



**COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY**

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**STANISLAUS COUNTY  
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
02/12/10**

Committee Members Present: Marie Cochran Rose Martin  
Robbyn Foster Valerie Mitchell  
Joan Blackwell Connie Muller

Committee Members Absent: Linda White\*  
Jose Cisneros

IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present: Maria Childers Jeff Lambaren  
Jennifer DeSanto

Other Guests: Kim Nevel, UDWA

*\*Advance notice given.*

**OPENING REMARKS by Valerie Mitchell**

- Meeting called to order at 1:15 pm.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Kim from UDWA announced that the union has been actively promoting the IHSS activities and needs before the legislature, and they have received feedback from legislators saying they don't support the IHSS proposed cuts. UDWA will be participating in a march that will run the entire length of the state. It is scheduled to run from March 5-April 21, and she had flyers regarding the event. Other participants affected by the governors proposed cuts will also be attending.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- Acceptance of minutes from 01/22/10: Motion to accept made by Connie Muller, Joan Blackwell seconded, motion passed.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- Jeff reviewed the IHSSAC bylaws, and they state that the Chair and Co-Chair positions can be held for a period of two terms. The bylaws could be amended, but the committee chose not to amend. Robbyn Foster and Valerie Mitchell will continue to serve in these positions for 2010.

**PUBLIC AUTHORITY**

- Provider orientations are continuing at IHSS. Currently, the provider turnout is low, but IHSS has kept very busy preparing the documents and mailing for the Providers. Connie asked what the number was to sign up for orientation, it is 558-2285.



- Re-appointments for Valerie, Joan, Linda and Marie have been approved, the members should receive letters from the Board regarding their re-appointment.
- The IHSS Advisory Committee survey has been mailed out, and so far returns are good. The survey is due back February 19<sup>th</sup>. We hope to have the tabulated results by late March/early April.
- A sample media presentation was given to show the Committee members what the new format for the IHSS Annual Report would look like. Rather than print a paper report, the report will be in a digital format and placed on the Committee's website.
- Jeff was on a conference call yesterday about the proposed fingerprinting for Recipients. The call was a bit "unruly" as participants were voicing their agitation at the process without allowing the facilitators to speak. As a result, little information was distributed. This process has been proposed to start in April 2010 for new Recipients and existing Recipient's will be fingerprinted at their annual assessment. The process would involve taking a picture of the Recipient as well as an electronic scan of their fingerprints. There would be exemptions for amputees or those with health conditions that prevent the fingerprinting from being done. This will be an additional task for the Social Workers. Kim from UDWA mentioned that the legislators have already commented on the cost and privacy issues this creates, and members are dubious about the implementation of this process.

### **IHSS LAWSUIT SUMMARY**

- Jeff distributed a handout showing the status of the lawsuits currently in place regarding the IHSS cuts/changes. The court has ruled that the State had no authority to exclude providers based on their criminal history. Current disqualifications will still apply (W&IC 12305.81). A new lawsuit has also been filed regarding the Public Authority Funding reductions.

### **COMMITTEE BUDGET**

- Handout of current budget given to members. There is a claim for last year's annual report – this did hit in the current fiscal year. Other expenses include travel, stipends, etc. Discussion of next year's budget ensued. Jeff recommended considering a survey hiatus since the results have been so consistent the past five years, the usefulness of continuing the survey is in question.
- Connie recommended that some funds be used for membership ads again. Jeff reminded the committee of the ratio of Recipients to Providers needed for the committee, and the next member needs to be a Recipient, so that is the group that should be targeted.

### **IHSS FRAUD PROGRAM**

- The IHSS Fraud Program was approved on November 24<sup>th</sup> by the Board. The fraud unit is currently reviewing old cases that were reported by IHSS Social Workers. There has been some positive feedback, where fraud is being uncovered. In San Diego, investigators appeared to be kind of "strong arming" an IHSS Recipient, and this was reported in the media. Protocols and appropriateness of the units are being reviewed by the legislators. If someone comes to your home, be sure to view the credentials of the individuals. To report fraud the community can call 1-800-822-6222.

### **REVIEW OF PLANNING DAY**

- The COA members were very pleased with the planning day. All participants enjoyed the event. Notes from the meeting were given to the Advisory Committee members, and Jeff will circulate this information to the COA members as well.
- Connie mentioned that she was not impressed with the stress presentation. Jeff stated it was partially due to a lack of time – her presentation was cut short by almost 30 minutes. The presentation she gives for the county is excellent, but this was pared down so much to meet the time constraint that the material seemed lacking. He suggested having just one presenter next year, to leave more time for in depth presentations and committee interactions.

**DISABILITY CAPITOL ACTION DAY**

- A flyer regarding the Disability Capitol Action Day was distributed. This event will be held May 26<sup>th</sup>, and members are encouraged to attend. Please let Jeff know if you would like to participate.

**GENERAL UPDATE**

- Maria Childers reported about CMIPs II. The new software has been delayed for five months, and is now scheduled to roll out in January 2011. The biggest impact that Recipients and Providers will see is the central processing of timecards – they will no longer be processed at the CSA IHSS offices.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:15 PM,  
Jennifer DeSanto, Recorder