

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 20, 2010

Attendees: Bob Blymyer, Francisco Godoy, Melissa Kinley, Stormaliza Powmacwizalord, Carolyn Rose and Cordia Wade

Absent: Koleen Biegacki, DeAnga Hills, and Antoinette Lopez-Coles

Staff & Guests: Renita Graves, (Caretaker), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), Debra Larson (PA), Bernadette Lynch (SAS), Marcella Rojas (Sign language interpreter), Rick Simonson (PA), Sharon Story, (Sign Language Interpreter), and Laura West (DA)

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:

IV. Reports

A. DHHS Senior and Adult Services, Division Chief, Bernadette Lynch: Budget and Trailer bills (in reference to 3.6% reduction in recipient hours), were signed. All recipients from February 1, 2010 through June 2012 will see a reduction of 3.6% of their approved hours. For example a client receiving 283 hours will loose about 10 hours per month, which equates to about \$105 loss for the provider each month. This could be a real concern for recipient safety. The client will determine what 3.6% of services hours will not be provided. Providers' hours my fall below the required 85 hours needed to qualify for medical benefits and lose their benefits... The 3.6% reduction will push back the CMIPS 2 roll out because IHSS payroll has to make immediate changes in current CMIPS system to track these changes.

State letters will be mailed in December in reference to the additional crimes that will preclude an individual from being a caregiver.

There are now two tiers of crimes that will disallow a caretaker from providing services:

Tier 1 consists of the three crimes currently in statute

Tier 2 consists of a more extensive list of serious and violent crimes.

A recipient may sign a waiver, to hire someone who has a Tier 2 criminal offence. That provider will need to have a clearance waiver from every client they will provide IHSS. Tier 1 felonies can not be waived.

The functional index reductions proposed in last years budget remain in this year's budget There is a pending lawsuit. If the Administration is successful in the lawsuit the functional index reduction can be implemented July 1, 2012. Similarly, the proposed reduction in the rate of pay remains in the budget to be implemented if the court suit is won.

As part of the restructuring due to staff reductions the centralized intake unit, which combined APS/IHSS screening has been implemented with 8 workers. The backlog of pending intakes was distributed to all of the continuing workers and should be caught up by the end of October 2010. All staff are on special assignment working to clear out the backlog. Phase 2 will be to work on the most overdue reassessments.

Fingerprinting of recipients is still in the law but the state is slowly working to implement this procedure. It is unclear where the additional staff will come to read and process any of the reports that may result from this activity. .

- B. Public Authority, Acting Executive Director, Rick Simonson:
DOJ results from one county can now be accepted by another county. If a provider wants to be on the Sacramento County IHSS registry, they still must fingerprint for Sacramento County.
State of California will be sending out letters to providers, and recipients of providers, who still have not completed any portion of the provider enrollment.
There are now 2 Tiers of crimes that will disallow a caretaker from providing services:
Tier 1 consist of the 3 current crimes that preclude caregivers
Tier 2 consists of a new list of serious violent crimes written into law as part of the recently adopted budget. The new standard gives a recipient the opportunity, via a waiver, to hire someone who has a Tier 2 criminal offense. Tier 1 felonies can not be waived.

- IV C. IHSS Fraud Task Force, Laura West,
Board of Supervisors presentation went well. Four of the board members where complimentary, unsure on how the board will use the information. Laura will be teaching at the upcoming Welfare conference on best practices for investigators. She will also be presenting at the CICA Conference on October 23, 2010, and writing an article for Caring Matters.
; Fraud Task Team will only pursue the cases they have the time to prosecute. Prosecution is only the end of the problem the final resort.

Education and prevention are just as important as prosecution. The number of cases prosecuted does not equal the amount of fraud and/or abuse in the system:

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How do we determine fraud and when do we decide to prosecute: a.) Review timesheets; b). Determine if there was criminal intent; c. If criminal intent has been proven and case is over \$1500, DA will file a court case. Cases under \$1,500 will go to recovery desk. d. Review of vital stats for Death Match and Jail match (a list is received monthly for both).

V. Committee Matters

A. CICA State will spend 40 million dollars to purchase fingerprinting machines cost will be spread out over 8 years.

VII. New Business

A. Handout about “Money Follows the Person” program (attached).

B. Discussion about Changing Education, Finance, and QA Sub-Committee’s to Ad-Hoc –Motion made (Wade/Blymyer) approved unanimously.

Newsletters – Currently the newsletter (*Caring Matters*) is 12 pages long and published twice a year. The IHSSAC asked that staff look into the feasibility of publishing a newsletter three times annually. . Cost would be \$43,000. A 3rd newsletter will not be printed.

Caregiver Recognition - Caregiver recognition is November 9, 2010. Recognizing 15 caregivers, 5 groups have nominated 15 care providers. RSVP’s due by October 26, 2010. Additional help is needed to set up rooms for Caregiver recognition day. Honored providers will receive a certificate and a copy of the board resolution.

IX. Old Business (none)

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

XI. Adjourn – 3:05 pm

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