

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
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

Visitors:

Robert Levy
Jemel Williams

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client Services
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
Jacob Miller, Client Advocate
Johnny Xiong, Associate Client Services Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss: 1) Message from Lori; 2) "Staying Positive!"; 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 October 8, 2024, as submitted.

1. ***Message from Lori***



- Lori noted that last year, we looked at objectives that this committee could work on as it relates to Alta's Strategic Plan's focus areas – (1) Client and Family Support, (2) Employment, (3) Housing and (4) Community Inclusion and Engagement.
 - This past year, committee members made a housing video, which is shared at various meetings throughout our catchment area and is posted on Alta's website.
 - John shared that the impact of the housing video is heartfelt. He shows the video prior to his housing presentations at various meetings/conferences.
 - John plans to speak with members of the DDS-CAC to see if they would like to add their stories, as well.

- Alta has completed our second housing development – The Heights off of Stockton Blvd.
- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has awarded Alta two more housing projects – one at Sutter Park and another in the City of Davis (set asides for the elderly).
 - John expressed appreciation to CAC members who make sure that people with developmental disabilities are included in new housing projects like these.
- As it relates to employment, Alta is advocating for service providers to hire direct support professionals (DSPs) to support clients. There is a lot that this committee can still do to promote competitive integrated employment (CIE).
- The CAC established a workgroup for Supported Decision-Making (SDM). Alta is assisting clients, in a workshop setting, to develop their own plans. Participants are able to complete all of the necessary paperwork that is required for this process.
- The State of California is promoting the person-centered thinking model, focusing on client’s hopes and dreams. CAC members are encouraged to consider what this committee might want to work on to support the person-centered thinking initiative.
 - Alta’s Client Advocates have completed 90 hours each of training to become certified trainers. They are working to make this training as accessible as possible – it is about learning self-advocacy skills and looking ahead to one’s future.
 - If you are interested in creating your own person-centered plan, please connect with Lisa W., so that Jacob or Reyva can reach out to you.
- Between now and January, Lori would like committee members to think about other areas that this committee can touch. Alta looks to this committee for input – your voice is important.

2. ***"Staying Positive!"***



- The Peer Advocacy Network (PAN) is urging self-advocates to share their stories. Telling personal stories can be a powerful form of advocacy.
 - Amy L. shared her life story.

3. ***Updates***

◆ PAN

- The group met today and started planning for the March 2025 Regional Meeting. Members reviewed the topics that were suggested at the last Regional Meeting and decided on the following:
 - Microenterprises
 - Employment
 - Life stories from people about their jobs



- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - The next meeting is scheduled for December 13th from 10 to 11 a.m.
 - They will be holding an Affordable Housing Symposium on February 5, 2025.
- ◆ DDS-CAC
 - The group met earlier today and will also be meeting tomorrow November 13th, from 10 a.m. to noon.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Robert went to Washington D.C. and shared a presentation on healthy relationships. The MIND Institute is also working on a “Transition to Adulthood Toolkit,” utilizing a two-and-a-half-year grant.
- The next Master Plan for Developmental Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 11th, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom.
 - Interested individuals can find more information posted on the California Health & Human Services Agency’s website.
- At next Thursday’s Board meeting, Alta will be holding the National Core Indicators (NCI) Data public meeting and sharing the 2023 Performance Contract End of Year Report – registration is required.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 14, 2025**. The meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales