

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 8, 2016
Minutes

Present:

Romilda Jones, Chair
Austin Taylor, Desig. Dir.
Cindy Benson (via phone)
Lisa Cooley (via phone)
Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Amy Lampe
Sheryl Ledford
Monique Lozano
Zach Miller
Robert Rogers
Steven Sanchez (via phone)
Kimberly Terrell (via phone)
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Spencer McClay

Facilitators:

Jana Chapman-Plon
Eloise Dixon
Amy Fulk
Ed Plon

Visitors:

Laura Coit
Janet Norton

Staff:

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

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:02 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2016, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Election of CAC Chair & Designated Rep to Board; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

M/S/C (Tom Hopkins) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of February 9, 2016 as submitted.** (12 in favor)

1. Executive Director's Report

- Phil shared that for the last two years the legislators have been working on increasing the State's budget for regional centers and providers. The Managed Care Organization (MCO) Reform passed both houses and Governor Brown signed it into law last week. This will add over \$400 million into our statewide system. It includes:
 - 7.5% increase for salaries and benefits for both direct care providers and regional center staff
 - 2.5% increase for administrative costs for both regional center Purchase of Services (POS) and Operations (OPS)
 - 5% increase for Supported Living Services (SLS), Independent Living Services (ILS), in-home and out-of-home respite, and transportation services
 - 10% increase to supported employment
 - 5% increase to Medi-Cal funded group homes
 - funding for bilingual staff at regional centers



- Nancy Bargmann was recently appointed as the new Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Phil will be inviting her to one of our upcoming CAC meetings.
- Lori Banales and Alfonso Carmona will be Alta's Directors of Client Services after David Rydquist retires on April 1st.
- DDS is still working on the waiver for the Self-Determination Program (SDP). Alta currently has over 600 clients on our "interest" list. Only 175 will be able to participate in the initial rollout. There are so many questions that still need to be answered. Phil hopes that this option will be available to our client by Christmas 2016.
- Our friends at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) are still there and this committee promised that we would go back and visit them each year. Phil would like to suggest that we go in May or June of this year.
 - Committee agreed to hold the June 14th CAC meeting at SDC. We will continue to discuss at the May 10th meeting.
 - Lisa C. volunteered to contact staff at SDC.
 - The group wants to invite the families to this meeting.
 - We will develop a flyer to distribute to the parents/families and ask John Decker to help with the distribution.
 - Possibly call the day "Pathway to Possibilities".
 - Phil will invite Nancy Bargmann to the June 14th CAC meeting at SDC.
 - As always, committee members will share their stories to help ease fears that the clients/families may have.
 - If you have any ideas, please send them to Phil and/or Lisa W.
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Grassroots Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30th, at the State Capitol. If you are interested in joining "Team Alta", please let Lisa W. know.

2. ***Election of CAC Chair and Designated Rep to Board***



Issue: Committee needs to hold elections for the Chair and Designated Representative to the Board of Directors for the 2016-17 fiscal year (FY).

Discussion and Action: Romilda shared that members need to express their desire to serve as the CAC Chair and Designated Representative to the Board of Directors for the next FY.

- **Austin Taylor is elected as the CAC's Chair and Designated Representative to the Board of Directors for the 2016-17 FY.**

3. ***Updates***

◆ Peer Advocacy Connection

- Amy shared that the last meeting was held on February 10th.
 - The group was given a legislative update:



- Members were encouraged to sign up for the CDCAN email list so that they would receive timely updates.
- Individuals were asked to find out who their local legislators are by visiting <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>.
 - The next Regional Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Lions Gate Hotel in Sacramento.
- The next meeting will be held tomorrow, March 9th, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Supported Life Institute (SLI).

- ◆ Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) - Sacramento
 - Robert shared that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the State Council's Sacramento office.

- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - Cindy had difficulty connecting to the telephone meeting which was held on Friday, February 19th.
 - The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 8th.

- ◆ Alta Board
 - Austin shared that the Board met on February 25th.
 - Phil spoke about the State Budget and the extraordinary session of the legislature.
 - Alta staff continue to develop resources for those individuals who are moving out of SDC.
 - The Board continues to hold Board Sponsored Trainings just prior to their monthly meetings. February's was entitled "The Power of the Planning Team".
 - The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 24th, at 4 p.m.

4. Public Comments/Announcement



- As David mentioned at last month's meeting, if you are interested in having Alta pay for the registration to either the 21st Annual Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference on May 6th & 7th, or the 2016 People First Statewide Gathering from June 10th to 12th, please contact your Service Coordinator (SC).
- David received an email from DDS' CAC Chair, who has reached out to several regional centers for representation on DDS' CAC. In the near future, Alta's representative's seat will become available. David will share more information in the next year. This might be a great opportunity for someone on this committee.
- Lisa C. shared that the next local Self-Determination Advisory Committee is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, March 9th, from 10 a.m. to noon at Alta.

- Laurel Ruff Transition School is holding an Open House and Information Fair on Wednesday, April 6th, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- The MIND Institute is holding a workshop entitled "Working and Saving with Social Security – Yes you Can!" on Thursday, March 17th, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- Phil brought David Rydquist, Alta's Director of Adult & Residential Services, into the meeting so that everyone could wish him well with his retirement. He has been serving the developmentally disabled for many year. David R. expressed appreciation for this committee's dedication to the thousands of individuals that Alta serves.
- Amy L. will be going into Mercy General Hospital on March 21st. She will be there for a few days to have some tests done.
- Zach attended Cal-TASH's 33rd Annual Conference on February 26th & 27th and learned a lot. He nominated himself for their Board of Directors and will find out at the end of March if he is accepted as a member.
- Zach has an interview on Thursday morning with a work training program.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 10, 2016**, from 2 to 4 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet