

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, September 13, 2016  
Minutes

**Present:**

Austin Taylor, Chair & Design. Dir.  
Cindy Benson  
Tom Hopkins  
Michelle Hulse  
Romilda Jones  
Amy Lampe  
Robert Rogers  
Steven Sanchez  
Kimberly Terrell (via phone)  
Karen Young

**Facilitators:**

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

**Staff:**

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

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Lisa Cooley\*  
Monique Lozano  
Sheryl Ledford  
Spencer McClay  
Zach Miller\*

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:07 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Sub-Committee Participation Discussion; 3) CAC's Goal(s) for 2016-17 FY; 4) Updates; and 5) Public Comments /Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

\* *Everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to David Lopez!*

**M/S/C** (Cindy Benson) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of July 12, 2016 as submitted.** (9 in favor)

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

- Phil celebrated his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Alta at the beginning of this month. Since he started, the agency has gained over 7,000 new clients.



\* *Kimberly joined the meeting*

- **LA50** – 50 years ago, California's Governor at the time, Ronald Reagan, signed into law *The Lanterman Act*. On October 15<sup>th</sup>, Alta will host a celebration here at the Sacramento office, from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
  - Invited guests will include: Darrell Steinberg, a representative from the Sacramento Kings, Sacramento Fire and Police Departments, etc.
  - Austin will be the "Master of Ceremonies".
  - Anyone interested in attending, please R.S.V.P.

- Phil spoke about the Medicaid Waiver and the importance of federal funding to our statewide system. Clients that are on the Medicaid Waiver are sometimes less expensive to Alta than those that are not on the waiver, since the federal government funds 50% of the services for individuals on the waiver.
- The federal government has cut off funding for Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). It costs approximately \$500,000 a year for one client to reside at SDC. This is one of the reasons why the DCs are closing.
- One of the upcoming struggles for service providers is the new settings rule from the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS). Community integration and inclusion will be key to our system in the near future; change is coming.

## 2. ***Sub-Committee Participation Discussion***



- Austin stressed that if committee members are agreeing to participate in a sub-committee, they need to follow-through with their commitment. This group is a role model for CAC's across the state. This process will succeed because we work together and are a great team!
  - The **LA50** sub-committee will be meeting next Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in Cricket's Room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Alta's Sacramento office. Teleconferencing will be available.

## 3. ***CAC's Goal(s) for 2016-17 FY***



- Austin would like this group to set some goals once a year and then check-in with ourselves to make sure we are making progress on them.
- Suggested goals include:
  - Outreach
    - We have the potential of being a 25 member CAC. Currently, we have ten seats at the table that are empty.
    - Continue to present the CAC's PowerPoint presentation at day programs, fairs, colleges, etc.
    - Possibly include the CAC's brochure when an adult client becomes eligible for regional center services.
  - New CMS Rules
    - It's important to start having a conversation about these new rules. As self-advocates, you will need to know more about the changes that service providers are facing.
    - A suggestion was made to possibly have a spotlight on this topic at an upcoming meeting.
  - Annual Trip to SDC and Beyond
    - We need to start planning for our annual trip to SDC. This year's trip may be our last one.

#### 4. **Updates**

##### ◆ Peer Advocacy Connection

- Amy shared that the group met on July 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Rick Hodgkin's gave the legislative update.
  - The next Regional Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Topics include jobs, abuse, voting and education.
  - David, Ed and Steven presented at Alta's Residential Unit Meeting in July to give them information about the Regional Meetings that we hold.
- The next meeting will be held tomorrow, September 14<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in Sacramento.

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

- The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the SCDD Sacramento office located at 2033 Howe Avenue, Suite 160.

##### ◆ ARCA-CAC

- Cindy shared that the last telephone meeting was held on Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Everyone was encouraged to bring their tablets to the next meeting.
  - The group talked about Employment First Training and the Self-Determination Program.
  - Cindy shared information about Alta's upcoming **LA50** Celebration.
  - Amy Westling provided a legislative update.
- The next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.

##### ◆ Alta Board

- Austin shared that the Board met on July 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - We will be updating the "Transparency and Public Information Policy" at the next Board of Directors meeting.
  - Phil spoke about the provider training that Alta held at the end of June to start the discussions about the new CMS Rules.
  - He spoke about the shortage of quality residential facilities, but believes that the new 4-bed rates might assist with this.
  - Phil has met several times with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) about the closure of SDC.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3 p.m.

#### 5. **Public Comments/Announcement**

- Cindy entered a lamp into a contest and won 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at the Fair!



- David expressed his appreciation for everyone at the table. He is grateful for everyone's support.
- Amy L. asked everyone to keep her family and a friend's family in their prayers – they are grieving a loss.
- Robert shared that the Marysville People First Chapter will be meeting on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, at 3 p.m. at Senator Jim Nielsen's office by the new courthouse in Yuba City.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 11, 2016**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet