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**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
06/09/06**

Committee Members Present:

Jose Acosta	Madelyn Amaral	Dwight Bateman
Joan Blackwell	Kenny Brown	Mary Burch
Rose Martin	Connie Muller	Linda White

Committee Members Absent:

*Ora Scruggs *George Sharp

Ex-Officio Members Present:
Ex-Officio Members Ab

Jeff Lambaren	Robert Taylor	Veronica Melgoza
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IHSS Staff Present:

Jeff Lambaren	Robert Taylor	Veronica Melgoza
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**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Kenny Brown

- Meeting called to order at 1:10pm

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None were presented

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- May 12, 2006 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion made to accept by Connie Muller and seconded by Mary Burch.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY



- Jeff stated that there was a meeting on Thursday June 1st. UDW and 15 individuals that were receiving health insurance or are on the waiting list were invited. Eight individuals showed up, 5 were currently receiving health insurance, the rest were either on the waiting list or accompanying someone.
 - ADB our insurance broker gave a presentation. They went out to the market place to try to get better insurance rates for the providers. They did medical, dental and they were asked to get vision as well. Pacific Care remained the most affordable; the current cost is 365.83 for medical insurance. Blue Cross was 416.10 and Blue Shield was 453.57.
 - Dental insurance - Pacific Care rose from 11.58 to 26.10, Blue Shield was 12.64, Safeguard was 10.95 and United Concordia was 11.59. Safeguard was recommended, the lowest rate and they are adding new dentist all the time.
 - Vision benefits – AIG is 7.99, Safeguard is 6.59 and Spectera is 5.60. They would all do that for 24 months. Safeguard has a combination of providers they had private ophthalmologists as well as places like Pearl Vision, JC Penney, etc. The co-pay would be 10.00 for exam; you get 1 exam every 12 months, a pair of lenses or contact lenses every 12 months, frames every other year and a 130.00 credit for purchase of frames. These costs were covered in full if you went inside the network, if you go outside the network you would be covered at a reduced rate. Safeguard was chosen as the dental and vision insurer.
 - With the reduced cost we are able to add 50 to 60 providers.
 - Enrollment was postponed, the union wanted time to review information, they should respond by June 23.

RETREAT

- Committee members were very satisfied with the facilitator, Jeff Lambaren; he kept the meeting going and everyone's attention. Jeff Lambaren also had some puzzles and most of the committee members enjoyed them.
- Recruitment of new members was discussed.
- Jeff Lambaren went over action plans that were discussed at the retreat.
- Action plans were discussed- Action Plan 1- Advocating, writing letters to legislators. Committee is going to purchase a laptop so letters can be drafted at the meeting, approved and signed the same day.
- Action Plan 2 related to communication – promote awareness of IHSS and IHSSAC. Send the agenda to City Hall, invite legislators/BOS to meetings, and send reminder letters of meeting schedule to legislators/BOS. Dwight Bateman stated that we need to have some information available to give to new members and also suggested that Jeff consider doing a spot on channel 14 to let the public know about IHSSAC.
- Action Plan 3-Improve the quality of the IHSS program, specifically provider training. Jeff Lambaren stated that Public Authority is currently working with HSA, on ways to improve provider training, more hands on training instead of training videos. One example would be, someone coming in and showing providers how to shop for recipients. Buying high quality, nutritious food at a low cost and shopping for diabetics, and preparing meals for those with special diets, etc. Another idea was to have retired nurses, physical therapist, ect. to come in and train providers on different tasks. They would take turns and come in maybe one a month to do the training.
- Committee discussed what they would like to see at the Public Authority. They would like to have an area where potential providers could come for training and be able to review educational tapes, books, etc. on how to be a provider and what to expect as a provider.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that the Public Authority is currently working with HAS, on ways to improve provider training, more hands on training instead of training videos. One example would be for someone to come in and show providers how to shop for recipients. Buying good nutritional food at a lower cost and shopping for diabetics and those with special diets, etc.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBER POSITION

- Recruitment of members is going to become an issue at some point. The committee has discussed having a position that would allow 2 to 3 members to continue on the committee to bring the new members up to date.
- The committee discussed creating an Ex-Officio Member position-Jeff Lambaren passed out a draft on the position describing the purpose, function, membership and powers these members would have. Committee members will review the draft and bring back comments to the next meeting

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Kenny Brown announced that UDW sent out AB2697-Garcia, to providers to sign for direct deposit. Jeff Lambaren stated that the direct deposit is supposed to pass this year. It will be about a year to a year and a half lag until it is fully up and running.
- AB2469-Evans- Changing the methodologically for realignment money we received from sales tax growth, goes into a trust fund, 3 streams, Social Services, Health Services and Mental Health. All receive money from growth in sales tax. Stanislaus County takes the money and divides it into 3 and sticks into the three separate pot. Realignment money comes in sometimes up to 3 years in arrears.
- AB2486-Ridley Thomas-Criminal background checks, it would remove the cost to providers having to pay for background checks. State would pay for background checks.
- AB2494-Ridley Thomas-6 hours of training, licensed professional, licensed Social Workers and other qualifying entities deemed by the Public Authorities.
- AB3048-Pay up to an hour for waiting time for medical appointments. Needs clarity of process, should include everything provider does at the doctor's appointment, taking off of clothes, taking client to lab.
- AB2536-Montenez-Overtime bill amended to remove public entities. It would remove IHSS providers from any overtime.
- SB1435-Ortiz-Pilot project for private pay, just a pilot project at this time.
- AB2014-Berg-Reorganization of Adult Services, moving IHSS to AAA.

BUDGET/STATE

- Dwight Bateman suggested that the committee be provided in the committee's budget monthly to show the percentage that is spent per month.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that the County proposed budget is out and can be reviewed on the County website, final budget in September.

ANNUAL REPORT

- Jeff Lambaren announced that the annual report is ready to go to the printer, Goans, and should be ready for the next meeting. It will be printed on regular size paper, full color and 3,000 are going to be printed.

HOT TOPICS

- Connie Muller stated that the agenda should not be so vague. Committee will discuss working on the agenda at the next meeting.

GENERAL UPDATE

- Jeff Lambaren showed the new equipment and its features to the committee. We don't have to rent audio equipment at this time.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:57 PM

DRAFT

6/9/04

Ex-Officio Membership

Purpose

The purpose of the ex-officio membership is to prevent “brain drain” from occurring, to improve the continuity from year to year and allow those members who wish to continue to their Committee activities do so.

Function

They would come to every meeting

The ex-officio member could be used as, but not limited to:

- a mentor for new IHSSAC members;
- to assist with special projects designated by the Committee;
- or
- as additional “eyes and ears” for the Committee.

Membership

- Ex-officio members are limited to a one year term.
- Ex-officio members must be past IHSS Advisory Committee members.

Powers

- Ex-officio members do not have voting power.
- Ex-officio members may not make motions in general meetings.
- Ex-officio members may receive the Committee approved stipend for attending meetings and trainings.
- Ex-officio members may attend trainings and conference and have expenses paid by the IHSSAC budget.

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