

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, September 13, 2022  
Minutes

**Present:**

Amy Lampe, Chair  
Patty Wallace, Design. Dir.  
Lisa Cooley  
Tiffany Johnson  
Jacie Oakley  
Michelle Rewerts  
Steven Sanchez  
Anthony Stone  
Kimberly Terrell  
Karen Young

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

**Visitors:**

Terry Ajuria  
Robert Levy  
Nadya Plata  
Ashley Robertson  
Jennifer Stratton  
Hester Wagner

**Staff:**

Lori Banales, Executive Director  
Jennifer Bloom, Associate Client  
Services Director  
Reyva Johnson, Client Advocate  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

**Absent:** (\* excused)


Barbara Crow  
Tom Hopkins  
Romilda Jones

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) Alta's Strategic Plan – Housing Video Project; 2) Executive Director's Report; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Lisa Cooley made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of July 12, 2022 as submitted.**

*\*change in agenda was noted*

**1. Alta's Strategic Plan – Housing Video Project**

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- Lori reminded everyone that the CAC expressed an interest in making a housing video to highlight living options as part of Alta's Strategic Plan.
    - Our agency has contracted with Futures Explored on this project and Hester will be helping create this video.
  - The term "home" can mean different things to different people – some reside in their family's home, some live independently, and others live on their own with supports.
    - Once the schedule is set, Hester and her team will come to CAC member's homes, set set-up the video equipment and then have a short conversation. She is hopeful that they can get shots of CAC members cooking, playing with their dog, working with their support staff, etc.
    - Today, she will get video clips of what "home" means to everyone. You can answer that question however you'd like.

- The goal is to have this project done by the end of next month. It will be posted on Alta's website and used in other aspects of the agency's work, such as with our Coordinated Future Planning efforts.

## 2. **Executive Director's Report**



- Lori shared that when she was named Alta's Executive Director, the CAC had a conversation about what this committee might want to get involved in. Alta has secured funding from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for affordable housing projects to assist clients. Marisol Village, located in Sacramento, will be available by December, and another housing development is planned for Elk Grove.
  - John Decker will highlight Alta's Community Placement Plan (CPP) and Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) at future meetings.
    - Lori explained that the money that was once slated for developmental centers is now going to regional centers in order to support clients in their own communities.
- Next month, we will be discussing Alta's draft 2023 Performance Contract, which focuses on housing, employment and diversity. There will be opportunities to discuss how the agency can achieve better outcomes for the individuals that we serve.
  - Alta has set-up an email address in order to gather feedback from our community – [performancecontractfeedback@altaregional.org](mailto:performancecontractfeedback@altaregional.org).
- Alta is still waiting for guidance from DDS on the new initiatives that are related to the budget.
- We are actively following the Mosquito Fire that started in Placer County and now has spread to El Dorado County. The good news is that this week is not as hot as last week and our humidity is higher (moisture in the air). Alta staff have reached out to all of the clients/families that have been affected by this fire.
- At a future CAC meeting, Lori would like to discuss conservatorships. ABC 10 is airing a five-part series on conservatorship, which has garnered a lot of attention.
  - Lori clarified that Alta cannot provide private, privileged information to anyone. As a result of this, you will not hear why an individual is being conserved by DDS. She asks that everyone keep an open mind when you watch these videos. There are 400,000 individuals served in our statewide service system. 57,000 of those are conserved by a family member or public guardian, while 400 are conserved by DDS.
  - There are things that need to be considered when discussing conservatorships. We will continue to do the right thing to protect the health and safety of clients.

- A positive thing that has come from this scrutiny is that the department is reviewing all of the cases of the individuals that they conserve. A comprehensive assessment will be conducted for each of these individuals and meetings to discuss less-restrictive options will be scheduled. Alta will focus on supported decision making as an option.
- Every regional center is receiving funding for additional Service Coordinators (SCs) in order to bring caseloads down. Alta is working collaboratively with Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) to promote working in our statewide service system – from regional center to provider services.
  - DDS has approved funding for this project. The group will contract with a website developer and will be working with Joey Travolta and Inclusion Films to promote this project. A public relations agency will also be secured.

### 3. **Updates**

#### ◆ Peer Advocacy Network

- Amy L. shared that the group met this morning.
  - The group spent most of the meeting working on the upcoming Regional Meeting scheduled for Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The moderators practiced their roles and members became familiar with the planned ice breaker activity.

#### ◆ Alta Board

- Patty shared that the Board met on July 28<sup>th</sup>:
  - It was Rita Walker's last meeting as a Board member. The group shared their appreciation for all that she has done to support the Board and Alta.
  - The group approved the June 30<sup>th</sup> financial report.
  - Lori reviewed the Dashboard Indicators for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2022. She also provided an update on the open and closed programs since the last meeting.

#### ◆ ARCA-CAC

- Amy L. shared that the group met on August 26<sup>th</sup> and discussed a special project. Members plan on attending public hearings to provide testimonials on affordable housing. There are more clients living with aging parents so the group would like to start looking into Section 8 and possibly make a video.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to noon.

#### ◆ DDS-CAC

- Amy L. shared that the next meeting is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to noon.



#### 4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Karen gets to return to work on October 3<sup>rd</sup>!
- Lisa C. shared that the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is holding a contest entitled "There Must Be a Law". Deadline for submission is Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Robert encouraged everyone to look at the MIND Institute's website to find out more information about all of their research projects.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 11, 2022**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales