

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

Present:

Austin Taylor, Chair & Design. Dir.
Cindy Benson
Lisa Cooley
Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Romilda Jones
Amy Lampe
Monique Lozano
Zach Miller
Steven Sanchez (via phone)
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Sheryl Ledford*
Spencer McClay
Robert Rogers*
Kimberly Terrell*

Facilitators:

Jana Chapman-Plon
Amy Fulk
Ed Plon
Larry Prosser
Cheryl Worthley

Visitors:

Janet Norton

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:02 p.m. on Tuesday, July 12, 2016, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Review CAC's Purpose & Rules; 3) Abuse Prevention Project; 4) Updates; and 5) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

M/S/C (Tom Hopkins) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of June 14, 2016 as submitted.** (9 in favor)

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

- Phil shared that, with the passage of the State budget, direct care staff will be receiving a raise beginning July 1st. Alta now has thousands of different rates that we pay our service providers. The funding for this increase will be built into future State budgets. We need to continue to advocate for all of the clients served by Alta and the critical services that they receive.
 - Zach expressed concern regarding his current day program, DDSO, who will be closing 75% of their programs on December 31st.
 - Committee members believe that all of the advocacy efforts are appreciated, even if you don't see the results that you want.

Phil shared that, even with this extra funding, unfortunately some programs may close. Change is coming with the new Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) Rules – community integration is key to a program's success. Alta held a provider training at the end of June to share information regarding these changes. Staff will continue to assist clients in finding the appropriate services that they need.



**Monique joined the meeting*

- Alta's Board of Directors discussed following this committee to Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). Phil believes that the Board will be holding some kind of event there within this next year.
 - **LA50** – the year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Lanterman Act! Phil would like Alta to hold a celebration in the fall and asked this committee to assist with the planning. Suggestions include:
 - Hold the celebration on Saturday, October 15th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., here at Alta's Sacramento office
 - Have food, entertainment (music), art, inspirational speakers, and educational booths
 - Invite the media and legislators
 - Raffle off client's artwork
 - Look for "in-kind" donations
 - Possibly charge a nominal fee
 - Establish a sub-committee – volunteers include:
 - Amy, Austin, Cindy, Karen, Lisa C., Michelle, Romilda and Zach
- Phil will be discussing this with Alta's Board of Directors on July 28th.

**Lisa Cooley joined the meeting*

- Phil reached out to Nancy Bargmann, Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). She has accepted the CAC's invitation and will be attending one of our meetings in the fall of this year.

2. **Review CAC's Purpose & Rules**

- Michelle read aloud Alta's CAC "Our Purpose – Why We Are Here", and Austin read aloud Alta's CAC "Rules".
 - Austin would like the committee to discuss the "Quorum" section – there is one slight change that this group can agree to so that we correspond to Alta's Board of Directors. He would like to propose changing this to read half of the number of the current committee members.



M/S/C (Cindy Benson) **To approve the language change to the "Quorum" section of the CAC "Rules".** (11 in favor)

- As Chair, Austin will be enforcing the attendance portion of the committee's rules.

3. **Abuse Prevention Project**



- Mark Starford, with the Board Resource Center, shared that Kecia Weller, a self-advocate, has joined the meeting by phone. A new coalition has started entitled "Silence = Violence".
 - By definition, the group is working on decreasing abuse to the disabled and seniors.
 - Once someone has experienced abuse, especially women, it tends to happen over and over again.
 - Too many people are silent, which encourages the perpetrators to continue on.
 - Many organizations are helping to curtail this issue.
- Mark and Kecia are here to ask, "What is the best way to get the word out?" They want to learn from us. They asked the following questions and gathered information from those present:
 - Do you know what abuse is?
 - What are typical kinds of abuse?
 - What should people do if they experience abuse of any kind?
 - Why do you think people do not report abuse?
 - What is the best way to teach people about being safe and reporting?
 - What role can a Regional Center CAC play in educating self-advocates about abuse?
- Mark will send Austin a report to share with this committee after he collects information from other regional center's CACs. The goal is to have new laws to help with this issue.

4. **Updates**



- ◆ Peer Advocacy Connection
 - Amy shared that there was no meeting in June.
 - The next meeting will be held tomorrow, July 13th, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the SCDD Sacramento office located at 2033 Howe Avenue, Suite 160.
- ◆ Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) - Sacramento
 - No update was shared.
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - Cindy shared that the last meeting was held on Friday, July 8th.
 - The group discussed the qualifications of becoming the ARCA-CAC Chair.
 - ARCA staff provided information about the recent budget passage and the new legislation they are following.
 - The next telephone meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 26th, and the next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, October 14th.

◆ Alta Board

- Austin shared that the Board met on June 23rd.
 - Board members received certificates of appreciation for their year of service to the Board of Directors.
 - The Officers of the Board were elected and the designated representatives from the CAC and Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) were approved.
 - The group discussed and approved two contracts for Alta's Community Placement Plan (CPP).
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 28th, at 4 p.m.

5. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Zach will be going to San Diego next week to attend a Cal-TASH Board Retreat.
- Karen shared that Easter Seal's in Yuba City will be holding its 9th Annual Talent Show tomorrow, July 13th, at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is invited!

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 13, 2016**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet