

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2026
Minutes

Present:

Dan Lake, President
Kelly Pennington, Vice President &
ARCA Rep
Steven Sanchez, Secretary
Amy Lampe, ARCA-CAC Rep
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large

Absent: (* excused)

Anwar Safvi*, Finance Comm. Chair

Board Members:

EunMi Cho
Johnny Deng
Amanda Parker
Akkia Pride-Polk

Visitors:

Dawn Dingman
Maureen Fitzgerald
Emili Lua

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Naomi Smith

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Operating
Officer
Tracy Brown, Associate Client Services
Director
Jordan Cody, Legal Services Manager
John Decker, Director of Community
Services
Jon Horbaly, IT Support Technician
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake
& Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client
Services
Faye McKenzie, Associate Client
Services Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 5:10 p.m. to discuss:
1) President's Report; and 2) Executive Director's Report.

**Without objection, Dan Lake made the motion to adopt the
Executive Committee meeting minutes of June 8, 2026, as
submitted.**

1. *President's Report*

- Mr. Lake expressed appreciation to all in attendance.

2. *Executive Director's Report*

- Ms. Banales shared that our statewide system was spared from the deep cuts that were anticipated and with the state's signed fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 budget, we received an additional \$2.6 billion.
- There are a few Trailer Bill Language (TBL) topics related to our system that remain open for continued discussion.
 - The acuity scale needs assessment would be a clinically validated metric to support assessment and needs in Intake. This is aimed to support the sustainability of our service system, as well.

- Many conversations will occur across stakeholders, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the legislature over the upcoming weeks.
- The Community Resource Development Plan (CRDP) and the Community Placement Plan (CPP) will be merged into one.
- The limitation on the number of years an individual can reside at Canyon Springs and Porterville Developmental Center. The system needs to create new models so that the individuals residing in those two locations have sufficient support in the community when they transition into a community setting. We must look at public safety, as well as the safety of the individuals served.
 - DDS is drafting guidance for regional centers on the implementation of TBL. Once received, Ms. Banales will share it with the Board.
- Ms. Banales reviewed the newly formatted “Quarterly Dashboard Report – June 30, 2026” and noted the following:
 - The Lanterman Intake timelines are similar to what we have reported in the past. We are averaging 227 days for determining eligibility; we are trending down with implementation of multiple strategies.
 - The current quarter had 311 individuals seeking regional center services. ACRC has 15 days to determine if the individual has information to support a plausible developmental disability. If confirmed, the applicant enters the Intake process.
 - Our backlog is decreasing. ACRC has hired more clinical psychologists.
 - Ms. Banales noted that we never know how many people will be coming through our doors, but we are making the right advances. We have shared a lot of strategies with the Board that are starting to demonstrate effectiveness.
 - We continue to process our Early Start Intakes within the required timelines (391 in the current quarter).
 - For Targeted Case Management (T19), we are averaging 399 units per month (it is important to note that June units are not included in these numbers due to reporting timeline to DDS; the date to finalize notes is the 21st of the following month).
 - ACRC added 161 clients to the Medicaid Waiver this quarter.
 - Caseload Ratios
 - It is important to note that caseloads are agency wide, not Service Coordinator (SC) specific.
 - For Children “Age 5 and under”, the required ratio is 1:40; our ratio is 1:42.5.
 - Early Start (birth to 3) is at 1:33.
 - ACRC created Early Childhood Units that service children ages 3 to 5; we are currently at a 1:62 ratio.
 - For “All Others”, the required ratio is 1:66; our ratio is 1:71.

- Ms. Banales noted that when a SC leaves the agency, those cases are assigned to their manager in our case management system (Atlas) for distribution to team members.
- Human Resources
 - ACRC currently has 907 employees, with 17 vacancies.
 - We are looking at the factors that affect the number of termed employees, which include retirements. Our current turnover rate has increased to 4%.
 - Over the past 12 months, ACRC has hired 184 new employees, and we currently have 24 interns.
- Since ACRC started using DDS' Provider Directory Standardized Vendorization Process, we have completed 133 vendorizations.
- ACRC's standard of reporting Special Incident Reports (SIRs) to the department is 90%; for this quarter we are at 95%.
- It is notable that ACRC serves 3,364 individuals under Transportation Service Code 875 (Main Service).
- An individual can receive more than one of the "Services Purchased for Clients" categories.
- The "Client Statistics" breaks down the status of clients:
 - Status U = Provisional Eligible (ages 0-5 years old)
 - We currently have 1,019 in this category (an increase of 8.6%).
 - ACRC staff are actively assessing these individuals to determine if they are eligible under the Lanterman Act.
 - For those individuals that have been determined ineligible and have filed an appeal, they will remain under Status U until the case is resolved (cases of children 5 years and older).
 - Status 0 = Diagnosis & Evaluation
 - During this quarter, this number decreased slightly.
 - Self-Determination Program (SDP)
 - We added 41 individuals, with the overall authorization amount increasing by \$7 million over the last quarter.
 - The average SDP authorization amount per client has increased by \$10,000 in the current quarter.
 - The Participant Directed Services (PDS) Program allows for clients/families to control who they hire to deliver services; these services are included in traditional services.
 - We have added 1,000+ individuals in the current quarter.
 - Autism continues to have the biggest growth in client diagnosis. Cerebral Palsy (CP) remains consistent, while Epilepsy and Intellectual Disability (ID) have decreased.
 - ACRC serves over 6,000 children birth through five years old.
 - Sacramento remains ACRC's largest county.

3. ***Closed Session*** – at 5:54 p.m. the Executive Committee adjourned to executive session to discuss legal issues.
4. ***Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion*** – at 6:44 p.m. the Executive Committee reconvened in open session following a closed session in which legal issues were discussed.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 14, 2026**. The meeting adjourned 6:44 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales