

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 18, 2010

**Attendees:** Koleen Biegacki, Denise Blockmon, Francisco Godoy, Melissa Kinley, Antoinette Lopez-Coles, Kristen Lyall, Stormaliza Powmacwizalord Carolyn Rose and Cordia Wade

**Absent:** DeAnga Hills

**Staff & Guests:** Janine Almanoz, (DA Fraud Task Force), Stacey Ballard (Sign language interpreter), Scott Braithwaite, (DA Fraud Task Force), Renita Graves, (Caretaker), Teresita Godoy, (Caretaker), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), Bernadette Lynch (SAS) Autumn Saulisbury, (Sign Language Interpreter), Rick Simonson (PA)

I. Call to Order 1:05 p.m. by chair, Melissa Kinley.

II. Introductions

III. Consent Calendar

A. Agenda reviewed/accepted

B. Minutes review/accepted

C. Chair's Report & Correspondence:

Surveyed board to see who would like to attend the August 27, 2010, CICA Regional Conference in Oakland, CA and/or the Annual CICA conference October 22-24, in San Jose, CA. The 1<sup>st</sup> day of the October conference will include a 3 hr workshop about the role of an IHSS Advisory Committee member. Participants will receive a certificate.

A reminder: all IHSSAC members are required to provide a timely written report after attending any conferences paid for by the committee.

IV. Reports

A. DHHS Senior and Adult Services, Bernadette Lynch, Division Manager, 64% of provider wages comes from the federal government through the expanded FMAP which fluctuates depending on the state unemployment rate. . . There will be a decrease in the FMAP monies in January 2010 which may impact the \$10.40 IHSS caregiver wage. There are 31 uncovered caseloads, 8000 overdue reassessments; and an intake backlog that will be distributed to all social workers. SAS role is still to protect – IHSS/APS consumers; ensure eligible consumers receive IHSS, ensure

consumers services are continued and that providers are paid... A 2<sup>nd</sup> intake unit will be established concurrently with the distribution of the backlog . All 52 workers will work on the backlogs. All work on the continuing cases will be suspended until intake backlog has been completed. If after 3 months the intake workers can't keep up, then the intakes will go to all workers and be the priority. Telephone calls from clients for each worker are overwhelming Currently, IHSS/APS has a central process unit and =screening unit To assist the workers with the high caseloads, netbooks will be provided. There are currently, 280cases per worker..

- B. Public Authority, Acting Executive Director, Rick Simonson:  
The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) issued a work around for caregivers who did not complete any enrollment requirements by June 30, 2010. After careful consideration, the decision was made to mail orientation materials to such providers, extending the enrollment deadline to December 31, 2010. Sacramento County mailed out 2,625 orientation packets. Ultimately, 224 caregivers received termination letters from CDSS. Of those, 190 of the had completed at least one of the requirements prior to July 1, 2010 and CDSS made CMIPS revisions to correct their records. While the new deadline for completion by existing providers is December 31, 2010, IHSSPA is pushing for November 1, 2010 as a target date for existing providers to complete all enrollment requirements.

The governor has proposed a \$700 million cut to IHSS as part of the state's effort to deal with a budget deficit. Budget conference committees have recommended \$250 million. One of the proposed solutions is to adopt an IHSS provider tax. IHSS provider services would be taxed at a fixed rate (for example, 6%). CDSS will provide each IHSS provider a 25th check at the end of the year that reflects the tax, which the state will fund. The federal government will then provide matching funds to the state. The funds generated from this program could be \$190 million.

Budget: - The IHSSPA has not yet received a state allocation, so we do not know if there will be additional impact to the IHSS Public Authority.

There is a response in your packets to the IHSS Advisory Committee's request for statistical information from the DA Fraud Task Force.

- C. IHSS Fraud Task Force, Janine Almonoz, (Fraud Social Worker), Scott Braithwaite, (Fraud Social Worker)  
Janine Almonoz: Five goals of the Fraud Social Workers:

- I. Safety & proper care for IHSS recipients. Home visits are essentially mini-assessments.
- II. Assure appropriate number of hours are authorized (could be increased or decreased).
- III. Information and Education: Provides education to consumers and providers about the IHSS program.
- IV. If fraud is suspected, referred for an investigation. As much as possible, this is done in a non-threatening manner.
- V. Report – Makes recommendations to social workers and Fraud Team.

Scott Braithwaite – The Fraud Task Force has 14 people. Fraud social workers are the first to investigate when a referral is received (other than data match cases which do not require a social worker).

The fraud social workers currently have 350 pending homes to visit. Fraud social workers makes recommendations to Fraud Task force, verifies that the caregiver is providing services to consumer, communicates with the social worker about making changes in case, goes to the clients home to interview (not scare) consumer. Fraud social workers are not IHSS investigators. Fraud social workers interview consumers in a non- threatening manner. Fraud social workers are able to do unannounced visits. Because IHSS is about function level not medical issue, IHSS is a social not medical program.

Laura West will be making a presentation to the BOS, on September 21, 2010, on the progress of the DA Fraud Task Force. Laura will give a mini presentation during the September 15, 2010; IHSS Advisory Committee meeting.

V. Committee Matters

A. CICA

Oct 22-24, 2010 Annual Conference in San Jose. There are no handicapped room accommodations left for the Annual CICA conference.

Chose two IHSSAC members to represent the committee during the monthly CICA telephone meetings: Carolyn Rose and Antoinette Lopez-Cole.

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) is sponsoring Disability History Week which is scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>.

VII. New Business (none)

IX. Old Business (none)

X. Public Comment: Members of the Audience - 2 Minutes Each (none)

XI. Adjourn – 3:05 pm

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.

The disclosable public records related to agendas are available for public inspection at 3700 Branch Center Road, Suite A, Sacramento, CA 95827