

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

Present:

Amy Lampe, Chair
Patty Wallace, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley
Tom Hopkins
Jacie Oakley
Michelle Rewerts
Steven Sanchez
Kimberly Terrell
Karen Young

Visitors:

Terry Ajuria
Robert Levy
Miguel Lugo

Absent: (* excused)

Barbara Crow
Tiffany Johnson*
Romilda Jones*
Anthony Stone*

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
John Decker, Director of Community
Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &
Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client
Services
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:02 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, by Zoom/teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) "Friends helping Friends" Discussion; 3) CAC Chair & Designated Rep to Board for 2023-24 FY; 4) Updates; and 5) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Amy Lampe made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of February 14, 2023 as submitted.

**change in agenda was noted*

1. Executive Director's Report



- Lori shared that the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) is hosting a Self-Determination Program (SDP) Webinar on March 30th, from 2 to 3 p.m. Registration is required.
- We have spoken about ARCA's Grassroots Day and our opportunity to engage with our local legislators. It will be held again this year via Zoom. Lori shared that it's important to share personal stories about how the regional center supports you.
 - If you'd like to participate, please contact Lisa W.
 - ARCA develops "Talking Points"; they are focusing efforts on:
 - Modernizing the core staffing formula to assist regional centers in receiving funding for the actual costs of hiring Service Coordinators (SCs).
 - Support for AB 649, a bill that addresses access to regional center services.

- In 2009, during the budget crisis, many ideas were placed into law that were cost saving measures. Accessing generic resources has always been in law; if clients/families received a denial, regional centers could move forward with providing services. AB 649 would remove barriers, such as this.
- o The repeal of family fees – the Annual Family Program Fee (AFPF) and the Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP). These fees were waived during the pandemic, but with the State of Emergency ending, regional centers will be required to start assessing for these fees again.
- Since Michelle will be on vacation, she submitted a written statement to be shared with our legislators; Lori read it aloud.

2. ***"Friends Helping Friends" Discussion***



- John reviewed the "Friends Helping Friends" program with those present.
- Lori would like to pivot this idea and have the CAC host a "Meet & Greet" prior to the CAC meeting, possibly twice per year. CAC members could share a PowerPoint presentation that highlights what this committee does. We could also highlight how this committee contributes to important initiatives, such as housing, Supported Decision-Making (SDM), etc.

3. ***CAC Chair & Designated Rep to Board for 2023-24 FY***



- Amy Lampe and Michelle Rewerts expressed interest in serving as the CAC Chair for the 2023-24 fiscal year (FY).
- Tom Hopkins expressed interest in serving as the CAC Designated Rep to the Board for the 2023-24 FY.

Without objection, Amy Lampe is nominated as the CAC Chair for the 2023-24 FY.

Without objection, Tom Hopkins is nominated as the CAC Designated Rep to the Board for the 2023-24 FY.

4. ***Updates***



- ◆ Peer Advocacy Network
 - Amy shared that the group met this morning.
 - They talked about the difference between self-advocacy, peer advocacy and systems advocacy.
 - The group developed questions for the videos that they are going to watch and discuss at the upcoming Regional Meeting, scheduled for March 25th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. via Zoom. They also created the script for the regional meeting moderators and decided on the ice breaker questions. In addition to watching videos, there will be a

presentation by Marysville People First and Peter Mendoza about transportation advocacy.

- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - Amy shared that the next meeting was rescheduled for Friday, March 24th, from 10 a.m. to noon.
- ◆ DDS-CAC
 - Amy shared that the group met on February 15th.
 - They had a PowerPoint presentation on Purchase of Services (POS) for Respite and Supported Living Services (SLS).
 - The group discussed referrals to Financial Management Services (FMS), and the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule.
 - Members also discussed potentially getting paid \$20 an hour/\$80 per month.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for November.

5. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Miguel Lugo, a self-advocate with Disability Voices United (DVU), shared that they have developed a training for self-advocates who sit on committees and Boards.
 - An informational meeting is scheduled for this Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m.
- The State of California asked for an extension on the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule, which was granted.
 - Lori shared that Alta is 100% compliant in meeting the two measures that needed to be completed by March 17th.
- David shared that the Supported Life Conference will be held in May and the People First Conference will be held in June. If anyone is interested in attending these conferences this year, please begin your conversations with your Planning Teams now. More information will be coming soon.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 9, 2023**, from 2 to 4 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales