



**THE IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IHSSAC)
MEETING MINUTES
8/21/2015**

Committee Members Present: Mohamed Rashid Marie Cochran
Linda White Alma Avina
Joan Blackwell
Rose Martin

Committee Members Absent: Connie Muller (advanced notice given)
Valerie Mitchell
Carmen Morad

IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present: Jeff Lambaren

OPENING REMARKS by Linda White

- Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public in attendance.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- Meeting minutes from the July 17, 2015 meeting were accepted.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY UPDATE

- The US Court of Appeals made a ruling and has upheld the Department of Labor regulations that would allow for overtime in the IHSS program. The other party now has a chance to appeal to the Supreme Court and the Court would have to take their case; generally out of 10,000 petitions to appeal only about 100 get accepted by the Court. It usually depends on if there are justices who have an interest in the issue and want to make a point about it. California did put money in its budget to cover overtime, travel time, and additional wait time. If the decision is finally upheld, the State would implement the process and the likelihood for the soonest start date would probably be January, 2016. We have retained the completed forms regarding applicable overtime for recipients which were received prior to the lawsuit. We do not know if the State would issue other new forms to be completed.

- We are currently in labor negotiations with the United Domestic Workers Union. More to come.
- We have made some staffing adjustments with the Public Authority. Previously, we had one person as our Registry Specialist with a back-up; we now have 3 staff assigned to that function. In addition to the Registry, they handle the completion of background check verifications, process the initial workers compensation claim reports, and provide support to the intake unit who handle the application and approval process for new IHSS applicants.

BUDGET UPDATE

- Handout, “Overview of MCO Tax, Selected Other Tax Increase Options, and IHSS Issues” from the Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO). As previously discussed, the Legislature was called into a Special Session to discuss the Managed Care Organization Tax (MCO). This report discusses such topics as; what are health care-related taxes and what are the Federal requirements? It outlines the State’s current MCO tax structure. The Governor is proposing a restructured MCO tax using a tiered tax structure based on enrollment size. This report also discusses the advantages/disadvantages of the Governor’s tax proposal, other possible alternative tax increase options, strategies to control costs in IHSS, and major changes to the IHSS program since 2009-10.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- The Legislature returned from summer recess on Monday, August 17th. They need to take up final action on all bills which are not 2 year bills by Friday, September 11th. Those that get passed out of the Legislature would go to the Governor and he then has 30 days to sign or veto the bills; that deadline would be Sunday, October 11th. As previously discussed, some bills of interest we are following:
- AB 1436 (Burke) – Authorized Representative to be able to sign documents for other individuals with certain exceptions.
- SB 3 (Leno) – Minimum Wage Bill. This would increase the minimum wage to \$11/hr. on January 1, 2016 and \$13/hr. on January 1, 2017.
- SB 128 (Wolk) - End of Life. In Special Session, AB 2x15 was introduced by supporters to try and revive the bill.
- SB 199 (Hall) – Reading Assistance for the Blind.

FURTHER ACTION PLANNING FOR 2015-2016

- Handout, “2015 IHSS Consumer Survey” from CDSS. The 2015 IHSS Consumer Satisfaction Survey will be mailed to 20,000 randomly selected IHSS consumers throughout the State beginning on August 3rd and concluding on September 15th. The survey is conducted annually by CDSS as a way to determine how well the program is working for consumers and how aware consumers are of their rights as employers. Participation is voluntary and all answers are confidential. No personal information is included in the survey. Once the survey is completed, it can either be returned in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope or the survey can be downloaded on-line and emailed to their website: ihss.consumer-survey@dss.ca.gov. A report summarizing the findings will be available in January, 2016.

- Jeff has been meeting with the Senior Coalition and various other groups such as hospitals and adult day health care entities in order to discuss and prepare for the anticipated implementation of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) in our County. We could schedule a summit/meeting with our Committee, the Senior Coalition, and the Commission on Aging. We could have a speaker(s) talk about coordinated care so we can better understand the process, get perspectives on different scenarios, and have a question/answer period. Additionally, we would need the Committee's authorization to use some of its funds to pay for a speaker(s) and/or to help with this summit event. We are in the planning stages so, if acceptable to the Committee, we shall proceed accordingly. More to come. Looking at January or February, 2016. Motion approved.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS REPORT

- Alma is no longer working for DRAIL. Handout flyer for free event on Friday, September 25th. Ability Resource Fair and Assistive Technology Expo to be held at the Howard Training Center.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Public Comment
- Acceptance of Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2015 meeting
- Public Authority Update
- Budget Update
- Legislative Update
- Further Action Planning for FY 2015-2016
- Committee Members Report
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Stephy Tracey, Recorder