



Ken R. Patterson  
Director

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**STANISLAUS COUNTY  
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
09/08/06**

Committee Members Present:

Jose Acosta	Madelyn Amaral	Dwight Bateman
Joan Blackwell	Rose Martin	Connie Muller
George Sharp	Linda White	

Committee Members Absent:

*Kenny Brown	*Mary Burch - LOA	*Ora Scruggs ML
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IHSS Staff Present:

Jeff Lambaren	Egon Stammler	Maria Childers
Robert Taylor	Veronica Melgoza	

*\*Advance notice given.*

**OPENING REMARKS by Linda White**

- Meeting called to order at 1:04pm

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- No Public Comment

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- August 11, 2006 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion to accept made by Madelyn Amaral, Connie Muller seconded, motion passed.

**PUBLIC AUTHORITY**

- Jeff Lambaren announced that we are still having problems with Pacific Care. They weren't enrolling people because it wasn't the open enrollment period. Public Authority let Pacific Care know that they will be having people enroll every month. For those who went to the doctor and have been billed, they will be reimbursed.



- Joan Blackwell asked if there were complaints about the doctors. Jeff Lambaren stated that there have been no complaints.
- Jeff Lambaren announced Union Negotiations will start on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Connie Muller asked if there was a clause that the providers could not strike. Jeff Lambaren stated that yes there is a clause that state the providers cannot strike.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that DRAIL is going to provide some disability awareness training. We hope to start the new provider training in October. A record is being kept of the new providers coming in so when training starts they can come in for training.
- Connie Muller asked if the CPR was open to all providers, even the ones that are already working. Jeff Lambaren stated that CPR training would be available to all IHSS providers but the Public Authority would give preference to those on the registry. If the class fills up with registry providers the other providers will be scheduled for the following month.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that the second newsletter has been printed and stamped to be sent out. Jeff Lambaren requested that they set aside about a hundred for other agencies and IHSS Social Workers.
- Jeff Lambaren passed out a sample of the ad that will be in the Elder Care Directory that should come out in October.
- Dwight Bateman stated that DRAIL will put it in their newsletter too.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that the business cards will have a space for members to place their name.
- Jeff Lambaren passed out little phone books that will be given to providers for important numbers.

#### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

- Jeff Lambaren stated that Legislation Proposals are just waiting right now for the Governor to sign or veto.
- George Sharp announced that the one thing that we are waiting to hear on is the SB840. George Sharp made a motion to have the committee send a letter urging the Governor to sign the bill. This bill would basically socialize medicine in California and everyone would be covered for a small fee. George Sharp said we have until the 30<sup>th</sup> of September to send a letter. George Sharp amended the motion to have a letter done now, Jeff Lambaren will sign for Kenny Brown, and send out. George Sharp will send Jeff Lambaren some draft language. Madelyn seconded, motion passed.
- Madelyn Amaral asked what was going on with the Olmstead Act.
- George Sharp announced that on the Federal side, it was actually included in the Federal budget; it will allow states to apply for the grants to help implement Olmstead, George heard that California was in the process of writing theirs.
- Madelyn Amaral asked where IHSS got money from about four years ago. Maria Childers stated it was from the Federal Government; there was a change in legislation and most of the Residual cases converted to PCSP or Waiver.
- Egon Stammler stated that each state writes a plan. The plan has to be approved by the Federal Government.
- Dwight Bateman stated that it has to be part of the state plan.

#### **BUDGET PLANNING**

- Committee discussed the 2006-2007 budget. Connie Muller reminded the committee that they wanted to purchase a laptop.
- Committee would like to have their annual retreat in January or February. Connie Muller suggested the Country Club in Oakdale and the Sweet River Grill in Turlock was also suggested.
- Dwight Bateman suggested we put the website costs into the budget yearly and Linda White suggested the committee put the annual report in the budget yearly.
- Jeff Lambaren suggested that we put the provider survey in the budget this year.
- Dwight Bateman suggested we purchase equipment for the provider training. Jeff Lambaren stated that would come out of the Public Authority budget.

