

Alta California Regional Center  
Client Advisory Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, November 8, 2022  
Minutes

**Present:**

Amy Lampe, Chair  
Patty Wallace, Design. Dir.  
Lisa Cooley  
Tom Hopkins  
Jacie Oakley  
Michelle Rewerts  
Steven Sanchez  
Kimberly Terrell  
Karen Young

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

**Visitors:**

Terry Ajuria  
Robert Levy  
Dylan Peshek  
Ashley Robertson

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Barbara Crow  
Tiffany Johnson\*  
Romilda Jones  
Anthony Stone\*

**Staff:**

Lori Banales, Executive Director  
Tracy Brown, Associate Client Services  
Director  
John Decker, Director of Community  
Services  
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &  
Clinical Services  
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client  
Services  
Reyva Johnson, Client Advocate  
Jacob Miller, Client Advocate  
Johnny Xiong, Associate Client Services  
Director  
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Updates; and 3) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Amy Lampe made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of October 11, 2022 as submitted.**

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



- Lori asked CAC members if they had voted today. Having this right is very important; your vote makes a difference while supporting our democratic process.
  - If you have questions about the political scene, please let her know. Alta wants to make sure that clients have all the information they need to make informed decisions.
- ABC News 10 recently showcased a series on conservatorships. This series emphasized the need for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and regional centers to assess and make sure that conservatorship is pursued as a last resort. Lori requested that Alta's Board approve a policy that shares the regional center's philosophy and position on this topic. The draft was shared with the Board's Executive Committee in

October and we asked for community feedback. Alta staff separated the policy from the procedure and this updated draft will be discussed at next week's Executive Committee and then moved forward to the full Board for approval.

- AB 1663 was signed into law by Governor Newsom on September 30<sup>th</sup> and it sets the stage for statewide Supported Decision-Making (SDM), which allows for individuals with developmental disabilities to create an alliance/partnership with trusted people that support them with understanding the array of options available before making their decision/choice.
- Alta wants to lean more heavily in SDM, rather than conservatorship, understanding that sometimes conservatorship is appropriate. We will be developing a training to make sure that clients/families know the options that are available to them (e.g., advance healthcare directives, powers of attorney, SDM, etc.).
- Lori noted that Alta incorporated clients, parents and community members in our recent Coordinated Future Planning Trainings, which opened the discussion up to a panel of different views.
  - She is hopeful that CAC members will volunteer to participate in additional trainings.
    - The updated draft conservatorship policy and procedure will be mailed to everyone.
- Alta also asked for public comment on Alta's draft 2023 Performance Contract, which we are seeking to be approved by the Board next week.
- The Little Hoover Commission is holding its second hearing this Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m.
  - The link to the Zoom meeting was shared in the chat: <https://lhc.ca.gov/report/california%E2%80%99s-developmental-disabilities-system>.
  - Lori invited CAC members to attend this hearing and share their own stories; it's important to have your voices heard. If the voices who feel like the system is serving them well do not speak up, there may be changes that are made that may not benefit them.
- Everyone viewed the draft CAC Housing video.
  - Lori believes that the video is real and authentic. It will be helpful to clients and families, and shows that with the needed supports, clients can make decisions about what's best for them.
  - John will be incorporating this video into presentations that he gives; it amplifies the need for choice. The video emphasizes why housing is a priority for Alta.
  - This video will be posted on Alta's website and work in conjunction with our agency's Strategic Plan and our Coordinated Future Planning

Trainings, including next April's training for Service Coordinators (SCs).

## 2. **Updates**

### ◆ Peer Advocacy Network



- Amy L. shared that the group met this morning.
  - There is a push for clients to include self-advocacy in their Individual Program Plans (IPPs).
  - They are working on presentations for the next Regional Meeting, which will be held in March 2023.
    - One of the topics will be how one of the Chapters advocated with their local transportation agency.
  - Members shared updates from their Chapters about their recent meetings and upcoming plans.
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2023.

### ◆ ARCA-CAC

- Amy L. shared that the group met on October 28<sup>th</sup> and reviewed/discussed the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) four-year Strategic Plan, which includes:
  - Risk Management
  - Special Incident Reports (SIRs)
  - Stakeholder Input
  - Client Developmental Evaluation Report (CDER)
  - SANDIS (regional center case management software system)
  - Affordable Housing
  - Fiscal Year Project
- The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m.

### ◆ DDS-CAC

- Amy L. shared that the next meeting is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to noon, and November 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## 3. **Public Comments/Announcement**

- Patty's birthday is on November 20<sup>th</sup>.



The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 10, 2023**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales