

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes

September 18, 2013

Attendees: Denise Blockmon, Francisco Godoy, Leoma Lee, Antoinette Lopez-Coles, Chandra Livingston-Blanks, Stormaliza Powmacwizalord, Carolyn Rose, and Cordia Wade

Absent: Bob Blymyer

Staff & Guests: Josh Holt (ASL Interpreter), Teresita Godoy, Caleb Lopez (ASL Interpreter), Rick Simonson (PA), and Michael (Taps) Taporco

- I. Called to Order at 1:08 pm by Leoma Lee
- II. Introductions
- III. Consent Calendar
 - A. Agenda: approved (Wade/Blockman)
 - B. Minutes: Recommended Revisions to 7/17 minutes (to include guest comments)
 - C. Chair's Report: None
- IV. Reports
 - A. In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) – No report (unable to attend).
 - B. Public Authority, Acting Executive Director Rick Simonson – Wage increase from \$10.40 hr to \$10.65 hr for IHSS providers was effective on September 1, 2013, so the next round of IHSS pay should reflect increase. January 1, 2014 wages will increase again from \$10.65 to \$10.80.

FY 12-13 IHSS Advisory Committee Budget (proposals attached): Three proposals were made, with varying amounts in conference and member recruitment. Some discussion took place about the efficacy of advertising for members. Each member was polled as to how they learned of and came to join the IHSS Advisory Committee:

Antoinette	IHSS Social Worker
Carolyn	Personal contact (friend)
Chandra	Caring Matters Newsletter

Cordia	Adult and Aging Commission
Denise	Kristin Lyall (former chair)
Francisco	Resources for Independent Living
Leoma	County website
Stormaliza	Connie Arnold (former chair)

Budget option B was adopted. Newsletters will continue to have IHSS Advisory Committee recruitment information. Discussions will be held with IHSS regarding Social Worker referrals. Current members will look for recruitment opportunities. The member recruitment Ad Hoc Committee will continue to seek opportunities for free publicity.

Changes in federal overtime regulations were released yesterday (7/17/13). This change removes the “companionship exemption” from federal labor law, opening the door for overtime pay for people providing domestic and personal care services, including IHSS. The effective date for this change is 1/1/15, which gives states and other employers who may be impacted by the change time to prepare for the new regulations. The regulations are 350+ pages long, so it will take some time to review and fully understand all the details. It is expected that the State of California will enact regulations to limit payment to IHSS providers to 40 hours/week.

The start date of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) has now been pushed back to no earlier than 4/1/14.

Assembly Bill (AB) 485 was a spot bill until early September when it was revised to accelerate the transition of IHSS bargaining to a statewide Public Authority effective 1/1/14. This bill was sponsored by unions who are concerned with the on-going delay of CCI (under current law, bargaining moves to the statewide Public Authority at the close of enrollment into CCI). AB485 called for the new implementation date and would apply to all counties. AB485 was held in the Senate Health Committee, so it will not become a 2-year bill (the effective date will not be 1/1/14).

The next major phase of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is to be implemented on 1/1/14. The ACA requires that employers of 50 or more employees must provide health benefits for employees. Employers of fewer than 50 employees are not required to provide health benefits. The definition of employer is expected to be the common law standard used by the IRS, that is, the employer is whoever has the right to hire, supervise and terminate employment. In the IHSS program, this is the IHSS recipient. Under this interpretation, health benefits are not mandated as a large group employer. IHSS employees will have the option to purchase

benefits from the healthcare exchanges and may qualify for tax credits to help pay insurance premiums. Plan information is available at www.coveredca.com.

V. Committee Matters

A. CICA – No additional discussion.

IHSS Advisory Committee member Powmacwizalord commented that it is important that materials be available for those who are deaf. She has experienced difficulty communicating with doctors. She asked how deaf individuals can communicate with the IHSS program. The response was that email and use of the California Relay System is an option.

VI. New Business

A. Budget (see above)

B. Robert's Rules of Order video training (postponed)

VII Old Business

A. None

VIII Public Comment

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.