

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Minutes

Present:

Kimberly Terrell, Chair
Michelle Rewerts, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley (via phone)
Tom Hopkins
Amy Lampe
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Michelle Hulse*
Romilda Jones*
Monique Lozano
Steven Sanchez*
Austin Taylor
Patty Wallace*

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Visitors:

Kecia (via video conf)
Tiffany Johnson
Charlene Jones
Jacie Oakley
Marcia Orland (via video conf)
Russell Rawlings
Mark Starford
Anthony Stone
Tammy Turner
Peggy Wakefield

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:05 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) CAC Chair and Designated Representative to Board for 2019-20 FY; and 3) Discussion: "Sexual Violence on Men with Disabilities". All present provided self-introductions.

**change in agenda was noted*

Without objection, Kimberly Terrell made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of February 12, 2019 as submitted.

- Michelle R. read aloud Alta's Mission & Vision

1. Executive Director's Report

- Phil shared that Alta's Mission tells us how the regional center works, but the Vision talks about who we are and what we hope for the future.
 - Those present shared times when they were treated differently because of their disability. They also talked about times when they were treated fairly; even the simplest things make a difference.
 - Phil shared that Austin spoke at the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) All Staff Meeting awhile back and told them that "help" is the four-letter word that needs to be said.



- The CAC might want to do more presentations at schools to help spread the word that disabilities are not something for people to be afraid of. People are normally afraid of things they don't understand.
 - Michelle R. has a lot of information that could be put into a presentation about disabilities.
 - Suggestion to have more team building opportunities at schools so that all students can interact.
 - *A Touch of Understanding* could possibly come to one of our meetings to share information about their organization. They are always looking for volunteers.
 - David will reach out to them and invite them to present at the May CAC meeting.
- Phil shared a famous quote from Gandhi – “Be the change that you wish to see in the world.” We might all take this to heart.
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies’ (ARCA’s) Grassroots Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd, at the State Capitol.
 - Lisa W. will share information with those that have volunteered to join Alta’s group as the date gets closer.
- DDS contracted with Burns & Associates to conduct a service provider rate study. For the past two years, they gathered input and Alta hosted a briefing of their findings at the end of February. The data showed that the rates that are paid to service providers are outdated. Generally speaking, the rates are not keeping up with the needs of the clients that they are serving. The people that provide the direct service to clients are the core of our system. Phil encouraged everyone to speak up and support their local service providers so they will still be here in the future.

2. ***CAC Chair and Designated Representative to Board for 2019-20 FY***



Issue: Committee needs to hold elections for the Chair and Designated Representative to the Board of Directors for the 2019-20 fiscal year (FY).

Discussion and Action: Lisa W. shared that the CAC’s needs to elect the Chair and Designated Representative to the Board of Directors for the next FY. She gave a brief explanation of the two positions.

Members expressed their desire to serve as the CAC Chair and Designated Representative to the Board of Directors (CAC’s Co-Chair) for the next FY.

- **Kimberly Terrell is elected as the CAC’s Chair for the 2019-20 FY.**
- **Michelle Rewerts is elected as the CAC’s Designated Representative to the Board of Directors (CAC’s Co-Chair) for the 2019-20 FY.**

3. **Discussion: "Sexual Violence on Men with Disabilities"**

- Mark Starford has been working with *The Arc* on a project about how to talk about sexual violence. For the past two years, they gathered input from across the state and developed some training tools for women with disabilities. Now they are working on a similar project for men.
 - They are trying to gather recommendations to assist doctors on how to talk to men with developmental disabilities about sexual abuse.
 - Those present provided input on several questions.
 - It's important to note – always be aware of your surroundings and know to keep individuals that you trust close to you.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 14, 2019**, from 2 to 4 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet