

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 14, 2017  
Minutes

**Present:**

Austin Taylor, Chair  
Michelle Rewerts, Design. Dir. (via  
phone)  
Cindy Benson  
Lisa Cooley  
Tom Hopkins  
Michelle Hulse  
Romilda Jones  
Amy Lampe  
Robert Rogers  
Patty Wallace  
Karen Young

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Monique Lozano  
Steven Sanchez\*  
Kimberly Terrell\*

**Visitors:**

Sandy Bishop  
Rhonda Roads  
Cheryl Worthley

**Staff:**

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director  
David Lopez, Client Advocate  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk  
Larry Prosser

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:03 p.m. on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Collaboration Discussion; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

- *Austin read aloud Alta's Mission & Vision statements*

**Without objection, Austin Taylor made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of October 10, 2017 as submitted.**

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



- Alta's draft 2018 Performance Contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) was distributed for review. Phil highlighted some of the parts of the contract:
  - In December 2016, Alta had 85 clients living in developmental centers (DCs). It is our expectation that the last of the 18 clients at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) will move into their own community homes by March 2018.
  - The contract notes that the State believes that it is better to have adults living in home settings. There are many reasons why someone would live in their family's home; it's not for us to judge, but choice remains important.
  - Alta is developing smaller homes to help assist with those clients who have medical issues.

- There are four measures that have been “under development” for several years.
  - Number and percent of adults with earned income and average wage.
  - Number and percent of adults in supported employment.
  - Access to medical services.
  - Number of clients per thousand who are victims of abuse.Alta has listed out planned activities and DDS is working to develop measurement methodology on these.
- Phil reviewed the list of compliance measures that every regional center must meet.
- Alta has added two locally developed policy performance measures to address the disparity issues across the state.
  - Percent of total annual purchase of service expenditures by individual’s ethnicity and age.
  - Number and percent of individuals receiving only case management service by age and ethnicity.
- In the next six weeks, we will be celebrating several holidays with our families and friends. Phil suggested having this committee think about ways in which they can give back to the community. Suggestions for the New Year include:
  - Purchase one gift for each of the clients who have moved out of SDC.
  - “New Year, New Home” – we can figure out one special item that each new home that was developed for the individuals who moved out of SDC needs, and the committee can sponsor one home per month.
  - For the 2018 holiday season, perhaps we can sponsor a holiday feast for our clients.
  - Committee members can gather small items, put them in a shoe box and give them as a gift to some of Alta’s younger clients.

## 2. **Collaboration Discussion (CAC and Provider Advisory Committee)**



- In the interest of collaboration, Austin will be attending Alta’s Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings and Sandy Bishop will be attending our committee meetings.
- Last Thursday, there were approximately 30 providers around this table. The group normally discusses issues that affect client services across the state.
- Sandy shared that on the back of their agenda the PAC lists out their priorities, which were developed from an online survey that they took. The list reminds them what their goals are for the fiscal year (FY).
- Austin doesn’t know what priorities the CAC might want to develop, but he hopes that this group might consider creating a similar list. We

know why we come together, but with a list we can see what we hope to accomplish.

- Outreach remains a big priority for this committee.
- Members need to remember that the CAC's job is to speak for all of the clients that Alta serves, not just ourselves.
- The PAC also discusses at the end of their meetings what should be placed on the agenda for their next meeting. This might be something that the CAC would like to consider.
- Sandy sees her role as bringing information to this group that the PAC would like to share. She and Austin will back each other up.

### 3. **Updates**

#### ◆ Peer Advisory Committee

- Amy attended the committee meeting which was held earlier today at the Supported Life Institute (SLI).
  - The group discussed having the Regional Meetings in February and June; they have enough funding for both.
  - For now, SLI is trying to keep these committee meetings small.
- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### ◆ Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) - Sacramento

- Robert has no update; he has stepped down from the RAC.

#### ◆ ARCA-CAC

- Cindy attended the last ARCA-CAC meeting which was held on October 13<sup>th</sup> in Sacramento.
  - The Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is focusing on Health Care and Employment.
  - ARCA is focusing on Affordable Housing with the Lanterman Housing Alliance.
  - The group talked about Person-Centered Planning.
  - Members gave reports on their individual regional centers.
    - Cindy reported on the fire and evacuation of SDC.
  - The group talked about what should be their priorities for 2018. They decided on:
    - Advocacy at all levels of government
    - Affordable Housing
    - Health Care
    - Emergency Preparedness
- The next telephone meeting will be held on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, in Sacramento.



◆ Alta Board

- Austin attended the Board meeting held on October 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Board ratified two new members to the Provider Advisory Committee.
  - The group reviewed Alta's current Respite Services Policy and decided that it did not have to be changed in any way due to the recent changes to the law.
    - The statewide quarterly cap on respite hours for clients who live at home with their family will be eliminated effective January 1, 2018.
  - Phil gave an update on the fires and the relocation of all of the clients at SDC.
  - Alta is training their staff on cultural competency.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Lisa C. shared information regarding Disability Voices United. This group is looking for Ambassadors to join them in their advocacy efforts across the state. If you are interested in learning more, please go to their website at [www.disabilityvoicesunited.com](http://www.disabilityvoicesunited.com).
  - It was noted that Board and committee members were not eligible to join this group due to a conflict of interest.
- While working with other advocates across the state, David believes there might be information from the DDS-CAC meetings that might be beneficial to this group. When our area representative's term is up, he would like to see a member of this committee take on that responsibility.
- Tom brought some tangerines to share with the group.
- Cindy got to see The Temptations last week in Grass Valley!
- Robert is happy to be back.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 9, 2018**, 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