moved to the living option appropriate for his or her needs.

In this issue of *LDC Closure News* you will find summaries of information of interest to families and to staff, as well as links to further information.

The Department welcomes input and feedback on topics of interest to the LDC community. Email or call Amy Wall at amy.wall@dds.ca.gov or (916) 654-1946.

Milestones To Be Released

The Legislature has asked the Department to develop completion dates for significant milestones to demonstrate progress in the closure of LDC.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed written or verbal comments on the proposed milestones. We are in the process of

incorporating the input we've received and will post the milestones on the LDC Closure website once they are finalized. Look for the finalized milestones in January.

The Department received several requests for data through the milestones process and are looking into

the appropriate mechanism to distribute data, including the statutorily required status reports to the legislature. The next report will be released in January 2013.

The Department looks forward to continuing to work with stakeholders as the milestones are implemented.



Make sure to visit: <http://www.dds.ca.gov/lantermannews/index.cfm> for the latest news, public notices, updates, reports, press releases and other information and resources related to the LDC closure process.

Community State Staff Program

The Department's efforts to educate and raise awareness of the Community State Staff Program (CSSP) continues.

Careful planning and cross training for residents and service providers are key to successful transitions. The CSSP is one way to maximize cross-training opportunities and offers a link between LDC and the local provider community.

On Saturday, October 13, Department staff updated families and key stakeholders on the current status of the CSSP with a presentation at LDC.

We are pleased to let you know that since the Octo-

ber meeting, two providers and one Regional Center are in the contracting process with LDC. One provider's contract was approved by the Department of General Services on November 30, 2012 and the other two contracts in process should be finalized shortly.

An October survey of the 936 employees at LDC as of October 1, 2012, found that 102 of 129 total respondents were interested in the CSSP.

The majority of respondents (91) currently live in San Bernardino and Los Angeles counties and are primarily interested in working in San Bernardi-

no/Riverside, Los Angeles County and Orange County geographic areas.

Of the 102 positive survey responses received, 17 were staff that could be categorized as Administrative staff, 84 were Direct Care staff and one was Program/Ancillary staff.

A more complete summary of survey findings will be posted on the DDS closure website in January.

To read more about how the CSSP works, visit <http://www.dds.ca.gov/LantermanNews/Index.cfm> and click on: "Community State Staff Program, Frequently Asked Questions"

All About ARFPSHNs ("853 or 962 Homes")

As part of the Plan for the Closure of Agnews, legislation (SB 962, Chapter 558, Statutes of 2005, Chesbro), authorized the Department and the Department of Social Services to jointly establish and administer a pilot project for certifying and licensing a new residential model to support individuals with enduring medical needs within a homelike community setting.

This model of care, often referred to as "962 Homes" or ARFPSHNs (short for Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Healthcare Needs) requires 24-hour-per-day licensed nursing staff, Department program certification, and mandatory safety features.

The use of "962 Homes" for Agnew's closure was necessary to fill a critical

gap in existing residential licensure categories; specifically, residences for people with developmental disabilities who have stable, but enduring special health care needs.

The trailer bill to the Budget Act of 2010 (SB 853, Chapter 717, Statutes of 2010, Committee on Budget), expanded the...

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Sharing Knowledge, Addressing Issues



The closure process for LDC is informed by policies and initiatives that were successful during prior closure of state-operated facilities, but tailored for the circumstances unique to LDC.

Throughout the closure process, everyone involved has worked to share best practices, lessons learned and questions to ensure a smooth and successful closure. These efforts continue through a variety of partnerships, collaborations, and meetings including:

- ◆ Weekly LDC closure-specific meetings of the Department management team.
- ◆ Meetings between the leadership of the PCC, DDS and RCs.
- ◆ Monthly meetings between the PCC, LDC and the Developmental Centers Division of the Department.
- ◆ Monthly meetings between DDS and licensing to prioritize approvals and troubleshoot.
- ◆ Monthly conference calls and meetings with the Regional Centers involved with the closure of LDC.
- ◆ Monthly calls with each Regional Center and the Department and RC staff to review the status of all of their LDC movers and identify any issues that need to be addressed.
- ◆ Quarterly meetings at LDC with the Lanterman Regional Resource Development Project, Regional Centers and the Department on the implementation of the ARFPSHN residential program.
- ◆ Ongoing attendance by the Department, LDC, Regional Project and involved Regional Centers at PCC meetings and events.

The Department will continue to collaborate with all partners in the closure process to ensure safe and successful transitions into the community for the remaining residents of LDC.

