

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 14, 2026
Minutes

Present:

Amy Lampe, Chair
Amanda Parker, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley
Tom Hopkins
Tiffany Johnson
Jacie Oakley
Steven Sanchez
Kim Terrell

Absent: (* excused)

Patty Wallace
Karen Young

Visitors:

Dawn Dingman
Robert Levy
Daniel Perez
Nadya Plata
Michelle Rewerts
Tammy Turner
Hester Wagner

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Naomi Smith

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client Services
Thalia Castro-Vega, Communication Specialist
John Decker, Director of Community Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake & Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client Services
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Ryan Patchin, Training Manager
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 2:01 p.m. to discuss: 1) Message from Lori; 2) "My Disability and The Person Behind It"; 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 June 9, 2026, as submitted.

1. Message from Lori



- Lori is delighted to share that the anticipated cuts to our statewide service system did not happen. Instead, our system received \$2.6 billion in additional funding; most of which is for the tremendous growth across the state. There is Trailer Bill Language (TBL), which is language that supports new laws that were attached to the budget. Several topics are still being discussed between the Governor, the legislature and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).
 - Under TBL related to Regional Center Oversight, there are a lot of changes for regional center's Boards of Directors.
 - Each regional center must have a Client Advisory Committee (CAC) – some do not currently have one.

- TBL indicates that there will now be two CAC members seated on the Board. In addition, the CAC will select a family member/guardian to be a Board member. The CAC is provided the authority to seat these selected individuals on the Board. Of note, self-advocates who are not members of the CAC, but have an interest in joining the Board, may apply directly to the Board. If the CAC cannot find someone who wishes to serve on the Board, that seat will not be filled. This opportunity upholds the Lanterman Act and exercises the voices of the individuals that are served in the system.
 - We are waiting for the department to share the TBL implementation guidance, which Lori will share with this committee once received.

2. ***"My Disability and The Person Behind It"***

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- Michelle Rewerts shared a presentation about herself that she developed by using the People Planning Together training materials. She plans to share this with her People First Chapter and the ARCA-CAC, before she presents at a Supported Life Conference.

Thalia has been managing websites for the past 12 years. We recently added the Client Advocate Corner which can also be known as the CAC. This may cause confusion since the CAC stands for Client Advisory Committee. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

- Thalia encourages CAC members to think about what they would like to share with the public – information should be clear, concise and understandable.

3. ***Updates***



◆ CAC Workgroups

- Open House
 - We will hold the CAC Open House prior to the CAC meeting on October 13th. The Open House will start at 11:30 a.m. with catered food. Members of the workgroup will present the CAC PowerPoint from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. There will be time to socialize prior to the CAC meeting's start time at 2 p.m.
- Presentations
 - This group will be setting up presentations for upcoming CAC meetings. If you have any suggestions, please contact David.
- Videos
 - On July 2nd, the workgroup met and discussed the videos. There will be two phases:
 - 1) We will create a roundtable discussion/conversation video to be posted on Alta's website.

- Regardless of our disabilities, we live full and active lives. Through a roundtable discussion, it will be a nice way to bring this information to the public.
- Hester noted that we need to have a robust conversation but need to limit the number of participants to five.
 - We will film this at Alta on Tuesday, August 11th, from 2 to 4 p.m.
 - Volunteers include Amanda, David, Kim and Steven.

2) We will post individual stories about what it is like to have Autism, Epilepsy, Cerebral Palsy, etc. on Alta's website.

◆ PAN

- The next meeting will be held in September.

◆ ARCA-CAC

- The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 24th, from 10:30 a.m. to noon via Zoom.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**



- The 2026 Summer Institute on Neurodevelopmental Disabilities will be held virtually on Friday, July 24th, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Registration is \$25.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**. The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales