

IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board Meeting
August 18, 2015
MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Robert Stroughter, Ellen Rollins

PA Staff Present: Mary Tinker, Leticia Sabadin

Guests Present: Leigh Monichon, Special Education Consultant-Aspire Advocacy & IHSS IP;
Vera Sokolova, IHSS IP & SEIU Local 521 Steward; Victoria Krivtsova, IHSS
IP; Vanessa Merlano, Health Education Specialist from the Santa Clara
County Public Health Department; Kingston Lum, CCI Social Services
Program Manager

Announcements & Public Comment:

Vanessa Merlano, Health Education Specialist with Santa Clara County Public Health Department introduced herself. She indicated she is working in partnership with Shannin Prather, the PA Training Coordinator, to develop additional training classes.

Guest-Victoria Krivtsova shared a concept she would like assistance with. Victoria is seeking input on the idea of building a mobile application for volunteering in individual's homes that need some assistance.

Victoria would like some ideas of possible cooperation with IHSS, Public Authority and other organizations involved in independent living programs. Looking forward to get the feedback from the members and meet individually for more detailed conversations. Below is a written excerpt from a document she shared:

Concept:

Seniors and people with disabilities through different programs promoting independent living have a great chance to get help at the comfort of their own homes. Organizations like In-Home-Support-Services and Public Authorities in California for many years assist people with domestic services and personal care. Being caregiver myself I see that often clients are also looking for companionship for spare time, like going to the movie, trying new recipes, playing board games, walking in the park, doing light physical exercises or simply friendship conversation. Here is a big opportunity for the society to make a great input on a volunteering basis. New technologies allow us to get access to any kind of

information by using smartphones. There should be also an easy and fast way to get to know who around you needs help.

My idea is to develop mobile application where based on your location you can see on the map who needs assistance in your neighborhood with and advise how to do it on a better way. There will be a lot of options to share experience, get advice, communicate with other volunteers and plan common activities. Before to be registered in the consumer database clients can invite mental health specialist for the personal assessment to identify what kind of activities suit them well. It will make the program more consistent and efficient.

Partnership:

- refer to other organizations who might provide assistance*
- advise in developing mobile application functionality: interaction process between consumers and volunteers, legislation*
- advocate in front of investors on how it will benefit the community*
- once the prototype of the application is ready, help to inform seniors and people with disability in certain location about the pilot project*
- spread information after launching the application*

Mary announced the CCI call on August 29th from 10am to 11am. Mary will email the information to all members.

Janie reminded the group to regularly check their email for the messages that Mary sends out. These email messages keep everyone involved and in the know and it increases your knowledge.

Approve Minutes: Motion by JoAnn Disbrow to approve the July 21, 2015 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Deane Denney, vote was unanimous.

CAPA Report: Mary Tinker reported CAPA met July 22 and 23, 2015 in Sacramento.

Mary reported that special guests J. Felix De La Torre (PERB Chief Counsel) and Laurel Webb (SEIU Local 2015 General Counsel) attended the CAPA meeting. CAPA provided opportunity for members, CDSS, County partners, CSAC, SEIU UDW and CUHW representatives to attend this portion of the meeting which covered union recognition procedures. Felix De La Torre provided a Power Point presentation to give a general description of the way PERB evaluates cases where unions reorganize its structure and seeks continued recognition. He provided information on the processes and standards applied in such cases. He responded to questions proposed in a hypothetical manner. Laurel Webb then provided an overview of the reorganization from the union perspective and answered questions.

Mary also reported CAPA has been asked to provide a workshop on IHSS and Public Authorities at this conference. A day-and a half long disability community-driven conference exploring

access under the first 25 years of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the road ahead for the next generation CAPA's workshop concept is under development at this time. This conference will be held in San Francisco and she will email registration information when it becomes available.

Mary stated there's not much new to report in this month's Legislative Update, as the Legislature is still on recess until August 17. Upon return, the legislature will need to take final actions on all bills (which are not two year bills—two year bills will be dealt with in the 2016 Legislative session), 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.

