

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Minutes

Present:

Austin Taylor, Desig. Dir.
Cindy Benson
Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Amy Lampe
Monique Lozano
Zach Miller
Robert Rogers
Steven Sanchez (via phone)
Kimberly Terrell
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Romilda Jones*, Chair
Lisa Cooley*
Sheryl Ledford
Spencer McClay*

Visitors:

Sonya Bingaman

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Martha Castillo, Service Coordinator
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Facilitators:

Jana Chapman-Plon
Amy Fulk
Ed Plon
Larry Prosser

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:09 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Client Spotlight – Debbie M.; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

M/S/C (Amy Lampe) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of November 10, 2015 as submitted.** (11 in favor)

1. ***Executive Director's Report***

- Phil shared that since the last time this committee got together, we lost our good friend, Jon Nelson. He was like no one else Phil knew. Phil read aloud a portion on Jon's book, *My Journey In A Wheelchair*. Jon was loved. His celebration of life was wonderful. Phil passed around some pictures of Jon that have been collected over the years and committee members shared memories of Jon.
- Last Thursday, Governor Brown released the State's budget proposal for the 2015-16 fiscal year (FY). For the next four months, the legislators will be listening to their constituents and they will propose revisions. Then, the May Revise is released and the legislature will need to approve the final version by June 15th in order to continue to be paid. There is an increase in this budget. It is estimated that the statewide regional center system will be providing services to 300,000 individuals in the 2015-16 FY. The budget does offer an increase in regional center Operations (OPS) for



caseload growth. A few years ago, Alta asked our residential providers to develop smaller, four-bed homes; the budget provides a new, improved rate for these providers.

- The Lanterman Coalition is still demanding the “10 for 10” from last year. Phil shared that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Secretary of California’s Health & Human Services Agency has made it clear that the 10% across the board increase is not supported. They have requested input from regional centers regarding targeted increases.
 - Phil clarified that Alta does not deny service to any eligible individual because of funding.
- 2016 marks the 50th anniversary of the Lanterman Act.

2. **Client Spotlight – Debbie M.**

- Debbie M. shared a presentation about her life story.



Updates

- ◆ Peer Advocacy Connection
 - Amy shared that the last meeting was held on November 11th.
 - The committee reviewed the evaluations from the Regional Meeting. Overall, they were very positive with a lot of great suggestions for future meetings.
 - The group discussed plans for the next Regional Meeting in the spring – themes, trainings, presentations, etc.
 - The next meeting will be held tomorrow, January 13th, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Supported Life Institute (SLI).
- ◆ Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) - Sacramento
 - Robert invited everyone to attend the next RAC meeting which will be held on Tuesday, January 26th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the State Council’s Sacramento office.
 - “Employment” will be the topic of presentations, with guest speakers from Progressive Employment Concepts, InAlliance and VTE/Futures Explored.
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - Cindy shared that the last meeting was held on Friday, January 8th.
 - All regional center representative introduced themselves, including visitors from the Inland Regional Center (IRC). Keith Nelson, a member of the IRC’s Board of Trustees, and his son, a regional center client, reported on the incident that took place at IRC on December 2nd. Keith was on the property at the time of the attack, and helped the FBI and media afterwards.
 - Members provided updates on the activities at their regional centers.



- The group discussed the ARCA Strategic Plan and was given a budget update.
- At the end of the meeting, they worked on a video to tell how the budget affects each of them.
- The next telephone meeting will be held on Friday, February 19th. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 8th.
- ◆ Alta Board
 - Austin shared that the Board met on November 19th.
 - The Board reviewed and approved the 2016 Performance Contract.
 - Phil spoke briefly about the Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax.
 - Sonoma Developmental Center's (SDC's) closure is set for December 2018. Alta staff are working to develop outstanding residential and service options for people leaving SDC.
 - David Rydquist, Alta's Director of Adult & Residential Services, has announced his retirement in the spring.
 - The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 28th, at 4 p.m.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Sonya shared that the State Council is working with DDS and will be sending surveys out to families who have a client between three and 18 years old, living at home and receiving at least one service from the regional center. She is hopeful that everyone will fill them out and return them.
- If anyone is interested in Self-Determination, they should contact their Service Coordinator. Please continue to help spread the word. Sonya is working with David Rydquist to schedule an interest meeting; the first one will be held in the Marysville/Yuba City area soon.
- Amy attended a Tai Chi class last Friday.
- On New Year's, Robert moved back into a one-bedroom apartment.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 9, 2016**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet