

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, October 13, 2015  
Minutes

**Present:**

Romilda Jones, Chair  
Austin Taylor, Desig. Dir.  
Cindy Benson  
Lisa Cooley  
Tom Hopkins  
Michelle Hulse  
Amy Lampe  
Sheryl Ledford  
Zach Miller  
Steven Sanchez (via phone)  
Kimberly Terrell  
Karen Young

**Facilitators:**

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

**Visitors:**

Sonya Bingaman  
Kathy Brian  
Kevin Terrell

**Staff:**

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director  
Patti Diamond, Training Manager  
David Lopez, Client Advocate  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Monique Lozano  
Spencer McClay\*  
Robert Rogers\*

**Board members:**

Jon Nelson

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:05 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Vote for New CAC Member; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

**M/S/C** (Lisa Cooley) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of September 8, 2015 as submitted.** (12 in favor)

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

- Before this meeting, Phil and Austin talked about how the CAC has taken several trips to Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) and how committee members have taken a stand on policy issues across the state. Phil would like this committee to do a little bit more as far as outreach to our outlying communities. It's important to remember that this committee represents the 20,000 clients that Alta serves. Suggestions include:
  - Having up to 12 people on the phone during our meetings.
  - Develop a flyer for this committee and distribute it to our outlying offices.
  - Information can be posted on our agency's website.
  - We can reach out to other CAC groups across the state.



- Host "Meet & Greets" throughout the year.
- Phil shared that Westside Regional Center is experiencing some challenging times right now. Their CAC is trying to assert themselves with the regional center staff and Board of Directors. They are demanding that they be treated with respect. This committee wants to reach out to them to share our support.

**M/S/C** (Cindy Benson) **To send a letter of support to Westside Regional Center's CAC.** (12 in favor)

## 2. **Approve new CAC members**



- Jon Nelson has expressed interest in joining this committee. He shared that he wants to join with everyone to speak up and touch lives.

**M/S/C** (Tom Hopkins) **To approve Jon Nelson for membership to the CAC.** (12 in favor)

## 3. **Updates**



- ◆ Peer Advocacy Connection
  - Amy shared that the next Regional Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento. Lunch is \$5; there will be a taco bar.
- ◆ Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) - Sacramento
  - No update was shared.
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
  - Cindy shared that there was an in-person meeting on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The group discussed their Facebook page. They also encouraged everyone to go out and speak with their local legislators.
  - The next teleconference is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Alta Board
  - Austin shared that the Board of Directors held its annual September Retreat on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - At the Board meeting, Phil spoke about the budget and the new Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) Rules that are coming out. He also shared that regional center staff continue to work with the clients and their families who are moving out of SDC.
  - The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 4 p.m.

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



- Cindy shared that the Neighborhood Center of the Arts is participating in the "Fall Colors Open Studios & Art Tour" from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday & Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Zach shared that the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Supported Life Conference was held on October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Sacramento. The keynote speaker talked about job development. Sony's session was entitled "Emergency Preparedness – What to Know!" The conference was very informative.
- Sonya shared that the State Council is holding a Special Education Training from 5 to 7 p.m. this Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The next RAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This group is looking for new members representing Alpine, Colusa, Placer and Sierra Counties.
- Sonya and Kathy are available to speak to advocacy groups on several different topics. Please feel free to contact them for more information.
- Patti has been taking pictures and would like to post them on our agency's website.
- Karen shared that Easter Seals in Yuba City is holding their Annual Haunted House from October 26<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>st</sup>. The theme this year is "The Nightmare Before Christmas".

**\*\*Committee members, with the State Council's RAC, reviewed applications for the Client Recognition Awards\*\***

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 10, 2015**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet