



COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

Christine Applegate
Director

251 E. Hackett Road
P.O. Box 42, Modesto, CA 95353-0042

Phone: 209.558.2777 Fax: 209.558.2558

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
03/18/2011**

Committee Members Present:	Joan Blackwell Marie Cochran	Linda White
Committee Members Absent:	Carmen Morad Rose Martin*	Valerie Mitchell*
IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present:	Jeff Lambaren	Alyssa Grayson

Other Guests:
**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Linda White

- Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- Meeting minutes from the December 10, 2010 meeting could not be accepted due to lack of a quorum.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY UPDATE

- Jeff reported that there are a lot of changes going on within Community Services Agency (CSA) and Adult Services. The following changes are taking place:
 - Effective April 2011, Adult Services will no longer be a separate division; it will be combined with Children's Services. The new name for the combined division is Adult, Child, and Family Services Division (ACFSD).
 - Jan Viss (current Assistant Director for Children's Services) will take over as the Assistant Director for the new, combined division.
 - The Community Services Agency is currently not hiring for any positions, other than those that require an area of expertise. Instead, CSA is offering any positions that open up to staff from other departments that are being laid off, as long as they meet the minimum requirements.
 - Maria Childers and Anne Danhoff will be under ACFSD. Robert Taylor will become part of StanWorks because 3 of his units specialize in Medi-Cal.
 - Jeff Lambaren will still be Manager for Public Authority. Jeff will report directly to the Director of CSA for personnel issues and the Board of Supervisors for policy matters. Jeff will receive 5 new staff to his program. The 5 new positions are Social Services Assistants (SSAs), which perform provider-related assistance. In addition, Jeff will also hold the title of the CSA Disaster Coordinator. Jeff will now be responsible for handling the response of CSA staff to man emergency shelter facilities.



STATE BUDGET UPDATE

- Legislature did not approve the 8.4% cut, which was to be in addition to the 3.6% cut already in place.
- It looks as though the plan to eliminate funding for the advisory committee is going to go through.
- The plan to institute the requirement of a physician's report (medical evaluation) for all new applicants will go through. This law will also require that all current recipients have a medical evaluation completed on their annual reassessment. The question is then, will County's be required to provide time for areas that the recipient says they do not need assistance with.
- As part of the agreement to not approve the 8.4% cut proposed by the governor, legislators required that an alternative plan be given to compensate the difference. The Medication Compliance Plan was developed and introduced with the expectation of saving \$150 million dollars by preventing hospital emergency room visits and ambulance costs. The plan is focused on identifying individuals that take multiple medications and have multiple physical/mental disabilities and have had previous issues and/or difficulties taking their medications. Qualifying individuals would receive machines that automatically dispense the medications at the required times. This would then be followed up by a phone call to the recipient to ensure that he/she, in fact, did take his/her medication.
- Community First Choice Option (CFCO) is part of healthcare reform that offers person-centered home & community service funding. The CFCO would give states the option to request federal funding to provide in-home assistance and support, to prevent individuals from moving into an institution or nursing home.
- Additional savings have been seen as the caseload count is decreasing. This could possibly be due to the change in provider requirements.
- Currently, the budget compromise is half-way through. They are still working to get the tax extension. If it does not go through, then more cuts could be on the table.
- It is unclear if Public Authority would be required to have an Advisory Committee. Jeff will look into it. The change would make the Advisory Committee an optional body and PA would be allowed some rule changes. PA could possibly provide approximately \$3,000 for the committee. More to come.
- Advocates are actually really helpful because they help prevent more cuts and provide information.

LEGISLATION ASSEMBLY BILLS (AB)

- **AB 10**—Would increase State minimum wage from \$8.00 to \$8.50.
- **AB 22**—Would prohibit employers (with some exceptions) from obtaining credit reports for employment purposes.
- **AB 23**—Would prohibit simultaneous meetings (stemming out of the Bell, CA fiasco)
- **AB 40**—Would require mandated reporters to report to both the Ombudsman and local law enforcement.
- **AB 59**—Would permit employees the ability to take protective leave for an independent child for serious medical conditions. This would also include all immediate family members. This would be an extension of the current family leave act.
- **AB 400**—Would require anyone employed for more than 7 calendar days to be eligible for sick pay.
- **AB 479**—Would allow individuals to secure their choice of an IP in most cost-effective care. The Private Care Industry is pushing for this bill.
- **AB 889**—Would regulate wages, hours, and working conditions of domestic workers. This bill would provide that domestic workers receive overtime, sick pay, and paid vacation time.
- **AB 1179**—Would prohibit employers from deducting union dues or fees from the worker's paycheck. This would mean that the member would have to send a separate check directly to the union.
- **SB 411**—Would impose various licensure requirements on a home care organization and would also impose a civil penalty on an individual or entity that operates a home care organization without a license. This bill would require home care organizations to conduct background clearances on home care aides, make home care aide training mandatory, and require home care aides to demonstrate ability and competency in certain areas.
- **SB 930**—Would eliminate the requirement for recipients to be fingerprinted and to put their fingerprint on each time sheet. This bill is sponsored by the Public Authority.

IHSS PROGRAM INTEGRITY REPORT

- The fraud program was initially disliked by the union. However, the union now understands that per the State, counties do have the authority to conduct these investigations. However, the county has worked on communicating internally, which has improved the way in which the investigators approach their investigations. Connie Brimm is a retired county employee who is currently helping out the fraud unit. The fraud unit will be taking information (reporting numbers) to the Board.

ACTION PLANNING FOR 2011

- Not Discussed.

MEETING SCHEDULE

- There will be one more meeting scheduled for this fiscal year. The meeting will be held on May 20, 2011.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORT

- Linda was not able to attend the ethics training. Jeff will inquire as to the availability of future trainings.

NEXT MEETING

- Receive information on the budge updates.
- Accept meeting minutes for the December 10, 2010 and March 18, 2011, meetings.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:30 PM.
Alyssa Grayson, Recorder