

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 14, 2016
Minutes

Present:

Romilda Jones, Chair
Austin Taylor, Desig. Dir.
Cindy Benson
Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Amy Lampe
Sheryl Ledford
Monique Lozano
Zach Miller
Robert Rogers
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Lisa Cooley*
Spencer McClay
Steven Sanchez*

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Syd Castain, DC Liaison/Service
Coordinator
Jane Anne Cooper, Community
Services Specialist
John Decker, Manager of
CPP/Forensics Unit
Andy Dulay, DC Liaison/Service
Coordinator
Elijah Jenkins, DC Liaison/Service
Coordinator
Dan Kilmer, Community Services
Specialist
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Tamer Mostafa, DC Liaison/Service
Coordinator
Andrew Perez, DC Liaison/Service
Coordinator
DeDe Peters, Community Services
Specialist
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

Facilitators:

Eloise Dixon
Amy Fulk
Astra Jackson
Ed Plon
Larry Prosser
Cheryl Worthley

Visitors:

Nathaniel A.
Leora B.
Vera B.
Crystal Baxter
Janet & Gregg Brandon
Kathy Brian
Aleana Carreon, SDC Director
Robin Cohn
Scott D.
Scott E.
Mike F.
JJ Fernandez
Sandy H.
Derrick H.
Danielle K.
Bill & Carole Knox
Cherry Luu
Michelle Ramirez
Tony & Deborah Robinette
Stan Schmidt
Tricia Shanahan
Wayne W.
Judy Walters
Tobias Weare
Julie Ziliotto

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 11:56 p.m. on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) to discuss: 1) Our lives in the

community as CAC members; 2) Executive Director's Report; and 3) Update on Alta's Community Placement Plan (CPP) – How are we doing? All present provided self-introductions.

** Phil shared that this is the fourth year that Alta's CAC has held our meeting here at SDC. We know it's a scary time for some, but we are here to help.*

M/S/C (Tom Hopkins) **To approve the CAC meeting minutes of May 10, 2016.** (11 in favor)

*change in agenda was noted

1. ***Our lives in the community as CAC members***



- Sheryl, Zach, and Kimberly shared stories about their lives – they all, at one time, lived in a developmental center (DC).
- Austin spoke about how things have changed over the last four years of visiting SDC. He believes that we are here to make sure that all of the Alta clients who reside here at SDC have a voice and are able to make choices. Change is coming and it will be an exciting time for everyone.
- Bill K., father of Kevin (age 48), shared that his son moved out into the community in April 2016. To hear the voices of all of you speaking from your hearts is amazing! Kevin lived at SDC for 27 years. The care that he received here was excellent! Bill and Carol were strong advocates about SDC staying open, but thanks to Alta, Kevin has made the move and his life is wonderful!

2. ***Executive Director's Report***



- Phil shared that those individuals who dedicate their lives to supporting individuals with developmental disabilities are much appreciated.
- Tomorrow, the State legislature will hand over the budget to Governor Brown. There is funding in the 2016-17 fiscal year (FY) budget for raises for service provider's direct care staff. There is also funding so that regional centers can hire more Service Coordinators (SCs) to assist with our ever increasing caseloads.
- This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Lanterman Act. Over 300,000 individuals across the state are taking advantage of services that this law created. Phil hopes that Alta's CAC will join him in putting on a celebration at Alta in the fall.
- Alta's Board of Directors is made up of clients, family members and community members. They are his boss. This committee represents all of the individuals served by Alta.
- Alta serves ten counties in California, just not Sacramento County. We are developing some amazing resources for our clients across our region.

3. **Update on Alta's Community Placement Plan (CPP) – How are we doing?**



- John oversees Alta's liaisons and SCs that work with the developmental centers across the state. It's so great to see so many of our clients from the ICFs attend today.
- One of the original clients who attended the first Alta CAC meeting here four years ago, now lives out in the community. John always appreciates the commitment that this committee has.
- Several of the individuals who have attended these meetings over the last four years have moved out. Alta currently has 50 Alta clients residing here at SDC; the number has risen slightly because clients who live here transfer to us because their families now live in Alta's catchment area.
- Alta is not rushing individuals to move out of SDC. We want to make sure that all of the services are in place so that individuals can have a successful transition into the community.
- SDC holds Opportunity Fairs and families come to find out what resources are available to their loved ones. It is important for families to get information during this process.
- Alta held a family meeting in September 2015 to share information about the agency's plan to develop services for those individuals who will be moving out of SDC by 2018. A second meeting was held this past April. John suggested having the CAC open up one of their meetings to family members of clients that reside at SDC, since they live closer to Alta's Sacramento office. Committee members are a great resource for our families.
- Alta always wants to develop a variety of services so that clients have choices and we want the best environment for our clients. Alta is currently developing:
 - A Medical Intensive Day Program w/full-time Registered Nurse (RN)
 - A Crisis Behavioral Intervention Program
 - An Intensive Behavioral Support Day Program
 - An employment training center
 - A Specialized Dental Clinic
 - Several homes for individuals with severe medical and behavioral needs (72 beds)

**Phil shared that Nancy Bargmann, Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), just sent us a message – she is happy that Alta's CAC is here today!*

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 12, 2015**, from 2 to 4 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet