

IHSS Public Authority Advisory Board Meeting
June 20, 2017
MINUTES

Members Present: Janie Whiteford, Cheryl Hewitt, Dennis Schneider; Terri Possley (Ex-Officio); Theresa Wright; Otilia Ioan (via tele-conference); Senon Hernandez (via tele-conference)

Members Absent: Deane Denney, Judy Pipkin, Bob Stroughter, Ellen Rollins

PA Staff Present: Mary Tinker, Leticia Sabadin

Guests Present: Lori Andersen, Operations Director for Santa Clara Family Health Plan & Potential AB Member; JoAnn Disbrow, ex-AB member; Nicolas Castellanos, IHSS Social Work Supervisor

Elect Vice Chair: Janie Whiteford nominated Dennis Schneider as Vice Chair, seconded by Theresa Wright, vote was unanimous.

Announcements & Public Comment: Mary Tinker announced that last year's annual report will be presented to the CSFC (Children, Seniors and Families Committee) to the Board of Supervisors on Thursday, June 22 at 11:30 a.m. Advisory Board members are encouraged to attend the meeting; Mary herself plans to be there. Mary also distributed copies of the annual report to members in attendance as well as the CSFC Agenda.

Cheryl Hewitt shared her experience at the Disability Action Day (DCAD) in Sacramento on June 13th. She said it was a very good meeting.

Janie Whiteford was also in attendance at this year's 13th Annual Disability Capital Action Day-DCAD. "Keep California Healthy!" was the theme. They met at a new location, Cesar E. Chavez Plaza, in Downtown Sacramento, Ca. There was a Disability Community Resource Fair. Then there was an Educational Rally March from the plaza to the south steps of the State Capitol for lunch and Legislative visits. Janie reported that this was a different venue and that there were not many in attendance. She thought it was a very good meeting, very productive and busy.

Janie Whiteford also reported on the CARA/CICA Lobby Education Day on May 25th. Per Janie and the CICA email announcement, this was very successful! *"Thanks to the 200+ CARA and CICA members who participated in the lobby day on May 25th. We had a great day (even with a few logistical glitches). The weather was great, spirits were high, the dancing fabulous, and we really took over the Capitol. 32 lobby teams, led by fabulous CARA/CICA leaders, successfully visited over 112 offices (a few offices were locked) and talked with each office about SB 562 (Healthy CA Act) and AB 796 (increasing SSI)".*

Approve Minutes: Motion by Cheryl Hewitt to approve March 28, 2017 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Dennis Schneider, vote was unanimous. Also there was a 2nd motion by Theresa Wright to approve May 16, 2017 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Dennis Schneider and Janie Whiteford, vote was unanimous.

CAPA Report: Mary Tinker reported that CAPA met in Sacramento May 25th.

MOE Update from CSAC Summary: The Governor’s May Revision is a notable improvement over the January 10 proposed budget that contained an approximate \$623 million shift to counties beginning July 1 due to the elimination of the 5-year county maintenance of effort (MOE) for the In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. Recall, the January 10 budget eliminated the county MOE of a 3.5% increase annually and reverted back to a 65/35 percent share between the state and county government.

The May Revision indicates that the \$623 million reflected in the January budget has been reduced to \$592 million in year one. The State is committing \$1.1 billion in state general fund contributions to mitigate the cost shift to counties over the next 4 years and also includes an ongoing state general fund contribution into future years. The \$1.1 billion is allocated as follows:

- Year One--\$400 million
- Year Two--\$330 million
- Year Three--\$200 million
- Year Four & Every Thereafter--\$150 million.

MOE AND INFLATOR: The proposal includes a new MOE with a stepped inflator. In year 1, the inflator is zero and a new MOE base is set. In 2018-19, the inflator is 5%, and it then rises to 7% in year 3. However, there are allowances starting in year 2 for an economic downturn in which sales tax revenues decline. In this scenario, during years with no sales tax growth, the inflator is zero. If sales tax growth is between .01 and 2 percent, the inflator is cut in half for that year.

HARDSHIP LOANS: For counties that may experience a financial hardship under this proposal, the state would entertain an individual low-interest loan on a case-by-case basis. All elements of these loans – their structure, timeline, and required documentation – have yet to be developed.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND WAGES: The proposal does not reinstate statewide collective bargaining, but retains bargaining at the local level. The Governor is proposing changes to the wages and collective bargaining for IHSS workers. First, the state is increasing its \$12.10 per hour state wage participation cap, which had been in place since 2007-08. Now it will “float” the state’s wage participation cap \$1.10 above the state minimum wage, and when the full \$15 per hour state minimum wage is reached, the cap will then be increased for inflation. For counties currently at or exceeding the \$12.10 cap, the state will pay for 65 percent of the costs up to a maximum 10 percent increase in costs over three years. Lastly, the proposal would

require all counties to conclude bargaining with IHSS workers within nine months (April 1, 2018), or the union may appeal to the Public Employees Relations Board.

FLSA update: Things are very slow from the Public Authority side of FLSA. Staff assisted 12 providers with one-on-one training on how to complete their timesheets correctly to avoid OT problems.

Shannin Prather our Training Manager developed a great new video that instructs providers on how to complete their timesheets and prevent OT issues. It is on the PA website and available to anyone who wants to view it. We have had over 1771 views of the video since going live with it a few weeks ago. It can be viewed on the Public Authority website at:

<http://www.pascc.org/services/TimeSheetVid.html>

Paid Sick Leave: CDSS held a stakeholder meeting

Electronic Timesheets –Timeline and Activities:

- May 2017—Implement in three pilot counties: Sacramento, Yolo and Riverside
- July 2017 – Target date for statewide implementation pending outcome of the pilot

Legislative Update: A large portion of the bills we have been tracking are now two-year bills due to (1) having never been heard in their house of origin, (2) having failed passage in policy committee in their house of origin, (3) having been held on the suspense file in the fiscal committee in their house of origin, (4) having failed passage on the floor in their house of origin, or (5) not having been taken up on the floor in their houses of origin. These bills are all eligible to be taken up again in January of 2018, accordingly we will continue to follow them. For a more exhaustive list go to the CAPA website at www.capaihss.org

AB 237 (Gonzalez-Fletcher): In-Home Supportive Services

Current law authorizes certain Medi-Cal recipients to receive waiver personal care services, as defined, in order to allow the recipients to remain in their own homes. Current law requires that in-home supportive services and waiver personal care services be performed by providers within a workweek that does not exceed 66 hours per week, as reduced by a specified net percentage. This bill would increase the maximum hours per week that providers may perform personal care services from 66 to 70 3/4 hours per week. ***This bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Human Services, but has yet to be scheduled for hearing.***

Position: Support

AB 432 (Thurmond): Personal Care Services

Would authorize the California In-Home Supportive Services Authority and certain other entities to meet and confer in good faith regarding wages, benefits, and other terms and conditions of employment with representatives of recognized employee organizations for an individual who is employed by a recipient of waiver personal care services and would make conforming changes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. ***This is***

currently in the possession of the Senate Human Services Committee, but has yet to be scheduled for a hearing. This is CAPA's Sponsored bill.

AB 675 (Ridley-Thomas): Medi-Cal: In-Home Supportive Services: funding. Would appropriate \$650,000,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Health Care Services for the purpose of continuing to make IHSS available to Medi-Cal beneficiaries through Medi-Cal managed care health plans under the Coordinated Care Initiative. ***This bill did not meet the House of Origin deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5) and is now a two-year bill.*** **Position: Support in Concept.**

AB 796 (Kalra): Public Social Services: SSI/SSP

Current law prohibits, for each calendar year, commencing with the 2011 calendar year, any cost-of-living adjustment from being made to the maximum benefit payment unless otherwise specified by statute, except for the pass along of any cost-of-living increase in the federal SSI benefits. Current law continuously appropriates funds for the implementation of SSP. This bill would reinstate the cost-of-living adjustment beginning January 1 of the 2018 calendar year. ***This bill did not meet the House of Origin deadline, and pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3) is a two-year bill.*** **Position: Support**

AB 806 (Kalra): Personal Income Taxes: credit: family caregiver

The Personal Income Tax Law allows various credits against the taxes imposed by that law. This bill would allow a credit against those taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2018, in an amount equal to 50% of the amount paid or incurred by a family caregiver during the taxable year for eligible expenses, as defined, not to exceed \$1,000. This bill would take effect immediately as a tax levy. ***This bill did not meet the House of Origin deadline, and pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3) is a two-year bill.*** **Position: Support**

AB 1380 (Santiago): Developmental Services: regional center services.

Would require all regional center contracts to include provisions requiring the regional center to develop a process by which all vendor contracts are reviewed at least once every 2 years and to require that the regional center take appropriate action to ensure that vendors comply with the contracts, up to and including terminating the vendorization if necessary. The bill would require all regional center contracts or agreements with service providers that provide in-home respite services to expressly require that at least 85% of regional center funds be spent on direct service expenditures, as defined. ***This bill is currently in the possession of the Senate Rules Committee, where it is awaiting referral.***

Position: Watch

SB 218 (Dodd): The Qualified ABLE Program: tax-advantaged savings accounts.

