

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors

BOARD POLICY

Board Member Code of Conduct

1. Definition:

This Code of Conduct is a general guide by which Alta California Regional Center (ACRC) Directors shall fulfill their duties as members of the Corporation's Board.

2. Pledge:

As A Board Member, I Pledge . . .

To Treat Each Member As An Equal, Respecting Their Opinions, Personality, Culture, Diversity And Experience. I Will Listen To All Comments, Questions And Opinions With An Open Mind. I Will Maintain A High Level Of Confidentiality And Will Concentrate On The Issues At Hand.

I Will Place Service Above Self, Focusing On My Charge As A Board Member To Implement The Vision And Mission Of The Regional Center To Provide Quality Supports And Services To Our Consumers.

As A Board, We Agree To Speak With One Voice, Instilling Honesty, Integrity, Openness, Commitment And Dedication To Duty In Each Member. We Will Come To The Board With A Positive Attitude And Create A Safe Haven For Open Discussion.

As A Board, We Will Continue To Strive For Excellence, Mentoring Each Other And Becoming An Active Partner In The Alta California Regional Center Community.

3. Code of Conduct:

Directors have a duty to be trustworthy and to work together to advance ACRC's mission: to serve the needs of all ACRC consumers and their families.

Directors must observe the Board's purpose as a policy-making and oversight body, and must distinguish the Board's purpose from the administrative and operational purposes served by ACRC management and staff.

Directors must act through the Board in order to conduct Board-related business, taking care not to speak for the Board or ACRC. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any Board members and ACRC except as procedurally controlled to assure openness, competitive opportunity, and equal access to “inside” information.

Directors must not promote or act to represent specific consumers or categories of developmental disabilities without due regard for the collective interests of all consumers served by ACRC and their families.

Although a Director must develop informed opinions and appropriately express those opinions, a Director must at all times serve ACRC and must not act against the interests of ACRC or against Board policy, regardless of the Director’s personal views or opinions about those policies.

Directors must observe and maintain ACRC’s confidentiality requirements, including matters designated confidential by the Board or its Executive Director, or as otherwise required by law.

Directors must become informed about and resolve all conflicts between their own interests and those of ACRC, its Board, and its consumers and families.

The Board expects of itself and its members ethical and professional conduct. This commitment includes proper use of authority and appropriate decorum in group and individual behavior when acting as a Board member of ACRC.

- Board members represent the interests of the membership. This accountability supersedes any conflicting loyalty such as that to advocacy or interest groups and membership on other Board or staffs. This accountability supersedes the personal interests of any Board member acting as an individual consumer of the agency’s services.
- Board members must avoid any conflict of interest with respect to their fiduciary responsibility.
- Board members must not use their positions to obtain for themselves, family members, or close associates, employment within ACRC.
- Should a Board member be considered for employment by ACRC, he/she must temporarily withdraw from Board deliberations, voting, and access to applicable Board information.

Board members and members-at-large may not attempt to exercise individual authority over the regional center or staff except as explicitly set forth in Board policies.

This Policy will be enforced in accordance with the ACRC bylaws.

Adopted: 5/20/99
Revised: 2/21/02
Reviewed: 11/7/02
Adopted: 11/17/11