

IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board Meeting
July 21, 2015
MINUTES

Members Present: Deane Denney, Ellen Rollins, Janie Whiteford, JoAnn Disbrow, Theresa Wright (via tele-conference), Dennis Schneider (via tele-conference), Terri Possley (ex-officio)

Members Absent: Robert Stroughter, Senon Hernandez

PA Staff Present: Mary Tinker, Leticia Sabadin

Guests Present: Leigh Monichon, Special Education Consultant-Aspire Advocacy & IHSS IP; Christine Fitzgerald, Potential AB Member; Bill Black, Potential AB Member; Vera Sokolova, IHSS IP & SEIU Local 521 Steward

Announcements & Public Comment:

Mary Tinker announced the Advocacy Capacity Training on August 14, 2015 from 1pm to 4pm. This will be hosted by the Agents for Change and Mary will email the information to all AB members.

Mary Tinker distributed the flyer for "County of Santa Clara Travel Policy" to all AB members. This is a quick reference guide to travel policies and procedures. All AB members are encouraged to review and adhere to them if submitting for travel reimbursement.

Mary Tinker also announced the Consumer Connection Newsletter was mailed to all IHSS consumers in Santa Clara County and has been placed on the PA website. Advisory Board members should have received the newsletter.

Janie Whiteford announced that the IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board sent a letter of welcome to Sheri Burns as the new Executive Director at SVILC.

Approve Minutes: Motion by Ellen Rollins to approve the June 16, 2015 meeting minutes as written, seconded by JoAnn Disbrow, passed.

SEIU 521 & 1021 US Social Forum Disability Peoples Movement Report: Ellen Rollins reported the event was very successful and she was very pleased with the outcome. It was Ellen's daughter's first time out after being very ill and not out in a social environment in a long time and it worked out very nicely especially since the event provided transportation for her daughter. Ellen stated that the forum was very good, very powerful.

Janie Whiteford asked Ellen for an update on the unification of the SEIU Union from 521 to 2015. Ellen stated it is a union for IHSS and nursing home workers; SEIU, one industry, one union. Their focus is to have healthy collaboration.

CAPA Report: CAPA met June 28, 2015 in Sacramento.

CICA: California IHSS Consumers Association (CICA) held its first annual Advisory Board Summit one-day training for PA Advisory Board members in Sacramento June 19th. It was well attended and provided Advisory Board members opportunities for networking, learning how to speak with legislators and what role AB members should play in their county. An end of session survey was conducted and is available upon request. Janie Whiteford and Ellen Rollins, current Advisory Board members in Santa Clara County participated in this training and in Disability Capitol Action Day in Sacramento.

Legislation: The legislature remained quite busy in anticipation of summer recess, which began on July 17, and runs through August 17. Upon return, the legislature will need to take final actions on all bills (which are not two year bills), voting them out of both houses, and sending them to the Governor by September 11. The Governor then has until October 11 to take action on all bills before him. Below, please find synopses of measures CAPA has been tracking.

AB 97 (Weber): In-Home Supportive Services: Provider Wages: This is a UDW sponsored bill which would require the Department of Social Services (DSS) to reprogram the Case Management Information Payrolling System (CMIPS II), the current In-Home Support Services (IHSS) payroll system, to enable it to receive payment from managed care health plans for the additional personal care service and related domestic service hours. *This bill passed out of Senate Human Services Committee and was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File, where it will be taken up for consideration later this summer.*

AB 211 (Gomez): In-Home Supportive Services: Current law requires the California In-Home Supportive Services Statewide Authority no sooner than March 1, 2013, to assume specified responsibilities in a county upon notification by the Director of Health Care Services that the enrollment of eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries described in specified provisions of law has been completed in that county. Under current law, the date of assumption of these responsibilities by the Statewide Authority is known as the county implementation date. This bill would, instead, make the implementation date January 1, 2016, would delete the reference to the "county" implementation date, and would make conforming changes. *This bill passed out of Senate Human Services Committee and was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File, where it will be taken up for consideration later this summer.*

AB 470 (Chu): In-Home Supportive Services: Fingerprinting: This bill is our CAPA sponsored bill to address problems of delay in completion of provider background checks we've been experiencing. The bill was substantially amended in order to get the bill off of the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File. The bill, as originally drafted, would have authorized Department of Justice to capture and expend monies to undertake obligations associated with IHSS provider background checks. The bill was amended to require DOJ and CDSS to jointly develop protocols

to better ensure the timely completion of background checks. *This bill was originally scheduled to be heard in the Senate Human Services Committee on July 14. In anticipation of this hearing, CAPA scheduled a meeting with the author's staff, committee staff, Eileen Carroll and Hafida Habek of CDSS, Julie Basco and Robert Sumner of DOJ, and union representatives. While CAPA felt the meeting was productive for several reasons, it was clear that there continues to be much work which needs to be done. For these reasons, and the sincere belief that given a bit more time we will be able to come up with a solution to which DOJ will be neither expressly nor implicitly opposed, we have decided to make AB 470 a two year bill. Both the author (Assembly Member Kansen Chu) and the Chair of the Committee in possession of the bill are committed to seeing resolution to the issues the bill has illuminated.*

AB 1436 (Burke): In-Home Supportive Services: Authorized Representative: This is one of our co-sponsored bills, which we are co-sponsoring with CWDA.. *This bill passed out of Senate Human Services and was placed on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File, where it will be taken up for consideration later this summer.*

AJR 8 (Brown): Older Americans Act of 1965: *This bill passed out of both houses, and was signed into law (Chaptered as Chapter 53, Statutes 2015) on June 2.*

SB 33 (Hernandez): Medi-Cal: Estate Recovery: This is this year's Medi-Cal estate recovery bill. *This bill passed out of the Assembly Health Committee and is awaiting hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

SB 128 (Wolk): End of Life: *Prior to the house of origin deadline, the California Medical Association formally and publicly removed their long standing opposition to end-of-life legislation. This was initially presumed to be a game-changer for this bill, which, despite continued opposition from DRC, passed out of the Senate on June 4. However, the author and proponents realized that they would not have the votes to get the bill out of the Assembly, and decided instead to make it a two year bill.*

SB 199 (Hall): In-Home Supportive Services: Reading Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired: This is one of CAPA's co-sponsored bills. *This bill was placed on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense file, where it will be taken up for consideration later this summer.*

Mary distributed the timesheet matrix from the state that shows reasons a timesheet may have been returned and the numbers for May's processing. Mary indicated that for IPs enrolled in direct deposit the processing time is much faster than those who receive checks. She encouraged everyone to share this information with any IPs they know or consumers who can share this information with providers.

Ellen Rollins shared that she thought the timesheets seem to get sent out on time and that she has noticed a difference in receiving them in a timely manner.

Leigh Monichon felt that the new automated timesheets and system is much smoother and seamless. Leigh encourages all care providers to sign up for direct deposit.

Christine Fitzgerald asked Mary if the timesheets can be processed on an “APP” through a smart phone. The answer is no, not at this time, but this has been brought up and may be looked into in the future.

Programs Report:

Benefits Administration: There were 9,486 IPs enrolled in the Valley Health Plan with 7,997 of those in the Classic Plan and 1,489 in the Preferred Plan. There were 10,055 IPs enrolled in the Dental/Vision plans during the month of June. There were 315 Eco Pass Clipper Cards issued.

Enrollment Session:

Number of IPs in May: 409

Provider Enrollment Orientation Sessions: The Public Authority began group orientations June 17th at the union office. PA staff is providing two, one hour orientation sessions every Friday immediately followed by a 30 minute presentation by the union. Meetings are scheduled every Friday 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. The PA Enrollment website has been updated to reflect the new requirement for individuals seeking to enroll as an IHSS provider in Santa Clara County. This is working well so far.

Registry Services: There are 554 active IPs on the registry.

The registry:

- Completed 53 new consumer intakes
- Attained 102 matches
- Provided 359 interventions

Urgent Care Registry authorized 6 hours of service for the month of June.

PA Training Activities:

Public Authority provided no training sessions in June. Summer classes will start in July.

Work continues in building partnerships throughout the county for expanding the training sessions to new locations, finding instructors and specific expertise.

