

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

Present:

Amy Lampe, Chair
Patty Wallace, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley
Barbara Crow
Tiffany Johnson
Romilda Jones
Jacie Oakley
Michelle Rewerts
Steven Sanchez
Anthony Stone
Kimberly Terrell
Karen Young

Visitors:

Terry Ajuria
Stephanie Fassov
Robert Levy
Nadya Plata
Ashley Robertson
Magdeline Zogopoulos

Absent: (* excused)

Tom Hopkins

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Jennifer Bloom, Associate Client
Services Director
Thalia Castro-Vega, Communications
Specialist
John Decker, Director of Community
Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &
Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client
Services
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Jacob Miller, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:02 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Alta's Client Advocate Team; 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 8, 2022 as submitted.

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



- At the last meeting, Lori mentioned that Governor Newsom was putting forward the state's endemic readiness plan. She is happy to invite members to attend the May CAC meeting in-person, knowing that attending virtually will remain an option to allow for people's schedules. Alta staff will be returning to the office two-days per week beginning March 21st, although some staff are coming in more. Lori wants to make sure that Alta is open and staffed to meet the needs of our community.
 - Some individuals may be anxious about going back to normal. Lori wants everyone to feel supported; you need to feel comfortable with your choice.

- Employee Appreciation Day is the first Friday of every March. Because most of our staff are not physically in the office yet, Lori would like to celebrate Alta's staff for the entire month.
 - She introduced Thalia, Alta's Communications Specialist, and the group recorded a staff appreciation video card.
- As Alta's Board of Directors develops the agency's Strategic Plan, they released a survey to gather input from clients, families and community members at the beginning of February. Lori is seeking volunteers from this committee to join the Housing Focus Group, which will help set priorities for the regional center.
 - Volunteers include: Lisa C., Robert, Stephanie and Steven

2. **Alta's Client Advocate Team**



- Jennifer introduced Jacob Miller as Alta's new Client Advocate. His first day at Alta was March 1st and today is his first day out of training.
 - Jacob provided a brief introduction of himself.
- David is looking forward to creating some advocacy trainings to share with this committee. Alta's Client Advocate Team is available if anyone needs assistance.

3. **Updates**



- ◆ Peer Advocacy Network
 - Amy L. shared that the group met today and finalized the plans for the next Regional Meeting, entitled "Living Well in Your Own House", which is scheduled for Saturday, March 26th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Alta staff will be presenting – Dr. Barbara Friedman and David Lopez will be talking about COVID and John Decker will be speaking about "Affordable Housing".
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - At the last meeting, Michelle assisted John with a housing presentation. Each member also shared their regional center reports.
 - John expressed appreciation for Michelle's assistance.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 11th.
- ◆ DDS-CAC
 - A special meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 14th, from 10 a.m. to noon. The group will be discussing Special Incident Reports (SIRs).
 - The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday & Wednesday, June 7th & 8th, from 10 a.m. to noon.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- Robert reminded everyone who is interested to sign up for the MIND Institute's LEND Training as soon as possible; this nine-month program begins in September.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 10, 2022**, from 2 to 4 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales