

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 9, 2014
Minutes

Present:

Zach Miller, Chair
Austin Taylor, Desig. Dir.
Cindy Benson
Lisa Cooley
Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Romilda Jones
Amy Lampe
Monique Lozano
Karen Miller
Robert Rogers
Steven Sanchez

Absent: (* excused)

Sheryl Ledford*
Spencer McClay*

Facilitators:

Monique Avers
Jana Chapman-Plon
Amy Fulk
Ed Plon
Larry Prosser

Board Members:

Jon Nelson

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
John Decker, Supervisor of
CPP/Forensics Unit
Elijah Jenkins, DC Liaison/Service
Coordinator
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Robin May, Clinical Specialist
Jamie Milotz, Psychologist
Sindhu Philip, Psychologist
Amber Ramos, Applied Behavior
Analyst
Mary Rettinhouse, Applied Behavior
Analyst

Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Visitors:

Rhonda B.
Torey Battuello
Kristal B.
Sonya Bingaman
Gale B.
Vera B.
Michael B.
Aleana Carreon
Laura C.
Mark D.
Scott E.
Delia Escartin
Karen Faria
Eleni Gialoyrakes
Derick H.
Jannice Jandusay
David M.
Steve M.
Tim M.
Stephanie Musher
Johnde P.
Greg P.
Michelle Ramirez
Agnes Ranit
Antonio Ranit
Robin R.
Scott S.
Monique Von Schimmelmann
Julie W.
Trena W.

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 12:06 p.m. on Tuesday, September 9, 2014, at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) "What is the CAC at ACRC?"; 3) Our lives in the community as CAC members/tell us about your lives at SDC; 4) Updates; and 5) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

M/S/C (Cindy Benson) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of July 8, 2014.** (12 in favor)

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



- Phil always says that sitting with this group is the reason that he has his job. This is the biggest CAC meeting that Alta has ever held. He appreciates the opportunity to be here today.
- The Self-Determination Program is coming. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is completing the waiver application that needs to be sent in to the federal government. Once it is approved, each regional center will have a certain number of slots for the pilot project; Alta has 174 slots to fill. Phil asked those present for ideas on how to decide how to choose the clients who could participate; suggestions include:
 - Holding a lottery
 - Speaking to Service Coordinators (SCs) and have them suggest clients that would benefit from this new service option
 - Pick individuals from the following three groups: birth to five years old, clients in transition, and 22 years and up

Phil would like members of this group to help in this process. Once we know the structure of the pilot, he will be gathering community partners to discuss this option (i.e., Area Board III, service providers and clients/family members). We need to understand that being safe and having choice are both important; this encompasses the quality of life that we always talk about. Once the three-year pilot project is completed, every regional center client in the State of California will have the choice to participate in the Self-Determination Program.

- Alta received our contract amendment from DDS at the end of August. It wasn't as big as we had hoped considering we have nearly 1,000 new clients since last fiscal year.
- The Living Options Workgroup (LOW) thought up some new ideas on how to serve our clients. Back in February, Alta released two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) – one for *Essential Life Skills Training and Support Program* and the other for *Out-of-Home Respite Services*. Several service providers have expressed an interest in these two projects.
- Phil shared that Alta is revamping the agency's website. It will hopefully be completed by the end of October.

2. ***“What is the CAC at ACRC?”***



- Copies of the PowerPoint presentation entitled “What is the CAC at ACRC?” were distributed for review.
 - Zach shared the information with those in attendance.

3. ***Our lives in the community as CAC members/tell us about your lives at SDC***



- Committee members shared stories about their lives out in the community. Some clients/staff who reside at SDC shared their stories as well.

4. ***Updates***

◆ Peer Advocacy Connection



- Amy shared that the last meeting was held on Wednesday, August 13th.
 - The group is continuing to plan for the next Regional Meeting scheduled for Saturday, November 1st, at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento. The theme of the meeting is “Don’t be caught off guard!”
- The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, September 10th, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Supported Life Institute.

◆ ARCA-CAC

- Cindy shared that the last teleconference was held on Friday, August 29th.
 - Committee members are talking about developing an ARCA-CAC Facebook Page. They are discussing ideas of what might be included so that the ARCA Executive Committee can approve this.
 - The Legislative Update – Friday, August 29th, was the last day of the Legislative session and ARCA has been closely watching several bills that have not yet been passed.
 - The Special Olympics World Games will be held in Los Angeles in 2015.
- The next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, October 10th, in Sacramento.

◆ Alta Board

- Austin will be attending the Board’s Annual Retreat on Thursday, September 25th. Alta’s Board meeting is scheduled for 3 p.m. that day.
- Alta will be supporting clients in making employment their first option.
- The Board of Directors will not be meeting in April, along with August or December. Austin shared that this committee needs to decide if we will continue to meet in April as well.

M/S (Zach Miller) **The CAC will continue to meet in April.** (6 in favor; 6 opposed)

5. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Robert has an interview at Easter Seals and he has also joined the Area Board III Board of Directors.
- Michelle expressed appreciation to everyone at SDC for inviting us here today.
- Steven shared that the Roseville Metro People First Chapter will be holding a meeting on Wednesday, September 24th, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Round Table Pizza on Foothills Blvd.
- David shared that the 28th Annual Supported Life Conference is scheduled for October 9th & 10th, at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento. He reminded everyone that Alta can only pay for one conference registration per fiscal year (FY).
- In August, Cindy entered one of the necklaces she made into a contest at the fair and won best in the division!

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 14, 2014**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet