



COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

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**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
06/12/09**

Committee Members Present: Linda White Valerie Mitchell Jose Cisneros
Connie Muller Robbyn Foster Rose Martin
Joan Blackwell Marie Cochran

Committee Members Absent:

IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present: Jeff Lambaren Egon Stammler
Robert Taylor Maria Childers
Jennifer DeSanto
Other Guests: Stephanie Navarette

**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Chair Robbyn Foster

- Meeting called to order at 1:01 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- May 8, 2009 minutes: Motion to accept minutes, motion to accept made by Connie Muller, Linda White seconded, motion passed.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY

- The Public Authority will be moving to the CSA building at 251 E. Hackett later this year, tentatively scheduled for October. This move is part of the county effort to save funds. Being housed in the same location as IHSS will help to improve communication between the two agencies, resulting in better registry matches for IHSS Recipients. Unfortunately, the size and layout of the large county building will make it more difficult for customers, as they will have a much longer distance to walk and the "face to face" contact with staff will be diminished. Phone numbers for the Public Authority will not change.

LEGISLATION

- Due to the poor state of the State budget, there are many drastic proposals being put forward. None of these proposals have been passed, but all are being considered. They are as follows: SSI/SSP maintenance of effort floor reduction, elimination of IHSS share of cost buyout,



reducing the Public Authority administrative rate, reducing IHSS provider wages, eliminating domestic services or all services for IHSS Recipients with a functional score of less than 4, using a tiered system of benefits dependent on IHSS functional score, adding fraud investigators, reducing the maximum number of benefit hours from 283 to 195, and eliminating IHSS Advisory Committee funding. Discussion regarding the impact and particulars of the proposed cuts ensued.

- Jeff reported the analysts feel that the IHSS program will stay intact, but the Provider wages will likely be cut, as well as reduced funding for the Public Authority.

BUDGET UPDATE

- The Board of Supervisors approved the County budget on Tuesday. This budget included 13 furlough days for CSA employees, amounting to a 5% pay cut. Adult Services staffing is down 20% overall, in addition to the added furlough days. This will have an impact on the time staff will spend providing services, and it is likely that the community will see increases in waiting time for services such as initial home evaluations, re-evaluations, etc.
- Jeff reported registry services through the Public Authority are not diminished however, because demand for registry providers has decreased. He speculates that this is due to more family members providing care, decreasing the need for outside help.

MEDIA PROJECT

- There was no update from the sub-committee, as they did not meet last month.
- Robbyn made a motion to shelve the media project until the State budget passed, since funding for these services may not be available anyway. Valerie seconded the motion. Seven members approved, Connie abstained. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORT UPDATE

- The report was given to each member for review. Jeff will be presenting the report to the Board of Supervisors on June 16th, at 6:30pm. He requested that IHSSAC members attend.

GENERAL UPDATE

- Stephanie Navarette, the manager for the Multi-Purpose Senior Services Program (MSSP), gave a presentation on the services MSSP provides and how to make referrals to the program. MSSP works mostly with IHSS clients, and does intensive case management for the most frail clients in the community. MSSP has a waiting list of 6-8 months, but the waiting list does have some built in flexibility, as clients with severe needs can be moved more quickly up the list.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:05 PM,
Jennifer DeSanto, Recorder