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 304 (Gonzalez): Sick Leave: Accrual and Limitations: This bill is a follow up to last year's AB 1522 (Gonzalez) which mandated sick leave for employees (that bill did not apply to IHSS providers.) This bill would require that an employee work for the same employer for 30 or more days within the previous 12 months in order to qualify for accrued sick leave under the provisions of last year's bill. ***This was signed into law by the Governor on 7/13 as Chapter 67, Statutes 2015.)***

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 is currently in the possession of Senate Human Services Committee and is a two-year bill.***

AB 1436 (Burke): In-Home Supportive Services: Authorized Representative: This is one of CAPA's co-sponsored bills, co-sponsoring with CWDA. The bill would authorize an applicant for, or recipient of, in-home supportive services to designate an individual to act as his or her authorized representative for purposes of the In-Home Supportive Services program. The bill would define an authorized representative to mean an individual who is appointed in writing, on a form designated by the State Department of Social Services, by a competent person who is an applicant for or recipient of in-home supportive services, to act in place or on behalf of the

applicant or recipient for purposes related to the program. *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.*

SB 33 (Hernandez): Medi-Cal: Estate Recovery: This is this year's Medi-Cal estate recovery bill. Current federal law requires the state to seek adjustment or recovery from an individual's estate for specified medical assistance. This bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services to make claims only in specified circumstances for those health care services that the state is required to recover under federal law, and would define health care services for these purposes. The bill would limit any claims against the estate of a decedent to only the real and personal property or other assets the state is required to seek recovery from under federal law. *This bill passed out of the Assembly Health Committee and is awaiting hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.*

SB 128 (Wolk): End of Life: Would enact the End of Life Option Act authorizing an adult who meets certain qualifications, and who has been determined by his or her attending physician to be suffering from a terminal disease, as defined, to make a request for a drug prescribed pursuant to these provisions for the purpose of ending his or her life. The bill would also establish the procedures for making these requests. The California Medical Association formally and publicly removed their long standing opposition to end-of-life legislation. This was a game-changer for this bill, which, despite continued opposition from DRC. *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.* However Compassion & Choices, which has launched a national effort for similar legislation, has issued a release teasing "a new plan to pass the End of Life Option Act" in California. The plan is set to be released during a press conference on Tuesday. Several lawmakers are expected to attend. One article indicated it will likely come in the form of an Assembly 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. The bill would, commencing January 1, 2017, include within the definition of supportive services up to 2 hours per month of assistance in reading and completing financial and other documents for a recipient of services under the IHSS program who is blind. By expanding the scope of available services under the IHSS program, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would also require the Director of Health Care Services to seek any federal approvals necessary to ensure that Medicaid funds July be used in implementing this provision. *This bill was placed on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense file, where it will be taken up for consideration later this summer.*

SB 272 (Hertzberg): The California Public Records Act: Local Agencies: Requires local agencies, by July 1, 2016, to create a catalog of their enterprise systems, make the catalog publicly available, and post the catalog on their Internet Web sites. *CAPA adopted an "oppose unless amended" position (joining in with many of our local government partners, such as*

CSAC, League of Cities, and Urban Counties Caucus.) The bill seeks to define “enterprise system” to mean a software application or computer system that collects, stores, exchanges and analyzes information that the agency uses.

Programs Reports:

Benefits Administration: Mary Tinker reported there were **9,551** IPs enrolled in the Valley Health Plan with 7,896 of those in the Classic Plan and 1,655 in the Preferred Plan. There were 10,119 IPs enrolled in the Dental/Vision plans during the month of July. There were 372 Eco Pass Clipper Cards issued.

Enrollment Session:

Number of IPs in July: 367

Provider Group Enrollment Orientation Sessions: PA staff provides 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 at the Zanker Road union office facility. The PA Enrollment website is updated regularly to reflect current dates/times orientations are offered. These sessions are going well with generally about 50 or more participants. Because of the July 4th holiday closure on the Friday July 3rd the following two sessions had approximately 100 people in each session.

Registry Services: There are 566 active IPs on the registry.

The registry:

- Completed 59 new consumer intakes
- Attained 98 matches
- Provided 363 interventions

Urgent Care Registry authorized 23 hours of service for the month of July.

Registry Recruitment: The Registry offered one Registry Introduction Training session in July in English with 24 participants. Staff continues to work on checking references and scheduling interviews to complete the processing of those who attended.

PA Training Activities: The number of classes being offered in the fall session has increased from 37 to 83. In addition to adding new classes and increasing the number of sessions offered they will now be in twelve locations around the county. The PA has gone from one training location to 12 different sites. An electronic version of the fall training schedule is available on the PA website at: www.pascc.org under the training tab.

