

IHSS Analysis

IHSS Overview

The IHSS program in Stanislaus County currently serves over 6,300 disabled, elderly and blind individuals. These clients receive an average of 75 hours of services per month. The services range from house cleaning and assistance with errands to basic medical care. These services allow the clients to remain in their homes with a significant savings versus the cost of institutional care.

IHSS History Providers

On June 17, 2003, the United Domestic Workers of America (UDW) Union was formally recognized as the representative of the approximately 3600 home care workers in Stanislaus County. In-Home Supportive Services Providers represented by UDW are not County employees; rather they are employees of a Consumer or Consumers. However, Providers, through their union, bargain collectively with Stanislaus County for wages and health benefits.

On June 29, 2007, the County and the United Domestic Workers of America reached tentative agreement on a new four-year contract. On July 24, 2007, the Board of Supervisors approved the agreement and the UDW members ratified the agreement on August 11, 2007. The four-year agreement provides for a seven (7%) percent wage increase on October 1, 2007 with wages rising from \$8.25 per hour to \$8.84 per hour. The agreement with the UDW provides for two additional wage increases; the next on October 1, 2008, with wages increasing to \$9.11 per hour and the next on October 1, 2009, with wages increasing to \$9.38 per hour. In addition to the wage component, funding continues for health insurance for IHSS Providers who work 75 hours or more per month. Under the agreement Stanislaus County will participate in a Federal/State/County benefit sharing formula, of up to \$0.60 per paid Provider hour. New to this agreement is the provision of Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) / First Aid training for both Registry and non-Registry Providers. Also, new to this agreement is the removal of fees for background checks for IHSS Registry Providers.

As the IHSS Advisory Committee, we remain dedicated to providing the highest quality IHSS program while remaining dedicated to the needs of our consumers.