

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2026
Minutes

Present:

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

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Naomi Smith

Visitors:

Robert Levy
Ashley Robertson

Absent: (* excused)

Patty Wallace*
Karen Young*

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
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss: 1) Message from Lori; 2) Strategic Thinking; 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 February 10, 2026, as submitted.

1. Message from Lori



- Lori shared that the Senate Hearing has been rescheduled to May 7th and the Assembly Hearing will be held on April 15th. There are no policy positions that have been forwarded to the Governor, aside from the Trailer Bill Language (TBL) that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) released at the beginning of February.
 - Lori explained that TBL does not have to go through the formalized process, although it can be enhanced or deleted.
 - Within the TBL, there are certain requirements that are being proposed to “professionalize” regional center’s Boards. Currently, every regional center operates differently, following their own bylaws. Lori believes the state is looking to formalize this process with required competencies. The TBL is also proposing a limited number of Board members – ten to 13 members. The department is also looking to change the current requirement that 25% of membership be clients served. They are proposing that two

representatives from the CAC be seated on the Board. The TBL would also require that at every Board meeting where decisions are made, a Board attorney must be present to ensure that the agency's bylaws, statute and open meeting rules are followed.

- Alta is a \$1 billion corporation, and DDS is wanting to ensure that all the competencies are covered, along with client and family member representation.
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Grassroots Day was held last Tuesday to move forward the priorities of ARCA. Alta had 12 people in attendance and covered ten meetings.

2. **Strategic Thinking**

- Lori noted that the group's discussions have been valuable.
- Amy L. shared that Alta will be creating a Client Advocates Corner on their website. This space will be shared by Alta's Client Advocates and the CAC. It will include:
 - The mission of the CAC, information on how to become a CAC member, spotlights on CAC members, and a place to share CAC presentations.
 - Information about Alta's Client Advocates and the presentations that they have shared throughout our community.
 - People First Chapter information.
 - Outreach and opportunities throughout our catchment area.
 - Information about other advocacy groups that you are a part of.
- Suggestions include:
 - Possibly holding another CAC Open House.
 - Explaining different disabilities – Alta's Clinical staff could provide a brief explanation alongside a video of a client who would provide their own perspective of living with that disability.
 - Alta's Client Advocates will work with Alta's Communication Specialist so that a mock-up can be shared/reviewed at the next meeting.
- Another idea that came from the last meeting was different ways to highlight peer advocacy. Lori thought that CAC members may wish to develop small modules to educate the client network. We could use the production team at Futures Explored to develop these modules, which could be posted on our website.
 - Suggestion to develop an audio presentation of "What is the CAC?"
 - These two ideas connect and will keep the CAC busy this year. Alta's team will reach out to Futures Explored.

3. **Updates**

- ◆ PAN
 - The next meeting is scheduled for June.



- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - The March meeting has been cancelled.
 - They are holding a face-to-face meeting on May 18th & 19th in Sacramento.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- The Supported Life Institute's (SLI's) 30th California Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference will be held on May 8th & 9th – now is the time to speak with your Service Coordinator (SC) if you would like to attend.
- During their meeting earlier this month, Robert Rogers, Chair of the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN), mentioned all the great work that Amy L. has done.
- The California Autistic Self Advocates (CASA) group is hosting a social event on April 18th, from 12 to 2 p.m., at RoundTable Pizza, located at 3327 Watt Ave. – you must R.S.V.P. by April 11th.
- The MIND Institute is accepting applications for the Northern California Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program for the 2026-27 training year. The last day to apply is Sunday, March 15th.
- At the May CAC meeting, the group will be electing the CAC Chair and CAC designated representative to Alta's Board of Directors for the 2026-27 fiscal year (FY). If you are interested, please reach out to Lisa W.
- Alta is holding our Annual Purchase of Service (POS) Data Meeting on Friday, March 13th, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. On March 18th, from 2 to 4 p.m., we will be reviewing the data and gathering feedback from our community. Both meetings are virtual.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 12, 2026**. The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales