

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, January 10, 2017  
Minutes

**Present:**

Austin Taylor, Chair & Design. Dir.  
Lisa Cooley (via phone)  
Tom Hopkins  
Romilda Jones (via phone)  
Amy Lampe  
Monique Lozano  
Zach Miller  
Steven Sanchez  
Kimberly Terrell

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Cindy Benson\*  
Michelle Hulse\*  
Spencer McClay  
Robert Rogers\*  
Karen Young\*

**Visitors:**

Kathy Brian  
Michelle Rewerts

**Facilitators:**

Jana Chapman-Plon  
Amy Fulk

**Staff:**

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

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:05 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Outreach Discussion; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

**M/S/C** (Tom Hopkins) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of November 8, 2016 as submitted.** (7 in favor, 2 abstentions)

- *Zach read aloud Alta's Mission & Vision statements*

**1. Executive Director's Report**



- Phil shared that Zach's reading of Alta's Vision statement reminds him of his staff's monthly Leadership Team meeting here in the Sacramento office. Every meeting, staff read our vision and the group shares stories of how our vision is being realized throughout our catchment area. The one thing that the stories have in common is that clients feel valued when they secure employment. This is why regional centers in California are going to continue to strive for employment opportunities for the people that we serve.
- Governor Brown released his proposed 2017-18 fiscal year's (FY's) budget for the State of California this morning. There are no cuts to regional center's budgets, and it includes a small increase to account for the thousands of new clients that will be coming into our service system statewide. Secretary Diana Dooley is currently holding a conference call to answer questions regarding In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and managed care for some counties.

- Phil shared that a regional center client from Southern California, Miguel Lugo, reached out to him to share some comic videos that he has posted on YouTube.
- In remembering Sheryl Ledford, Phil would like assistance in figuring out how to meet her requested final arrangements.
  - A suggestion was made to bring her with us on our next trip to Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) and possibly scatter her ashes at the Jack London State Park.
  - This trip is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 2. **Outreach Discussion**



- Over the break, Austin reached out to most of the volunteers to make sure they were still interested in being a part of the workgroup. The workgroup will be meeting soon.
- Austin believes the main goal of this outreach is to connect with groups that are underserved and figuring out how to bring them to these committee meetings. Suggestions include:
  - Developing a flyer/poster about the CAC that can be posted in outlying offices and programs. These can be printed in different languages.
  - Reach out to some of Alta's day programs/care homes; members could do outreach in their own communities.
  - Attend some advocacy meetings and share information about our CAC.
  - Utilize technology in order for clients to attend meetings by phone/video.
  - Reach out to the special education classes at local colleges.
  - Post our CAC's informational video on YouTube.
  - Make sure Alta staff know about the CAC so that they can refer clients that want to get more involved.
    - David shared that Alta holds new employee orientation and he could possibly share information about the CAC at that time.
    - Possibly send out a general email to all Service Coordinators (SCs) about the CAC.
    - Have SCs have spare CAC brochures available to distribute to clients.
      - We need to keep in mind people's different reading levels; we don't want to overwhelm anyone.
- One of the first things the workgroup needs to do is develop an outreach plan.
- David reminded everyone that clients have himself, as Alta's Client Advocate, and their SC if they have any issues regarding their services. We need to make sure there is no cross-over between the committee's goals/advocacy and case management.

- **The outreach workgroup will meet to develop a plan and discuss these suggestions.**

### 3. **Updates**

- ◆ Peer Advocacy Connection
  - Amy L. shared that the group met on November 9<sup>th</sup>, but will not be meeting until further notice.
- ◆ Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) - Sacramento
  - No update was shared.
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
  - No update was shared.
- ◆ Alta Board
  - Austin attended the Board meeting held on November 17<sup>th</sup>.
    - The Board welcomed two new members; we are very excited about the input that they will bring to the table.
  - The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m.



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

- Zach has heard that some Housing Choice Voucher Programs for Section 8 are now open; he doesn't know which counties.
- Zach had a job interview last night for a janitor position. He believes it went well and will find out soon if he got the job.
- David shared that Mark Starford, with the Board Resource Center, is working on a grant project and would like to get some input from this committee in the near future. David will share more information at the next meeting.
- Kathy shared that the State Council appreciates being a part of these meetings and hearing what is important to members.



The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 14, 2017**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet