

IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board Meeting
March 18, 2014
MINUTES

Members Present: Janie Whiteford, JoAnn Disbrow, Deane Denney, Dennis Schneider, Richard Rangel; Satnam Chahal, Ellen Rollins, Terri Possley (ex-officio);

Members Absent: Theresa Wright, Senon Hernandez; Robert Stroughter

COA Staff Present: Mary Tinker, Leticia Sabadin

Guests Present: Steven Gonzalez-Lederer, Labor Relations Manager II from the State of California Department of Human Resources IHSS Office; Joanna Yum, Legal Counsel from the State of California Legal Division Office

Announcements & Public Comment: Welcome and brief introductions of our 2 new members to the advisory board:

- Richard Rangel, Seat 08 for District 3
- Satnam Chahal, Seat 04 for District 4

Also Terri Possley officially introduced herself as the newly appointed IHSS Manager. Welcome and Congratulations Terri!

Mary Tinker gave a brief announcement as to why Steven and Joanna from the State Department were in attendance. As the Statewide Authority is put in place collective bargaining will be transitioned starting with the eight CCI counties. It is anticipated CalHR will assume the role negotiating on behalf of the Statewide Authority with the unions. Staff from CalHR is visiting the pilot counties, Public Authorities and advisory committees to learn about current processes and see how the advisory board meetings are being conducted, among other things.

Mary distributed the letter written to Melanie Bella and Toby Douglas with regards to the request for suspension of the implementation of the CCI in various counties.

Mary reminded the group to be sure to read the emails being forwarded as they include important information regarding current issues and opportunities to participate in stakeholder meetings.

Ellen announced that SEIU Local 521 is hosting a workshop on May 16 & 17. This workshop/conference: The Western Regional 'People Working with Disabilities' Conference is in its planning stages. This has to get approved by SVILC. Ellen encourages the AB members' full participation. Ellen will get more information and send it to Leticia for distribution to the AB members. They are still working out details, but among some topics are unemployment and consumer related issues.

Janie announced the "Parents Helping Parents" Transitions Faire. Janie and Richard will be attending and Janie will send out the flyer to all AB members. Janie also needs to get flyers and handouts from PA, she will contact Leticia.

Approve Minutes: The November 2013 meeting minutes approved as written.

CAPA Report: CAPA met March 27 in Sacramento.

CCI Update: DHCS is working with the CCI counties to hold stakeholder's meetings as much as possible to inform/educate beneficiaries of the upcoming changes and the need to make educated choices. They are releasing via email a Coordinated Care Initiative Outreach Weekly Update as a vehicle to keep interested stakeholders informed about activities around the state. To obtain information regarding CCI or Cal MediConnect go to www.calduals.org . Copies of information and documents can be downloaded from this website. Regular updates are added to the site as the process continues.

The Legislative Analyst Office: Analysis of the Human Services Budget: The LAO released an excellent analysis of the human services budget proposal that included the IHSS budget proposal and compliance with the new FLSA OT regulations. This document can be obtained at: www.lao.ca.gov A link was emailed to the AB when it was released.

DOJ Issues: Julie Basco, Assistant Bureau Chief – Department of Justice/Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis joined the CAPA meeting to discuss some operational issues and answer questions. A huge issue for CAPA members is the lack of ability to work/speak with anyone at DOJ when issues/questions arise in the course of activities as Custodian of Records, subsequent disposition notifications and delays. Ms. Basco provided valuable insights and answered many of the questions but at the heart of the issue is the fact that DOJ was never given spending authority to cover the large influx of eldercare. **When the state mandated all IPs be fingerprinted the legislature never authorized spending authority to cover this large population on new fingerprinting.** It would be very beneficial if advocacy could be done to encourage the legislature to give spending authority to the DOJ so they could hire more staff to handle the volume of work created by the influx of IHSS workers mandatory fingerprinting.

Programs Report:

Benefits Administration: There were **8,787** IPs enrolled in the Valley Health Plan and **9,356** IPs enrolled in the Dental/Vision plans during the month of February. There were **178 Eco Pass Clipper Cards** issued.

Enrollment Session:

Number of IPs in February: 378

Registry Services: There are **450** active IPs on the registry.

The registry:

- Completed **57 new consumer intakes**
- Attained **38 matches** that were reported by consumers/IPs
- Provided **199 interventions**

The **Urgent Care Registry** authorized **13 hours** of service for the month of February.

Provider Training: Public Authority provided **11 training** sessions in February with **236** participants being trained.

Negotiations Concluded: The Public Authority and SEIU Local 521 finalized labor negotiations with the union ratification concluding March 8, 2014. It is a three year contract going from February 4, 2014 to February 1, 2017. The following changes were made to the contract, these are some not all of the changes but the most pertinent to the AB:

- Wage increases phased in over three years: June 1, 2014 from \$12.20 to \$12.44; February 1, 2015 \$12.81; February 1, 2016 \$13.00
- Expanded worker training by adding 10 new course subjects
- New joint community outreach effort one time per year to raise awareness of what IHSS is, is, who qualifies and how to enroll
- New joint labor/management Health and Safety Committee

Also Mary stated that the negotiations with the Union were all settled and the Union ratified and it went before the BOS on March 25th. The new, 3 year contract will expire in February 2017.

As far as some of the changes go with the contract, the group discussed how the AB should be involved with the training, community outreach effort and joint labor/management Health & Safety topics. In order to effectively do this Mary proposed ad-hoc committees for each of the newly agreed upon topics:

Proposed committees:

Training: with volunteers: Janie, Deane, Dennis and JoAnn

Community Outreach: with volunteers: Janie, Richard, Dennis

Health & Safety: with volunteers: Janie, (and it was suggested Bob Stroughter might be willing to join this group)

A survey will be conducted with the providers to see what training topics are important to them. This will be used to prioritize training classes. The 10 new course subjects will be developed based on survey outcomes.

The Health & Safety Committee will work with the union to develop and identify what issues providers face in the workplace. According to the union sexual harassment is a major issue and one that will require training for both consumers and providers.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance Report (CICA): Janie Whiteford reported that there is a CICA call March 19th. Karen Keesler will be on the call updating everyone with the latest news. Also on the call will be Donna Calame, Director of PA, San Francisco. She will discuss where they have been, where they are going, what is going on with that county. Janie encourages everyone to attend the call please.

Janie also mentioned the annual board meeting/conference call for CICA is scheduled for Friday, March 21st. Janie will send out the information for the call, once again if members can attend it would be beneficial.

This call will be covering a variety of topics such as: Financial Report, CCI, IHSS Coalition, Union and support groups, Consumers' and hearings at the State Capital, Budget Meetings to name a few.

Janie stated that she is on the committee for the Universal Assessment Tool, State level and will give updates as she receives them.

Report from Social Services Agency: Terri Possley reported that the BOS will be approving budget for additional staff on March 25th. They have proposed 21 new positions:

-16 Social Workers

-2 Supervisors

-3 Data Office Specialists

There will be a lot of work involved in the coming months. The IHSS office has to create cubicle space for all these new positions. There is recruitment involved and quite a bit of training, cross-training involved. With the push on CCI and the new MOE, this affected the ability to get more staffing at IHSS.

Terri mentioned the IHSS Training Academy and how there is a 5 course mandatory training for IHSS employees. All this is in house training, very busy. They have tutorials, Supervisor and Leads and mentors doing a lot of training.

The Social Workers will be busy with their case loads but at the same time transitioning with the trainings of new personnel.

The rate change increase is effective June 1st and Terri states they are gearing up for this.

Terri also mentioned the hot topic of the OT regulations and the Fair Labor Standards and the Governor not wanting to pay overtime. There is going to be a lot of pushback and issues with this.

Letter to the Board of Supervisors': Janie reported that she will draft a letter and send to all AB members for their input. The letter will state their position on the Fair Labors' Act. There has to be a big push for this and all members have to be willing to go visit their local legislators and/or local Supervisors' office. As an AB member you have a mandate to let your local legislation know your issues.

Follow-up on the Transitions to Home Discussion from November: *With regards to Tita Das from SVILC and her visit back in November.*

Janie reported that there might be a better understanding between IHSS and SVILC and the fact that there was a disconnect with getting assessments done. Janie referred to Terri.

Terri stated that IHSS will do courtesy assessments at facilities. There is a better understanding when there is no home address. IHSS will try to accommodate as best as possible.

IHSS Leadership Academy Training/Report Back: Janie reported that this training took place in January 2014 at the SEIU Local 521 office. The AB funded this training. It was a hard sell, there seems to be a lack of initiative, and apparently 2 days might be too much at once, but overall the trainings went well.

Other report backs:

-Richard Rangel was very happy that he went, it was very informative and fun too. He enjoyed the networking with others and all the ideas shared. He went for one day only.

-JoAnn Disbrow said that the 2 day trainings were great for her. She got a lot of information out of it. There was a lot of interaction and the food was very good.

-Janie Whiteford stated that the trainings served its purpose. It went well. There of course needs to be more consumers involved.

-Dennis Schneider said that the trainings were very informative and he learned a lot. The public speaking was very good. He really enjoyed Dianne Feinstein's presentation. Also the hands on was very good.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 22, 2014 from 12:30-2:00PM**, at the Sourcewise (previously Council on Aging Silicon Valley) main office located at 2115 The Alameda, San Jose, CA. 95126.