

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 21, 2010  
1:00-3:00 P.M.

**Attendees:** Koleen Biegacki, Francisco Godoy, Melissa Kinley, Kristen Lyall, and Carolyn Rose

**Absent:** DeAnga Hills, Antoinette Lopez-Coles, Donald Prange (resigned), Stormaliza Powmacwizalord, and Cordia Wade

**Staff & Guests:** Denise Blockmon, Rolando Gutierrez (SEIU-UHW), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), Bernadette Lynch (SAS), Mary Pham (Interpreter), Rick Simonson (PA), Marcella Rojas (Interpreter) Laura West (DA Fraud Task Force),

I. Call to Order 1:15 p.m. by chair, a quorum was not present.

II. Introductions

III. Consent Calendar

A. Agenda: reviewed

B. Minutes: several edits made to March minutes

C. Chair's Report & Correspondence

Due to budget constraints, Paratransit is going to stop providing services at 10:00 p.m. on the week days and 8:00 p.m. on the weekends effective July 1, 2010.

IV. Reports

A. DHHS Senior and Adult Services, Bernadette Lynch, Division Manager, Ms. Lynch indicated that SAS has very low staff moral due to the impending staff reductions, the bumping of staff, and the increased workload. There are over 7,000 overdue reassessments and 800+ intakes pending. There new intake unit is up and running with seven filled positions and they will provide service to the pending intakes. This staff is also piloting the finger printing/photographing of recipients that was made law in the last session. The devices are expensive.

The IHSS Task force is winding down. The task force was established as a result of the elder death review report. The IHSS task force recommendations may include fingerprinting, mandatory core training and other voluntary training.

The IHSS task force grappling with, how do we measure quality of care". Many of the proposed recommendations are unattainable do to the current county budget or have already been included in regulations.

The timesheet drop boxes are being taken out today. We have notified providers through signs, and verbal calls in 5 languages (from the union etc. In July 2010 it is anticipated that case loads will be between 450 and 550 cases per worker. There will be about 49 continuing case workers and 8 intake workers. If providers have not completed the enrollment process by June 30 2010, they will not receive retro active pay for services provided after July 1, 2010.

B. SEIU-UHW (not present)

C. Public Authority, Executive Director, Rick Simonson  
7,500 of the 19,000, care providers have been seen by IHSS PA. Postcards have been mailed to all providers who have not completed the enrollment requirements. In the last 2 weeks our numbers have increased to over 200 people a day, a pace that will need to continue to meet the June 30 deadline. We are also working with the union to get the word out via publications and automated phone calls (in various languages) that existing providers need to re-enroll. The next step in provider notification will be individualized notices that specify what is completed and what yet needs to be done to finalize provider enrollment.

Education – continues to have class twice a month for caregivers using volunteer teachers.

Caregivers receive written notification if they are no longer eligible to be paid for IHSS services because of background check results. The notice will include appeal rights,

April is volunteer month and the IHSS Public Authority would like to recognize Cordia Wade and Donna Lyall for their contributions to November IHSS Caregiver month recognition with small gifts of appreciation. Both gave generously to support that event.

D. IHSS Fraud Task Force: Laura West, Deputy District Attorney  
Reiterating what was in the March minutes, there is little value to having provider and recipient fingerprints on timesheets.

An article is being submitted for June's *Caring Matters* newsletter and planning is underway about contributions for future issues. The article is about what can be done when a subsequent provider claims hours due to a prior provider (not much criminally, but can go to small claims court). Laura is presenting to Kaiser Hospital Roseville on April 22 and to the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society (about 500-600 physicians) about IHSS program benefits and how to best interface with program requirements. An article was prepared for the Mercy Physicians newsletter which should reach 280 physicians.

Overpayments have been sent to the Task Force and processed by Kelly Wilson. To date, 105 letters have been sent totaling \$43,696, in overpayments. We have received payments in the amount of \$15,864. Several payment plans are in place for an additional \$3,846. There is a total of \$19,650 outstanding. The recipients receiving letters to will still be able to provide IHSS services because they do not meet the standard for a criminal conviction. Ms. Rose requested a breakout of payments by type before next month's IHSSAC meeting.

Most of the 43 people on that have been convicted of IHSS fraud reported from the Public Authority are referrals from the District Attorney. IHSS payments when a recipient is in the hospital, deceased or the caregiver is in jail represent a majority of fraud cases. Social workers are the best source of information when a recipient is hospitalized. Those IHSS caregivers convicted of a felony are

ineligible to provide IHSS services for 10 years. The statute of limitation on these cases runs out 3 years after the reasonable date of discovery.

- V. CICA Conferee Reports – copies were distributed for everyone to read.
  - A. Melissa Kinley
  - B. Kristen Lyall
  - C. Stromaliza Powmacwizalord
  - D. Cordia Wade

VI. Napa Report

Denise Blockmon/Melissa Kinley: Randy Kitts presentation was really dynamic on the topic of empowerment. He did his entire presentation operating the computer with his toes. As an IHSS consumer, you are your best advocate. Whenever, there is a need to appeal be sure to appeal as soon as possible.

Nancy Shultz, Napa County IHSS PA Manager: The governor wants the feds to contribute \$6.9 billion in federal participation (FMAP) to California. If they do not, he is proposing the elimination of IHSS. He has also proposed that anyone with a Functional Index score of 3.9 or below have services eliminated, an 87% reduction in IHSS recipients (from 485,00 to 63,000).

A representative from Assembly Member Noreen Evan's office said it is a waste of time to perform recipient fingerprinting. The governor has requested that state participation in the IHSS wage reduce to \$8.00 plus \$0.60 for benefits.

Janie – California IHSS Consumer Alliance president: provided historical information on IHSS. She said that Coca's importance within IHSS is promoting advocacy. It is important to gather stories about the importance of IHSS and how the proposed cuts will impact real people.

Ms. Kinley suggested that a form be handed out to people attending provider enrollment asking for feedback to the IHSS Advisory Committee about what is important to them, how budget cuts will impact their lives and what they would like to see in the education arena. This will be coordinated by IHSS Public Authority staff. It was also suggested that provider enrollment attendees have access to voter registration materials and the League of Women Voter's *Easy Voters Guide*. PA staff will work on this as well.

Committee Matters

- A. CICA – regional meeting
  - Legislative training May 25, 2001, continental breakfast included but bring lunch.
  - AB 800, May 26<sup>th</sup> Capital Action Day,

Legislation to watch:

SB 998 – Information required upon discharge from health facilities

AB 2274 – Selection of IHSS providers

SB 891 - Provider tax payments

AB1763 – Guidelines to consistently apply IHSS program requirements

AB1970 – IHSS services made available in emergency shelters

Channel 13<sup>th</sup> did a story on the fingerprinting machines.

- B. Education Committee;

VII. New Business

Nominating Committee

Scheduled for May 13, 2010 at 12:00 noon, before the QA sub-committee.

Kristen Lyall's term will end this year. Need to discuss new chair and vice-chair (typically the vice-chair is recommended as the new chair).

IX. Old Business

Additional Help for A.C.

X. Public Comment: Members of the Audience - 2 Minutes Each.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for interpreting services, assistive listening devices, or other considerations should be made through the IHSS Public Authority at (916) 875-4057 no later than five working days prior to the meeting.

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