

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Attendees: Gena Bellino, Francisco Godoy, and Suzanne MacDonald

Absent: Deborah Hibbler, Carolyn Rose, and Joseph Wilson

Staff & Guests: Arturo Bustos (PA), Sandra French (Provider for Gena), Deanna Jekayinfa (PA), John Kozitza (PA), Amy Lee (PA), Bill MacDonald (Suzanne's husband/driver), Melis Ramirez (Provider for Francisco), Veranda White (DCFAS/SAS)

- I. Called to Order at 1:37 pm by Acting Chair – Francisco Godoy
- II. Introductions:
- III. Consent Calendar
 - A. Agenda – Motion Gena Bellino 2nd Suzanne MacDonald - all in favor - approved
 - B. Minutes – Motion Gena Bellino 2nd Suzanne MacDonald- all in favor – approved.
- IV. Reports
 - A. Chairs Report: – Introductions:
 - B. SEIU2015 – None
 - C. DCFAS – Department of Child, Family and Adult Services – Veranda White, Social Worker Supervisor – New no report.
 - D. DCFAS - Public Authority – John Kozitza: What can we do to make sure we have a quorum? Change the time, date or location? If an AC member is going to be unable to attend the meeting please let the Deanna know as soon as possible. Can we schedule County Council to go over the Brown Act? Is remote access doable under the Brown Act? Revisit the function of the Robert's Rules of Order.
 - E. Questions and Answers:
 - a. Suzanne – My husband and I oversee my brother's IHSS services. The process was overwhelming. I wanted to join the Advisory Committee so that we can suggest ways to streamline the process for recipients.

- i. John: The Public Authority is mandated by the state of California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide provider orientation, education and training, and a provider registry. Registry Providers are providers who have been screened and trained by Sacramento County Public Authority. We also have a list of emergency providers who receive a \$2.00 pay increase for no more than 80 hours to provide short-term emergency services. The registry will work to find the recipient a regular provider if needed.
- b. Francisco: How is the budget?
 - i. John: The budget is tight for 25-26 but no reductions. There are questions about federal/state legislation. As of July 1, 2025, providers make \$18.65 an hour.
- c. Francisco – Concerned about hours decreasing, providers working fewer hours, and the safety of the recipients if they don't have enough hours.
- d. Suzanne – Training Budget, Career Pathways
 - i. John. Career Pathways was a volunteer program offered by CDSS that provided pay incentives for taking virtual and/or in-person training. The program ended in September 2024. There has been lobbying to bring the program back. The public authority offers education classes, but the classes continue to have a high rate of no-shows. We send automatic reminders and make telephone calls to try and encourage participation. After the appointment is cancelled the spot will re-open. We also have an on-line video library.
- e. Suzanne: Is there an incentive you can offer?
 - i. John: We provide a free lunch. Maybe we could provide a stipend as an incentive? We have had on-line training for three years. No-one is participating in the on-line training. Participation in online training requires access to the system. We monitor online education classes. This is not the provider orientation process.
- f. Suzanne: Can we make the classes mandatory?
 - i. The registry currently uses the online video library. We can enhance the requirements for the registry providers' use of the online training library. Part of the registry process requires the applicant to watch 5 hours of on-line videos.
- g. John: You can add training for providers to the agenda for next month.
 - i. John: Training topics - Discuss how training will benefit the provider; Types of training providers need; and How can we encourage people to attend the trainings?
- h. Francisco: Can we get the number for the emergency contact providers?
 - i. Deanna: You can contact 916-874-2888 choose option 3 and leave a message that you need an emergency provider or email ihss-pa-recipient-registry@sacounty.gov . In the subject write emergency provider needed.

- V. Committee Matters:
 - A. CICA Conference Call Report – Deanna Jekayinfa – Presentation from Justice in Aging “Fighting Senior Poverty Through Law” presenter – Hagar Dickman– most of the discussion center around advocating, writing letters to your congressman that you want them to fight for your Medicaid and Medicare. See attached slide show print outs.
- VI. New Business – None
- VII. Old Business – Minutes from October 2023 – approved.
- VIII. Public Comment: None
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.