- Connie Muller made a motion to have the committee place a monthly ad in the surrounding cities that are hard to cover. Madelyn Amaral seconded, and also added that the ads should be in both English and Spanish. Dwight suggested the ad could also be shown on the Public Access Channel and also the Hispanic station. Motion passed.
- Jeff Lambaren will draft an ad for the outling areas, training available will be on add. Jeff Lambaren will get the costs and bring back to the committee for review and approval. Once it is approved it can be put into other languages.
- Jeff Lambaren asked if the committee would like a speaker, we have time to get one.
- Dwight Bateman suggested the committee get a speaker for the retreat, someone from the State Association, to talk about the services that are provided.

#### **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION**

- Jeff Lambaren stated that he did not have a chance to amend the bylaws. Any changes will need to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.
- Jeff Lambaren suggested the committee discuss the membership length at the retreat.
- Dwight Bateman stated to the committee that they may want to amend the bylaws to say that if members want to continue they should take a year off, or an ex-officio member could be an ex-officio member for one year, and they could come back as a committee member.
- Madelyn Amaral stated that she would like to see members serve their terms and move on. She would like to see the committee get new people with new ideas.
- Linda White stated that when she was a new member it was the existing members that shared their knowledge and experience and gave her a better understanding of what the committee was all about.
- As an ex-officio member they would come in periodically and share their knowledge and experience with the new members.
- Linda White suggested the committee table the membership extending until the next IHSSAC meeting in October.

#### **CLIENT TRAINING TAPES**

- Connie Muller asked about the client tapes. Jeff Lambaren stated that they have already been mailed out.. Once we have the tapes we can customize them for Stanislaus County. The tapes will be shown at the training classes. Dwight suggested airing the tapes on the Public Access Channel along with the ads.

#### **HOT TOPICS**

- None

#### **GENERAL UPDATE**

- Maria Childers passed out a copy of the share of cost letter that Madelyn Amaral had requested.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:34 PM  
Veronica Melgoza, Recorder

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR IHSS RECIPIENTS  
ABOUT CHANGES TO THE FEDERAL MEDI-CAL  
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) PROGRAMS  
THAT AFFECT THE WAY YOU PAY YOUR SHARE OF COST**

You are getting this Notice because you are an IHSS recipient, you receive Medi-Cal and you pay a Share of Cost. Right now, you pay your Share of Cost to the person who provides you with IHSS services, and you have a Medi-Cal card with no Share of Cost included. Also your Notice of Action has told you the amount of IHSS Share of Cost you need to pay each month to your provider(s).

**WHAT IS A SHARE OF COST?**

Most people who get IHSS services are receiving them as a Medi-Cal benefit and also receive other Medi-Cal benefits. Some of those people must pay a certain amount each month toward their Medi-Cal expenses. This dollar amount is called a Share of Cost. A Share of Cost is similar to a private insurance plan's out-of-pocket deductible. As an IHSS recipient you have been paying your Share of Cost directly to your IHSS provider.

**WHAT IS CHANGING?**

This Notice is about a change in how you pay your Share of Cost. Because IHSS services are now provided under Medi-Cal, and Medi-Cal rules apply to these services, the way you pay your Share of Cost has changed. Instead of paying your Share of Cost only to your IHSS (Medi-Cal) provider, now you may also pay your Share of Cost by purchasing other Medi-Cal expenses, such as when you go to the doctor or pharmacy, or pay for other allowable Medi-Cal services. If you do not pay all of your Share of Cost when you go to the doctor or pharmacy or access other Medi-Cal approved services, you will pay the remaining amount to your IHSS (Medi-Cal) provider. You will receive an "Explanation of IHSS Share of Cost" letter from the State when your provider(s) submit their timesheets telling you how much to pay to your IHSS provider.

Example:

Mrs. Smith has a share of cost of <b>\$200</b> for the month of June.	<b>\$200</b>
She sees her doctor on the 5 <sup>th</sup> and pays <b>\$50</b> at the doctor's office.	<b>-\$50</b>
She fills a prescription on the 6 <sup>th</sup> and pays <b>\$60</b> at the pharmacy.	<b>-\$60</b>
Her provider submits her time sheet on the 16 <sup>th</sup>	
Mrs. Smith will need to pay her IHSS provider <b>\$90</b>	<b>\$90</b>

**WHEN DOES THIS NEW PROCESS BEGIN?** June 5, 2006.

**HOW DOES MY MEDI-CAL BENEFITS IDENTIFICATION CARD (BIC) WORK WHEN I HAVE A SOC?**

When you go to the pharmacy or doctor's office, you use your Medi-Cal BIC card. The pharmacy or doctor's office checks a computer system to see what your Share of Cost amount is. As you pay for any Medi-Cal expenses, the amount you pay is subtracted from the total Share of Cost for that month. Each purchase lowers your remaining Share of Cost until the whole Share of Cost is paid each month. When the whole Share of Cost amount is paid, you do not have to pay for any other Medi-Cal expense until the beginning of the next month.

**HOW WILL I KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY TO PAY MY PROVIDER?** When your IHSS provider's timesheet(s) are processed for payment, any Share of Cost that you have not paid during that month will be deducted from your provider's paycheck, just like it is now. Instead of just paying your Share of Cost to your provider, you may have paid some of your Share of Cost at a doctor's office, pharmacy or for other Medi-Cal-approved services, so what you owe to your IHSS provider each pay period may be different. A computer system keeps track of how much you pay when you use your Medi-Cal card. To help you understand how much to pay your IHSS provider(s), you will receive an "Explanation of IHSS Share of Cost" letter for each provider pay period telling you the amount you must pay to the IHSS provider.

If you have more than one IHSS provider, you will not be able to choose which provider your Share of Cost is paid to. Any Share of Cost that you have not paid will be subtracted from the IHSS provider's timesheet that is processed first by the county. Please help make sure that all timesheets are completed, verified and submitted on time by your provider(s). If your IHSS provider(s) do not turn in their timesheets every pay period, we cannot tell you how much of your Share of Cost must be paid to them.

**If you have any questions** about this notice, please contact the California Department of Social Services at the toll free number below for more information.

**1-877-508-1327**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**



MONTROSE COUNTY, 01, B35F  
123 OAK AVENUE  
ANY TOWN, CA 99999

PENELOPE WITHERSPOON  
JAMES SCOTT  
5678 NORTH STREET  
ANY TOWN, CA 99999

EXPLANATION OF IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) SHARE OF COST

06/01/2006

CASE NUMBER: 1234567890 123456  
SHARE OF COST AMOUNT TO BE PAID TO THIS PROVIDER: \$9999.99  
PROVIDER: PEGGY STEVENS

This notification is to inform you that the above-indicated Share of Cost was withheld from the payment issued for service period 05/01/2006 - 05/15/2006. You are responsible to pay this Share of Cost to PEGGY STEVENS

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Each time a payment is processed against your IHSS case, the Share of Cost obligation will be determined and appropriately applied for the service period. Your provider of service will receive a similar notice to tell him/her how much to collect from you.

If you have questions regarding this notification, you may contact your County IHSS Social Worker or your County IHSS Payroll Office.

IHSS Payroll Department



In-Home Supportive  
Services Advisory  
Committee

558-3428

PO Box 42  
Modesto, Ca 95353

**Committee members are appointed  
by the Board of Supervisors to advise  
them about the IHSS program. The  
IHSSAC also advises Link2Care,  
the IHSS Public Authority on  
policy matters.**



Committee  
meetings are held  
the 2nd Friday of  
every month and  
are open to the  
public.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the  
Advisory Committee, please call or visit us at  
[www.co.stanislaus.ca.us/IHSS.org](http://www.co.stanislaus.ca.us/IHSS.org)