FACTS & FIGURES

- As of December 1, 2012 there are 221 LDC residents
- 146 individuals have transitioned to a community setting
- 100 new residential services are in development
- There are 13 ARFPSHNs in development, 4 of those are licensed, certified & have at least one resident

LDC Employees & SROA

As the LDC residents transition to alternative living arrangements and the facility population declines, LDC staff may be identified as surplus employees.

As an employer, California offers the State Restriction of Appointments program (SROA) designed to assist surplus state employees, find new employment in other state jobs and to help prevent layoffs. When state employees are subject to layoff, they go on a "surplus/SROA" list which gives them hiring preference for other state agency

vacancies and enables the state to keep its experienced workforce. The benefits for each employee may differ based on their individual circumstances in state service. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) initiated a similar department specific program that provides preference for DDS vacant positions throughout the state to help retain valuable staff.

On September 26, 2012, 92 LDC employees were identified as "surplus." These LDC employees received at least 120 days on the SROA list and

can use their surplus status to seek employment in other departments where they meet the minimum qualifications for open positions. Thirty-eight of those employees received a subsequent layoff notice at the end of December. The layoff effective date is January 30, 2013.

Additional information on the SROA program is available on the CA Department of Human Resources website at: <http://www.calhr.ca.gov/employees/Pages/state-restriction-ofappointments.aspx>.

All About ARFPSHNs, Cont. from page 2

...use of the ARFPSHN licensure category to individuals with special health care needs that are moving from LDC into the community.

With the statutory authority to utilize ARFPSHNs (“853 Homes”) for people transitioning out of LDC, Regional Centers (RCs) have proposed, and the Department has approved through the Community Placement Plan (CPP) process, the development of 13 “853 Homes” among 100 new residential options being developed.

Of those 13 “853 Homes,” 6 are licensed by DSS and 4 are certified by DDS, increasing community capacity to serve LDC residents by 29 beds.

RC representatives, parents and families of Lanterman residents have toured Bay Area ARFPSHN homes. RCs have received comprehensive training on how these homes op-

erate, who they are designed to serve, the statutory requirements, and resource development considerations involved in developing ARFPSHN homes.

RCs continue to conduct assessments to determine the unique needs of each LDC resident and whether their needs could be met in an ARFPSHN.

As part of ongoing communications and trainings, the Lanterman Regional Resource Development Project has been working with the Department to conduct regular meetings on the statewide implementation of the ARFPSHN residential program.

The purpose of these meetings is to troubleshoot issues with ARFPSHNs and facilitate best practices. Participants

include regional centers involved with LDC closure, providers, the Department, Lanterman Regional Project (LRP) and LDC staff. There is a strong emphasis on having provider registered nurses (RNs), Regional Center RNs and the LRP RN participate.

The consensus of the group was to meet on a quarterly basis. Meetings were held at LDC on June 12, 2012, August 15, 2012 and most recently November 13, 2012. At the November meeting, Community Care Licensing (CCL) participated to clarify their expectations for home visits involving care and supervision of consumers.

The Department will continue to follow up on the clarifications provided by CCL to facilitate visits to new homes.

State Budget Review



The Governor’s budget for 2011-12 was balanced assuming \$8.5 billion in revenue from a proposed tax plan that included temporarily raising

income taxes on the wealthy and increasing the state sales tax by a quarter-cent.

If the tax plan did not pass in November, \$6 billion in automatic “trigger” cuts to education, law enforcement and a \$50 million mid-year cut to the Department would have gone into effect.

The Governor’s tax plan became Prop 30 and passed with a vote of 55 percent to 44 percent - avoiding significant trigger cuts to vital programs and services throughout California.

The Governor will release his proposed budget for 2013-14 by January 10, 2013.





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BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS, SUPPORTING CHOICES

LDC Holiday Celebration

Many thanks to the PCC for inviting the Department to be a part of your holiday celebration!

The DeBell auditorium was transformed for a festive event with beautiful decorations, tasty food (especially the cupcakes) and a lot of great raffle prizes.

The holiday celebration was a good opportunity for parents to talk about and share their transition experiences. Stories were shared by parents at the party and letters were read from some families that could not attend. There was also a handout with eleven transition

stories shared by parents and siblings of former LDC residents.

The Department highlighted upcoming meetings and introduced Amy Wall, who joined the Department to be a liaison for the closure of Lanterman Developmental Center.

If you would like a copy of the transitions stories that were handed out at the holiday party, or if you have any questions, Amy can be reached by phone at 916-654-1946 or by email at amy.wall@dds.ca.gov



**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**