Mary also mentioned the big step in expanding the training that PA offers. Previously the PA offered 37 classes per semester and the new schedule offers 83. The PA is offering classes throughout Santa Clara County from Morgan Hill to Santa Clara and Milpitas expanding from one location to 12. Previously classes were only held at the Sunnyvale Cupertino Adult Ed Center. Staff is really excited to see what this next semester will bring and how it will be accepted by the IPs. Some of the new classes being offered are Cancer Care and Emergency Preparedness. We are limiting 9 classes per care provider, per semester sign up in order to give more people the opportunity to enroll in classes. Classes are voluntary and only offered to IHSS providers.

Janie Whiteford discussed the Train the Trainer sessions she has been conducting in the last few weeks. This is focused on the teachers who will be teaching the IHSS Care Provider workforce. She is happy to help and do the training and is excited about this addition to the training format.

Janie also stated that as far as training goes, we here in Santa Clara County are far above all other counties. Our training curriculum and program is a trend setter and way above the curve. We are taking a leadership role in this and working really hard to set an example for other counties.

Bill Black asked the question: Who pushed or initiated the expansion of these additional trainings? Mary stated that the most recent MOU with the Union included expansion of at least 10 more classes in addition to the series of 9 already offered. This vast expansion has been accomplished through partnerships and a lot of work by the new Training Coordinator. The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors saw training as a high priority since the early days of the PA. Because of this the PA has a line item specifically for training included in the budget and because of the agreement to expand in the MOU with the union additional funding was included that would provide resources to make it happen.

JoAnn Disbrow commented on the Summer Consumer Newsletter and said “great job Public Authority!”

Outreach Activities: The PA arranged to have the materials necessary for the first joint IHSS/SEIU outreach event. Anh-Tu Nguyen a staff volunteer from IHSS and a couple of volunteers from SEIU Local 521 attended an event held at Hellyer County Park and jointly staffed a table. They spoke with between 50 and 60 individuals, provided magnets and flyers with information about IHSS and how to apply. Additional events are in the works.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance Report (CICA): Janie Whiteford reported there are 26 Advisory Committees counties now enrolled in CICA. She shared the upcoming CICA monthly conference call and encouraged all members to attend. It will include a presentation on Olmstead and the ADA.

Janie stated that CICA is very interested in the new consolidation of the union and will be asking Laphonza Butler to join one of their upcoming calls to explain what it means and why they are doing it as well as take questions from CICA members.

Report from Social Services Agency: Terri Possley reported that the recent contract negotiations were technically completed and “finished”. However, they have to do a second “re-vote” because the initial vote was a NO. 2nd re-vote is scheduled for tomorrow, July 22nd. The initial NO vote has put a damper on morale within IHSS. Terri states that the overall morale in the office is low. This goes for all of Social Services in general.

Once the YES vote is in place they will conduct business with the new contract. The Board of Supervisors will be presented with new contract and they must approve this new contract.

Terri reported that with the new contract caseload expectations at 276/year per SW with 1.1/day reassessment. There is no caseload cap although workers wanted a caseload cap. No other county has a caseload cap so this county didn't go there either.

Terri reported last month that IHSS was hiring new CCI staff. This unit will be responsible to provide expedited intake when the health plans make referrals. There can ask for a "courtesy assessment" when the person is in the hospital, nursing facility or rehab facility.

The CCI unit has four Social Workers and they are not expected to carry a case load which has been a point of contention among other IHSS staff. The new CCI Manager Kingston Lum will be invited by Terri to join her at the next AB meeting to discuss CCI and the new unit.

Terri mentioned that IHSS is still recruiting for the positions on the Transfer Line so this is a work in progress.

Terri stated that there is a new scanning project within IHSS and their IT Department is to trying to go paperless and getting documents moved to electronic instead of paper. This is a huge endeavor and very high tech but something that needs to be done.

Side notes:

Mary Tinker reminded AB members in "expired" status on the Clerk of the Board vacancy listing. Please contact the COB around the second week of August since this month is considered the Boards "dark" month. This must be fixed as quickly as possible.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 18, 2015** from **11:30-1:30PM**, at the Sourcewise main office located at 2115 The Alameda, San Jose, CA. 95126.