There are 83 total classes being offered on the fall schedule the breakdown of locations are:

- 37 at Sunnyvale Cupertino Adult Ed
- 22 in the greater San Jose/Santa Clara area
- 11 in Milpitas
- 13 in Morgan Hill

Summer session classes were held and specifically targeted IPs who had been on waiting lists to get into full classes. Unfortunately there were a high number of no shows for the summer sessions even though each of the IPs pre-registered had been personally contacted and asked if they wanted to enroll, mailed a conformation letter and assured PA staff they definitely wanted to get into the classes. Sessions they were enrolled in were First Aid, CPR, Tips for Transfer and the Last Phase of Life. These are the most popular classes and it provided an opportunity for them that many did not take advantage of, because of this the PA will most likely not provide summer classes in the future.

IP Trainings Provided: Public Authority offered summer classes specifically for IPs who were on waiting lists and unable to get into classes in the last semester. The Public Authority **provided 6 training sessions in July with 76 participants being trained.** Although each of the classes had pre-registrations of approximately 30 per class the number of no-shows was high. Because of this we will probably not offer summer sessions again.

Additional work is underway to finalize the curriculum of the classes. All instructors are now required by the PA to attend an annual IHSS instructor's class. This provides the opportunity for the PA to ensure all classes have the same curriculum, instructors understand the IHSS workforce, the independent living philosophy and that the IHSS consumer is the employer.

New instructors are preparing for the upcoming schedule of classes and more instructors are being recruited particularly for other languages especially Mandarin.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance Report (CICA): Janie Whiteford reported that the scheduled CICA call is Wednesday, August 19th at 11am. Please consider getting on the call. Karen Keeslar will be on the call and giving out some up to date information. Not much else to add since a lot of Janie's information is shared under Mary's CAPA report.

Report from Social Services Agency: Terri Possley reported that there was not too much new news for IHSS. They have hired two new supervisors, one of which replaced Kingston Lum, and this individual will start on August 31st. The new unit Supervisor will hire his own new positions within that department. There is a lot going on physically in the office and they are trying to accommodate all new hires and there is no more room within the current IHSS office space. The county is working to finalize the new/additional location for office space and it looks like they have obtained an office building across the street from 1888 Senter Road.

Terri introduced Kingston Lum, the new CCI Social Services Program Manager who is overseeing the CCI Unit and Application Readiness Unit. Kingston mentioned that he is still hiring for these units and interviewing is underway. He stated the focus is on processing intakes in a timely manner and working on a new approach that will be as seamless as possible. They will also be focusing on Hospice cases and try to expedite Client cases under CCI. He also mentioned that they are not quite ready for the Health Plans and they do not know the volume of CCI cases yet since the Health Plans are not ready.

Kingston also mentioned some time frames for cases and Clients to be seen by a Social Worker. At this time the turnaround can take up to 29 days for example, for a new IHSS Client to turn in forms and then get processed.

Right now there are 4000 CCI Clients that have IHSS and the CCI cases are a top priority. They are trying to determine who will do the reassessments, will the CCI unit take over or have them maintained within the current social workers reassessments.

Janie Whiteford asked if the social workers (SW) tell IHSS clients about CCI. Both Kingston and Terri said that the role of the IHSS SW is not to advocate CCI with clients and they are not really talking about this with them. If clients ask questions, the SW will answer as best to their ability, but the SW's are not volunteering this information themselves or initiating this topic of conversation.

Kingston also mentioned that the CCI transition is happening and a lot of clients have opted out. IHSS opt outs are quite high. There are some doctors not covered and also not many clients knew how to make a valuable decision on CCI so they just "opted out".

The website calduals.org offers quite a bit of information on the CCI topic and there are CCI stakeholder meetings that exist and also provide valuable information.

Annual Report: Mary Tinker reminded the Advisory Board they will need to develop one or two recommendations/priorities for the Annual Report. As of now this annual report is being worked on with extensive information from the Public Authority. Public Authority staff is creating graphs and charts to include in the report.

It was agreed to have a meeting of an ad-hoc committee to develop the recommendations: JoAnn, Dennis, Senon and Janie volunteered.

1. Janie needs to write up a letter for the annual report
2. AB needs to decide on the 2 recommendations for the report to present to BOS

Strategic Planning Day: Janie and Mary discussed the need to plan for a one day strategic planning session of the AB. It was suggested this take place next year, maybe around February or March 2016 timeframe. AB members need to start thinking about this and more information will follow.

At this time the focus is to get all AB vacant seats filled on this board in order to better utilize this planning day.

Janie reached out to Terri and Kingston for IHSS AB member recruitment, any help, resources, suggestions would be super helpful.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 15, 2015** from **11:30-1:30PM**, at the Sourcewise main office located at 2115 The Alameda, San Jose, CA. 95126.