Would authorize the transfer of all amounts in the designated beneficiary's ABLE account to an ABLE account for another individual specified by either the designated beneficiary or the estate of the designated beneficiary upon the death of the designated beneficiary. The bill would prohibit the state from seeking distribution of any amount remaining in the designated beneficiary's ABLE account for any amount of medical assistance paid under the state's Medicaid plan and would prohibit the state from filing a claim for the payment, as specified.

This bill is currently at the Assembly Desk, where it awaiting referral to Assembly Rules Committee. Position: Support.

PROGRAMS REPORT

Benefits Administration: There were 10,702 IPs enrolled in the Valley Health Plan with 6,045 of those in the Classic Plan and 4,657 in the Preferred Plan. There were 11,370 IPs enrolled in the Dental/Vision plans during the month of May. There were 618 Eco Pass Clipper Cards issued.

Enrollment:

Number of IPs enrolled: 396

Number of IPs partially done: 396

Fingerprint Processing: 28,088

Registry Services: There are 544 active IPs on the registry and 1092 active consumers.

The registry:

- Completed 89 new consumer intakes
- Attained 83 matches
- Provided 553 interventions

Care Coaching: The Registry received 19 referrals for Care Coaching in the month of May. No referrals came from the health plans.

Urgent Care Registry There were 3 hours of service authorized in May.

Expedited Registry: Expedited Registry received 7 referrals in May

Registry Introductory Training (RIT): There was one English RIT session held in May with 19 individuals invited to attend and 16 actually participating.

- Held 9 interviews
- Called 68 references
- Completed 41 reference checks
- Added 19 new IPs to the registry

Training for Consumers and Providers:

Consumer Training: One Call and Connect session was scheduled in May with 4 consumers registered. The session "Tips to Improve Communication" had 2 consumers participate in the session.

The Consumer Connection quarterly newsletter was mailed to 22,840 consumers in Santa Clara County.

IP Trainings Provided: The Public Authority provided 12 training sessions in May training 171 providers.

Over Time Training: The Public Authority provided over the phone training/counseling for 6 IHSS providers on overtime issues and how to properly complete their timesheet.

California IHSS Consumer Alliance Report (CICA): Janie Whiteford reported that the CICA Conference call will be held tomorrow, June 21st at 10am. A printed email notification of this meeting was distributed to all in attendance today and they were encouraged to participate.

Karen Keesler, Executive Director, California Association of Public Authorities (CAPA) is on the agenda to provide an update on State IHSS Budget for FY 2017-18 and other CAPA business. Also, Marty Omoto, Executive Director, California Disability-Senior Community Action Network & California Person Centered Advocacy Partnership is on the agenda to give an update on his work.

Janie reported that the CICA Workshop on May 24th had approximately 40 in attendance. They held this workshop in an “old” downtown Sacramento Federal Courthouse that now serves as a museum and a meeting venue location. The workshop was a success and very productive.

Report from Social Services Agency: Terri Possley announced that the new QA Manager is Veronica Marquez-Hothem and Terri hired a new Administrative Assistant, Lucrecia Zepeda who started on June 19th.

Terri gave an update on the new e-Timesheets pilot and indicated it is going well. The GO Live date for Santa Clara County has not been determined at this time. The pilot phase is still underway with 3 other counties. There is a lot of training going on right now at IHSS with the e-Timesheets and it’s been a bit hectic but in the long run it will be much easier. The State will be sending out notices to all IHSS consumers and providers with regards to the new e-Timesheets. The State website has set up 6 videos to help train and introduce the new e-Timesheets. The counties have yet to determine how they will disseminate the information locally.

Terri Possley presented her guest for this month, Mr. Nicolas Castellanos, Social Work Supervisor. Nicolas reported that he had recently hired a new social worker from Riverside County. The person speaks Russian and now they have 2 Mandarin speaking social workers, 3 Korean speaking social workers and 2 other monolingual staff. Nicolas shared that there are many resources within the IHSS program and that Terri keeps all the Supervisors well informed on what is going on.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Advisory Board is **Tuesday, July 18, 2017, from 11:30 pm – 1:30 pm,** at the **Sourcewise Main Office, 2115 The Alameda, San Jose, CA. 95126.**