

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes

July 17, 2013

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

Absent: Denise Blockmon

Staff & Guests: Sandy Deutsch (IHSS), Olivia Cotton (ASL Interpreter), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), Patricia King, Kathy Letaric, Kathy Ludwig, Jennifer Madrid, Shawna Mar, Chris Mar, Laura Matthews Rick Simonson (PA), Ryan Sullivan (ASL Interpreter) and Michael (Taps) Taporco

I. Called to Order at 1:08 pm by Leoma Lee

II. Introductions

III. Consent Calendar

- A. Agenda: Blockmon/Wade - Approved
- B. Minutes: Blockmon/Wade- Approved
- C. Chair's Report:.

IV. Reports

In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) - Sandy Deutsch, IHSS Supervisor: All IHSS timesheets will be processed at a Chico Timesheet Processing Center after counties transition to CMIPS II (Case Management Information and Payrolling System). All other information will continue to be sent to and processed by counties (address changes, provider enrollment forms, etc.). Timesheet processing at the Chico processing center is completely automated, machines open, remove, and scan the timesheets. Most are processed without any human interaction. Timesheets with extra documents, notes added to the timesheet, not done in black ink, not signed, etc. will be rejected or delayed in processing. Timesheets with errors needing correction will be transmitted electronically to counties for processing.

Sacramento will transition to CMIPS II on November 4, 2013. The first half of Novembers timesheets will continue be processed by Sacramento County IHSS payroll staff. There will be limited staff availability during the transition period.

The second half of November timesheets will go to the Chico processing center. IHSS paychecks will continue to be issued by the State of California.

The transition from Social Workers of the Day (SWOD) to each social worker handling his or her own cases continues. The hiring of new social workers will continue when the hiring freeze is lifted. The goal is to reduce IHSS social worker caseload to 320 cases/worker (it was previously at 440+). The current caseload is 380 cases/worker. Social workers are to return phone calls within three days.

- B. Public Authority, Acting Executive Director Rick Simonson – Wage increase from \$10.40 hr to \$10.65 hr for IHSS providers may be effective as soon as September 1, 2013. January 1, 2014 wages will increase again from \$10.65 to \$10.80.

The proposed change in federal overtime regulations are still stalled in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The proposal is to eliminate the companionship clause from federal payroll rules. This clause now exempts IHSS caregiver from receiving overtime. If/when the regulation goes into effect, it is expected that the State of California will instruct IHSS recipients to not have providers work more than 40 hours per week. In anticipation of an increased demand for providers, the registry is accelerating the addition of new providers.

The start date of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) has now been pushed back to 1/1/14. Agreements have not yet been signed by managed care organizations. The California Legislature has “de-linked” the components of the CCI so if one part is not implemented, others can be implemented. Managed care organizations can authorize additional IHSS services, but will have to find a payment mechanism outside of the state payroll system. At the close of enrollment into CCI, bargaining will shift from counties to a statewide Public Authority.

York Risk Services Group is the new workers’ compensation administrator for IHSS caregivers (previously it was the State Compensation Insurance Fund). No processes have changed, injured IHSS providers will still contact their clients social worker to file claims.

Health benefits have been administered by a union-affiliated Health Care Trust since January 2012. The Trust determines the number of available participants based on health benefits cost and available funding. The Trust has advised that space is now becoming available to add new enrollees (enrollment was frozen while costs were reduced to come in line with available funding). Because of the 4.4% cut to authorized IHSS hours on July 1, 2013, the minimum number of paid hours to be eligible for benefits was decreased from 85 hours to 81 hours per

month. Providers are offered the opportunity to join the wait list after being paid 81 or more hours per month for three consecutive months.

V. Committee Matters

A. CICA – Discussed the CCI. CMIPS II transition is moving forward with significantly fewer errors than experienced in the pilot counties. Some counties do not assess for unmet need, so this creates a disparity when cuts to IHSS services are implemented. An IHSS staff member will attend an upcoming IHSS Advisory Committee meeting to discuss unmet need in detail.

VI. New Business

A. Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget – Postponed to next meeting.

VII Old Business

A. None

VIII Public Comment

Questions:

Kathy Ludwig – Will the new system increase payroll processing time?

Sandy – Currently the new system has not increased time to process payments..

Shawn Mar – How are days that have not been worked, shown on timesheet?

Sandy – Leave non-work days blank.

Shawn Mar – What do points (decimals) mean on the timesheet?

Sandy – There will not be points (decimals) on the new timesheet, instead time will be recorded in hour and minute increments.

Cordia – Will the new fraud timesheets make it easier to commit fraud?

Sandy – It is unknown at this time if the new timesheets make it easier to commit fraud.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 pm.