

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2023
Minutes

Present:

Amy Lampe, Chair
Tom Hopkins
Tiffany Johnson
Jacie Oakley
Michelle Rewerts
Steven Sanchez
Anthony Stone
Kimberly Terrell

Visitors:

Terry Ajuria
Nikki Cardoza
Robert Levy
Miguel Lugo
Ashley Robertson

Absent: (* excused)

Patty Wallace*, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley*
Barbara Crow
Romilda Jones*
Karen Young*

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client Services
Tracy Brown, Associate Client Services Director
John Decker, Director of Community Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake & Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client Services
Johnny Xiong, Associate Client Services Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:04 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, by Zoom/teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Social Rec Presentation; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Amy Lampe made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of January 10, 2023 as submitted.

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



- Lori wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.
- Governor Newsom's State of Emergency expires at the end of the month, so Alta's doors are opening for our committee meetings. Beginning in March, the public is welcome to attend in person; we will still continue to offer the virtual option.
- Some Board members were able to tour Marisol Village and the HALO Clinic this morning.
 - Michelle provided a description of what she saw.
 - This was the first time that Lori was able to walk the property. Residents will be able to use the garden that is on the property.

There are security gates, pools, and a community center with classes.

- The HALO Clinic has two sections; one side is medical and the other is dental. Their reception area is accessible.
 - Alta wants clients to access dentistry with the least restrictive opportunity. Behavior intervention training will be utilized to assist clients, as well.
- At the last meeting, Lori asked for volunteers to help support Alta staff in developing ongoing trainings regarding Supported Decision-Making (SDM). We want to support clients in the least restrictive ways, so that they can live their lives fully.
 - If you are interested in volunteering, please connect with Lisa W.
- Alta will hold its Annual Purchase of Services (POS) Data Meetings on Tuesday, March 21st, from 5 to 7 p.m., and Monday, March 27th, from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
 - Elijah Jenkins, Alta's Data Scientist, will assist with these meetings to better explain the data.
- Alta has joined with Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) in a collaborative to help build upon the workforce; both regional center staff and service providers.
 - Interested individuals will be directed to a website that has the job listings across the service system.
 - A kick-off meeting will be held for our service providers and the video "Invaluable" will be shown.
 - A public relations firm will be releasing more information soon.
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA's) Grassroots Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29th, and will be virtual again this year.
 - If you are interested in sharing your story with our local legislators, please let Lisa W. know.
- Alta's April newsletter will highlight employment.
 - We are seeking a CAC member, who is working competitively, to share their story.

2. ***Social Rec Presentation***



- Jennifer and Mechelle shared information about the restoration of social recreational services.
 - Alta sees the value in children and adults participating in social and recreational activities. We are committed to promoting positive mental health, growth and development, relationship building and encourage these opportunities for inclusion.
 - We want to make sure that this service is not a segregated activity, but rather conducted in an integrated (full inclusion) setting.

- The requested service must be related to a condition which results from the developmental disability that qualifies the client for regional center services.
- It's important to note that there are three paths for a client who resides in a Community Care Facility (CCF) to attend day or overnight camp:
 - Client attends day or overnight camp funded by the CCF. Alta will consider funding cost that exceeds the client's cost for the placement.
 - Alta funds the day or overnight camp; the CCF does not bill for residential services during this time.
 - Client and CCF work together mutually to create a camp experience (e.g., weekend camping trip, fishing trip, day trips, excursions, etc.).
- Desired outcomes include:
 - Increased utilization and access to social recreational services.
 - Support and training to people who facilitate and provide services.
 - Accessibility and community integration.
 - Support for individuals with varying needs.
 - Strong partnership with community organizations.
- Alta is committed to:
 - Promoting this initiative.
 - Securing a variety of vendored providers to meet your social recreation and camp needs.
 - Sharing information about available social recreation and camp opportunities.
 - Outreach to spread the word about these opportunities.
 - Present to Stakeholders through public meetings (e.g., this meeting and the Provider Advisory Committee [PAC] meeting last Thursday).
- This presentation is posted on Alta's website in multiple languages.

3. Updates

◆ Peer Advocacy Network

- Amy shared that the group met this morning.
 - The group worked on the upcoming Regional Meeting scheduled for March 25th.
 - Marysville People First and Peter Mendoza, with California's State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD), will give a presentation on Transportation Advocacy.
 - They also decided on ice breaker questions.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 14th.



- ◆ Alta Board
 - No update was shared.
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - Amy shared that the group met on January 27th, where they tabled the affordable housing script.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 17th, from 10 a.m. to noon.
- ◆ DDS-CAC
 - The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, February 15th, from 10 a.m. to noon.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Miguel Lugo, a self-advocate for Disability Voices United (DVU), shared that they will be hosting a Leadership Training series on how to advocate for systematic change.
 - You may contact him for more information at: miguel@dvunited.org.
- Earlier today, Michelle asked John about the CAC's "Friends Helping Friends" project, which was put on hold due to COVID.
 - We will discuss this further at the March CAC meeting.
- By May, the CAC will need to vote on the Chair and Designated Representative to the Board for the next fiscal year (FY).
 - If you are interested, please let Lisa W. know.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 14, 2023**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales