



Client Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Agenda

April 17, 2025, 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Teleconference via Zoom Webinar

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85984599282?pwd=ZzKY22gGcoT30ZY74Z622b4467Epbb.1>

Webinar ID: 859 8459 9282

Passcode: 499622

Or Telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdheNEiUZS>

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AGENDA

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| 1. Introduction | Tracey |
| 2. Ice Breaker Question | Open Discussion |
| • What is your dream job or volunteer opportunity? | |
| 3. Employment Experience | Tracey / Open Discussion |
| 4. Chair Report | Tracey |
| 5. Activity / Game | Tracey and KRC Staff |
| 6. Upcoming events and future topics | Open Discussion |
| 7. Meeting Adjourned | Tracey |

Client Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes

Facilitators: Tracey Mensch

Leadership Member(s) Present: Tomas Cubias

Languages Interpreted: Spanish

Platforms: In person and via Zoom-Hybrid

Translated Documents: CAC April Meeting Agenda and March 2025 Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/18/25

Number of attendees: In person-12, via Zoom-8.

The following discussions took place during the meeting:

Introductions were made by temporary CAC President Tracey Mensch. Tracey welcomed all attendees, both in person and online. This was followed by introductions from Kern Regional Center (KRC) staff members, agencies present, and participants.

First topic on the agenda:

- Discussions began with an icebreaker question "Does anyone have Spring vacation plans?" Answers varied from visiting the theme park Universal Studios, visiting Bakersfield, visiting South Africa, studying for midterm exams, watching movies, and disconnecting from work and emails to relax.

Next topic on the agenda:

- The next topic discussed was Housing. There was a PowerPoint presentation done by Tracey and Marian Constantino, KRC's Housing Specialist.
- Tracey and Marian shared in their presentation they shared information about the Housing Symposium and important facts, and Tracey shared her personal experience with Housing.
- Tracey began the presentation by explaining her experiences with attaining Housing. She shared the difficulties with attaining Housing that was adequate to her own needs. She shared that other difficulties she faced were related to money such as affordable housing and deposits.
- Tracey shared a personal story about her current housing situation. She shared that a few years ago she was able to move into a home with roommates and there she can have the space she needs for her wheelchair. Tracey also shared the importance of modifications for individuals.

- Tracey shared her goals of making housing more accessible for KRC individuals. Tracey then asked attendees what is important to them for housing or if they had any struggles with housing that they wanted to share.
 - One attendee shared the importance for their family to have security due to family eloping while still following fire safety regulations.
 - Another attendee shared having accessible housing for the deaf and blind, with homes having accessible devices.
 - Another attendee shared their current housing situation stating they currently have a roommate and that is the way they can afford housing.
 - Another attendee shared the difficulties of finding housing in their area as they are from an outlying area.
 - Another attendee shared their struggles with credit and deposits for renting.
- Marian then presented on Housing. She shared she attended the Housing Symposium run by the CA Policy Center for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. She shared that she learned that there are 24,000 individuals being served by the Regional Center system who are rent-burdened and lacking affordable housing, paying more than 30% of their income towards rent.
- She shared her next steps in assisting KRC individuals. She shared her goals to know the housing needs of individuals and helping them live where they choose to live and be able to use funds for housing in the future. She shared she is currently reaching out to agencies to learn more information that will be beneficial in assisting Service Coordinators to assist the individuals.
- Tracey and Marian asked if there were any questions or comments. There was a question about the new Housemates Matching Profiles created by DDS. Marian answered the Housing Profiles are an initiative created for individuals to make an account through DDS and apply for roommates they feel will match them.
- There was a comment from an attendee stating the importance of having the ability to install special accommodations for individuals. Marian shared that some agencies can assist with making accommodations to homes. She shared she would be collecting and sending out resources to attendees via email.
- There were not any other questions or comments.

The following topics discussed:

- Tracey followed the meeting with a Chair Report where she shared updates with attendees. She shared she will be attending an upcoming Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) CAC meeting. She shared she will be representing KRC and will be bringing up topics important to attendees at the local CAC meeting.
- Tracey asked attendees if they could share about the CAC meetings to other individuals to have more attendees. She then asked if there were any comments or questions. There

was an idea from an individual stating advertising for the CAC could be done through television (TV) or radio station commercials.

- An attendee asked if they are aware of statewide CAC activities with ARCA and was wondering if those are open to attendees who attend the local CAC. Tracey shared she would ask about this and would provide an answer when she had it.
- No other questions or comments.

The following topics in the agenda:

- There was an activity of a Hidden Objects game played for 3 rounds. Participants stated they enjoyed playing.

The final topic on the agenda:

- The final topic discussed was upcoming events and future topics. Tracey asked if attendees had any suggestions, comments, or questions for future CAC meetings or other things they wanted to share about any other upcoming events.
- Isis Rasmussen, Service Access & Equity (SAE) Program Manager, shared the KRC Purchase of Service (POS) Disparity meetings have been taking place throughout March 2025 and the upcoming meetings were set for Bakersfield and Delano locations. She shared that the next Board of Directors meeting was set for the following week.
- Tracey then shared with attendees that she received the topic suggestions from prior CAC meetings. She asked attendees if they would be interested in learning more about the CAC from a DDS colleague who leads the state-level CAC. Attendees shared they would be interested. Tracey shared she would be in contact with her colleague for this.
- An attendee shared their interest in having a Masterplan summary in plain language to be shared with attendees at future CAC meetings. Tracey stated this is something she will look into doing.
- Tracey asked attendees what they thought about this month's CAC meeting. An attendee shared they liked the meeting and liked that important topics to individuals were being discussed.
- Isis shared that any other comments, questions, or future topic ideas could be shared with SAE@kernrc.org and this would be shared with Tracey.
- There were no further questions or comments.
- Meeting adjourned.

Facilitators: The next meeting date is to be announced on the KRC website and social media.