

# IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

July 2015

## My Story of Gratitude

by Linda White IHSSAC Member

My husband passed away recently. We were married July 13th 1985, almost 30 years. In 1988 Bill was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. The cause is not known and there is no cure. He had the type that just got progressively worse. As he struggled with the growing disability, I struggled with working and taking care of him.

One day someone told us about In-Home Supportive Services. I could get paid to take care of him and didn't have to work outside the home. The program saved our lives. He was able to get the care he needed, I was able to be his caregiver, and we got to stay in our own home. And we had a wonderful life together. The last 15 years were the most trying as the M.S. took most of his abilities away from him.

I joined the IHSS Advisory Committee about that time. We wanted to make a difference for people that were in the same situation as we were. We live in a Senior Community and have met so many people that told us of their struggles with caring for a loved one and being able to survive. I know that the example that Bill and I have been to those who know us have helped many cope with living with disabilities. I am positive that without the help of the IHSS program that our lives would have been very

different. I will be forever grateful that we were able to have our years together, in our own home. That Bill was able to have the dignity to be cared for by someone who loved him.

Today as I go on without him I am still striving to make a difference, to help those who need it, and to assist the wonderful people of Social Services, who care so much and want to help make a better life for those who are in need.

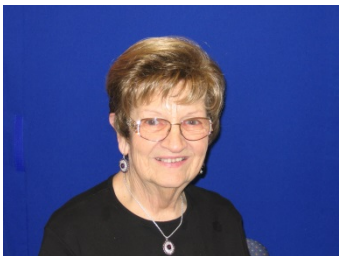


Bill and Linda April 2010

**UPDATE**  
IHSS Providers wage  
increase to \$10.20 per hour  
on July 1, 2015

## IHSS Budget Highlights

As expected, the Legislature passed the revised budget bill this morning (6/19/15). The revised budget bill, SB 97, reflects the budget deal reached on Tuesday by the Governor and Democratic legislative leaders, which removed nearly all of the spending increases that Democrats approved in their version of the budget on Monday. Some increases, did survive including restoration of the 7% in service hours for all In-Home Supportive Services recipients effective July 1, 2015; In addition the budget contains those proposals by the Governor made in January and May for increased spending related to caseload growth, and also funding for overtime for home care workers if federal regulations later this year go into effect.



### Fox vs. Internet

by Marie Cochran IHSSAC Member

A beautiful little gray fox slept under my coach every night and made lots of noise coming and going at all hours of the night. I decided to put a stop to the "foxy" little boarder. I hired a party to cover all the places that the hairy creature would have access to get under my coach. The fox tried desperately to gain access with no luck. I thought good riddance. I went out and bought a new computer and got all signed up on a new internet. Everything was

great, but three days later I had no internet. The repair man checked all the wiring and came back in and asked if I had a dog. I replied "no". I was told that the internet wires had been chewed by an animal. After all the openings were closed and there was no more access that sly, hairy little critter decided to get even, and he did just that.

The Gray Fox is the only member of the dog family that can climb trees, usually to seek refuge or in search of roosting birds. It can reach a speed of 28 mph for short distances. The Gray Fox is smaller in size than the Coyote -- usually 32 to 45 inches long, and weighs 7 to 11 pounds.



If you would like to find out more about being an IHSSAC Member please visit the Committee's Website at [www.stancounty.com/IHSSAC](http://www.stancounty.com/IHSSAC)

A link to applications is available at the site. All IHSSAC Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

We are currently accepting applications for IHSS Consumers.