

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 10, 2019
Minutes

Present:

Kimberly Terrell, Chair
Michelle Rewerts, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley
Tom Hopkins
Michelle Hulse
Tiffany Johnson
Amy Lampe
Anthony Stone
Patty Wallace

Visitors:

Terry Ajuria
Sean Stone
Peggy Wakefield

Absent: (* excused)

Romilda Jones
Monique Lozano
Steven Sanchez*
Karen Young*

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Lori Banales, Director of Client Services
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met at 2:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center (Alta) to discuss: 1) Executive Director's Report; 2) Updates; and 3) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

- *Anthony read aloud Alta's Vision*

*Kimberly shared that Austin Taylor has resigned from the CAC

Without objection, Kimberly Terrell made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of July 9, 2019 as submitted.

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



- Phil asked committee members to share times when they have seen Alta's Vision being fulfilled.
- Concern was expressed over cuts to certain services. Phil assured those present that there have not been recent budget cuts. In fact, the Governor's budget included service provider rate increases.
- Alta must gather input on our Performance Contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Lori provided a brief overview of the contract:
 - The public policy measures focus on where clients live.
 - Choice is key. Phil shared that Alta recognizes the housing crisis and staff are currently working on a major housing plan, which will be shared with this committee when it is completed.

- The compliance measures make sure that regional centers are good stewards of government funding and that Service Coordinators (SCs) complete the necessary reports that are required by law.
- There are measures related to employment and paid internship programs. Regional centers work with school districts to help teenagers learn pre-vocational skills. Suggestions include:
 - Have Alta staff work with Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.
 - Possibly having WorkAbility available to clients past high school and college.
 - Have clients that are gainfully employed become mentors for others.
 - Explore using FREED in Grass Valley/Yuba City as a resource.
- Alta reports on two measures related to reducing disparities and improving equity in purchase of services expenditures. Suggestions include:
 - Connecting with different community centers.
 - Get the word out by advertising on different media outlets.
 - Post information at free clinics.

2. **Updates**

◆ Peer Advocacy Network

- Amy L. shared that the group met today and finalized the plans for the next Regional Meeting which will be held on Saturday, September 21st, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Sacramento.

◆ Alta Board

- Michelle R. attended the Board meeting which was held on July 25th.
 - The Board voted on two new members: Ron Mainini and Luis Rivera.
 - They discussed Alta's caseload ratios and received public input on ways that might help the agency meet the mandated caseloads in the future.
 - The group reviewed Alta's May 31st financial report and approved two contracts that will help service providers be more integrated in their communities.
 - The Board started planning for their upcoming training at the end of this month in Placerville.
 - Phil introduced his Executive Management Team to the Board.
 - The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is currently visiting regional centers across the state to review Special Incident Reports (SIRs). They will be at Alta the week of September 23rd.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 26th, at 3 p.m. at the Historic Cary House Hotel in Placerville.



◆ ARCA-CAC

- Michelle R. joined the teleconference on August 30th.
 - The group discussed two topics:
 - CalFresh – some clients are upset because they don't qualify for this benefit.
 - Lori shared that regional centers are being trained on how to reach out to clients and help make the process easier.
 - Michelle R. shared information about the Alta CAC's "Friends Helping Friends" project.
 - The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 25th in Sacramento.

3. Public Comments/Announcement



- David has been in touch with Nicole Patterson to gather information about the DDS' CAC. In November of this year, the committee seat that represents Alta will be vacated.
 - If you are interested in possibly joining this group, please contact him and he will provide you with more information.
- Lisa C. shared that when she isn't at this committee, she is serving as the Secretary for the Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN). Their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday & Thursday, December 4th & 5th, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Sacramento.
- Lisa C. will be attending the Lanterman Housing Alliance meetings on September 26th & 27th here at Alta.

The next CAC meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 8, 2019**, from 2 to 4 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet