



COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

Patrice Dietrich
Interim Director

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

Phone: 209.558.2500 Fax: 209.558.2558

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
4/11/08**

Committee Members Present:	Kenny Brown Joan Blackwell Mary Burch	Connie Muller Robbyn Foster Valerie Mitchell	Jose Acosta
Committee Members Absent:	Jose Cisneros* Marie Cochran*		
IHSS & Link2Care Staff Present:	Jeff Lambaren Jennifer DeSanto	Robert Taylor Egon Stammler	Maria Childers

**Advance notice given.*

OPENING REMARKS by Chair Mary Burch

- Meeting called to order at 1:02 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Kim from UDWA announced there are several planned visits to Sacramento on April 21st and May 15th to voice opposition to the IHSS cuts. UDWA has transportation available for anyone wishing to attend, and everyone is welcome. For more information, call 526-5274.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- March 14, 2008 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion to accept made by Connie Muller, Valerie Mitchell seconded, motion passed.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY

- Jeff presented the results from the 2007 IHSSAC survey. Responses from 341 Providers and 412 Recipients were received, resulting in a statistically valid sample. Jeff stated results of 4 or higher were considered very good, and survey results showed high satisfaction overall.
- On the Recipient survey, there was a statistical difference in overall satisfaction from 2005 and 2007. IHSS staff speculate this is probably due to the Quality Assurance program being implemented by the State in July of 2005. Further explanation of the results were given. Connie suggested that Social Workers call to confirm appointments when possible, especially when the time and date of an appointment are left on an answering machine.
- The Provider survey was also reviewed. There was a slight increase in overall Provider satisfaction. The only downward trend noted this year was in the area of paychecks. It is hoped that the availability of direct deposit this year will help to improve satisfaction levels in this area.
- Jeff reported the direct deposit information sessions were held on April 7th, and Valley First was also represented. There were 43 attendees at the event. Some Providers opened bank



accounts, and others just requested help completing the forms. Maria Childers reported that the State has received over 50,000 enrollment forms to date, representing approximately 13% of the providers in the State. Over 4,000 phone calls to the direct deposit help desk were also received.

- Jeff gave a handout of the Committee bylaws, and reported that previous members have expressed an interest in joining the Committee again. There is no mandate barring the Committee from amending its bylaws to allow for longer terms, or even life terms. Section 12 of the bylaws addresses how to make amendments if the Committee would like to make changes. If changes are desired, the intention must be agendaized. Kenny moved to place this item on the agenda next month for discussion.
- Jeff handed out a media assignment for Committee members, requesting that members write letters and submit stories showing the importance and need for the IHSS program. The purpose of this request is to have this material available for future media campaigns. PA staff are available to help members with typing the letters. Jeff requested these letters be completed by the next meeting on May 9th.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- See correspondence below.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Jeff submitted draft of opposition letter requested at the last meeting and printout of the bill being proposed, but stated it was a rather weak draft. Due to the minor changes being proposed in the bill, it was difficult to voice strong opposition. After discussion with the Committee, Connie moved to delay the letter until the bill makes it to vote. Robbyn seconded, motion passed.

CAPITOL ACTION DAY

- George Sharp was to report on this, but was unable to attend the meeting. The union is participating in this event, see "Public Comment" section for information regarding UDWA involvement. The UDWA is located at 909 15th Street, Suite 6 in Modesto. Buses will be leaving around 9:30am. Please call the union at 526-5274 if you would like to attend.

CICA MEMBERSHIP

- Membership in CICA, the California IHSS Consumer Alliance had been considered by the Committee in the past. Since we have new members, Jeff presented an overview of the Alliance and their purpose. Membership for the Advisory Committee is always a future option if members feel it would be a valuable partnership. Kenny asked what perceived benefit there is to the Committee. Jeff responded that it is one more avenue to influence legislators and the decisions being made at the State level. Based on prior visits, Kenny felt there was not much value in joining. Other members who had attended CICA events expressed similar feelings. The IHSSAC members indicated they did not want to join at this time.

GENERAL UPDATE

- Connie updated the Committee that Providers who have had DUI's could potentially have had their licenses taken away, even if the DUI penalties and probation periods have been satisfied. The reason is the cost and paperwork required to reapply for a license. She questioned if the registry screened this. Jeff responded that while the registry does not exclude providers without a license, we do ask if they have a valid drivers license, and use this to make suitable matches if the Recipient needs a Provider to drive them to appointments.
- Robbyn announced that a Safe & Sane youth driving program is being held in Tracy on Saturday, April 12th at 10am.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:06 PM,
Jennifer DeSanto, Recorder