

Board of Directors' – Client Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Robert Taylor (Chair), Dave Matson

Committee Members Absent: Will Lewis, Debra Zeno, Trixie Galletti

RCRC Members Present: Sedona B (Executive Assistant), Jonathan Padilla (Interim Director of Customer Service), Elizabeth Hassler (Customer Advocate for Humboldt/Del Norte Counties)

Members of the Public Present: Cindy

AGENDA

1. **Open the Meeting:** CAC Chair, Robert Taylor opened the meeting at 6:03pm.
2. **Introductions:** Robert called on attendees to introduce themselves and share their interests. Cindy joined for the first time from Mendocino County. She enjoys doing art.
3. **Announcements:**
 - a. Robert shared he is going to a Halloween party put on by Bayberry Inc in Clearlake from 1-3pm next Wednesday. He also shared that Bayberry has a website you should check out at <https://bayberryinc.org/>.
 - b. Dave shared they are also having a Halloween party coming up at People First.
 - c. Dolores shared the 2025 Pumpkinfest is this weekend in downtown Ukiah.
 - d. Elizabeth shared that the State Council is conducting a survey to help people decide what to focus on in the next five years. The survey ends at midnight tonight, and she encouraged attendees to take the survey. The link to the survey is <https://scdd.ca.gov/stateplandevlopment/>.
4. **Review 2025 Goals (Standing Item):**
 - a. **Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)**
 - i. Elizabeth explained that HCBS is when you live in the community instead of an institution or medical facility. When people talk about HCBS they are talking about the rights that clients have, such as being able to choose what and when you eat, what you do during the day, etc. The California State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) took action to get people out of these settings and into homes in the communities and access to services in the community. Now clients have the option to live where they want and do what they want in the community and receive services in their home. HCBS is also used in Self-Determination. Elizabeth shared a link with animated videos about HCBS at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2sVu_Vi1tqUnSW5DWrbU907_4Q8ecZ3C. Robert suggested clients to speak to a Client Advocate or their Service Coordinator for more information.
 - b. **Employment and Training for Clients**

- i. Dave shared that clients have been trained to go out into the community to talk about access to employment and training for clients.
- ii. Robert shared he had a job when he was in southern California where he learned how to wash dishes, make sandwiches, various things in working in an office and some in retail. Later he learned about Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE).
- iii. Elizabeth explained that Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) is any job where it is not just people with disabilities working together.
- iv. Elizabeth shared that October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. She encourages clients to tell their Service Coordinator if they would like a job or have an independent small business so they can get some help. She shared a link for a brand new jobs documentary at [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2sVu1tqUnSW5DWrbU9O7\)4Q8ecZ3C](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2sVu1tqUnSW5DWrbU9O7)4Q8ecZ3C).

5. **Develop 2026 CAC Goals:**

- a. FEBRUARY: **Independent Facilitators Related to Self-Determination** – Robert will request Monica Star to discuss what it means to have an Independent Facilitator related to Self-Determination. Elizabeth will also ask Alex Ostell about being a guest speaker at the February CAC meeting.
- b. APRIL: **Drivers for Client Transportation** – Robert will ask someone from Redwood Taxi to talk about the importance of taxi service for clients.
- c. JUNE: **Community Care Facilities and Activities** – Dave will invite someone from his work to speak.
- d. AUGUST: **Personal Assistants** – Speaker to be determined.
 - i. Additional Topic: **Mid-Term Elections** – Robert will ask Crisalyn from OCRA to present.
- e. OCTOBER: **Paid Internship Program (PIP)** – Speaker to be determined, maybe Crisalyn at OCRA.

6. **Determine 2026 CAC Meeting Dates:** Robert and Dave agreed to set the 2026 meeting dates for the third Wednesday of every other month starting in February and ending in October. The new CAC President can make changes as he/she deems necessary.

- a. February 18, 2026
- b. April 15, 2026
- c. June 17, 2026
- d. August 19, 2026
- e. October 21, 2026

7. **Develop Agenda for the Next Meeting:**

- a. Open the Meeting (1 min.)
- b. Introductions (4 min.)
- c. Announcements (5 min.)
- d. Funding for Family and Client Training (Alex Ostell) (15 min.)
- e. CAC Goal Presentation: Independent Facilitation (30 min.)
- f. Develop Agenda for the Next Meeting (5 min.)
- g. Close the Meeting

8. **Close the Meeting:** Robert thanked everyone for attending and ended the meeting at 7:08pm.

Next meeting is Wednesday, February 18, 2026.

Respectfully submitted by:
Sedona Bowser, Executive Assistant