

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 16, 2011

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

Absent: Antoinette Lopez-Coles (LOA)

Staff & Guests: Mathew Call (Sign Language Interpreter), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), Caleb Lopez (Sign Language Interpreter), Sharon Rehm (IHSS), Simonson (PA), and Laura West (DA Fraud Task Force)

I. Call to Order 1:08 p.m. by chair, Melissa Kinley.

II. Introductions

III. Consent Calendar

A. Agenda: reviewed/accepted (Wade/Blymyer)

B. Minutes: reviewed/accepted (Wade/Blymyer)

C. Chair's Report & Correspondence: Antoinette Lopez-Coles will be on a leave of absence for the next few months. Denise Blockmon has been appointed to the IHSS Advisory Committee. Melissa Kinley and Carolyn Rose met with the Board of Supervisor's Assistants on March 3 and County Supervisor Don Notolli on March 15 to request funding to continue the *Caring Matters* newsletter (\$14,000). The Advisory Committee will compose a letter for the budget hearings (Week of June 6th 2011), outlining funding concerns of the IHSS Advisory Committee. The letter should be signed by all the Advisory Committee Members. IHSS Advisory Committee is advertising to fill three vacant board positions through the Caring Matters Newsletter, will request a notice on the timesheets and make announcements about IHSSAC openings at provider enrollment.

IV. Reports

A. IHSS, Program Manager, Sharon Rehm – IHSS will be re-hiring 2 social workers from the re-hire list. Case loads are still in the high 400's.

B. Public Authority, Acting Executive Director, Rick Simonson: Senate Trailer Bill Budget Analysis 3-16-11, proposes to require IHSS recipients to obtain certification from a licensed health care professional which includes physicians, physician's assistants, psychologists, physical or occupational therapists, public health nurses, regional center clinicians, regional center

clinician supervisors, ophthalmologists and optometrists. They will sign a declaration stating that the patient is at risk of out-of-home placement if they don't receive assistance with activities of daily living. Expected savings: \$120 million. There will be additional federal reimbursement (6%) from the Community First Choice option. Expected additional revenue: \$128 million. Proposed elimination of the mandate for IHSS Advisory Committees. Expected savings: \$1.4 million. (Note: the state will authorize \$3000 in state funds plus matching \$3000 in federal funds for the optional IHSS Advisory Committee funding.). A pilot will be launched to use medication dispensing machines to lower the use of more expensive services (emergency rooms, hospitals, etc.). This must generate \$140 million in additional savings, or there will be a trigger for additional costs in the IHSS program. The budget also recognizes \$83.2 million savings from current reductions in IHSS services.

Bob Blymyer suggested, with the reduced funding, that the IHSSAC consider meeting quarterly. Another suggestion was to meet every other month. Discussion ensued with no changes made at this time.

There will also be a reduction in Supplemental Security Income/State Supplemental Payment Program (SSI/SSP) from \$845/month to \$830 per month.

Education: Three classes held in February attendees 53 (class #1), 45 (class #2), and 28 (class #3). 308 providers attended orientation, and 27 applied for the registry. Six recipients contacted the urgent care line, with three qualifying for services.

- C. IHSS Fraud Task Force, Deputy, District Attorney, Laura West: Report distributed (attached). 48 Fraud referrals received in February, reduction in case load may be due to short month, three new felony cases filed in February representing \$17,864 in IHSS fraud. Six defendants were convicted and ordered to pay \$294,865 in restitution (\$285,000 was from the conviction of an IHSS Social Worker). There are currently 20 active cases. \$11,822 was collected by the fraud recovery desk. The best preventative measure is education, which includes: presentations during provider orientation; articles in the PA newsletter; presentations to physicians; and sharing best practices with other counties.

A concern about the health professional authorizing IHSS services is that the health professional's opinion may trump the IHSS social worker, who typically spends more time in determining a client's limitations. There will need to be training for health professionals so they understand how to complete and utilize the authorizing document.

V. Committee Matters

A. CICA: Evans bill SB930 introduced to eliminate the mandate to have providers' and recipients' fingerprints on timesheets.

VII. New Business

IX. Old Business

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

XI. Adjourn 2:45 p.m.