

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Minutes

Present:

Amy Lampe, Chair
Tom Hopkins, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley
Tiffany Johnson
Jacie Oakley
Amanda Parker
Steven Sanchez
Kimberly Terrell
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Patty Wallace*

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Naomi Smith

Visitors:

Yasmin Herrera-Vilchez
Robert Levy
Alexis Martinez
Peter Mendoza
Kevin Terrell
Joseph Wilson

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
John Decker, Director of Community
Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &
Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client
Services
Reyva Johnson, Client Advocate
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 2:05 p.m. to discuss: 1) Message from Lori; 2) The use of technology to support independence & Roommate Matching App Update; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Amy Lampe made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of September 9, 2025, as submitted.

1. ***Message from Lori***



- Lori shared a video promoting California's Employment First initiative. It is empowering to show the value of employment from a client's perspective through videos, pictures and stories. Employment is one of the focus areas of Alta's Strategic Plan. Lori noted that there is a huge push statewide to identify and secure jobs for clients. We need to make sure that everyone that we support knows of the opportunities to expand their vision for their own future. We will continue to find ways to showcase these opportunities. Lori encouraged clients to speak with their Service Coordinator (SC) if they are interested in finding a job.
 - Today, PRIDE Industries hosted their 3rd Annual I AM ABLE Disability Job Fair, which gives employers access to qualified job seekers with disabilities. Lori looks forward to seeing the data from this wonderful event; last year, over 50 businesses participated.

2. ***The use of technology to support independence***

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- Last Wednesday, John shared a presentation at the Sacramento United People First Meeting on Assistive Technology .
 - When we incorporate the use of assistive technology into supporting clients, we are able to decrease the number of in-person staff, which promotes independence.
 - The technology pilot is coming to an end, and a report is due to the legislature in January 2026. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) was able to gather data and feedback from the 28 individuals who participated in the entire pilot.
 - With the use of assistive technology, we are promoting positive relationships between clients and the service providers that they work with.
 - The department is moving from a pilot to a program in January 2026. They have also committed to training SCs statewide on how to include assistive technology discussions in Planning Team meetings.
 - In December, the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Directors of Client Services group will also be given a training on this topic.

Roommate Matching App Update

- On My Own's roommate matching app, OOMM, is "Coming to a Community Near You!"
 - With a Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) grant, On My Own was able to create an app, which will be available statewide by the end of calendar year 2026.
 - Eight regional centers across the state will be releasing Request for Proposals (RFPs) to ensure accessibility.
 - The roommate matching app will be used by Housing Access Services, as well.
- On Thursday, Lori and John will be sharing more information about this opportunity during a statewide ARCA meeting.
- Lori noted that Alta is currently using this app and has been successful in matching roommates.

3. ***Updates***

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- ♦ PAN
 - The Regional Meeting was held via Zoom on Saturday, September 27th.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 27th, from 4 to 6 p.m.
 - ♦ Alta Board
 - Alta's Board of Directors met on September 25th.
 - Alta recognized staff that have worked at the agency for five, ten, 20, 25 & 30 years.

- The Board approved the revised Social Recreation Activities, Camp and Non-Medical Therapies Policy, the Person-Centered Thinking Policy and the financial report.
- Mechelle Johnson shared a presentation entitled "ACRC Efforts to Address the Needs of Aging Clients and Caregivers."
- This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
- Alta is hosting several upcoming Listening Sessions, including:
 - October 23rd – Listening Session for Individuals with Cerebral Palsy (CP)
 - November 18th – Listening Session on Aging
- John Decker shared that On My Own's roommate matching app will be available statewide.
- ♦ ARCA-CAC
 - The group met on September 5th.
 - "Affordable Housing: We Need More!" was a breakout session during last week's 39th Annual Supported Life Conference.
- ♦ LEAG
 - The Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG) will be meeting quarterly, beginning in April 2026.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- On Saturday, Amy L. participated in the Northern CA Special Olympics in the Yuba/Sutter area. Her soccer team won first place!
- On Monday, October 27th, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is hosting a webinar entitled "How I Found My Open Door to Employment" to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
- On Wednesday, October 29th, Alta is hosting a virtual Supported Decision-Making (SDM) training. For those that are interested in attending an in-person workshop at Alta's Woodland office from 1 to 2 p.m. that afternoon, seating is limited – registration is required.
- The CASA Sacramento group is holding their election on November 3rd for their 2026 Officers.
 - Ashley Robertson is running for Vice President.
 - Amanda Parker is running for Treasurer.
 - Robert Levy is running for President.
- As Tom mentioned in his report, Alta is hosting a Listening Session for individuals with Cerebral Palsy on October 23rd, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Registration is required.
- A Costume Party/Dance will be held at the American Legion Hall in Olivehurst on Saturday, October 25th, from 5 to 8 p.m.
 - \$5 entry fee only/ \$15 entry fee and spaghetti dinner.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 4, 2025**. The meeting adjourned at 3:06 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales