



**THE IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IHSSAC)
MEETING MINUTES
4/17/2015**

Committee Members Present: Joan Blackwell Valerie Mitchell
Mohamed Rashid Rose Martin
Alma Avina

Committee Members Absent: Linda White (advanced notice given)
Marie Cochran (advanced notice given)
Connie Muller (advanced notice given)
Carmen Morad

IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present: Jeff Lambaren

OPENING REMARKS by Mohamed Rashid

- Meeting called to order at 1:16 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public in attendance.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- Meeting minutes from the March 20, 2015 meeting were accepted.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY UPDATE

- Handout, "Connections to Care." Sample of the Spring 2015 IHSS Advisory Committee newsletter from Solano County for review and comment.
- Handout, "Save the Date! 2015 Stroke Resources Conference." To be held on Thursday, May 21st @ the Modesto Senior Center, 211 Bodem Street in Modesto. Registration will begin @ 8:30 am. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please let Jeff know if you are interested in attending and we will make the arrangements.
- Handout, "IHSS Stakeholder Advisory Committee Application." The IHSS Statewide Authority is seeking applicants for a new state-level IHSS Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC). As counties get all their populations enrolled in the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI), bargaining for wages and benefits transfers to the Statewide Authority. The Statewide Authority is also setting up a Statewide Advisory Committee. If any interest, the information on how to apply is listed. The application is due by Friday, May 1st. If any interest, please advise Jeff and we can assist with the

application process. The meetings will be held in Sacramento. Members would be reimbursed for travel expenses.

- Staffing update at the agency. The Public Authority has recently hired 2 new staff for the Social Service Assistant (SSA) position. The SSA's assist the providers and support the social workers with any provider issues. So we are now fully staffed in this department and we look forward to improved response times in this area. However, we have had 2 social worker staff leave our division; one left the agency and one transferred to a different department. Additionally, 3 transferred internally within our department for promotional opportunities. Effectively, we are currently down 5 social workers which we will be recruiting for.

BUDGET UPDATE

- No budget update for this meeting. The budget cycle is in process. The next time we expect to have something to report to the Committee is in May with the Governor's May Revise. At that time, we will see if there are any changes in the budget from his January proposal to the May Revise and will report on that.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Senate Bill (SB) 3 by Senator Leno. This proposes to increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and annually adjusted upward based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- SB 199 by Hall. This would add reading to the list of authorized tasks for blind consumers so they could get reading services for someone to read their mail and other notices for them. The bill currently limits this service to 2 hours per month; this could be adjusted as the bill moves through the legislative cycle.
- Assembly Bill (AB) 1261 by Burke. Would preserve the community-based adult services program. This is in regards to the adult day care situation. We have a new adult day care center which recently opened on Tully Road. They currently serve 16 and are looking to expand that number. They just got approval from the State. The cost is \$50 for a half day which includes snacks; \$70 for a full day which includes snacks and lunch.
- Handout, "Assembly Concurrent Resolution 49 by Weber. California Senior Bill of Rights. This measure would resolve that the Legislature and the people of California should uphold and protect the dignity and independence of older Californians by continuing the State's commitment to provide these individuals with certain supportive programs and services. The resolution is that the Legislature and the people of California should unwaveringly uphold and protect the dignity and independence of older Californians by continuing the State's commitment to seek and support efforts that guarantee these individuals all of the following: (a) financial security; (b) quality and affordable health care and long-term care; (c) protection from abuse, fraud, and exploitation; (d) a strong economy, now and for future generations; and (e) independence, through safe and livable communities with adequate housing and transportation options.
- AB 662 by Bonilla. Would expand public restroom accommodations to meet health and safety needs of the disabled community. This is set for a hearing in the Assembly and Professional Committee. Proposal for expanded facilities so attendant can assist with any personal needs and added space to accommodate wheel chairs, etc.
- Handout, "AB 449" by Irwin. Regarding the ABLE Program which is the Stephen Beck Jr., Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2014 (ABLE) Act. Encourages and assists individuals and families to save private funds for the purpose of supporting persons with blindness or disabilities to maintain their health, independence, and quality of life for the

purpose of meeting the qualified disability expenses of the designated beneficiary of the account by excluding from gross income distributions any monies used for qualified disability expenses as a beneficiary of the ABLE program. Basically it is a protected savings account where the monies wouldn't be counted against someone so they could use it for expenses related to education, housing, transportation, employment training and support, assistive technology and personal support services, health, prevention and wellness, financial management and administrative services, legal fees, expenses for oversight and monitoring, funeral and burial expenses, and other approved expenses.

- AB 470 by Chu. The Department of Justice conducts background checks for IHSS providers. A fee is charged to cover the costs of administering the background check program. This bill would require that the above fees be placed into a special account which would help in the maintenance and improvement of the systems so the results of the background checks can be received more timely.

FURTHER ACTION PLANNING FOR 2014-2015

- Handout – “1st Annual California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) IHSS Advisory Board Summit.” This event is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19th from 9:45 am – 4:00 pm at The Pagoda Building, 429 J Street in Sacramento. Some topics include: how to be an effective Advisory Board, legislative interaction/legislative visits, current IHSS happenings in the Capital, panel discussion with CAPA, DRC, CARA, and others we work with, how to work with your Public Authority, IHSS Advisory Boards – where do we go from here? Networking lunch included for \$5.00. The Committee budget could provide transportation, lodging, attendant assistance (if needed), and meal costs. Registration deadline is May 12th. If interested, please let Jeff know so arrangements can be made accordingly.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORT

- Per conference call - The Governor is proposing to restore the 7% hours cut to IHSS recipients. Some Assembly Bills are stalled in legislation. Proposal for everyone to be paid time and a half during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays is currently in process in legislature. State is doing funding restoration for SSI/SSP.
- Handout, “Ability Resource Fair and Assistive Technology Expo” to be held on Friday, September 25th from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Howard Training Center, 1424 Stonum Road in Modesto. Per Alma, this event is being presented by DRAIL. More to come.
- Draft a letter for Committee review to submit regarding minimum wage.
- Presentation, “Long Term Care,” power point from a joint informational hearing on April 7th.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Public Comment
- Acceptance of Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2015 meeting
- Public Authority Update
- Budget Update
- Legislative Update
- Further Action Planning for FY 2014-2015
- Committee Members Report
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Stephy Tracey, Recorder