

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 10, 2018
Minutes

Present:

Kimberly Terrell, Chair
Michelle Rewerts, Design. Dir.
Tom Hopkins
Romilda Jones
Amy Lampe
Steven Sanchez (via phone)
Patty Wallace
Karen Young

Absent: (* excused)

Lisa Cooley
Michelle Hulse
Monique Lozano
Austin Taylor*

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Cheryl Worthley

Visitors:

Sandy Bishop

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
John Decker, Manager of
CPP/Forensics Unit
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:03 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Chair's Thoughts & Time to Share Feedback; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Michelle Rewerts made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of June 12, 2018 as submitted.

- *Michelle R. read aloud Alta's Vision*

1. Executive Director's Report



- Phil shared that it's July, so we are in a brand new fiscal year (FY). Alta has not yet received our initial funding from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) so we will be borrowing money from our bank in order to pay our bills.
- We received a letter from the Supported Life 2018 Conference Planning Committee informing us that the CAC has been chosen to present at their 32nd Annual October Conference, which will be held on October 4th & 5th, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Sacramento. Phil shared that David will be working with volunteers from this group to finalize the presentation entitled "Our Sonoma Journey".
 - Volunteers include: Amy Lampe, Austin Taylor and Kimberly Terrell
 - Phil will help the group get organized and will support them when they present on October 4th.
 - A suggestion was made to invite some of the individuals that have moved out of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC).

- On June 21st, the last remaining Alta client moved out of SDC.
 - Phil shared the CAC's questionnaire with John Decker and John would like to make a few revisions if the group agrees.
 - The committee reviewed the suggested revisions and were in agreement to them.
 - John will have his staff distribute the revised "Friends Visiting Friends" questionnaire when they meet with the clients at their new homes.
 - John would like to suggest having Debbie Dillon be the volunteer coordinator on this project. Debbie is a nurse, as well as a niece of one of the clients that moved out of SDC.
 - He will invite Debbie to the September CAC meeting so that she can introduce herself to the group.
- The State Fair starts on Friday, July 13th. As in years past, Alta has received free tickets for our clients to attend one of the "Fun for All" days on July 16th or 23rd.
- Amy L. will be giving a presentation on abuse just prior to Alta's Board meeting on July 26th. The Board's annual September Retreat will be held in Yuba City this year.
- Public speaking can sometimes be terrifying and then become so natural for people. If anyone wants to take a risk in a supportive environment, you might want to consider joining Toastmasters.

2. **Chair's Thoughts & Time to Share Feedback**

Issue: Committee members had time to share feedback.

Discussion and Action: While this group will follow the printed agenda, Kimberly would like all members to know that if you would like anything added, please let her or Lisa W. know before the meeting begins. She reminded everyone that the CAC represents all of the individuals that Alta serves and she want to make everyone comfortable while attending these meetings.

Kimberly welcomes any thoughts so that the CAC can continue to be of value to the regional center. She would like everyone to share ideas and move forward as a group of advocates.

David has been working with Alta staff to help identify day programs that CAC members can go out to in order to share the CAC's PowerPoint presentation. We need to continue to encourage more clients to attend these meeting and possibly join the CAC. The best way to get the word out about this group is to have each member talk about it while they are out in the community.

David encouraged the group to have spotlight presentations during these meetings, so that all members can expand their knowledge and stay active.



- **Information only.**

3. **Updates**



- ◆ Peer Advocacy Connection
 - Amy shared that the group met today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. They started planning for the next Regional Meeting, which is scheduled to be held on Saturday, January 26th, at *The Patriot* restaurant in Carmichael.
- ◆ ARCA-CAC
 - The next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, July 13th, in Sacramento.
- ◆ Alta Board
 - Michelle R. attended the Board meeting which was held on June 28th.
 - It was Cindy Benson's last meeting because she was terming off the Board after serving for seven years.
 - The Board approved two contracts – one for the start-up funding for a Community Crisis Home and the other as part of the "safety net" that DDS is developing across the state.
 - The Board is starting to make plans for their annual September retreat, which will take place in the Yuba/Sutter area this year.
 - Phil talked about the state budget and shared that the federal government approved California's waiver for the Self-Determination Program.
 - Phil also shared a list of Alta's accomplishments for this past year.
 - The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 26th, at 4 p.m.
- ◆ Alta's Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Sandy shared that the biggest challenge for service providers right now is to have as many providers complete the DDS Rate Survey as possible. Providers have been attending hearings at the State Capitol in an effort to advocate for the individuals that are served by our statewide service system. The PAC surveyed themselves and developed some priorities that they have been working on for the past year, one of which is training.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**

- Karen is celebrating her 20th year of employment at Easter Seals on Friday!



The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 11, 2018**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet