



# LDC Closure News

WINTER / SPRING 2014

**This issue highlights the new leadership at DDS, provides a budget update as well as an update on the DC Task Force Plan.**

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## New Leadership at DDS

We're delighted to welcome and introduce to you, two very important new faces at the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), our new Director, Santi J. Rogers and our Chief Deputy Director, John Doyle.

Santi has devoted his life to working with persons with developmental disabilities. Since 1995, Santi has been director at the San Andreas Regional Center. Santi has served in various capacities

within our system throughout his career, including Executive Director at two other regional centers, and Executive Director of three different developmental centers. He has also served as a Deputy Director at the DDS headquarters. Santi's first day as Director was March 3rd.

John Doyle started as our Chief Deputy Director in January 2014. He is a skilled state manager, bringing extensive experience from his

assignments at the California Departments of Finance, Rehabilitation and Toxic Substances Control. Most recently John was an Assistant Program Budget Manager at the Department of Finance. While at Finance, John was assigned the DDS budget and became very familiar with our programs and our issues.

John has already had the pleasure of visiting Lanterman twice. Santi plans to visit Lanterman and possibly some community homes in early May.



**Director Santi Rogers, CHHS Secretary Diana Dooley and Chief Deputy Director John Doyle**



**Chief Deputy Director John Doyle and Director Santi Rogers**



**Director Santi Rogers at his roll top desk rumored to have belonged to Frank D. Lanterman**



Follow-up questions, comments, suggestions?

Contact Amy Wall at (916) 654-1946 or [amy.wall@dds.ca.gov](mailto:amy.wall@dds.ca.gov)

## Community State Staff Program Update

Participation in the Community State Staff Program is increasing. LDC reports a total of 9 employees in the program as of March 1, 2014. One regional center and one provider have contracts in place to use state staff.

With the bargaining agreements that were

updated at the end of 2013 and the deletion of the 2-year limit on the use of state staff after the last resident transfers from LDC, significant barriers to participation in the state staff program have been eliminated.

State staff have been hired as administrators as well as

direct care staff in community homes. Some state staff will be working in 853 homes (ARFPSHNs) while others will be working in specialized residential facilities.

LDC continues to educate providers and staff about the state staff program and encourage participation.

# Budget Update

The January 2014 Governor's Budget includes \$5.2 billion total funds (\$2.9 billion GF) for the Department in 2014-15; a net increase of \$221.8 million above the updated 2013-14 budget, a 4.5 percent increase. The proposed budget does not include any restorations to previously reduced DDS services and programs – other than those taking effect sometime this year that were previously approved last June as part of the 2013-2014 State Budget.

The number of consumers with developmental disabilities in the community served by regional centers is

expected to increase to 273,643 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-15. The number of individuals living in state-operated residential facilities is expected to be 1,110.

The Governor's Budget continues to support Developmental Center and Community efforts towards closure of Lanterman by December 31, 2014. DDS, working with regional centers, anticipates the transition of approximately 120 Lanterman DC residents in FY 2013-14. The Governor's Budget anticipates the transition of another 22 residents to community living arrangements in FY 2014-15 with the anticipated

resident population being zero on December 31, 2014, with the closure of the facility.

Budget hearings started in March. The Governor's proposed budget will be updated by the "May Revision" and a final budget is expected in June.



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



# Staff Reduction Plan Approved by CalHR

On March 5, 2014, DDS Headquarters staff joined the Executive Team at LDC for a General Employee meeting to review the next phase of the staff reduction plan for Lanterman as we approach the December 31, 2014 closure date set by the Legislature.

When the closure plan was originally announced, all Lanterman employees were given Department Restriction on Appointment (DROA) status. This affords LDC employees with an opportunity at jobs within DDS as long as they meet the minimum qualifications for that position.

At this time, the Governor's

budget projects that there will be approximately 22 residents at Lanterman on July 1, 2014, to begin the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Last spring the approved budget projected that the last person would move from LDC by December 31, 2014.

DDS remains committed to the closure planning process, on a person-by-person basis. No resident will move from Lanterman until the necessary services and supports are in place.

DDS, working with the Lanterman executive team, and all LDC staff, continues to be committed to ensuring quality care to the men and women

residing at Lanterman.

At this stage the number of residents moving out of LDC is on target with the projections noted in the budget and, as a result, the facility must move forward with a plan for the reduction in staff positions as well.

It was announced at the meeting that a total of 293 positions at Lanterman have been identified as surplus.

Effective March 10, 2014, a total of 480 LDC employees will be placed on Surplus/State Restriction on Appointment (SROA) status in anticipation of the population reductions based upon the individual classification and

...Continued on Pg. 4

# The Future of Developmental Centers

In May 2013, the California Health and Human Services Secretary, Diana Dooley, convened a Task Force on the Future of the State Developmental Centers (DCs). The task force included consumers, consumer advocates, regional centers, community service providers, organized labor, families of developmental center residents, members of the Legislature and staff from DDS.

Between June and December 2013, task force meetings were held that were open to the public. The primary focus was to identify viable long-term service options for the health and safety of developmental center residents and to ensure that appropriate quality services are available. The Task Force



gathered facts, shared opinions, analyzed information and developed thoughtful recommendations for the future of the developmental centers.

The Developmental Centers Task Force report was submitted to the Legislature on January 13, 2014. The report recommends that the future role of state

operated facilities should be to provide secure treatment services; smaller, safety net crisis and residential services; and specialized health care resource centers. As the state moves in this direction, the stakeholder process will continue to be used to monitor changes and make recommendations for the most effective use of available resources.

The Governor's budget plan does not make – at this point in the process - any specific proposal regarding the future of the developmental centers. A specific proposal covering the stakeholder task force recommendations could be released as part of the Governor's budget revisions in May.

## FACTS & FIGURES (AS OF MARCH 1)

- **271 residents of LDC have transitioned to the community.**
- **75 homes developed for LDC closure have been licensed.**
- **29 former LDC residents have moved into ARFPSHNs, or 853 Homes.**

**From October through December 2013, there were 539 visits to cross-train providers.**

## Snapshot Questionnaires

Did you know that a “Snapshot” questionnaire is available when you visit homes and day programs in the community? The visitor snapshot is one of the many components incorporated into the Lanterman Quality Assurance System (LQAS).

Snapshot questionnaires allow family members, friends and other visitors a chance to provide feedback about where a person lives, or their day program. Though the format is a little different than the LDC Snapshot that you are used to seeing on the residences, the goal is the same – to ensure quality services.

Community Snapshots are one of the sources of data reviewed by the Lanterman Quality Management Advisory Group (QMAG). The QMAG reviews feedback in aggregate from all of the visitor snapshots received to help identify any trends that need to be addressed.

Snapshots can be filled out at any time in the transition process, or after placement has occurred. The snapshot forms fold in half with a self-adhesive strip and are postage-paid, so you can easily fill them out and drop them in any mailbox to provide feedback.

Family members and friends are encouraged to fill out a snapshot for every visit. Many providers have the Snapshots on display in a central location, but if you don't see the questionnaires, just ask for one.

Snapshots allow you to share any potential concerns, as well as all of the good things you notice during your visit.





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# Staff Reduction Plan Approved by CalHR, *cont.*

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seniority score.

Due to the requirement that for every one (1) surplus position, three (3) employees are placed on SROA, an additional 159 employees will also receive notification of SROA status.

That means a total of 480 employees have received SROA notification.

Surplus and SROA status affords those employees impacted with

an opportunity at jobs throughout the state, as long as they meet the minimum qualifications for the position.

If natural attrition does not meet the surplus need, the layoff date for impacted employees will be July 8, 2014.

There are a total of 40 classifications impacted by this plan.

All employees impacted by this notification should have received individual letters through US Mail following the general employee

meeting on March 5th.

DDS, in partnership with the Lanterman Executive Team, remains committed to providing the necessary support to all employees during this time of transition and change.

